

Wednesday 17th February @ 7.30pm Ash Wednesday

Readings

Joel 2 1-2, 12-17

2 Corinthians 5 20b- 6.10

Matthew 6 1-6, 16-21

Collect for Ash Wednesday

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thought for the Week The Divine Option

When all human options appear to be exhausted, God can still act. At a stroke, in the Temple (John 8 1-11), Jesus gave the woman a new start, and caused her accusers to convict themselves.

There are some scholars who query these verses: certainly they are not found in some of the ancient texts; in others, they are in a different place.

But originality need not concern us here; there are too many valuable lessons to be learned, including:

1. We cannot test God and get away with it.
2. God's love is willing to give a sinner another chance.
3. Critics can be their own worst enemies.