

Lectio Divina

- **Read and re-read**, out loud and slowly the Gospel
 - **Meditate** on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life
 - **Pray** - Thanksgiving - Repentance - Petition
 - **Action** - Attitude (Call to change / to act / to do)
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March 13th 2016 5th Sunday in Lent - Year C - John 8: 1 - 11

In this week's gospel we see the story of the woman accused of adultery. The Scribes and Pharisees brought her along to Jesus. This woman was guilty of sin and the Scribes and Pharisees were only too eager to judge her and make a show of her in front of Jesus. They were trying to score points against Jesus. They stated that Moses had ordered that this woman be stoned to death, Jesus showed great compassion to the woman and said "If there is one of you who has not sinned, let them be the first to throw a stone at her." When they heard this they all left beginning with the eldest. Jesus was left alone with the woman. He told her he did not condemn her and with compassion and understanding he said to her "go and sin no more."

When were the times in our lives we felt vulnerable and shamed because we were brought before others and our weaknesses pointed out to them? How did we feel? Who were the Jesus people who stood with us calmly so that we could find good space to create a positive life with new belief in ourselves?

Prayer:

Thank you Lord for sending us leaders who like Jesus will stand with the weak and vulnerable against their oppressors not aggressively but calmly.

Forgive us for the times that we did not look at people with respect and compassion just because they sinned instead of remembering that we too are sinners.

Help us to stand with the weak and vulnerable especially when they are being put down in public places. Let us help them to realise that Jesus is waiting with love and compassion to walk with and forgive them.

