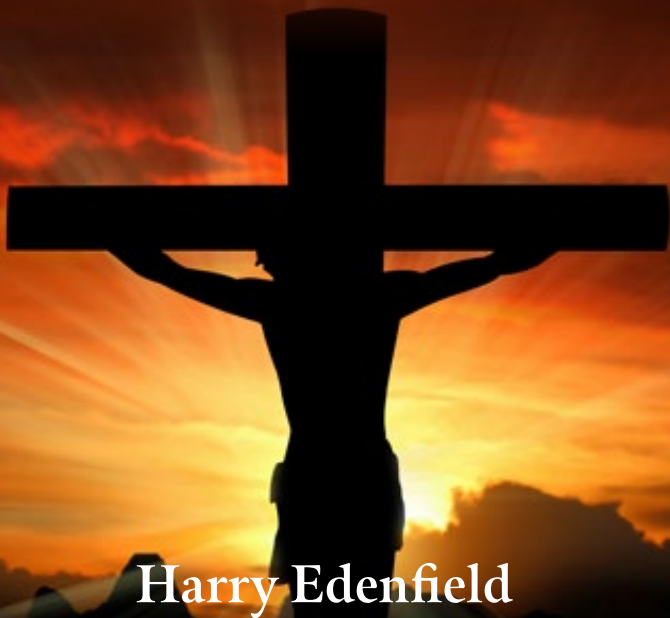


Remember Me, O Lord

DAILY PRAYERS *for* LENT



Harry Edenfield

ASH WEDNESDAY

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. GENESIS 3:8

Remember me in my sinfulness? God, often I can be like my first parents. When entangled in my sin, I do not want you to find or remember me. I hide and you seek and find. On this Wednesday, you mark me with ashes; every day your unconditional, undeserved love marks me with the cross of Jesus. Thank you for your persistence in the face of my resistance. Now I gladly say, “Remember me!” Amen.



THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

But [Lot] lingered. So the [angels] seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. GENESIS 19:16

Lord God, your servant Lot lingered in Sodom. Sometimes I love *my* chosen place too much. You urge me to leave my sin spot. I linger. I linger even if it may be injurious to *my* loved ones. Remember me: I, too, need an escort from the magnet of sin. As we leave together, Holy Spirit, urge me to have no regret about the exit from sin. Urge me not to look back. Amen.

FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

*From that time Jesus began to preach,
saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven
is at hand." MATTHEW 4:17*

Heavenly Father, *one* word from you embraces such power. John the Baptist preaches, "Repent." Jesus preaches, "Repent." Peter preaches, "Repent." I get it! You have not forgotten that you are my Maker. You want to refashion my clay in your hands. You remember me in my sinfulness but not to seek and destroy. Of your creation, you perform re-creation. Of the sinful Adam I am, you forge an imitation of Christ. Keep calling, "Repent." Amen.



SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

Be sober-minded: be watchful.

*Your adversary the devil prowls around
like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.*

1 PETER 5:8

Dear Triune God, I am your sometimes-wandering sheep. For the devil, I am a desired piece of fresh meat. The prowling lion remembers me in my sinfulness, for he is the Destroyer. You remember me in my sinfulness, for you are my Creator, my Redeemer, my Sanctifier. Help me to resist hell's snares. Keep me faithful. Help me to take refuge in this truth: I am but one of many sheep you have returned to your sheepfold. Amen.

Remember Me in My Weakness

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*[Noah] drank of the wine and became drunk
and lay uncovered in his tent. GENESIS 9:21*

Dear all-seeing God, remembering your humans must not always be pleasant. Noah slid from being “king” of the post-ark world into shame. In my pride, I, too, believe things are under my control: I am the captain of *my* ship, the master. In my tent, I would drown in sin’s shame. Remember me, as you did Noah, in my weakness. Nourish me with the consecrated bread and wine of the sacrament. Amen.



MONDAY, THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

[God said to Moses:] “Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water.”

NUMBERS 20:8

Shepherd of your people, in our weakness we neglect to display your love for your flock. Moses was angry with the rebellious Israelites: striking the rock replaced speaking to it. Faithful Lord, you still furnished abundant water. On Mondays, and other days, I can also become angry with your sheep. In weakness, I sin. Remember me by pointing me to baptism's abundant water. Thank you that Moses and I will each have a home in the everlasting Promised Land. Amen.

Remember Me in My Weakness

TUESDAY, THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

But Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue." EXODUS 4:10


Creator of my tongue, I am slow to be your messenger. Moses claimed slowness of speech. I am just plain slow of courage. You furnish audience, opportunity and message. You offer all that is needed; like a fearful steward, I sinfully bury your gift of love for others. Help me to remember that, as God, you always provide what is needed. Remember me in my weakness. Help me to speak your Word to the people of your world. Amen.



WEDNESDAY, THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

*So I said to them, "Let any who have gold take it off."
So they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire,
and out came this calf. EXODUS 32:24*

Lord, when is the end to evil-producing peer pressure? How ridiculous Aaron appears as he excuses himself for casting the golden calf. He blames others for his sin and the calf on a "miracle." In my weakness, explanations for my sin are equally irrelevant. I, too, can easily be intimidated. I speak another's word and not yours, Lord; I display another's actions and not yours. God, remember me. Strengthen my hands and lips with your outstretched arm. Amen.



We join with the thief on the right on the cross beside Jesus in saying, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom,” as we pray these prayers through the season of Lent. We ask the Lord to remember us in our sinfulness, in our weakness, in our doubt, in our struggles, in our rejoicing, in our trusting, in our tears and in our triumph through Christ. Along the way, learn how God’s people were remembered by him as a fore-taste of the remembrance our Savior provides.

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