

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, desert dweller, help us now, at this time of Lent, to accompany you. As we walk, be our way. As we learn, be our truth. As we grow, be our life. Amen.

Final Hymn: *Longing for Light*

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A Reflection for Lent... Wiping Faces

Wiping faces, dirty faces; faces full of sweat and tears, faces covered in chocolate and in jam. Wiping faces is something we try to do gently and lovingly, something that soothes and cleanses, something that brings healing. Wiping faces is something we do for those who are young, or old, or in pain, or in trouble, wanting them to know that they are cherished and loved. And when we wipe the faces of God's little ones, we are wiping the face of God.
(Iona Community - Eggs and Ashes)



Ash Wednesday School Service 17th February 2021



Opening Hymn: *I the Lord of sea and sky*

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you that you are a generous God and that you give us so many good things. During this time of Lent, may we draw close to you, by being generous, kind and doing our very best, to friend and stranger alike. Amen.

The Prophet Joel 2:12-13

‘Now, now – it is the Lord who speaks – come back to me with all your heart, fasting, weeping, mourning.’ Let your hearts be broken, not your garments torn, turn to the Lord your God again, for he is all tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in graciousness, and ready to relent.

Act of Sorrow

O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, and by the help of your grace, I will not sin again. Amen.

Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 5: 20-6:2

For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God. Do not neglect this great gift that God has given you.

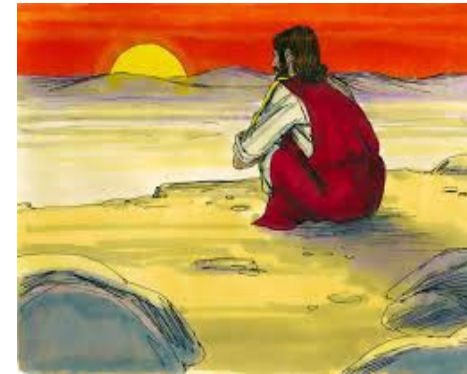
Hymn: *This is our God, the Servant King*

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, '*Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, '*Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.*'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, '*Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.*' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.



Blessing over the Ashes

My dear brothers and sisters, let us humbly ask God our Father that he be pleased to bless these ashes, which we will put on our heads as a sign of our desire to change.

O Loving Father, you have created us to be your children and you see the love in our hearts, lend your merciful ear to our prayers and in your kindness pour out the grace of your ✠ blessing on your sons and daughters who are marked with these ashes, that, as we Pray, Fast and perform Charity, we may be nourished and renewed, ready to celebrate Jesus' resurrection at the great feast of Easter.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Intercessions

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. Amen.