

Weekly Reflections

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Based on the gospel for Sunday 11 September, Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 15: 1-32

"There will be rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner."

In this Sunday's gospel we hear different parables all telling us of the great love that God has for us. We are reminded of the marvel of the free will that God has granted us, of the amazing compassion that he shows to each of us when we lose our way and his rejoicing when we return to him.

Yet how many times do we choose to resist God's loving ways? Perhaps we are stuck in our dutiful, righteous, resentful ways, like the second brother in the parable of the lost son. Or maybe we are wayward like sheep who wander from their shepherd and lose their way.

The woman who loses a coin is persistent in looking for it, knowing it can be found. Our God, our good God, is so persistent looking for us, shouting for us, calling out to us day by day. This is the compassionate father who welcomes the wandering son and says to the reluctant son you are always with me.

So let us become more aware of God's loving presence all around us. Let us seek to be more like him. Let us search for ways to welcome the lost, to show compassion and be persistent in crying out for justice.

Compassionate and just God, thank you that your loving presence is always there, holding us close. We thank you that you can see more goodness in us than we do in ourselves. Thank you that you rejoice so much when we return to you. Help us to be compassionate like you and welcoming to those who are far from home. Amen.



Food crisis Mass

Join us online on Wednesday 14 September at 7pm for a Mass, praying for all affected by the world food crisis. The Mass will be celebrated from the Shrine of Mary Help of Christians in Nairobi, Kenya.

[Register now](#)


Fix the Food System

Urge the government to take action to fix our broken food system and tackle the causes of hunger in our world.

[Find out more](#)


Care of creation prayers

In this Season of Creation, use our prayer resources to pray for the care of the earth, our common home.

[Pray with us](#)

This reflection and prayer were written by Joy Wanless, a CAFOD volunteer in Salford Diocese.



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Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road,
London,
SE1 7JB,