

Intercession:

For the father whose child died with his cooperation and consent: that the Lord grant him the grace to repent and be reconciled with God.

Prayer:

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

Reflection:

In today's Gospel reading (Jn 1:29-34), John the Baptist testifies that Jesus is both the Son of God and "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." At every Mass we repeat these words, but how often do we meditate on this great mystery? There is nothing we could ever accomplish on our own that could atone for our daily failures to love others with the merciful and sacrificial love of Christ. But in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, he forgives our faults, wipes the stain of sin from our souls and gives us the strength to begin anew with the help of his grace. Let us live each day in gratitude for the mercy God has shown us!

Acts of Reparation (choose one)

- When others are speaking uncharitably about someone else, change the conversation, leave, or offer a counter opinion that is kind and charitable.
- Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for mothers and fathers who've lost a child through abortion, asking that they find the courage to seek Reconciliation and counseling through Project Rachel Ministry.
- Read about the life of a modern (19th or 20th century) saint. You might be surprised by how much you have in common with them.

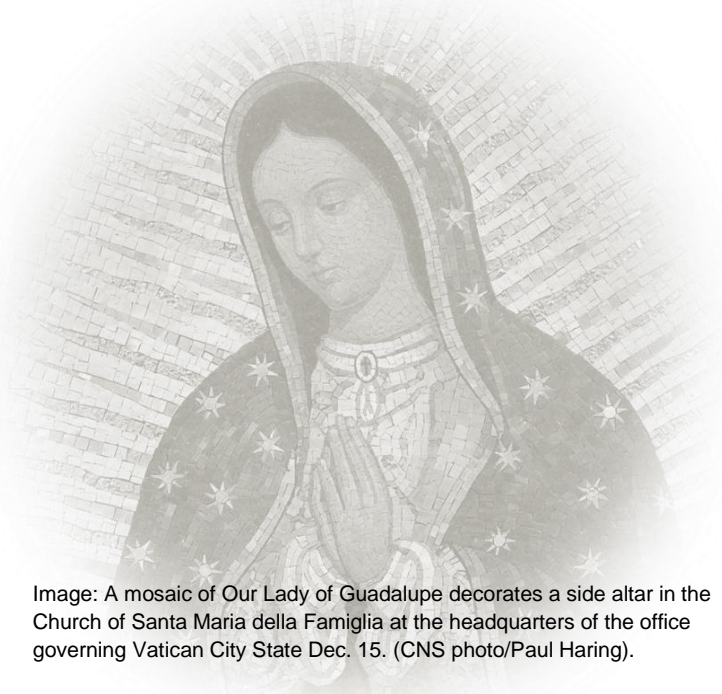


Image: A mosaic of Our Lady of Guadalupe decorates a side altar in the Church of Santa Maria della Famiglia at the headquarters of the office governing Vatican City State Dec. 15. (CNS photo/Paul Haring).

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