



HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH

Serve God. Love People. Make Disciples.

ALL

IN

To our Amazing Parish,

The Prodigal Son

Perhaps for you, the most heartbreaking scene in this parable, is that of the lost son, sitting among the pigs, weeping bitterly into their slop as he regrets his path of destruction and hopes for a servants wage in his former life.

For me, the most heartbreaking scene is this speech. I can imagine the heart break in the older son's face as he spits out some of his deepest hurts, fears and wounds.

That the years of obedience spent slaving haven't mattered.

That the absence of any reward was intentional.

That the younger brother was always loved more, preferred, blessed more.

That there are no consequences, good or bad for behavior.

That no matter what I do – it doesn't matter.

How many of you can picture yourself in these shoes? Perhaps you can't name a time of great wandering in a far off land. Perhaps, like me, there was a time that you truly thought yourself upright, obedient, good hearted and dare I say it worthy of more of the Father's love... [Perhaps] We've watched our brothers and sisters leave. We've watched them fall apart in catastrophic and destructive ways. We may have even watched them get what we think they deserve – suffering, hard times, reality.

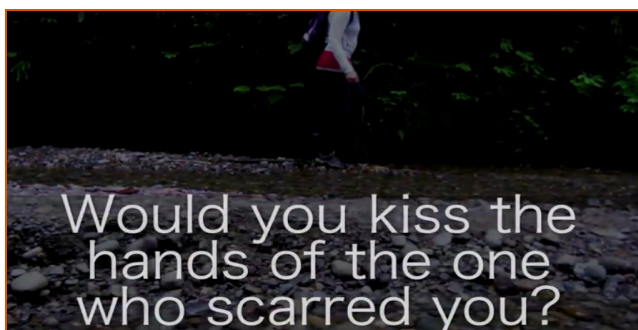
For some of us, it is a painful experience to watch these brothers and sisters be mercifully forgiven, re-embraced into society and met with exorbitant celebration and seeming reward. For some of us, the very sight of a father running to a brother in need of forgiveness, feels like that same father is running away from us. Forgiveness can brew bitterness.

The beautiful part about Jesus including the older son, is that in just the same way the Father ran to embrace his lost son. He leaves the party to plead with the older son. (The Other Son, Jenna Perrine)

God Bless you as you continue journeying!

Holy Redeemer Ministry Team:

Fr. Steve Anderson, Deacon Ken Preiss, Paul Schlegelmilch, Daniel Schmit, Raffy Urgino, Emily Arthur.

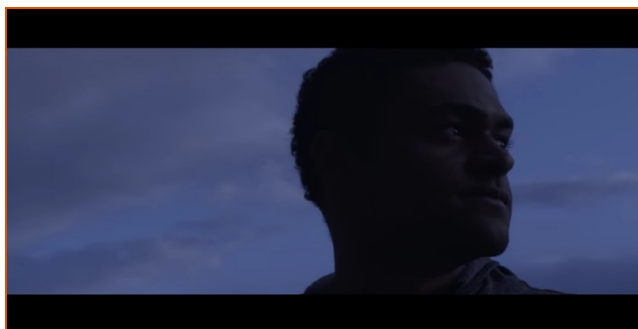


WATCH THE VIDEO



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

READ GOD'S WORD



COMING HOME



HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH
1227 EAST BRISTOL ROAD, BURTON, MI 48529
OFFICE PHONE: 810-743-3050