# **St Mary's Primary School LENT 2025**

During Lent, the children at St Mary's will be learning about, and reflecting upon, this season of repentance in a number of ways. Here is an overview of how the children will be getting ready for Easter, and how families can join the preparations.

During Lent, **classroom altars** will be decorated with a purple cloth to represent penance. The altars will be focal points for prayer and liturgy and RE lessons, when children will explore the journey we take during the Lenten season e.g. through the themes of Reconciliation, Giving or Change. As part of prayer and liturgy children will be

making Lenten
Promises and
displaying them in
their classrooms.
When writing these
promises, children will
be thinking about ways
they can grow closer to



Jesus on their journey towards Easter - small changes they can turn away from wrongdoing and turn back to God.

#### **CAFOD - Big Lent Walk**

On 28th March, Claire Robinson from CAFOD will visit St Mary's to introduce The Big Lent Walk. We will start the day with a whole school assembly followed by workshops with classes from Reception to Year 3.

CAFOD believes that a green and just world, free from poverty, is possible and we invite you to join us in putting your faith into action this Lent.

The money you raise by taking part in the Big Lent Walk will enable CAFOD to continue fighting global poverty and working through expert local partners to bring real change to communities overseas.

#### **Lenten Service**

On 7th March at 9am we have our Lenten service for children in Years 1, 2 and 3. Parents are warmly invited to attend this service in the

#### Reconciliation

school hall.

For years 3 to 6 will be on
21st March. Children learn to think about the consequences of their actions and how this affects their relationship with God. Together we will celebrate God's forgiveness and love.

### Ash Wednesday

In school we mark the start of the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday liturgy. Lent is a time when we pray, do kind things for other people, give up things and give to others, as we prepare to celebrate the great feast of Easter.

For forty days, we accompany Jesus on his journey to Calvary and we see the mercy he shows towards others, despite his suffering. Just as God shows mercy towards us, like Jesus, we try to show mercy to others.

In this **Jubilee Year,** Pope Francis has asked us to celebrate with deep faith, lively hope and active charity. This means he wants each one of us to celebrate this year by trusting in God, looking forward with

hope, and showing love to others through kind and caring actions.

#### **Easter Liturgy**

We will end the term with our Easter Liturgy in St Mary's Church at 9am on Friday 4th April. All parents are warmly invited to join this celebration.



#### Year 3 and 4 Class Mass

This will be held in the school hall on Friday 14th March at 2:30pm. Parents are warmly invited. These are special celebrations, planned and led by the children themselves.

In March, children in Years 3-6 will be meditating and praying the **Stations of the Cross.** 



https://cafod.org.uk/education/primaryteaching-resources/lent-resources-forchildren

Follow the link above to visit the CAFOD website which has a Lent Calendar with daily prayers and reflections.

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#### **Worship Council**



Worship council will be leading prayer-based activities at lunchtimes during Lent. They have thought of activities which help us to think about others and encourage good deeds.

#### A Lenten Chain



- You'll need purple construction paper, scissors, and tape.
- Cut the purple construction paper into one-inch strips (horizontally, with the paper in the "portrait" position).
- You'll need seven strips for each of the young people in your group
- Once a week during Lent, give each of the young people a purple strip of paper and invite them to write down their Lenten goal for the week: a prayer they plan to say each day, a sacrifice they plan to commit to, a work of mercy they plan to perform, etc.
- When they have all finished writing out their Lenten goals for the week, invite them to come forward and loop their strips around one another, taping them together to form a chain.
- Display the Lenten Chain prominently and watch it grow during Lent as the young people strive to grow closer to lesus.

