



WHY IS IT HARD TO GO TO CONFESSION?



#234 WHEN IS A CATHOLIC OBLIGED TO CONFESS HIS SERIOUS SINS?

How often should one go to confession? Upon reaching the age of reason, a Catholic is obliged to confess his serious sins. The Church urgently advises the faithful to do this at least once a year. At any rate one must go to confession before receiving Holy Communion if one has committed a serious sin. By "the age of reason", the Church means the age at which one has arrived at the use of reason and has learned to distinguish between good and bad.

SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES

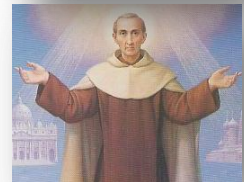
ST PHILIP NERI

St Philip was known as the Apostle of Rome because of his joy and dedication to the poor. He encouraged people to go to the sacraments especially confession and realize that God is merciful and loving. He was known for his sense of humor and joy that would lead people to conversion.



ST RAPHAEL KALINOWSKI

St Raphael was not always close to God. But he was able to recognize his sins and convert and become closer to God. Only then was he able to help others. His conversion led to many other people's conversions.



GOSPEL



ANSWERS

SO THE PRODIGAL SON GOT UP AND WENT BACK TO HIS FATHER. WHILE HE WAS STILL A LONG WAY OFF, HIS FATHER CAUGHT SIGHT OF HIM, AND WAS FILLED WITH COMPASSION. HE RAN TO HIS SON, EMBRACED HIM AND KISSED HIM. HIS SON SAID TO HIM, 'FATHER, I HAVE SINNED AGAINST HEAVEN AND AGAINST YOU; I NO LONGER DESERVE TO BE CALLED YOUR SON.' BUT HIS FATHER ORDERED HIS SERVANTS, LET US CELEBRATE WITH A FEAST, BECAUSE THIS SON OF MINE WAS DEAD, AND HAS COME TO LIFE AGAIN; HE WAS LOST, AND HAS BEEN FOUND.'

- LUKE 15: 11-32

ANSWER IN YOUR OWN WORDS:
