

# ***CELEBRATING FORGIVENESS ON RECONCILIATION SUNDAY IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER***

Cardinal Martini, the wise former Archbishop of Milan who died a few years ago, recommended asking oneself **three main questions** in preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation – under which headings several other related questions might prove helpful...



***Since my last celebration of reconciliation/in recent months***

**(A) For what do I most thank God?**

- and for **whom** do I most thank God? How might I show this gratitude?

**(B) What am I most sorry for?**

*- in my relationships with other people?*

Do I make time for those with whom I live? Do I listen well?

If I work, do I work with integrity, with respect for others' time and resources?

If I feel I have been very hurt, is there anyone I need to try to forgive, to take the first difficult step of not wanting or seeking revenge?

Do I gossip? Do I ever encourage or affirm anybody?

*- in my relationship with myself?*

Do I look for the blessings in each day and live with gratitude

Am I honest with myself and prepared to accept criticism? Or blind to my own weaknesses, and unwilling to try to change? Do I actively seek to recognise and resist temptation?

*- in my relationship with God?*

Do I try to make my relationship with God a living one? Do I give time to God in prayer or am I "too busy"?

Someone once said "God is very short of gratitude"; do I ever express my gratitude?

**(C) In what area of my life do I most want to ask help and healing?**

Is anything particularly worrying or upsetting me at the moment? Is there a habit I want to break but feel I can't by myself? Looking over the relationships, where do I most need help and healing?

***And to conclude - What gift or quality would I like to ask God for this Lent and Easter, and for my life?***