

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday of  
Ordinary Time  
September 14-15,  
2019**

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## **Living Catholic in the 808: Seeking Forgiveness**

**Sherry Hayes-Peirce  
CIO, Church Social Tips**

The Gospel reading for this Sunday is well known to many of us. It is the Parable of the Prodigal Son, that exhibits how we are given free will from our father and even when we abuse it, he lovingly forgives and accepts us back into communion with him.

So many times we do something that we perceive to be so bad that God will not forgive us for it. Just like the prodigal son we resolve we deserve to suffer and don't seek reconciliation with our heavenly father. As the parable so vividly depicts the son's request for forgiveness and the father's acceptance serves as a model for the joy the sacrament of reconciliation brings.

In our faith tradition we have many contemporary models for seeking forgiveness of sin through an examination of conscience, penance and absolution. Most notably we have St. Damien of Moloka'i who yearned for the opportunity so much he even shouted his sins to his confessor on the open sea.

So this week, using the Ignatian practice of the Examen, search your soul for anything that you need forgiveness for and make a plan to go to confession so you too can experience the joy that reconciliation with God brings. e 'imi i ke kala 'ia