

**This Week's Message
from Fr. Amesse
February 1, 2026**



One of the quiet gifts of the Church is the Sacrament of Reconciliation. For some, Confession is familiar and comforting. For others, it may feel intimidating, awkward, or simply easy to avoid. Wherever you find yourself, know this: God is always ready to welcome you.

Confession is not meant to be a place of fear or judgment. It is a place of mercy and healing. God already knows our struggles and our weaknesses. What He asks is not perfection, but honesty — a willingness to come to Him and trust in His love.

Life has a way of wearing us down. We carry regrets, burdens, and mistakes that quietly weigh on our hearts. Confession offers us a moment to set those burdens down. It is a chance to hear, clearly and personally, that we are forgiven and loved.

For many people, the hardest part is simply walking through the door. If it has been a long time — even many years — please know that you are not alone, and you are not expected to remember everything or say things perfectly. The priest is there to help, to listen, and to guide you gently through the sacrament.

Here at Saint Joseph the Worker Shrine, Confession is offered six days a week. That availability is a true gift — a sign of the Church's desire to make God's mercy accessible, patient, and close at hand. You do not need to wait for a special season or the "right" moment. The invitation is always there.

Confession is about beginning again. It is about allowing God to meet us exactly where we are and to give us the grace to move forward, one step at a time. The Lord never grows tired of forgiving us. He is always waiting, always patient, always merciful.

I remember you at Mass.