

MONDAY MORNING CELEBRATIONS OF THE WORD

TERM 2 – SPRING

1. Feast of the Epiphany	Matthew 2:1-12	<i>Blessing adapted from the Roman Missal.</i>
2. Baptism of Jesus	Mark 1:9-11 Psalm 139:1-6,11,12	
3. Following Jesus: I will follow God	Matthew 4:18-22 Psalm 119:11,12,16,18	
4. Following Jesus: Help me to keep trying	John 6:63-69	
5. The Presentation	Luke 2:22-32, 36-40 Psalm 145: 2,3,10,11,13	
6. Our Lady of Lourdes		
7. Lent 1: The Temptation	Luke 4:1-13	<i>Penitential Rite Roman Missal (App.VI)</i>
8. Lent 2: The Transfiguration	Matthew 17:1-9	<i>Penitential Rite Roman Missal (App.VI)</i>
9. St Patrick		
10. Lent 3: The Prodigal Son	Luke 15:11-32	
11. Lent 4: The Ten Commandments	1 John 4:7-11	<i>Ten Commandments words: John Redmond (1906-1982), with John Ward (details unknown).</i>
12. St Joseph		
13. Holy Week	Mark 15:16-20, 38,39.	<i>Blessing adapted from the Roman Missal.</i>

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1. FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY.



Good morning everyone.
Let's begin our Celebration of the Word this morning
by making the sign of the cross.
In the name of the Father and of the Son...

And we say together the Morning Offering.
O my God I give to you...

At this time of the Church's year,
we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany.
It comes 12 days after Christmas Day
and celebrates the Wise Men visiting the baby Jesus.
Here is the story:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea,
during the time when Herod was king.
Soon afterward, some men who studied the stars
came from the East to Jerusalem and asked,
'Where is the baby born to be the king of the Jews?
We saw his star when it came up in the East,
and we have come to worship him.'*

*When King Herod heard about this, he was very upset,
and so was everyone else in Jerusalem.
He called together all the chief priests
and the teachers of the Law and asked them,
'Where will the Messiah be born?'*

**'In the town of Bethlehem in Judea,' they answered.
'For this is what the prophet wrote:
'Bethlehem in the land of Judah,
you are by no means the least
of the leading cities of Judah;
for from you will come a leader
who will guide my people Israel.'**

**So Herod called the visitors from the East
to a secret meeting and found out from them
the exact time the star had appeared.
Then he sent them to Bethlehem with these instructions:
'Go and make a careful search for the child;
and when you find him, let me know,
so that I too may go and worship him.'**

And so they left, and on their way they saw
the same star they had seen in the East.
When they saw it, how happy they were,
what joy was theirs!
It went ahead of them until it stopped
over the place where the child was.
They went into the house,
and when they saw the child with his mother Mary,
they knelt down and worshipped him.
They brought out their gifts
of gold, frankincense, and myrrh,
and presented them to him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Just as the Wise Men gave presents to Jesus,
we also can offer things to him
in praise and thanks
for all that he has done for us.
We can offer prayers and songs.
We can offer our gifts and talents.
And we can offer kindness and friendship to others.*

*Let's pray for a moment in the silence of our hearts,
thinking about what we can offer to Jesus.*

The response is; Help us Lord Jesus.

Help us Lord Jesus.

**In being kind and caring to our friends.
In thinking of others before ourselves.
In using our gifts and talents to help others.
In doing our best in our schoolwork.
In being good at home.**

**Help us Lord Jesus.
Help us Lord Jesus.
Help us Lord Jesus.
Help us Lord Jesus.
Help us Lord Jesus.**

We pray for Pope Leo, Bishop_____ and Fr _____
That they are guided by God in all that they do.
Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

We pray for those people around the world who are suffering.
That they receive comfort from the Lord.
Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

We pray for our families and friends. For their good health and happiness.
Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

In our prayers this morning, let's especially think about

And now, let's say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say.
Our Father who art in heaven...

God has called us out of darkness into his wonderful light.
May we experience his kindness and blessings
and be strong in faith, in hope and in love. **Amen.**

Because we are followers of Christ,
who appeared as a shining light in the darkness,
*may he make us a light to all those we meet. **Amen.***

**The Wise Men followed a star
and found Christ who is the light of the world.
May we too find the Lord and be good followers. **Amen.****

And may Almighty God bless us all.
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

2. THE BAPTISM OF JESUS.



Good morning everyone.
Let's begin our Celebration of the Word this morning
by making the sign of the cross.
In the name of the Father and of the Son....

And we say together the Morning Offering.
O my God I give to you.....

*At this time of the Church's year,
we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus.
Most of us were babies when we were baptised
and our Godparents made promises for us.
Jesus was a grown up
when he was baptised by his cousin, John.
John baptised so many people
that he became known as John the Baptist. Here is the story.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

**Not long afterward Jesus came from Nazareth
in the province of Galilee,
and was baptised by John in the Jordan.
As soon as Jesus came up out of the water,
he saw heaven opening
and the Spirit coming down on him like a dove.
And a voice came from heaven saying:
'You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you.'**

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Our prayer is based on Psalm 139.

The response is; Glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God in the highest.

Lord, you have examined me and you know me.

You know everything I do;

from far away you understand all my thoughts.

Glory to God in the highest.

You see me, whether I am working or resting;

you know all my actions.

Even before I speak,

you already know what I will say.

Glory to God in the highest.

You are all around me on every side;

you protect me with your power.

Your knowledge of me is too deep;

it is beyond my understanding.

Glory to God in the highest.

I could ask the darkness to hide me

or the light around me to turn into night,

but even darkness is not dark for you,

and the night is as bright as the day.

Glory to God in the highest.

Let us pray.

Lord, help us to work hard in school this week.

Help us to do our best.

*Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***

Lord, help us to be kind to our friends, family and teachers.

Help us to think about others before ourselves.

*Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***

Lord, we have lots of clothes and toys.

And we have people who love us.

Help us to remember how lucky we are.

*Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***

**Let us think for a moment in silence about someone
we would like to say a prayer for.**

And this morning, we especially think about...

Let us say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say.

Our Father who art in heaven...

Loving God,
as we begin a new school week,
thank you for the gift of learning
and for our teachers and friends.
Send your Holy Spirit to guide our minds,
help us to listen, to try our best,
and to be kind to one another.
Keep us safe in all we do,
and help us to grow closer to you each day.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen. Amen.

May Almighty God bless us at the beginning of a new school week.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

3. FOLLOWING JESUS

I will follow God.



Good morning everyone.
Let's begin our Celebration of the Word this morning
by making the sign of the cross.

In the name of the Father and of the Son...

This morning we are thinking about how we can try to be
good followers of Jesus.

Let's offer to him everything we are going to do today by saying the morning offering.

O my God I give to you...

*Here is a reading in which St Mark tells us
how Jesus asked some friends to follow him.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*As Jesus walked along the shore of Lake Galilee,
he saw two brothers who were fishermen -
Simon, called Peter, and his brother Andrew,
catching fish in the lake with a net.*

*Jesus said to them, 'Come with me,
and I will teach you to catch people.'
At once they left their nets and went with him.*

*He went on and saw two other brothers,
James and John, the sons of Zebedee.
They were in their boat with their father Zebedee,
getting their nets ready. Jesus called them,
and at once they left the boat and their father and went with him.*

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Our prayer is from Psalm 119.
The response is: I will follow God.
I will follow God.

I keep your law in my heart,
so that I will not sin against you.
I will follow God.

I praise you Lord,
teach me your ways.
I will follow God.

I take pleasure in your laws,
your commands I will not forget.
I will follow God.

Open my eyes, so that I may see
the wonderful truths in your law.
I will follow God.

We pray for Pope Leo, Bishop_____ and Fr _____
That they are guided by God in all that they do.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those people around the world who are suffering.
That they receive comfort from the Lord.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our families and friends.
For their good health and happiness.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Let us say our own prayer in the quiet of our hearts.

We especially think about

And now let's say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say...

Our Father who art in heaven...

Loving God,
as we begin a new school week,
thank you for the gift of learning
and for our teachers and friends.
Send your Holy Spirit to guide our minds,
help us to listen, to try our best,
and to be kind to one another.
Keep us safe in all we do,
and help us to grow closer to you each day.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen. Amen.

And may Almighty God bless us all.
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

4. FOLLOWING JESUS

Help me to keep trying.



Good morning everyone.
Let's begin our Celebration of the Word this morning
by making the sign of the cross.

In the name of the Father and of the Son...

And we say together the Morning Offering.

O my God I give to you.....

We are thinking again this week about being followers of Jesus.
There are lots of places in the Bible where it tells us
how we can be good followers,
but trying to do those things
is sometimes easier said than done.

*God wants us to do our best.
He knows that we aren't perfect and we make mistakes.
We have the help of Mary and the saints to talk to –
when it seems very hard to do the right thing.
Even when other people said that they wouldn't follow Jesus,
his apostles did not let him down.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

**'What gives life is God's Spirit;
human power is of no use at all.
The words I have spoken to you
bring God's life-giving Spirit.
Yet some of you do not believe.'
Jesus knew from the very beginning
who were the ones that would not believe
and which one would betray him.**

**And he added,
'This is the very reason I told you
that no people can come to me
unless the Father makes it possible for them to do so.'
Because of this, many of Jesus' followers turned back,
and would not go with him anymore.
So he asked the twelve disciples:**

**‘And you - would you also like to leave?’
Simon Peter answered him, ‘Lord, to whom would we go?
You have the words that give eternal life.
And now we believe and know that you are
the Holy One who has come from God.’**

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The response is; Help me to keep trying.
Help me to keep trying.

Jesus, please help me to keep on trying when things are hard.
Help me to keep trying.

You never gave up when you had to carry your cross.
Help me to keep trying.

When it is hard to be good.
Help me to keep trying.

When it is hard to like people.
Help me to keep trying.

When it is hard to do the right thing
because others are telling me to do different things.
Help me to keep trying.

We pray for Pope Leo, Bishop_____ and Fr_____
That they are guided by God in all that they do.
Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

We pray for those people around the world who are suffering.
That they receive comfort from the Lord.
Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

We pray for our families and friends. For their good health and happiness.
Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

*We now spend a few moments praying quietly to God
in the peace and silence of our hearts.*

We especially remember _____

**Now let's say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say;
Our Father who art in heaven...**

Loving God,
as we begin a new school week,
thank you for the gift of learning
and for our teachers and friends.
Send your Holy Spirit to guide our minds,
help us to listen, to try our best,
and to be kind to one another.
Keep us safe in all we do,
and help us to grow closer to you each day.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen. Amen.

And may God who loves us all, bless us.
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

5. THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS IN THE TEMPLE.



Good morning everyone.

Let's begin our school week by praying to God and making the sign of the cross.

In the name of the Father and of the Son...

Let us offer to God everything we are going to do today by saying the Morning Offering.

O my God I give to you...

On February 2nd the Church celebrates the Feast of The Presentation.

Jesus and his family were Jews

and it was the custom that new Jewish babies should be offered to God in the Temple.

This Feast marks 40 days since Christmas,

and it also marks the close of the season of Christmas.

It is also called Candlemas Day

because Jesus is the light of the world.

In the story we are going to hear,

Jesus is officially welcomed by the people.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The time came for Joseph and Mary to perform the ceremony of purification, as the Law of Moses commanded.

So they took the child to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord,

as it is written in the law of the Lord:

'Every first-born male is to be dedicated to the Lord.'

They also went to offer a sacrifice

of a pair of doves or two young pigeons, as required by the law of the Lord.

At that time there was a man named Simeon living in Jerusalem.
He was a good, God-fearing man
and was waiting for Israel to be saved.
The Holy Spirit was with him
and had assured him that he would not die
before he had seen the Lord's promised Messiah.

Led by the Spirit, Simeon went into the Temple.
When the parents brought the child Jesus into the Temple
to do for him what the Law required,
Simeon took the child in his arms and gave thanks to God:

*'Now, Lord, you have kept your promise,
and you may let your servant go in peace.
With my own eyes I have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples:
A light to reveal your will to the Gentiles
and bring glory to your people Israel.'*

**There was a very old prophet, a widow named Anna,
daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Asher.
She had been married for only seven years
and was now eighty-four years old.
She never left the Temple;
day and night she worshipped God, fasting and praying.
That very same hour she arrived and gave thanks to God
and spoke about the child
to all who were waiting for God to set Jerusalem free.**

When Joseph and Mary had finished doing
all that was required by the Law of the Lord,
they returned to their hometown of Nazareth in Galilee.
The child grew and became strong;
he was full of wisdom,
and God's blessings were upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Our prayer is part of Psalm 145
The response is; Lord, God I will praise you for ever.
Lord, God I will praise you for ever.*

*Every day I will thank you;
I will praise you forever and ever.
Lord, God I will praise you for ever.*

*The Lord is great and is to be highly praised;
his greatness is beyond understanding
Lord, God I will praise you for ever.*

*All your creatures, Lord, will praise you,
and all your people will give you thanks
Lord, God I will praise you for ever.*

*They will speak of the glory of your royal power
and tell of your might,
Lord, God I will praise you for ever.*

*Your rule is eternal,
and you are king forever.
Lord, God I will praise you for ever.*

We pray for Pope Leo, Bishop _____ and Fr _____
That they are guided by God in all that they do.
Lord in your mercy. *Hear our prayer.*

We pray for those people around the world who are suffering.
That they receive comfort from the Lord.
Lord in your mercy. *Hear our prayer.*

We pray for our families and friends. For their good health and happiness.
Lord in your mercy. *Hear our prayer.*

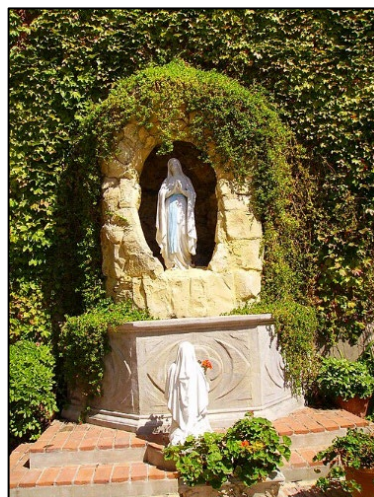
**Let's say our own quiet prayers for a moment.
We especially think about**

**And now let's say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say:
*Our Father who art in heaven...***

Let us pray.
Loving Lord of all Creation.
We've all promised you in the past
that we would try never to sulk or argue or quarrel again.
But promises are easy to say, and not always easy to keep.
We haven't always done our best.
Please help us as we carry on trying,
for you love us very much,
and know that we will sometimes fail.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
Amen. *Amen.*

*Loving God, bless us through the week ahead.
Help us to enjoy our work and our play.
Be with us in everything that we do.
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

6. OUR LADY OF LOURDES.



Good morning everyone.
Let's begin our Celebration of the Word this morning
by making the sign of the cross.
In the name of the Father and of the Son...

And let's say the Morning Offering.
O my God, I give to you....

Today we are celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.
It is a very special feast day all over the world.
Here's the story.

*In 1858, Our Lady appeared to a young girl called Bernadette.
This happened in a town in France called Lourdes.
At first no one believed Bernadette.
She suffered from asthma
and had missed lots of school because of her illness.
Our Lady told her to visit her every day for 2 weeks.
More and more people followed her because they were curious
about the Lady that Bernadette could see,
and they couldn't.*

**One day, the Lady told Bernadette
to dig in the ground and drink the water there.
Bernadette couldn't see any water,
but she did as she was told.
People started to laugh and they walked off.
But after a while, a trickle of water appeared,
and a blind man who was there,
covered his eyes in the water
and he could immediately see again!**

Over 150 years later, people still bless themselves with the water there.
They pray to God and remember the faith of St Bernadette.
God has healed many sick people of their illnesses.
The Lady was of course 'Our Lady' and we call her Our Lady of Lourdes.
She asked that when people go to Lourdes,
they have processions, and say sorry for their sins.
And hundreds of thousands of pilgrims do that every year.

The response is; Our Lady of Lourdes, watch over them.
Our Lady of Lourdes, watch over them.

For sick children everywhere.
Our Lady of Lourdes, watch over them.

For grown-ups who are ill.
Our Lady of Lourdes, watch over them.

For those people who are lonely.
Our Lady of Lourdes, watch over them.

For those people who do not have enough to eat.
Our Lady of Lourdes, watch over them.

For those people who live where there is war.
Our Lady of Lourdes, watch over them.

For those people who do not believe in God.
Our Lady of Lourdes, watch over them.

For those people who love us.
Our Lady of Lourdes, watch over them.

We pray for Pope Leo , Bishop_____ and Fr_____
That they are guided by God in all that they do.
Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

We pray for those people around the world who are suffering.
That they receive comfort from the Lord.
Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

We pray for our families and friends. For their good health and happiness.
Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

Let's now spend a moment saying our own prayers to God in the silence of our hearts.

We especially remember _____

And let's say the special prayer to Our Lady.

Hail Mary full of grace...

Let us pray.

Blessed Mother Mary, Mother of all,

You have been there for us always.

Thank you for guiding us on life's journey.

You have been our guide and taught us to trust.

Keep us in your loving care.

Help us to know your Son, Jesus more each day,
and walk in his way. Amen. **Amen.**

May our loving God bless us all

at the beginning of a new school week.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

7. LENT.

The Temptations of Jesus.



Good morning everyone.
Let's begin our Celebration of the Word this morning
by making the sign of the cross.

In the name of the Father and of the Son...

And let's say the Morning Offering.

O my God, I give to you....

Jesus, as we enter the Season of Lent,
help us to think about our Christian faith,
and if we are living it as best we can.
Give us your help and send your Holy Spirit to guide us.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

*Lord Jesus, you call us to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.*

*You teach us to pray, to fast and to give alms.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.*

*You lead us from death to life through your cross and resurrection.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.*

Let us say the "I Confess."

*I confess to Almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters
that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask Blessed Mary ever Virgin,
all the angels and saints and you my brothers and sisters
to pray for me to the Lord our God.*

*May Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.*

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Jesus returned from the Jordan
full of the Holy Spirit
and was led by the Spirit into the desert,
where he was tempted by the Devil for forty days.
In all that time he ate nothing,
so that he was hungry when it was over.
The Devil said to him,
'If you are God's Son, order this stone to turn into bread.'
But Jesus answered,
'The scripture says,
'Human beings cannot live on bread alone.'**

Then the Devil took him up and showed him in a second
all the kingdoms of the world.
'I will give you all this power and all this wealth,' the Devil told him.
'It has all been handed over to me,
and I can give it to anyone I choose.
All this will be yours, then, if you worship me.'
Jesus answered, 'The scripture says,
'Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!'

*Then the Devil took him to Jerusalem
and set him on the highest point of the Temple,
and said to him,
'If you are God's Son, throw yourself down from here.
For the scripture says,
'God will order his angels to take good care of you.'
It also says, 'They will hold you up with their hands
so that not even your feet will be hurt on the stones.'"*

*But Jesus answered,
'The scripture says,
'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'
When the Devil finished tempting Jesus in every way, he left him for a while.*

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray for Pope Leo, Bishop_____ and Fr_____
That they are guided by God in all that they do.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We pray for those people around the world who are suffering.
That they receive comfort from the Lord.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We pray for our families and friends.
For their good health and happiness.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Let us spend a few moments in the silence of our hearts
thinking about the reading we have just heard,
and thinking about the people we would like to pray for.

We especially remember _____

We now say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say.

Our Father, who art in heaven...

*Loving God,
as we begin a new school week,
thank you for the gift of learning
and for our teachers and friends.
Send your Holy Spirit to guide our minds,
help us to listen, to try our best,
and to be kind to one another.
Keep us safe in all we do,
and help us to grow closer to you each day.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen. Amen.*

May the ever-forgiving Father bless us all.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

8. LENT.

The Transfiguration.



Good morning everyone.
In this second week of Lent,
let us begin our Celebration of the Word
by making the sign of the cross.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son...

And let's say the morning offering.
O my God I give to you, all that I think and say and do...

*Jesus, in this second week of Lent,
help us to think about trying to be good Christians.
Please send your Holy Spirit
to guide and help us
as we try hard to prepare for Easter.
We ask this in the name of Jesus our Loving Lord. Amen.*

Let us pray.
Lord Jesus, you are Mighty God
and Prince of Peace.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Jesus you are Son of God
and Son of Mary.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

You are the Word made flesh,
the splendour of the Father.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Let us say the 'I Confess.
I confess to Almighty God
and to you my brothers and sisters
that I have greatly sinned,

in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask Blessed Mary ever Virgin,
all the angels and saints
and you my brothers and sisters
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

**May Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.**
Amen.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus took with him Peter
and the brothers James and John
and led them up a high mountain
where they were alone.

As they looked on, a change came over Jesus:
his face was shining like the sun,
and his clothes were dazzling white.

Then the three disciples
saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus.
So Peter spoke up and said to Jesus,
'Lord, how good it is that we are here!
If you wish, I will make three tents here,
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.'

*While he was talking, a shining cloud came over them,
and a voice from the cloud said,
'This is my own dear Son,
with whom I am pleased - listen to him!'*

*When the disciples heard the voice,
they were so terrified
that they threw themselves face downward on the ground.
Jesus came to them and touched them.
'Get up,' he said. 'Don't be afraid!'
So they looked up and saw no one there but Jesus.*

*As they came down the mountain, Jesus ordered them,
'Don't tell anyone about this vision you have seen
until the Son of Man has been raised from death.'*

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

**The story of the Transfiguration reminds us
that Jesus is truly the Son of God.
On the mountain, Peter, James, and John saw
Jesus shining with heavenly light.
For a moment, they saw his glory
and understood that God was with him
in a special way.**

**Sometimes life can feel difficult,
school can be hard,
friendships can be confusing,
and we may feel worried or afraid.
The Transfiguration reminds us
that Jesus is always with us,
leading us toward hope and goodness.
When we follow him,
we become lights for other people too.**

Let's spend a few moments in the silence of our hearts talking to God.
We might like to think about someone we would like to pray for.
We especially remember

The response is: Watch over them Lord.
[Watch over them Lord.](#)

Let us pray for those countries at war.
That grown-ups will realise that talking
is the way to solve problems and not fighting.
[Watch over them Lord.](#)

Let us pray for peace.
That peace will grow throughout the world.
Especially in our own hearts.
[Watch over them Lord.](#)

We remember those people who are suffering
because there is no peace.
[Watch over them Lord.](#)

We pray for our families and friends.
That they will be happy and healthy
and will always be there for us when we need them.
[Watch over them Lord.](#)

*Let's say the prayer that Jesus himself taught us to say:
Our Father who art in heaven...*

*Loving God,
as we begin a new school week,
thank you for the gift of learning
and for our teachers and friends.
Send your Holy Spirit to guide our minds,
help us to listen, to try our best,
and to be kind to one another.
Keep us safe in all we do,
and help us to grow closer to you each day.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen. Amen.*

*And may Almighty God bless us all.
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

9. ST. PATRICK.



Good morning everyone.
This morning we are thinking about St Patrick,
whose Feast we celebrate in March.

Let's begin by making the sign of the cross.
In the name of the Father and of the Son...

Let us pray in this time of Lent for all the things that we could try to do better.

*Lord Jesus, you call your people to turn away from sin.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.*

*You teach us wisdom and write your truth in our inmost heart.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.*

*Your forgive sins through the ministry of Reconciliation.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.*

Let us say the 'I Confess.'

*I confess to Almighty God,
and to you my brothers and sisters that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask Blessed Mary ever Virgin,
all the angels and saints and you my brothers and sisters
to pray for me to the Lord our God.*

*May Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.*

March 17th is the Feast of St Patrick. Here's his story.

**Patrick was born in the 4th century,
in Roman Britain.
He studied hard and became a priest,
and then a bishop.
He was sent by the pope to Ireland,
because the people there hadn't heard about Jesus.
The people of Ireland welcomed him,
listened to him and asked him to baptise them.**

Patrick taught them about God the Father,
Son and Holy Spirit
by using the shamrock because it had 3 leaves,
even though it was one plant.
And in this way,
everyone learned about the 3 persons in one God.

Patrick spent a lot of time praying
on top of a high mountain,
and after he died the people built a chapel at the top.
Lots of people still climb up that mountain
in honour of St Patrick on his Feast day,
and they wear a shamrock leaf
to remind them of the special way in which he used it.

*This is a poem called, "St Patrick's Breastplate."
It is thought that St Patrick wrote the words,
so it is very special.
It is a wonderful prayer asking God
to be in every part of our lives.*

**Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.**

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life.

*Christ be in all hearts, thinking about me.
Christ be in all tongues, telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me.
In ears that hear me, Christ ever be.*

**God our Father, you sent St Patrick
to tell the good news
about the Kingdom of Heaven
to the people of Ireland.
By the help of his prayers,
may we all proclaim your love to everyone.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.**

We pray for those people who do not obey God's commandments as they should.
That they will learn to follow God's laws.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

.
We pray for sick people everywhere.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the cold and the hungry.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those people who have nowhere to live.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Let us think for a moment in the silence of our hearts, of the prayers we would like to put to God.

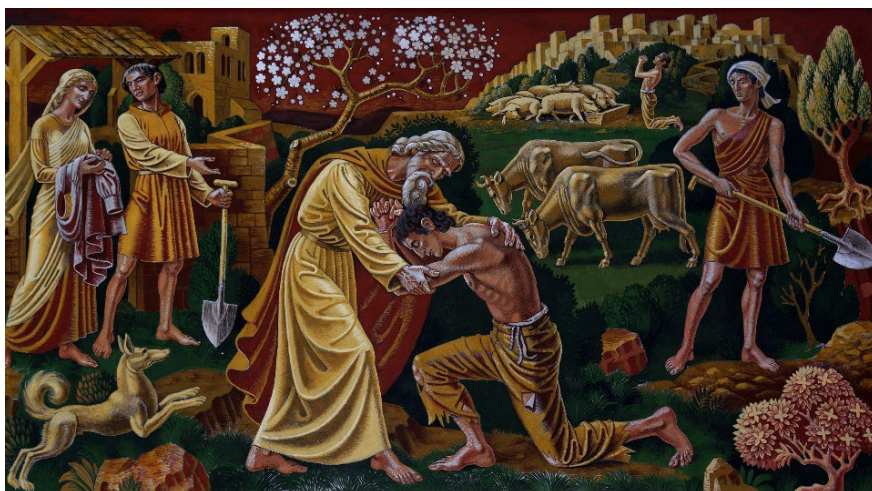
We especially remember in our prayers_____

Let us say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say:
Our Father, who art in heaven...

And may Almighty God bless us all.
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

10. LENT

The Prodigal son.



Good morning everyone.

Let us begin our school week by making the sign of the cross.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son...

Let's say the Morning Offering together.

O my God I give to you...

As our journey through Lent continues,

let's take a moment to think about becoming better Christians,
and being sorry for the times when we fail.

Lord you have revealed yourself as the way to the Father.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

You have poured out the Spirit of truth on your people.

Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Let us say the 'I Confess'

I confess to Almighty God

and to you brothers and sisters

that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,

in what I have done and what I have failed to do,

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask Blessed Mary ever Virgin,

all the angels and saints and you my brothers and sisters

to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May Almighty God have mercy on us,

Forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. Amen. Amen.

**The story of the Prodigal Son is one of Jesus' most famous parables.
It tells us about a son who made wrong choices and left his father,
but later returned home feeling sorry.
Instead of being angry,
the father welcomed him back with love and joy.
Through this story, Jesus teaches us about God's great mercy and forgiveness.
No matter how far we wander or what mistakes we make,
God is always ready to welcome us back with open arms
when we are sorry and turn to him.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

There was once a man who had two sons.
The younger one said to him,
'Father, give me my share of the property now.'
So the man divided his property between his two sons.
After a few days the younger son sold his part of the property
and left home with the money.
He went to a country far away,
where he wasted his money in reckless living.
He spent everything he had.
Then a severe famine spread over that country,
and he was left without a thing.
So he went to work for one of the citizens of that country,
who sent him out to his farm to take care of the pigs.
He wished he could fill himself with the bean pods the pigs ate,
but no one gave him anything to eat.

*At last he came to his senses and said,
'All my father's hired workers
have more than they can eat,
and here I am about to starve!
I will get up and go to my father and say,
'Father, I have sinned against God and against you.
I am no longer fit to be called your son;
treat me as one of your hired workers.'
So he got up and started back to his father.*

**He was still a long way from home when his father saw him;
his heart was filled with pity, and he ran,
threw his arms around his son, and kissed him.
'Father,' the son said,
'I have sinned against God and against you.
I am no longer fit to be called your son.'**

But the father called to his servants. 'Hurry!' he said.
'Bring the best robe and put it on him.
Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet.
Then go and get the prize calf and kill it,
and let us celebrate with a feast!

For this son of mine was dead, but now he is alive;
he was lost, but now he has been found.'
And so the feasting began.

*In the meantime the older son was out in the field.
On his way back, when he came close to the house,
he heard the music and dancing.
So he called one of the servants and asked him,
'What's going on?'
'Your brother has come back home,' the servant answered,
'and your father has killed the prize calf,
because he got him back safe and sound.'*

**The older brother was so angry
that he would not go into the house;
so his father came out and begged him to come in.
But he spoke back to his father,
'Look, all these years I have worked for you like a slave,
and I have never disobeyed your orders.
What have you given me?
Not even a goat for me to have a feast with my friends!
But this son of yours, when he comes back home,
you kill the prize calf for him!'
'My son,' the father answered, 'you are always here with me,
and everything I have is yours.
But we had to celebrate and be happy,
because your brother was dead, but now he is alive;
he was lost, but now he has been found.'**

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's spend a few moments of silence, thinking about this story.
Jesus told it to explain that God always forgives people
when they have done something wrong.

This morning we offer all our prayers and thoughts to God who always listens to us.

We especially remember _____

*We remember people who are hungry, lonely, sick, or sad,
especially those who have very little.
May we learn to share what we have and care for others.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

**During Lent we remember that Jesus loves us
and walks with us every day.
Help us to pray more, to do good deeds,
and to follow Jesus more closely.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

During Lent we try to make our hearts kinder and more loving.
We pray that we will learn to say sorry,
to forgive others, and to choose what is right.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

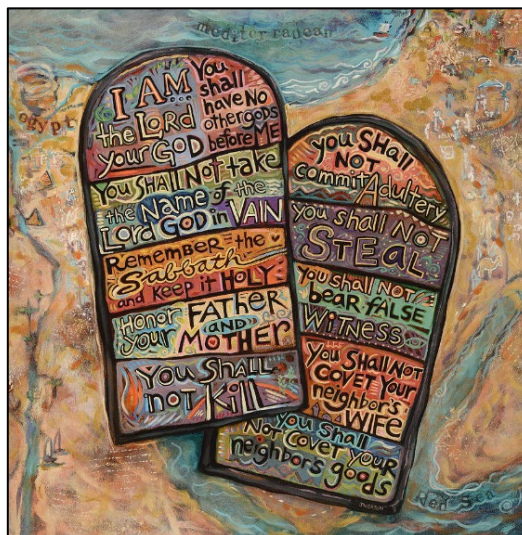
Now let's say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say:
Our Father who art in heaven...

*Thank you for giving us your special prayer to say.
Help us to have a good week at school.
To work and play hard.
Bless us and be with us always.*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

11. LENT

The Ten Commandments.



Good morning everyone.
As we continue our journey through Lent,
let's begin our Celebration of the Word this morning
by making the Sign of the Cross.
In the name of the Father and of the Son...

Let's offer everything we are going to do today to God
by saying the Morning Offering.
O my God I give to you...

Lord Jesus you are the image of the unseen God.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

You are the firstborn of all creation.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Lord you are the head of the body, the Church.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Let us say the 'I Confess'
I confess to Almighty God
and to you my brothers and sisters
that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask Blessed Mary ever Virgin,
all the angels and saints and you my brothers and sisters
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May Almighty God have mercy on us,
Forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

*Today we are thinking about The Ten Commandments.
They are special rules given by God to help us live good and holy lives.
God gave these commandments to Moses
to guide his people in loving God and loving one another.
They teach us to tell the truth, respect others,
obey our parents, be kind, and put God first in our lives.*

A reading from the first letter of St John.

**Dear Friends, let us love one another,
because love comes from God.
Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God.
Whoever does not love, does not know God, for God is love.
And God showed his love for us
by sending his only Son into the world,
so that we might have life through him.
This is what love is: it is not that we have loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son
to be the means by which our sins are forgiven.**

**Dear Friends, if this is how God loved us,
then we should love one another.
No one has ever seen God,
but if we love one another,
God lives in union with us,
and his love is made perfect in us.**

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

To help us know how to live good and proper lives,
God gave us a set of rules to follow.
We call them the Ten Commandments.

First, I must honour God.
Second, honour his name.
Third, keep the Sunday holy,
this will be my aim.

*Fourth, I must be obedient.
Fifth, be kind and true.
Sixth, be pure in all I say
and see and hear and do.*

**Seventh, I must be honest.
Eighth, be truthful in all things I say.
Ninth be pure in mind and heart,
in all I think and desire each day.**

Tenth, I must be satisfied,
not jealous, come what may.
These are God's commandments,
these I must obey.

*We pray for those people
who do not obey God's commandments as they should.
That they will learn to follow God's laws.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

*We pray that in our school - we try hard to live
according to God's commandments.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

*We pray for sick people everywhere.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

*We pray for the cold and the hungry.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

*We pray for those people who have nowhere to live.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

We now think about these for a moment and say our own quiet prayers.

We especially remember _____

Let's say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say:
Our Father who art in heaven...

Loving God,
as we begin a new school week,
thank you for the gift of learning
and for our teachers and friends.
Send your Holy Spirit to guide our minds,
help us to listen, to try our best,
and to be kind to one another.
Keep us safe in all we do,
and help us to grow closer to you each day.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen. *Amen.*

*May the God who loves each and every one of us,
bless us and our friends during the week ahead.*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

12. ST. JOSEPH.



Good morning everyone.
As we continue our journey through Lent,
let's begin our Celebration of the Word this morning
by making the Sign of the Cross.

In the name of the Father and of the Son...

Let's offer everything we are going to do today to God
by saying the Morning Offering.

O my God I give to you.....

*Today we celebrate the Feast of a very special saint.
Saint Joseph was the husband of Mary
and the foster-father of Jesus.
He was a very good and patient man.
He was a carpenter by trade
and probably taught Jesus
the skills of how to make things out of wood.
But it's amazing to think that
he never actually speaks in the Bible!
Saint Joseph did what God asked of him.
When God told him in a dream
that it was okay to marry Mary,
and when God told him to go to Egypt
to save Jesus from Herod, Saint Joseph listened.
He obeyed God even though he did not always understand.*

**Through his love and care for Jesus and Mary,
Saint Joseph showed his love for God.
Because he trusted God,
Saint Joseph allowed God to work in his life.**

**Trusting God can be very hard,
especially when we cannot see how our story will end
or why God is asking us to do something.
We can pray to Saint Joseph
to help us to trust God just as he did.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

On one day each year,
Mary and Joseph went to the temple in Jerusalem.
One year when Jesus was twelve,
they took him with them as well.
When everything was finished,
Jesus stayed behind in the city
and his parents went home without him.
Mary and Joseph thought he was with the other children,
and they only found out he had disappeared when night-time came.
So they went back to Jerusalem and looked for him everywhere.

*After three days of looking,
they found him in the Temple school with the other children.
He was listening to the teachers and asking questions.
All the teachers thought he was very clever.
Mary told him how worried she and Joseph had been.
Jesus told them he was sorry,
but then he said,
'All the same you shouldn't have been worried.
You should have known I'd be here in my Father's house.'
Mary and Joseph didn't understand what he meant.
However, he went back to Nazareth with them,
and he grew up there.
He became tall and strong and wise
For God the Father took good care of him.*

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

**The response is Listen to our prayer;
Listen to our prayer.**

**Loving Father, like St Joseph, help us to be faithful to you.
Listen to our prayer.**

**Loving Father, like St Joseph, help us to love our family.
Listen to our prayer.**

**Loving Father, like St Joseph, help us to be hard working.
Listen to our prayer.**

Loving Father, like St Joseph, help us to love you.

Listen to our prayer.

Let us pray.

For our school. Help us to work hard and enjoy learning.

Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

For our families and friends. Keep us safe and healthy.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

For peace in the world.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Let's spend a few moments in the silence of our hearts, speaking to God.

We especially think about _____

Let's pray the prayer Jesus taught us to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven...

Let us pray.

Loving God,

as we begin a new school week,

thank you for the gift of learning

and for our teachers and friends.

Send your Holy Spirit to guide our minds,

help us to listen, to try our best,

and to be kind to one another.

Keep us safe in all we do,

and help us to grow closer to you each day.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen. Amen.

And may Almighty God bless us all.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

13. HOLY WEEK.



We are beginning the most important week in the Church's year - Holy Week.

We remember the awful things that happened to Jesus
and the wonderful way in which he rose from the dead
so that we could all go to heaven.

We begin this special week by making the sign of the cross.
In the name of the Father...

Let's say the Morning Offering.
O my God, I give to you...

Lord Jesus, you call us to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

You teach us to pray, to fast and to give alms.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy

You lead us from death to life through your cross and resurrection.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Let us say the 'I Confess.'
I confess to Almighty God,
and to you my brothers and sisters , that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask Blessed Mary ever Virgin,
all the angels and saints and you my brothers and sisters
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

*May Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

**The soldiers took Jesus inside
to the courtyard of the governor's palace
and called together the rest of the company.
They put a purple robe on Jesus,
made a crown out of thorny branches, and put it on his head.
Then they began to salute him:
'Long live the King of the Jews!'
They beat him over the head with a stick, spat on him,
fell on their knees, and bowed down to him.**

When they had finished making fun of him,
they took off the purple robe
and put his own clothes back on him.
Then they led him out to crucify him.
The curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two,
from top to bottom.
The army officer who was standing there in front of the cross
saw how Jesus had died.
'This man was really the Son of God!' he said.

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Loving God,
Thank you for loving us with all your heart.
Thank you for sending Jesus to the world.
On Good Friday, Jesus chose to suffer and die
so our sins could be forgiven
and we could be close to You forever.*

*Thank you that Jesus never stopped loving us,
even when he was hurt and sad.
Help us remember his great love
and be thankful every day.*

*Teach us to be kind, to forgive others,
and to love like Jesus loved.
Please watch over us and help us follow you.
Amen.*

**We pray for sick people everywhere.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

**We pray for the cold and the hungry.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

**We pray for people who are lonely.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

**We pray for those people who have nowhere to live.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

**We pray for our families and friends.
Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

Let's spend a moment in the silence of our hearts,
thinking about how we can say thank you to Jesus for giving his life for us.

We especially remember _____

Let's say the prayer that Jesus taught us to say:
Our Father who art in heaven...

*God has given us a wonderful example of unselfish love
through the sufferings of his Son, Jesus.
By loving God and our friend,
may we receive
his endless blessings. Amen. Amen.*

**We believe that by his dying,
Jesus gave us everlasting life in heaven.
May we receive that gift of everlasting life. Amen. Amen.**

**Jesus humbled himself for our sake.
May we follow his example
so as to live with him for ever. Amen. Amen.**

**May Almighty God bless us all in this most holy of weeks.
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen**