

Lent in a bag

Items you will need

A plate, a purple napkin, sand, 6 stones, 2 hearts, Pipe cleaner



What is “Lent in a Bag?”

“Lent in a Bag” contains symbols to help you think about the season of Lent. Create your own Lent Place to help remind you to follow Jesus, talk to him and to do the things he wants you to do.

What is “Lent?”

Lent is the season before Easter where we try to walk with Jesus. We remember his life, ministry and death. It’s also a time to think about how God is with us all the time. You may do this through prayer, reading the Bible or helping others. Even walking the dog or hearing chirping birds might be a way to be with God.

How long is Lent?

Lent is 40 days. In the Gospel according to Mark we are told of the time that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert time a time of self-reflection.

Interestingly another time that 40 days is mentioned in the Bible, is in Genesis and the story of Noah, who spent 40 days on the Ark during the great flood. Moses was on Mount Sinai for 40 days and 40 nights. And the Israelites wandered through the desert for 40 years.

Ash Wednesday - set up your Lent Place

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and is always 46 days before Easter Sunday. In a special service at Church we are marked with a cross of ashes and hear “You are dust and to dust you shall return.” (Genesis 3:19)

Purple Napkin

Find a place where you can see your Lent Place easily but where it won’t be in the way. Spread out the purple napkin. We use purple because it is the colour Lent. It signifies sorrow and suffering—specifically for Jesus' suffering during his 40 days in the desert.

Place your plate on the napkin

1st Sunday of Lent - Sand

Pour the sand into the plate and think about how;

Jesus went into the desert for 40 days to be “tested.” The desert is a dangerous place and Jesus was hungry, cold and tired. He was also tempted and tormented, but he didn’t give up.

2nd Sunday of Lent - Stones

There are 6 stones in your bag and there are 6 Sundays in Lent. Each Sunday add a stone to your mini desert.

While in the wilderness, Jesus was invited to transform stone into bread. He knew he was not called to do this by God, so he didn’t change the rock into food.

3rd Sunday of Lent - Hearts

Put the two hearts in the sand. The hearts remind us of God’s love for us and the world.

4th Sunday of Lent - Pipe cleaner

Make the pipe cleaner into a cross and place it in the sand.

It reminds us that about Jesus’ journey through the desert to the cross.