

Friday of the First Week of Lent – St. Polycarp.

Readings: Ezekiel 18.21-28 – Do what is right; Matthew 5.20-26 – New law of love.

Reality: “I will never forget one day when I picked up a woman out of a garbage bin. She was burning with fever, near death. She kept on saying, ‘My son did this to me, my son did this to me.’ I took her to our home for the dying, and we took many hours to ease her pain. We cared for her. Before she died, she was able to say, ‘I forgive my son.’” (Mother Teresa, “Dignity of Suffering,” *Childworld*, Jan/Feb. 1985, p.6).

Prayer: God, you call us to be responsive to the needs of others. May our Lenten journey be an opportunity to come alive to the daily issues of justice, mercy, and peace.
