

NEVER THE SAME AGAIN
DAY 2
COMPANION SHEET

The grace to ask for today is:

Ask for shame and confusion at your sin. How could you hurt God who was so good to you!

Scripture Passage: Genesis 6.6

“And the Lord was sorry that he had made human beings on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.” Amen

During the day if you wish (but only if you find it helpful) you can do the following:

Invite Saint Isaac Jogues (1607-1646) to spend the day with you.

On hearing about Jean de Brébeuf’s zealous missionary efforts in New France, Isaac Jogues had yearned ever since he joined the Jesuits at the age of 17 to be a missionary. He finally arrived in Québec on July 2, 1636. After a deathly illness that nearly killed him shortly after he arrived in Huronia, Jogues devoted himself to learning the Huron language and culture. In 1642, he and René Goupil and their Huron companions were captured by the Iroquois. He was tortured and had his left thumb chopped off. His response was gratitude that his torturers left his right thumb, allowing him to still write letters. Like the other martyrs, he chose to make his suffering redemptive for others and believed it would be generative – “the blood of martyrs is the seed of Christians.” After much discernment, because he did not want to abandon the Hurons who had been captured with him, he escaped back to France. The Jesuits there regarded him as Lazarus risen from the

dead. But Jogues could not wait to return to the Hurons. In 1644 he got the chance, and when he arrived back, Marie de l’Incarnation exclaimed, “God has restored to us a true living martyr.” In 1646 he was sent back to the Iroquois as an ambassador of peace. Sensing this would end in his death, he wrote to a fellow Jesuit, “My heart tells me that if I am the one chosen for this mission, I shall go but I shall not return.” In June of 1647, he died under the blow of a tomahawk after having endured two martyrdoms.

Read and reflect on what Pope Francis says:

“I am a sinner ... I am sure of this. I am a sinner whom the Lord looked upon with mercy. I am, as I said to detainees in Bolivia, a forgiven man. ... I still make mistakes and commit sins, and I confess every fifteen or twenty days. And if I confess it is because I need to feel that God's mercy is still upon me.” (Interview with Italian magazine, *Crede*, Dec. 2, 2015)

“The mere fact that I now dress all in white has not made me any less sinful or holier than before.”
(To Jesuits in Mozambique, Sept. 5, 2019)

“Just as none of us should reject other people because of their sins and failures, but help them be what they are meant to be, Christ’s followers should love and listen to the Church, build her up, take responsibility for her, including her sins and failures. At those moments when the Church shows herself to be weak and sinful, let us help her up again; let us not condemn or disdain her, but care for her like our own mother.” (Let Us Dream: the Path to a Better Future, 2020, page 72)

Sing to yourself or recite:

Google “Father I have sinned” (*The Prodigal*)
Lyric-Video on You-Tube

Father I have sinned. Help me find my way.
Remember not my sin. Just let me hear you say,
I forgive you, I love you.
You are mine. Take my hand.
Go in peace. Sin no more, beloved one.

Father I have turned my back and walked away,
Depended on my strength,
and lived life my own way.
I forgive you, I love you.
You are mine. Take my hand.
Go in peace. Sin no more, beloved one.

Father I have closed my heart to those in need.
Thought only of myself, a victim of my greed.
I forgive you, I love you.
You are mine. Take my hand.
Go in peace. Sin no more, beloved one.

Father I have loved, if love's the word to use.
I've played so many games,
they left me so confused.
I forgive you, I love you.
You are mine. Take my hand.
Go in peace. Sin no more, beloved one.

Father I've returned, I'm home with you to stay.
Standing by your door, knowing that you'll say,
I forgive you, I love you.
You are mine. Take my hand.
Go in peace. Sin no more, beloved one.

Additional Passages of Scripture:

2 Samuel 11.1-26; Psalm 106; Isaiah 1.1–2.3;
Jn 8.2-11; Daniel 9.3, 4b-10