

Children's liturgy - First Sunday of Lent (Year B)

Colour: **Purple**

INTRODUCTION

Song suggestions: *God Mercy and compassion (Hymn 980) Celebration Hymnal*



Saint quote about St Joseph

"Go to Joseph! Have recourse with special confidence to St. Joseph, for his protection is most powerful, as he is the patron of the universal Church." **Blessed Pope Pius IX**



Quote for the Eucharist "The seeds of liberation are planted across the common table as we break bread together. — **Jamie Arpin-Ricci**

THE YEAR OF THE EUCHARI
"All my springs are in You" (Psalm 87:7)
22 November 2020-12 September 2021
Archdiocese of Johannesburg

Welcome: Today we are going to hear about how Jesus spent 40 days in the desert. Deserts are dry lands where it is hard to grow food, there is not much water and people may get hungry and thirsty. How do you feel when you are thirsty? Let's think a bit more about that today.

Opening prayer: God of life, your Son Jesus went out into the desert to talk to you in prayer. Help us to talk to you and get closer to you this Lent, in our prayers and in our actions. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Read Genesis 9:8-15, **Psalm:** Ps 24:4-9 r 10

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

At once the Spirit made [Jesus] go into the desert, where he stayed forty days, being tempted by Satan. Wild animals were there also, but angels came and helped him.

After John had been put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee and preached the Good News from God. "The right time has come," he said, "and the Kingdom of God is near! Turn away from your sins and believe the Good News!"

Today is the first Sunday of Lent.

As we grow closer to God, we also realise that we are called to put our faith into action, and to live our lives as God wants us to, loving and caring for all people and for the earth.

What do you remember from today's reading?

Jesus goes out into the desert for 40 days. He had hardly any food to eat or water to drink. What do you think it would be like to live in a very dry land? How do you think Jesus felt while he was in the desert?

Water is one of the most precious and important things in the world. We know it is important because we use it so much. Can you think of some of the different ways we use water every day?

How do you get water when you need it? Do you or your grown-ups just turn on the tap?

Imagine what it would be like if you turned on the tap and no water came out. What would you do?

Lent lasts for 40 days, just like Jesus' time in the desert. This Lent, let's remember in our prayers all the people in the world who do not have clean water to drink.

And let's do what we can to reach out and help, as we grow in our faith this Lent and try to live as God calls us to.

Lent is a special time when we prepare for Easter. We take time in Lent to pray more, and to think about how we live our lives. This time can help us to change for the better and grow in our faith.

What is **LENT**?

LENT IS THE 40 DAYS BEFORE EASTER. IT BEGINS THE DAY AFTER SHROVE TUESDAY (PANCAKE TUESDAY) AND ENDS ON PALM SUNDAY.



Christians celebrate **LENT** to remind them of the time Jesus fasted in the desert.

The symbols **OF LENT**

ASHES

Remind us that God created us from dust.

PALM LEAVES

Were laid upon Jesus path as he entered Jerusalem, for goodness and health.

PURPLE

The colour worn by royalty and associated with mourning.

Why do we **FAST**?

FASTING FOR 40 DAYS REMINDS US OF WHEN JESUS FASTED IN THE DESERT.



This is an important time when we give up something important to remind us of the sacrifices Jesus made for us.

What is **ALMSGIVING**?

ALMSGIVING IS THE ACT OF PUTTING OTHERS FIRST AND GIVING TO THOSE LESS FORTUNATE THAN US.

During **LENT** we focus on prayer and almsgiving.



Shrove **TUESDAY**

THE LAST TUESDAY BEFORE LENT BEGINS.

In the past Christians used this day to eat the food that wouldn't last through **LENT**.

Pancakes used up the milk, egg and fat, just by adding flour.



Also called **PANCAKE TUESDAY**

Ash **WEDNESDAY**

THE FIRST DAY OF LENT



Ashes are placed on the forehead as a sign of the dust from which God made us. It also symbolises the confession of our sins.

Intercessions: You may want to ask the children to offer their own prayers or you can use the suggestions below.

As we try to be closer to God this Lent, we pray together:

We pray for world leaders: that they may work together to make sure all people have the things that they need – clean safe water, food and somewhere to live. Lord hear us...

We pray for all those who must spend hours each day walking to fetch water, and who dream of a better future. Through God's grace, may our actions this Lent help to make those dreams a reality. Lord hear us...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may make changes to our lives this Lent that will change the lives of others around the world. Lord hear us...

Closing prayer: Loving God, we hold in our hearts all those who are thirsty in dry lands. Help us to walk alongside them and to share generously as one global family, so we can build a better world. Amen.

Activity suggestions

Invite the children to complete the following word search with the answers below:

Into the Wilderness with Jesus



The Temptation of Jesus

U	M	F	G	T	V	N	I	W	R	Z	D	Z	K	S
L	T	E	M	P	T	E	D	K	T	E	T	A	S	N
S	A	T	A	N	W	Z	A	A	O	N	P	E	Y	U
C	O	G	T	N	Y	U	N	Q	E	Y	N	E	G	S
O	I	O	L	V	Q	N	I	S	N	R	C	F	N	Q
M	N	O	J	A	F	D	M	D	E	Y	C	D	O	T
E	N	D	V	A	K	E	A	D	N	O	V	F	S	S
I	Z	E	O	B	V	N	L	O	D	U	X	W	Q	H
F	L	R	N	E	O	I	S	F	O	R	T	Y	K	D
Q	O	V	I	Q	W	C	L	L	I	A	I	S	L	B
S	H	L	J	M	I	O	F	L	D	P	L	I	P	U
I	E	G	R	W	N	U	Y	V	A	E	W	G	U	C
B	E	M	I	N	E	W	S	B	G	C	P	E	N	V
S	E	P	H	T	I	M	E	N	V	X	W	M	B	K
V	B	T	N	K	L	P	A	Y	O	B	M	A	L	M

TEMPTED	SATAN	COME	REPENT	WILDERNESS
NEWS	BELIEVE	TIME	FORTY	ANGELS
ANIMALS	DAYS	SENT	GOOD	WILD

Let us remember to do the Stations of the Cross during this lent by going to Church or at home during this Season.

The Stations of the Cross

1. Jesus is condemned to death



2. Jesus takes up His cross



3. Jesus falls the first time



4. Jesus meets His mother



5. Simon helps Jesus carry the cross



6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus



7. Jesus falls the second time



8. Jesus speaks to the women of Jerusalem



9. Jesus falls the third time



10. Jesus is stripped of His clothing



11. Jesus is nailed to the cross



12. Jesus dies on the cross



13. Jesus is taken down from the cross



14. Jesus is buried in the tomb

