



## IV Sunday of LENT 30 march '25 – Cycle C



### MY DAD



### SETTING

With our eyes on Easter, we continue the Lenten journey.

The Father of mercy, God who in a continuous dialogue of love with humanity, walks by our side.

The God who always waits and rejoices in the return of his Son, is for everyone, and in particular for each one who needs him.

The two brothers are two sides of the same coin; the father is the same for both, but at that moment each one needs something different, which the Father is willing.

**SONG: I HAVE WANDERED FAR AWAY FROM GOD**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWQjOsko0VI>

## **GOSPEL – Luke 15, 1-3. 11-32**

"All the tax collectors and sinners were drawing near to hear him, and the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling, saying, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.'" Then he told them this parable: "A man had two sons. The younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the property.' So, he divided his property between them. After a few days, the younger son gathered everything and went to a far country, where he squandered his property in wanton living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and joined a citizen of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the husks the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. Then he came to himself and said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food enough and to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father and say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight.' I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran to his son and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quickly bring the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fatted bull and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. Now his eldest son was in the field, and as he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what this meant. He said to him, 'Your brother has come back, and your father has killed the fatted bull because he has gotten him back safe and sound.' He was angry and would not go in. His father came out and pleaded with him. But he said to his father, 'All these years I have served you, and I never went back on a commandment of yours, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But now this son of yours has come and devoured your property with prostitutes, and you have killed the fatted bull for him!' But he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. Nevertheless, it was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found

### *Understanding and internalizing the Word today (Marie-Noëlle THABUT)*

Josh 5:10-12. With the crossing of the Jordan and the entry into the Promised Land, a new stage of salvation history begins. This stage is inaugurated by a celebration of Passover, as was done at the time of the departure for the Exodus.

Psalm 33. Glory and praise to God! He welcomes the poor of heart and his prodigal children to the Easter banquet every Sunday, the Mass.

2 Cor 5:17-21. God offers all people the grace to become, in Jesus Christ and through him, new creatures in a new world. What we lack is to allow ourselves to be reconciled.

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32. The key to today's Gospel passage can undoubtedly be found in its opening lines: on the one hand, there are the people who come to hear Jesus: those who, according to public knowledge, are sinners (Luke says: tax collectors and sinners came to listen to him); on the other hand, there are the honest people who, at every moment and in the smallest details of their daily lives, tried to do what God wanted: the Pharisees and the Scribes. So, Jesus tells this parable to draw them further, to reveal to them a face of God they did not yet know, the true face of the Father. But, in reality, the main character in this story is the father—the father with a capital F, of course. The Father is a hundred leagues away from calculations: He doesn't want to hear about merit, one way or the other! The Father loves his children, that's all. The Father has nothing to count. The youngest son said, "Give me my share of the inheritance..." The Father goes further and says to each of his children, "All that is mine is yours." He doesn't even give the guilty party time to express their repentance. The Father doesn't ask for any explanations. Herein lies the lesson of this parable: with our father God, it's not a question of calculation, or merit, or arithmetic.

### **Prayer Tips**

- Which of the characters in the Parable do you identify with?
- Talk to God about your discovery.
- How can we be like the father in the reality in which we find ourselves, in our community or in our parish?



### **AMBIENTAL MUSIC.**

**ANDREA VANZO / ENRICO MIGNANI - TALES FROM THE CITADEL**

[https://youtu.be/\\_fsf2Gn20SQ?si=p2Of4jRXXEIKxzn](https://youtu.be/_fsf2Gn20SQ?si=p2Of4jRXXEIKxzn)

## RETURN HOME

To live life, to search, to  
encounter.

To walk paths and know  
what it means to venture  
on uncharted roads.

A father always waits.

The door of the home  
always remains  
open for a child.

A father always offers  
what he is and has, the little  
he has.

What's outside seems better  
to us.

We must venture.

A father always allows  
us to discover for  
ourselves

and experiment.

A father always welcomes.  
and lets us fly, to touch  
the mud and build  
our own moments.

A father is always alert  
and dreams of the miracle  
of returning whenever it may  
be.

We return with new winds.

A father always looks

into the distance and rejoices.

And he welcomes even on the  
empty and lonely road.

A father always has  
his heart ready  
to welcome what  
seemed lost.

A father always dreams  
of being able to reunite  
with the son who ventured  
out.

A father always feels  
a silent absence,  
open in time  
patiently waiting.

A father always celebrates  
the reunion as  
something new and prepares  
a party like never before.

A father is always a father  
in the present and in the  
future.

He always will be.

He is mercy incarnate.

The son returns home

To the safe space of  
fatherly and maternal love  
that comforts and rebuilds.

## CANTO. EL PADRE BUENO SALOMÉ ARRICIBITA

<https://youtu.be/phI2Z2tdUxU?si=OonMMH3LEQPugtKm>



**Sisters of charity of St. Ane**

C/ Madre Ràfols, 13 - 50.004 - ZARAGOZA (Spain)

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