

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School



**Subject: RE**

Topic: From Lent to Easter

Year: 5

Spring 2

## What should I already know?

- Recognise or use some of the signs, symbols and religious terms which celebrate the season of Lent
- Retell part of the passion of Jesus according to Matthew
- Recognise or describe some of the actions which are part of the liturgies of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday or Good Friday

## What we will be learning about:

- The forty-day Season of Lent technically begins on the first Sunday of Lent but for many people Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season. Lent concludes on Holy Thursday evening when we gather in commemoration of the Last Supper.
- The colour of Lent is violet, the colour associated with a desire to deepen our commitment to following Jesus.
- The word 'lent' comes from the Old English word *lencten* (which means *lengthening of days*) used to describe the coming of the season of spring. In many other languages the name for the season comes from the Latin word *quadagesima* for 'forty' (such as the Spanish *cuaresma* and the Italian *quaresima*) which recall Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the wilderness as he prepared to begin his ministry.
- Lent officially ends on Holy Thursday when the 'Triduum', the three days - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, occur. The word 'Easter' actually refers to the Sunday of the season, the day of the Resurrection and the season that follows it to Pentecost.

### **Ash Wednesday:**

On Ash Wednesday ashes are placed on our foreheads in the sign of the cross. The ashes for Ash Wednesday are normally made from the burnt palm branches from Palm Sunday of the previous year. Ashes are an ancient symbol of repentance: when those who wanted to change their way of life sat at the back of the Church in sackcloth and ashes. They also remind us that one day we will die and our desire that, in death, we will be with God. At the distribution of ashes the words, "Remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return" OR "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" are said. Both these 'formula's' remind us of our frailty – physically and spiritually – and the call to love life 'to the full' during our lifetimes.

## Vocabulary

**Passion:** The Passion of Christ is the story of Jesus Christ's arrest, trial and suffering. It comes from the Latin word 'suffering'



**Liturgy:** the customary public worship performed by a religious group



**Sacrifice:** Christ's offering of himself in the Crucifixion



**Give Alms:** it means giving to charity during Lent, meaning mercy in Greek translation

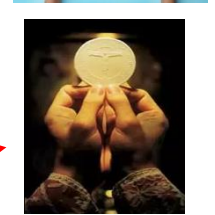


**Fast:** to give up something we like



**Procession:** an organised body of people advancing in formal or ceremonial manner as an element of Christian ritual.

**Consecration:** the action of making or declaring something, typically a church, sacred.



**Antiphon:** a short sentence sung or recited before or after a psalm or canticle.

**Passover:** the major Jewish spring festival which commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery, lasting seven or eight days from the 15th day of Nisan.



**Repose:** a state of rest, sleep, or tranquillity.

**Sabbath:** a day of religious observance and abstinence from work, kept by Jews from Friday evening to Saturday evening, and by most Christians on Sunday

