

Pope Francis explains what to do when Confession is not available or it is difficult for you to leave the house (March 20, 2020 – Homily at Morning Mass)

This habit of returning home “takes flesh in the Sacrament of Reconciliation,” Pope Francis explained.

“I know that many of you go to confession before Easter... Many will say to me: ‘But Father... I can’t leave the house and I want to make my peace with the Lord. I want Him to embrace me... How can I do that unless I find a priest?’

Do what the catechism says. It’s very clear. If you can’t find a priest to go to confession, speak to God. He’s your Father. Tell Him the truth: ‘Lord. I did this and this and this. Pardon me.’ Ask His forgiveness with all your heart with an act of contrition, and promise Him, ‘afterward I will go to confession.’

You will return to God’s grace immediately. You yourself can draw near, as the Catechism teaches us, to God’s forgiveness, without having a priest at hand.

At the end of his homily, the Pope expressed the hope that the word “return” might “echo in our ears today”

“Return to your Father. He’s waiting for you, and He will throw a feast for you.”

The Cathedral will Live Stream a Penitential Liturgy on Wednesday Evening, 8th April at 5pm.