

*OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY*

# LIVING LENT

SATURDAY OF THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

DAY 18

*DON'T JUST OBSERVE LENT, LIVE IT!*

*A CATHOLIC ONLINE @CATHOLIC.ORG PROGRAM*

## PRAY:

"He pardons all your iniquities, he heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, he crowns you with kindness and compassion." (Psalm 103:3)

## READING: Luke 15:20-32

**20** So he left the place and went back to his father. 'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him.

**21** Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son."

**22** But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.

**23** Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we will celebrate by having a feast,

**24** because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

**25** 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing.

**26** Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about.

**27** The servant told him, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the calf we had been fattening because he has got him back safe and sound."

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**28** He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out and began to urge him to come in;

**29** but he retorted to his father, "All these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed any orders of yours, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends.

**30** But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property -- he and his loose women -- you kill the calf we had been fattening."

**31** 'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours.

**32** But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found." '

## **MEDITATION:**

I am like the prodigal son. How many times have I left God, forgetting his ways?  
How many times has he welcomed me back? No matter what happens, God loves me and welcomes me home.

## **LET US PRAY:**

Lord, you have welcomed me back so many times! Thank you for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Let me return to your embrace every day.

## **ACTION:**

I will find my way back home to God. In what ways have I disappointed God? I will seek to amend these ways.