



Your sacred heart melted for us;  
We hardened our hearts against you.  
You gave up the majesty of your throne in heaven;  
We refused you a place in the inn.  
You accepted the worst of sinners;  
We spurned the Son of God.  
You gave us the wine of the new covenant;  
We offered you gall to drink.  
You taught with divine authority;  
We rejected your words as foolishness.  
You gave us the kiss of life;  
We betrayed you with the kiss of death.  
You freed us from the captivity of sin and death;  
We arrested and bound you like a common criminal.  
You did not desert us when we fell in the Garden of Eden;  
We fled in fear when you were arrested in Gethsemane.



You had no deceit in your mouth;  
We treated you as a liar.  
You intercede for us before God;  
We falsely accused you before men.  
You were free of the stain of sin;  
We found you guilty.  
You gave us a crown of glory;  
We crowned you with thorns.  
You are the spotless Lamb of God;  
We led you to slaughter.  
You opened your arms to embrace us;  
We stretched your arms on the wood of the cross.  
Your hands touched and healed the afflicted;  
We pierced them with nails.  
You washed the feet of your disciples;  
We affixed your feet to the tree.  
You were transfigured in radiant glory;  
We disfigured you beyond recognition.  
You gave us new hearts;  
We pierced your heart with a lance.



## Word • Share

*Questions for prayer and discussion based on the feature articles.*

### **Return To Me Rejoicing**

1. In what way(s) are you like the prodigal son? How does he represent every one of us?
2. In light of the cultural background of the parable, what does it tell us about the magnitude of the boy's sin?
3. The prodigal son's repentance began with reflection but developed into a decision. Why should our repentance also have these two elements?
4. Have you experienced God's compassion toward you as you have come to him seeking forgiveness?
5. Do you believe that God really wants to forgive you? Do you believe that you have any sins too great to be forgiven?

### **Celebrate And Rejoice**

1. In what way(s) are you like the older son? How does he represent every one of us?
2. How is it possible to be living in morally correct ways but still be distant from God?
3. What four steps can we take to enable the Sacrament of Reconciliation to be effective in our lives?
4. Discuss some steps you can take to allow the mercy of God to touch the lives of people you encounter during the day.

### **Joy In Heaven**

1. Do you believe that Jesus' power over sin is so great that even the most "lost" can be saved?
2. In what ways is Jesus seeking you?
3. Repentance means a change of heart. Do you experience this when you repent?
4. Do you know it is a supreme joy to repent?