

Lectio Divina

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- **Read and re-read**, out loud and slowly the Gospel
 - **Pray** - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition
 - **Meditate** on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life
 - **Action** – Attitude (Call to change / to act / to do)
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March 10th 2013 4th Sunday in Lent – Year C – Luke 15:1-3; 11-32

In this week's gospel we have two parts. In the first we see Jesus, the tax collectors and sinners who are outsiders in the community and we also have the Pharisees who complain. In the second half we have the parable of the Prodigal Son which is one the most touching passages of the gospel. It is also the longest parable. In this parable we have three people. **The father** is the symbol of perfect love. We see this when the younger son asks for his share of the property; when the younger son returns; when he goes out to meet the older son. **The younger son** is in four parts; his original choice; the result of that choice; his movement towards repentance and his return home. **The older son** is also very important. He feels very angry because he has worked all his life on the farm and feels that his brother who left is more appreciated but the father reassures him that he too is very special to him.

As we read this gospel where do we see ourselves? Are we the ones who complain or do we feel we are the outsiders? Are we like Jesus who understands all? In the Prodigal son who do we relate to – the father or one of the sons?

Prayer:

Thank you Lord for the people who have taught us what true forgiveness is by their example and welcoming manner.

Forgive us for the times that we have squandered our goods and have lived our lives in a lazy and non-caring way.

Help us Lord to be set free from our bondage showing us that you are always with us and all you have is ours.