

Living Life as Sacred Story 2014: FORTY WEEKS

Weeks 13: Advice and Suggestions

Week 13 continues our work with our Whole-Life Confession. If we have not yet written our letter to Jesus, this is an opportunity for us to overcome any anxiety we might experience and actually write the letter. If we have already written the letter, it is an opportunity to reflect more deeply on the experience of writing and the graces of making the confession. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we want to fully encounter the Divine Physician using the two themes of the Week 13 instructions – grateful praise, and deep understanding of where the letter brings us hope and/or discouragement. By fully “mining” this vital benchmark in our spiritual journey, our friendship with Christ is growing and deepening, in many ways that we will not understand until later. The more we allow Him into our lives where we need healing, the more we will understand that He is our Savior and Lord, full of mercy and infinite patience and love.

Although our lessons are personal rather than communal prayer, we do this “personal work” in the context of the Body of Christ. We share our life of faith with many fellow believers. In the [Week 13 E&W](#), we have reflections from previous Whole-Life Confession pilgrims. Even if we have not experienced the same emotions, these comments witness to the power of God at work – we trust the Lord will use our work too for our ultimate joy and the good of the Kingdom!

If it is helpful, we can reflect on our personal spiritual journey in light of belonging to the Body of Christ with some of the comments made by Pope Francis at his daily Mass on May 15, 2014:

“When they proclaimed Jesus the apostles did not begin with Him, but the history of the people,” Francis said. “In fact Jesus does not make sense without this history” because He “is the end of this story, [the end] towards which this story goes, towards which it walks”. So “you cannot understand a Christian outside of the people of God. A Christian without a church is something purely idealistic, it is not real.”