



5th Sunday of LENT 6 April 25 - Cycle C



GIVE ME A BIG HEART



SETTING

Help us, Lord, to overcome these apparent facades of perfection and to place ourselves just like other people, with limitations, imperfections, and simple humanity.

We are all made of the same clay, only some have taken steps, recognized their limitations, and resolved to change. You have to consider changing.

Help us, Lord, to know ourselves more and more, to discover that if we want to, we can change, with your help and our contribution. Don't throw stones; look at yourself first and let them fall.

SONG. FORGIVE MY SINS O LOD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIt6EdAMFtw>

GOSPEL – Jn 8, 1-11

"But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. But early in the morning he appeared again in the Temple, and all the people were coming to him. Then he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought to him a woman caught in adultery, and they set her before him. They said, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. Moses in the Law commanded us to stone such women. What do you say?" They said this to test him, that they might have something to accuse him of. But Jesus stooped down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued to question him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let he among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." And he stooped down again and wrote on the ground. When they heard this, they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest. Jesus was left alone with the woman standing in the midst. Jesus sat up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She answered, "No one, Lord." Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on, sin no more."

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

Isaiah 43:16-21. Prophets and sages of Israel recall the wonders performed by the Lord in the past as assurances for today and tomorrow. God creates everything anew. Remembering the events of the past is therefore an act of faith and hope founded on experience.

Psalms 125. After the work of sowing, comes the feast of harvest; shouts of joy after tears; a new thing sprouts from the trial: the Passover of the Lord!

Philippians 3:8-14. From the day he is touched by Christ, Paul unleashes all his energy to launch himself, without looking back. All the advantages he can offer are nothing compared to the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

John 8, 1-11 We are now in the context of the Passion: the Pharisees' desire to trap Jesus means that his trial is looming on the horizon. This is a strong reason to pay particular attention to all the details of this text: it is more than an anecdote from Jesus' life; it is the very meaning of his mission. At the beginning of the scene, Jesus is in the position of a teacher, but the question posed by the Pharisees places him in the position of judge. This scene with the adulterous woman is the implementation of the phrase we find at the beginning of John's Gospel: "God did not send his Son to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (Jn 3:17). In this mock trial, things are apparently simple: the adulterous woman has been caught in the act of committing a crime, and there are witnesses to prove it. The Law of Moses condemned adultery, this was part of God's commandments at Sinai and Leviticus provided for capital punishment: "When a man commits

adultery with his neighbour's wife, both the man and the woman shall be put to death." (Lv 20, 10). The scribes and Pharisees who come to meet Jesus strictly observe the Law of Moses: This is beyond reproach! But what is reprehensible is that they forget to mention that the Law provided for the death penalty for the two accomplices; everyone knows this, but no one speaks of it: "The Law, Moses, ordered those women to be stoned." And you, what do you say? Ultimately, Jesus is in no better position than the adulterous woman; both are facing the danger of death. Jesus does not respond quickly: "Jesus bends down and, with his finger, writes on the ground." One could say that this silence is intended to let each person find their own answer: Jesus does not humiliate anyone; Jesus embodies mercy; He does not seek to confuse anyone, neither the scribes, nor the Pharisees, nor the adulterous woman! Jesus wants to guide them, both of them, to go beyond their narrow-mindedness. His silence is constructive: he will reveal to the Pharisees and scribes the true face of the God of mercy. When Jesus decides to speak, his words sound more like a question than an answer: "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone." Then Jesus and the woman are left alone: as Saint Augustine says, face to face between misery and mercy: This is not laxity. Jesus tells her clearly: "Sin no more," everything is not permitted, sin remains condemned... **but only forgiveness can allow a sinner to go further!**

Prayer Tips

- ✓ Imagine the scene, place yourself in it, which character do you see yourself reflected in?
- ✓ Share your experience with Jesus Christ.
- ✓ What does this Gospel passage invite you to do?



AMBIENTAL MUSIC.

OLEXANDR IGNATOV - Moments (Official Audio)

https://youtu.be/Tc5W_3r4tew?si=IswYdOU42GQo21L7

APPARENT PERFECTION

Give me a big heart,
a heart that doesn't
simply judge.
Give me a big heart,

a heart that isn't
suspicious.
Give me a big heart,

a heart that, embracing
the past,
looks straight ahead, at
the future.

Give me a big heart,
a heart focused on life.
Give me a big heart,
a heart that is sensitive
to the gentle whispers
that come
from those around me.
Give me a big heart,
a heart that speaks with
precise and coherent
words.

Give me a big heart,
a heart that reaches out
to the fallen, the
prostrate, the poor.

Give me a big heart,
a sensitive and human
heart,
that empowers everyone.

Give me a big heart,
a heart that is merciful
to all.

Give me a big heart,
a heart that spares no
effort

for others,
for the Kingdom.

Give me a big heart,
a heart without facades,
transparent.

Give me a big heart,
A heart with open doors,
warm.

Give me a big heart,
a heart that smiles and
brightens everyone's life.
Give me a big heart,
a heart like yours that
always welcomes those
before it.

A kind heart like yours,
a sensitive heart like
yours,
a heart with big eyes,
a heart with tender
hands,
a heart with gentle steps,
a heart with inspiring
words.

Like You, give me a
heart

Without limits, with
breadth

For all.

SONG. SI TÚ ESTÁS - JOSE IBÁÑEZ

<https://youtu.be/TczgjPs4SGY?si=p5REsVQkcmYsIpl>



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