* **First week of Lent – Tuesday**

**Catechetical Reflection**: Saint Francis focuses on the first two words of the Lord’s Prayer in the selection we are given, couched in a humble submission, running just under the surface he is thanking God for the honor of allowing us to call Him Father, Our Father—Our Father, for all of us who are not worthy of forgiveness. This is aspect of the Lord’s Prayer is its central theme, as outlined in the CCC. CCC 2841, “This petition is so important that it is the only one to which the Lord returns…” (see the last two sentences in the gospel reading). CCC 2840 in part “This outpouring of mercy cannot penetrate our hearts as long as we have not forgiven [others]…” CCC 2844: “Christian prayer extends to *forgiveness of enemies*, transfiguring the disciple by configuring him to the Master…”

In the Salesian method of Contemplative Prayer, our saint encourages us to use phrases from the Lord’s Prayer. Had you considered the honor of calling the Father, “Father” a humble plea acknowledging the forgiveness offered to each of us? Why do you suppose that is?

While you may intellectually know Lord’s Prayer is anchored in forgiveness, do the words of the CCC 2844 move you to change your prayer life for politicians, personal enemies, bullies or “bad actors” in general knowing that Unity with God, of All Souls, is His Will?

How does this (or does it?) change your interior disposition towards them?

How would you change your outward actions or words (spoken or written) towards them? Or would you? Why or why not?

Often we are challenged by a difficult family member. Do you trust (Hope) in God’s power to call them to a converted heart as St. Monica did for St. Augustine (why or why not)? What would you change in your prayer life?

Have you thought about the sins committed in the mind (vengeful thoughts, judgmental ruminations, illicit memories etc.).

Do any of the above cause you to re-think you approach confession (Sacrament of Conversion)?