



PASTORAL OFFICE
DIOCESE OF BAKER

PO BOX 5999 • BEND, OREGON 97708

PHONE - (541) 388-4004
FAX (541) 388-2566
www.dioceseofbaker.org

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A Lent to Remember

Greetings Rev. Fathers and Parish Lay Leaders,

The Office of Evangelization is enthusiastically launching a campaign this Lent for all parishes. *A Lent to Remember* is a parish wide study of the newly released program *FORGIVEN – THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CONFESSION* – available in both English and Spanish. With beautiful filmmaking and teaching on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, *Forgiven* will move your heart and give you plenty to discuss as a family or as a group of friends.

The reviews across the United States of *FORGIVEN* have been strong. I have reviewed the videos and I was profoundly impacted. It speaks to the busy and distracted reality of our lives and then draws us into God's desire and love available in the sacramental life of the Church.

On the backside of this letter is a recommended schedule for promoting *FORGIVEN* in your parish. Enclosed with this letter are samples of the promotional resources available for your use. There are also leader and participate study guides available. All of these resources are available online in two ways:

1. Promotional Resources: Formed.org website under "[Leader Resources](#)" and then "[Promotional Resources](#)." Study Guides are available for download under each video session.
2. On the home page of our diocesan website (www.dioceseofbaker.org) you will find a link "[A Lent to Remember](#)" providing you direct access to both promotion and study guide resources in a simple list. Included on this webpage is a direct link to a video trailer of *FORGIVEN*.

As Bishop Cary noted in his letter, this program can be used as an evangelization tool to draw fallen away Catholics back to church. Bishop Cary cites an example of how this might work for your parish. I would add that there are also opportunities to reach out via email and social media. You can share all of these promotional resources through social media, including your parish access code.

As you discuss the possibilities for evangelistic outreach amongst the leaders of your parish please feel free to contact me with any questions. For smaller parishes or missions that lack access to professional printing of the material, the chancery can print and mail resources to your parish for the cost of materials and shipping, just let me know.

Grace and peace to you this Lenten season,

Barry Metzentine

Director of Evangelization and Catechesis

Week of Jan 30 – Feb 3: initial communications to parishes

- Feb 1: Presbyteral Council
- Feb 2: Email to clergy and lay leaders with summary schedule

Week of February 5 – 12: **webinar** for Diocese of Baker parish/mission contacts

- **Thursday, February 9, 1:00 PM:** led by Augustine Institute with Barry as co-host

Week of February 19 – 26: **Parishes print** FORGIVEN postcards or bulletin inserts

- **Note for smaller parishes/missions:** for a nominal charge there is an option to have the chancery print and mail the material to your parish, contact Barry Metzentine if you are interested

Ash Wednesday [March 1] and/or First Sunday of Lent [March 5]: Pulpit pitch;

- emphasize parish-wide participation; distribute postcards prior to dismissal (i.e. reverse collection)

1st Week [March 5 – 12]: Watch FORGIVEN Session 1 (home or parish)

2nd Sunday [March 12]: Homily or announcements (Session 1: *Where Are You?*)

- encouragement to parishioners who have not yet participated; reminder to watch and discuss FORGIVEN Session 2 this coming week

2nd Week [March 12 – 19]: Watch FORGIVEN Session 2 (home or parish)

3rd Sunday [March 19]: Homily or announcements (Session 2: *An Encounter with Mercy*)

- make reference to FORGIVEN Session 2; encouragement to parishioners who have not yet participated; reminder to watch and discuss FORGIVEN Session 3 this coming week

3rd Week [March 19 – 26]: Watch FORGIVEN Session 3 (home or parish)

4th Sunday [March 26]: Homily or announcements (Session 3: *Rite Explained* & Session 4 for Children)

- make reference to FORGIVEN Session 3; reminder to watch and discuss FORGIVEN Session 4 this coming week with your children

4th Week [March 26 – April 2]: Watch FORGIVEN Session 4 (home or parish)

5th Sunday [April 2]: Homily or announcements

- make reference to FORGIVEN Session 4
- reminder to watch and discuss SYMBOLON Session 6 – *The Mystery of Jesus' Death and Resurrection* for the last week of Lent; encouragement to parishioners who have not yet participated. (home or parish)

5th Week of Lent [April 2 – 9]: SYMBOLON Session 6 – *The Mystery of Jesus' Death and Resurrection*

Sunday of Holy Week [April 9]: Homily or announcements

- make reference to SYMBOLON Session 6
- congratulate parishioners for their participation in the campaign as their hearts and minds are now prepared for the holiest week of the year
- encourage those who have not yet gone to Confession to do so before Easter