



Celebrating Liturgy of the Word with Family 3rd Sunday Lent

Preparation – allow some time to prepare

- Read through the outline beforehand
- If you are with others, arrange seating and set a prayer focus in the centre. Include a something purple if you can, candles, Bible and cross. If you are by yourself, make yourself comfortable and prepare a prayer focus.
- Open the links in this prayer guide.
- Share the reader role if possible. It's always good to practice beforehand - pause for commas and full-stops. Avoid correcting children as they are reading, or during the liturgy. If you are by yourself, read the readings aloud. Say all the parts – avoid hurry.

Light candles. SIGN OF THE CROSS: In name of the Father... OR Ki te ingoa... Tēnā Koutou Katoa
Welcome everyone. Today is the 3rd Sunday of Lent. Lent is a time for fasting, praying and giving. It's also a time for renewing faith, hope and love.

Let's sing together – For children and families - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vIZYKohGDHE>

For adults, Led by the Spirit - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6KRhmCqvq8>

READER:

E te Ariki, Lord Jesus, you were prepared for your ministry by baptism and by temptation in the wilderness. As we start our Lenten journey, so too do we prepare ourselves for your death and resurrection. Be with us through our trials and give us the courage to find the path that leads us to you.

(prayer from Caritas - <https://caritas.org.nz/lent>)

You are the shepherd, gathering us and guiding us

(All) Lord have mercy

You lead your sheep, though we do not always understand where you lead

(All) Christ have mercy

You pour out your grace and you open our hearts to a new way

(All) Lord have mercy

(petitions adapted from Caritas NZ Lenten program week 3)

COLLECT/OPENING PRAYER: *In this time of silence, we bring to mind all the things we want to pray for. (Allow silence, 1 minute)*

O God, every mercy and all goodness comes from you. You show us the way of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to help us turn from what is not loving. Look kindly on us so that we who are lowly will be lifted up by your mercy. Through Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. **All: Amen.**

FIRST READING: Genesis :8-16 *Good News Bible*

Reader 1 God spoke, and these were his words:

Reader 2 "I am the LORD your God who brought you out of Egypt, where you were slaves. "Worship no god but me.

Reader 1 "Do not make for yourselves images of anything in heaven or on earth or in the water under the earth. Do not bow down to any idol or worship it, because I am the LORD your God and I tolerate no rivals. I bring punishment on those who hate me and on their descendants down to the third and fourth generation.

Reader 2 But I show my love to thousands of generations of those who love me and obey my laws.

Reader 1 "Do not use my name for evil purposes, for I, the LORD your God, will punish anyone who misuses my name.

Reader 2 "Observe the Sabbath and keep it holy. You have six days in which to do your work, but the seventh day is a day of rest dedicated to me. On that day no one is to work—neither you, your children, your slaves, your animals, nor the foreigners who live in your country. In six days I, the LORD, made the earth, the sky, the seas, and everything in them, but on the seventh day I rested. That is why I, the LORD, blessed the Sabbath and made it holy.

Reader 1 "Respect your father and your mother, so that you may live a long time in the land that I am giving you.

Reader 2 "Do not commit murder.

Reader 1 "Do not commit adultery.

Reader 2 "Do not steal.

Reader 1 "Do not accuse anyone falsely.

Reader 2 "Do not desire another person's house, their husband or wife, animals, or anything else they own."

Reader 1 The Word of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God

Silence – *Let's be quiet for a few moments and let God's Word find a place to rest inside us.*

Leader: Let's hear what Douglas says about the 9th commandment <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imgaw-qQZRA>

Leader:

Question for families to discuss: The ninth commandment says 'don't say someone did something when they didn't.' This should be easy, but sometimes it isn't easy, it is hard.

- Why do you think Douglas let Stephen take the blame for tearing the wallpaper?
- What was it like for Stephen when he had to take the blame?
- Can you remember a time when it was hard to tell the truth?

OR

Questions for adults - to discuss (if there are 2 or more of you) or reflect on (if you are on your own). Think back on the past week. Can the media induce us to accuse falsely? And when I do accuse, is it the media's fault, or my own?

PSALM: 25 (Choose one)

Kids <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdMlxCdly-c>

Youth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SkiSbRFyUYQ> **OR** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ai676wffxyg>

Others <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-ykfw3-i7s>

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22 Good News Bible

Reader Jews want miracles for proof, and Greeks look for wisdom. As for us, we proclaim the crucified Christ, a message that is offensive to the Jews and nonsense to the Gentiles; but for those whom God has called, both Jews and Gentiles, this message is Christ, who is the power of God and the wisdom of God. For what seems to be God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and what seems to be God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God

Follow the reading with SILENCE.

GOSPEL: *John 2:13-25

Reader 1 It was almost time for the Passover Festival, so Jesus went to Jerusalem.

Reader 2 There in the Temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and pigeons, and also the moneychangers sitting at their tables. So he made a whip from cords and drove all the animals out of the Temple, both the sheep and the cattle; he overturned the tables of the moneychangers and scattered their coins; and he ordered those who sold the pigeons, "Take them out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

Reader 1 His disciples remembered that the scripture says, "My devotion to your house, O God, burns in me like a fire."

Reader 2 The Jewish authorities came back at him with a question, "What miracle can you perform to show us that you have the right to do this?"

Reader 1 Jesus answered, "Tear down this Temple, and in three days I will build it again."

Reader 2 "Are you going to build it again in three days?" they asked him. "It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple!"

Reader 1 But the temple Jesus was speaking about was his body. So when he was raised from death, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and what Jesus had said.

While Jesus was in Jerusalem during the Passover Festival, many believed in him as they saw the miracles he performed.

Reader 2 But Jesus did not trust himself to them, because he knew them all. There was no need for anyone to tell him about them, because he himself knew what was in their hearts.

Reader 1 The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

After the reading - SILENCE. Let some words go over and over in your mind.

Watch: Kids / family <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YHWupHHVCg>

Adults <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HVgLPJbfyKo>

Discuss: Does this story have a double meaning? Can the word *temple* mean something other than a building?

Prayer of the Faithful: *As God's people, we listen to God's Word then we for the needs of the whole world.*

Let's pray for all in need.

For world leaders – that they use their influence on the global market positively, making sure the poorest nations can get what their people need.

(Silence) READER: In your mercy Lord **ALL:** Hear us now we pray.

For all Christian people – that we will continue to pray for the whole human family.

(Silence) READER: In your mercy Lord **ALL:** Hear us now we pray.

For people who make their living by selling products – that they will sell good products that benefit people, and price them fairly.

(Silence) READER: In your mercy Lord **ALL:** Hear us now we pray.

For people in prison – that they will want to live well and contribute to society.

(Silence) READER: In your mercy Lord **ALL:** Hear us now we pray.

For all of us – that we will accept the discomfort of transformation and walk freely with Christ on our journey.

(Silence) READER: In your mercy Lord **ALL:** Hear us now we pray.

Leader: God, whose foolishness is wise, and whose weakness is strength, may we become living temples of your love during this Lent. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen

Leader: The Catholic aid agency, Caritas offers us a program of study during Lent. We can also donate to Caritas and the money we donate helps support people who suffer extraordinary losses through floods, fire, earthquake, drought and famine. To find out more about the work of Caritas, do their Lenten study program or give a donation, visit their website. <https://caritas.org.nz/who-we-are>

READER: And now let us pray together as Jesus taught us: Choose Māori or English

Māori at this link <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy/mass-readings-in-te-reo/> Words on screen.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Leader: Thank you everyone for gathering to celebrate this Liturgy of the Word. Go now, in the peace of Christ to love and serve Christ, whom you meet on the way.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen

SONG: The Servant Song - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYpH3y46o8E>