

**Connecting Music to Mass**  
**July 24, 2016**

Today's gospel focuses on our prayer life as a part of discipleship. The readings are found at #1142. Jesus teaches the prayer we know as the "Lord's Prayer" which is prayed at every Mass. One line of the prayer "...and forgive us our sins, or we ourselves forgive everyone in debt to us," is also quoted in the opening hymn "Forgive Our Sins" (#965). St. Paul's letter to the Colossians proclaims our benefit of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Paul says we are "raised with Christ" and "brought to life with him" – these words offer powerful images of our salvation through baptism. This also brings us back to the hymn "Forgive Our Sins," specifically verse 3 – "In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew. How small are others' debt to us, how great our debt to you!"

As we focus on the Year of Mercy, examples of God's mercy in the scriptures continue to jump out at us. God's mercy is revealed in the second reading and gospel through the sacrifice on the cross and answering our prayers. Not only this, but the first reading also points to mercy. God, in contemplating destroying Gomorrah, says to Abraham that he will save the whole city if even as few as five innocent are found. Indeed, this example of mercy is a mirror to Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Although not included in the scriptures today, the favorite scripture passage of the Beatitudes (Blest Are They - #735) are deeply rooted in mercy. Let us continue to reflect on how we can embody God's mercy shown in today's scriptures, further uniting our lives to Christ.

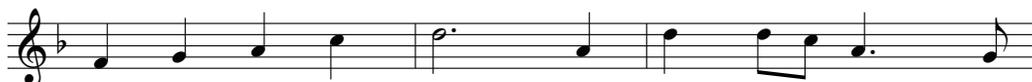
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**[Click here - Sunday Readings for July 24, 2016](#)**

## Forgive Our Sins



1. "For - give our sins as we for - give," You
2. How can your par - don reach and bless The
3. In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals The
4. Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls And



taught us, Lord, to pray; But you a - lone can  
un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and  
truth we dim - ly knew: How small are oth - ers'  
bid re - sent - ment cease. Then, by your mer - cy



grant us grace To live the words we say.  
will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
debts to us, How great our debt to you!  
rec - on - ciled, Our lives will spread your peace.

