February

It would not be out of place at this point to recall the relationship between justice and mercy. These are not two contradictory realities, but two dimensions of a single reality that unfolds progressively until it culminates in the fullness of love. Justice is also understood as that which is rightly due to each individual. (MV 20) Mercy is not opposed to justice but rather expresses God's way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe. God's anger lasts but a moment, his mercy forever. (MV 21)



Mercy complements God's justice, it does not undermine it. Instead of insisting on the demands of justice, God reaches out to sinners and gives them opportunities to repent.

© Centre for Liturgy, Archdiocese of Perth. Image © Fr Stan Bendkowski 2015.

Scripture quotations are from the Good News Translation Revised Edition - © American Bible Society 1966, 1971, 1976, 1992. © Misericordiae Vultus, Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis 2015.