

THE LORD'S PRAYER LENT 2023



Today's Lent reflection is from Aboriginal Christian Leader and Gubbi Gubbi and Kamilaroi woman, Aunty Ravina Waldren, speaking on 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us'.

Hello, my name is Ravina Waldren and I come to you today on Yuggera Country at Woolloongabba, the place of Whirling Waters. My people are from the Kamilaroi Nation on my father's side and on my mother's side of the Gubbi Gubbi Nation of the Sunshine Coast. I work for the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry here in Brisbane, and I work with the whole of the community from Cherbourg to Stradbroke Island, and all over Brisbane. We have one of the largest, second largest dioceses here in Australia, and I'm very happy to be joining with you all today.

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us

During Lent, we reflect on the sufferings of Jesus and our own personal sufferings, and the sufferings of others across our communities.

On our journey of faith when I think about the forgiveness for our trespass as we think of those who trespassed against us, I often reflect to our journey. And it's our faith journey, learning to love one another and to forgive others who have done wrong by us.

We are God's voice to others when we forgive, and when we are forgiven. We hear God's voice that is always forgiving. The forgiveness is already there if we accept it and pass it on to others.

In our community, and our justice system, there is a place of forgiveness, care, love and respect, and compassion through restorative justice. For those who have returned to us after incarceration, we pray 'forgive us in our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us'.

Forgiveness is about change of heart and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us towards a more spiritual journey or forgiveness and to love and to care for each other and for compassion with each other