A Life-Changing Study for the Whole Parish!

FORGIVEN—Homily Talking Points

Week 1

Session 1: Where Are You?

* God uses our guilt to get our attention and to show us that something needs to change.
* God is a loving Father who seeks us out when we sin.
* A well-formed conscience is essential for our happiness.
* God doesn't just want more from us, but He wants more for us!

Week 2

Session 2: An Encounter with Mercy

* We are not defined by our failures and mistakes; rather we are defined by God's love for us.
* Confession is an encounter of God's mercy.
* In the sacrament, God not only forgives us, but he also heals our wounds and the root causes of our sin.
* It is Christ himself whom we encounter in the Sacrament of Reconciliation—the priest is acting in the Person of Christ.

Week 3

Session 3: The Rite Explained and Session 4 for Children

* God forgives our sin in order to clear the way for love.
* We can choose to grow in grace or not.
* A good examination of conscience is taking the time to reflect on how we have failed to live up to who we are called to be.
* Mortal sin completely ruptures our relationship with God.
* A sin is mortal when it is a grave matter and is committed with full knowledge and full consent.
* The Rite of Penance includes the Sign of the Cross, stating how long since your last confession, listing your sins, receiving your penance, making an Act of Contrition, and receiving absolution.