



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 1

Mercy

Jesus instructs his followers to do the seemingly impossible: be merciful just as God is merciful. God's mercy is endless. How can we ever manage to love as he does? Living in a world that overflows with brokenness, we have endless opportunities to bring mercy to another. In our families, we have so many chances to forgive. How can you extend mercy to someone today? *Today's readings: Deuteronomy 9:4b–10; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Luke 6:36–38.*

Tuesday, March 2

The Greatest among You

From birth, human beings prefer to look at other human faces more than anything else. We come into the world ready for relationships of love. Yet as we seek out that love, we miss the mark. Rather than authentic love, which both affirms us and challenges us, we seek out approval, acclaim, and status. We look for relationships that reflect us back to ourselves in a positive light. Humility is opting out of this unwinnable game. It is knowing that we have an identity that cannot be taken away from us: beloved child of God. Once we accept that this is the love we are looking for, the love that grounds our being, we no longer worry about where we fit. We can instead imitate the one who humbled himself, who came in our likeness, who lived in love. *Today's readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16–20; Psalm 50:8–9, 16bc–17, 21 and 23; Matthew 23:1–12.*

Wednesday, March 3

St. Katharine Drexel

St. Katharine Drexel was an heiress in Philadelphia who felt incredibly moved by the plight of Native Americans and African Americans in the United States in the late nineteenth century. She recognized this pull on her heart as a call from God, and she gave up her fortune and founded a religious

order, establishing missions and schools that served these groups. She listened for God's voice and responded. How can you do the same? *Today's readings: Jeremiah 18:18–20; Psalm 31:5–6, 14, 15–16; Matthew 20:17–28.*

Thursday, March 4

St. Casimir

St. Casimir was a Polish prince with legendary generosity to the poor. Is there a sacrifice you could make today in order to give generously to the poor in his honor? Consider what Abraham said at the end of today's Gospel reading. How has Christ's rising from the dead persuaded you to be merciful? *Today's readings: Jeremiah 17:5–10; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 16:19–31.*

Friday, March 5

Act with Justice

Over and over, the prophets and Jesus call us to give up our sinful ways and act with justice. We fail to recognize that the goods of creation are intended for all people and cling tightly to what we have when many do not have enough. Today choose to eat a simple lunch or dinner, and donate the cost savings to a charity that serves those who are food insecure. *Today's readings: Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a; Psalm 105:16–17, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46.*

Saturday, March 6

Merciful Love

Spend some time reflecting on the words of Jesus in the parable of the prodigal son, and allow yourself to hear it with new ears. The son behaved as though his father were dead, yet the father watched for the son, ran to him, embraced him, and threw a feast to celebrate his return. What does that tell you about the vastness of God's merciful love for you? Is there anything you could do for which God could not forgive? *Today's readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.*

