

Daily Prayer

Third Sunday of Lent,
The Year of Luke; Jubilee Year 2025



Readings: Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15; Psalm 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9.

Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope

Source: [Jubilee Resource Pack for Parishes](#)

Jubilee years are a time of newness. They have been celebrated throughout the history of the Church, but their roots go back to the Old Testament, when the Israelites were commanded to celebrate a jubilee every 50 years...

Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop used to say: 'We are but travellers here.' For the 2025 Jubilee Year, Pope Francis invites us to reflect on what it means to be pilgrims of hope: a people who are not only travellers here but walking in joyful anticipation of 'the heavenly goal to which we have been called' (SNC §25).

Pope Francis believes that, in today's world, hope suffers; that too many people have been robbed by cynicism and despair. During Jubilee 2025, he wants everyone to have 'an intense experience of the love of God that awakens in hearts the sure hope of salvation in Christ' (SNC §6). Only this hope—born from knowing that nothing can separate us from God's love (Rom 8:35-39)—can breathe life back into weary souls.

This hope is not optimism. It is not a forced positivity in the face of hardship and evil. It is a grace from God, a trust in the Lord's promises: that he is good, that he is merciful, and that we are journeying towards the one who says, 'Look, I am making everything new' (Rev 21:5).



For this reason, the most striking part of the logo for this jubilee is the cross: bending towards humanity and forming an anchor, it depicts the cross as something to cling to, especially in rough seas. It is a contemporary 'riff' on an old biblical image. The epistle to the Hebrews describes the hope we have in Christ as 'an anchor of the soul, as sure as it is firm' (6:19).

The cross is not a dead symbol from the past. It is a living sign of God's unfathomable love, and one that carries us together in pilgrimage towards heaven.

Preparations for Daily Prayer

The following daily prayers can be used in their entirety or adapted to meet the needs of the audience. The prayers draw on the Sunday readings, so you may use any of the prayers on any day, although special focus will be given to Feast days, Solemnities, and days of special cultural significance. Feel free to adapt the prayers for special occasions or specific intentions of your own class and school.

The prayers will introduce students to traditional prayer and liturgical practices and responses, as well as a variety of Christian spiritual experiences. Take the opportunity to create a Sacred Space for prayer as you might do in creating a protected garden. This may include a prayer cloth or placemat, a bible, a crucifix, a candle, and flowers. Additional resources (apps, websites, music, videos) will be suggested for those wanting to enrich the prayers or to understand the readings at a deeper level.



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The Year of Luke

This week is [Catholic Education Week](#) in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Catholic Education Week is an opportunity for all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne to celebrate their Catholic mission, the pivotal role they play within their local community and the strength of the sector.

The theme for 2025 is ***'Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you'*** (Isa 60: 1).

Events include the Mass of St Patrick for Schools, Concert in the Park, Young Speakers Colloquium, Creative Arts Exhibition and School Advisory Council chairs dinner.

The Gospel readings for this Year C are taken from the Gospel of Luke. The Church has now entered the Season of Lent.

The Sunday Gospel for this week is the Transfiguration of Jesus.

Overview of the Week

Day and Liturgical Colour	Daily Prayer	Links to Liturgy, Traditional Prayers, and Forms of Prayer
Monday – Violet	<i>The Lord calls Moses from a burning bush.</i>	First Reading, reflection
Tuesday – White	<i>Solemnity of The Annunciation of the Lord.</i>	Gospel, art, music and reflection, The Angelus.
Wednesday – Violet	<i>The parable of the fig tree.</i>	Gospel, reflection
Thursday – Violet	<i>The Lord calls Moses from a burning bush.</i>	First Reading, video and song reflection.
Friday – Violet	<i>We must learn from the example of our ancestors.</i>	Second Reading, reflection

Note that scripture quotations are from the Lectionary (*Jerusalem Bible*) or NRSV.

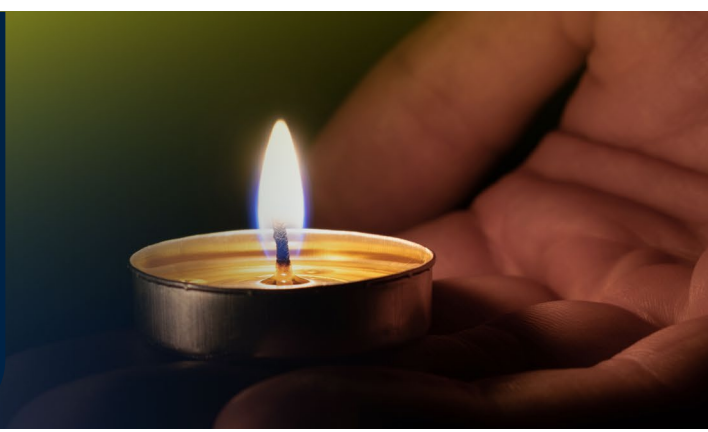
Suggested Teacher Background for the Readings

- Liturgy Help: [Commentaries and Homilies & Reflections](#)
- Loyola Press: [Sunday Connection](#)
- The Emmaus Series: [Sunday Reflections](#).



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Monday

Today's Daily Prayer – The Lord calls Moses from a burning bush.

Preparation: Choose a reader and someone to light the candle.

Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of their breath. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer. Sound a singing bowl, a bell, or a chime to begin.

The Sign of the Cross

Leader: We gather together in God's presence to pray, let us make the sign of the cross.
(Pause)

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Background to the First Reading

Leader: The first reading tells the story of Moses and the burning bush. When God called Moses, he had already spent many years growing up in the Egyptian court and receiving a very broad education. He then spent some years as a shepherd, perhaps learning contemplation and reflection. He would need all of this for the mission God had planned for him. When God appeared to Moses, it was a moment of conversion for him, the point in his life where he answered God's call. Although Moses' relationship with God was rocky at times, he confirmed his commitment to do God's will again and again. Conversion is ongoing, not a one-off thing and needs a continued daily effort.



Figure 1: Old Testament [Liturgyhelp](#)

Listen

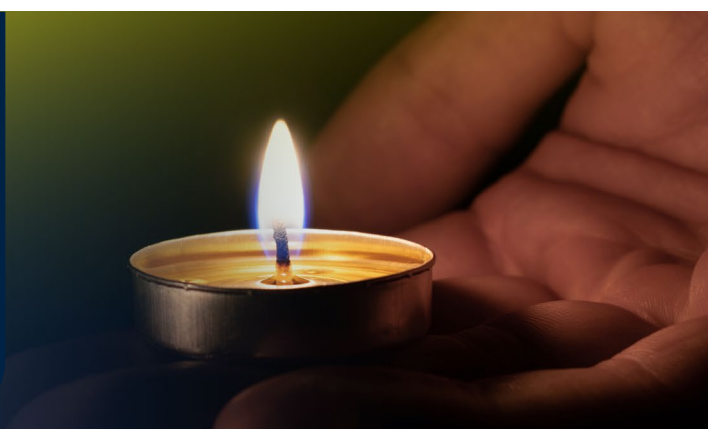
If possible, the scripture passage is to be read from a lectionary or a bible, which could be put in an honoured place. Readers are to read slowly and clearly when proclaiming the Word of God and treat the text with reverence.

Leader: Let us prepare to listen attentively to the sacred words of Scripture.



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Reader: A reading from the book of Exodus.
(Pause)

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites.' (Pause)
The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reflect

Leader: We may not have such a dramatic conversion as Moses experienced, but all of us have been called by God to undergo a change of heart and mind.

This conversion requires a commitment and renewed effort on a day-to-day basis.

Lent is a good time to review our commitment, to be converted again and to think about how this is reflected in our daily interactions.

Take a few moments to reflect on this.

(Take a couple of minutes to reflect).

Go Forth

Leader: God of our journey, you call us to continual conversion in heart, mind and soul.

Give us the wisdom to recognise your action in our lives so that we may be transformed by your saving grace.

May we respond to your compelling, loving and forgiving call so that we can draw ever closer to you.



Figure 2: Moses and the burning bush
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/49102781@N03/4500067629>
with CC licence CC BY-NC-ND 2.0



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Pope Francis tells us that “with the Jubilee, we start a new life, a new phase... we begin again.”
[Source](#)

Let us go forth from here sharing the light of hope and message of God's love in all that we say and do.

All: **God, guide us on our journey as ‘Pilgrims of Hope.’**

Extinguish candles and pause.

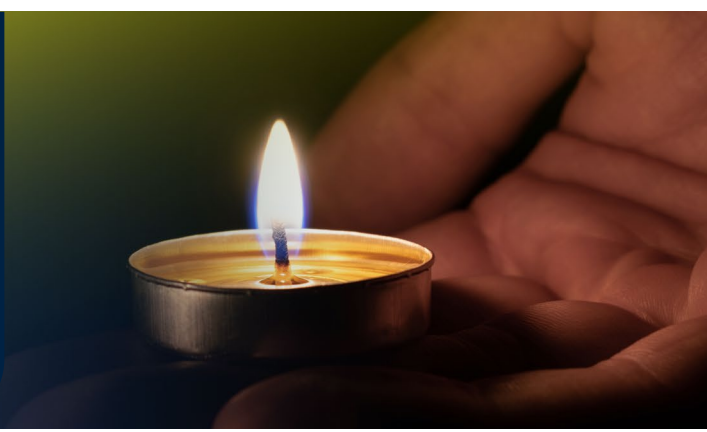
All: **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

Amen.



Daily Prayer

The Annunciation of the Lord,
The Year of Luke; Jubilee Year 2025



Readings of The Annunciation of the Lord: Isaiah 7:10-14.8:10; 13-15, Psalm 39:7-11, R. v.8 and 9. 11. R. v.8; Hebrews 10:4-10; John 1:14.

Tuesday

Today's Daily Prayer - Gabriel visits Mary with news of her conception.

Preparation: Choose a reader and someone to light the candle. You will need access to AV tools to play the music video and share the artwork.

Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of God present in the word, in each other and in ourselves. Take a few slow, deep breaths to help us focus on this moment. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer. Sound a singing bowl, a bell, or a chime to begin.

The Sign of the Cross

Leader: As we gather together in God's presence, let us make the Sign of the Cross.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Light candle and pause.

Background to the Feast of the Annunciation

Leader:

The Feast of the Annunciation, celebrated on March 25, marks the Angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she would conceive Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:26-38), signifying the Incarnation, God becoming man. This moment fulfills Isaiah's prophecy (Isaiah 7:14) and highlights Mary's faith and obedience, making her the first disciple. The feast, falling nine months before Christmas, is a Solemnity in the Catholic Church, emphasising Jesus' divine and human nature. Liturgically, the Creed includes a moment of kneeling at the Incarnation, and the event inspires the daily Angelus prayer, reinforcing Christ's presence from conception and Mary's pivotal role in salvation history.

Listen

If possible, the scripture passage is to be read from a lectionary or a bible, which could be put in an honoured place. Readers are to read slowly and clearly when proclaiming the Word of God and treat the text with reverence.



Daily Prayer

The Annunciation of the Lord,
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Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you,' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so, the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary, 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

(Pause)

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Respond

Leader: Mary's response, "*I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let what you have said be done to me,*" is a powerful act of trust and surrender. She did not know what the future held, yet she placed her life completely in God's hands. Her "yes" changed the course of history, bringing Jesus, our Savior, into the world.



Image 1: Henry O'Tanner
Image 2: Fra Angelico



Now watch [Hail Mary / Gentle Woman](#)

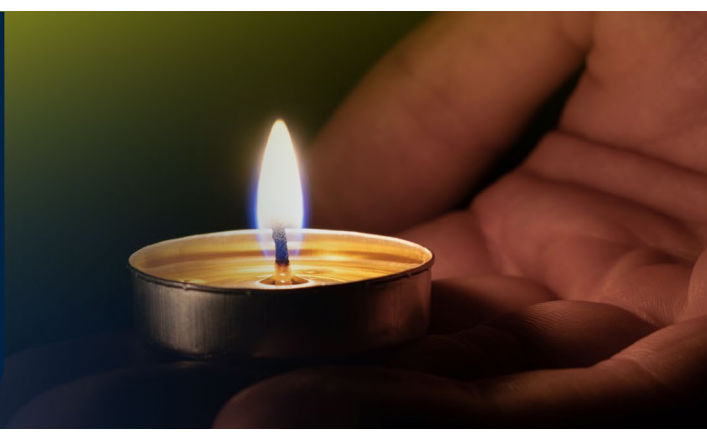
Today, we are invited to reflect: What is God asking of me?
How can I respond with faith and trust, as Mary did?

(Take a couple of minutes for reflection.)



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Let's now pray **The Angelus** together:

Leader: The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,

Response: and she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary...

Leader: Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

Response: Be it done to me according to thy word.

Hail Mary...

Leader: And the Word was made flesh

Response: and dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

Leader: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

Response: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us Pray...

Pour forth, we beseech thee,

O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel,

may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection,

through the same

Christ our Lord.

Amen

Go Forth

Leader:

Loving Father, as we go forth, may Mary's faith strengthen our own.
Help us to trust in Your will, even when the path is unclear.
May we bring Your love into the world through our words and actions.

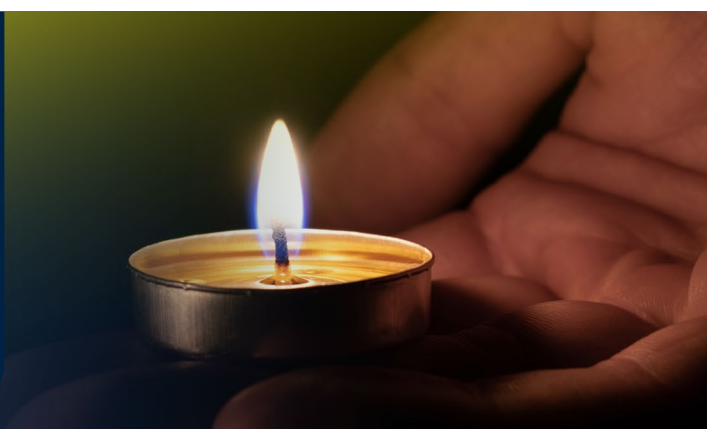
Pope Francis tells us that "with the Jubilee, we start a new life, a new phase... we begin again."

[Source](#)



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Let us go forth from here sharing the light of hope and message of God's love in all that we say and do.

All: God, guide us on our journey as 'Pilgrims of Hope.'

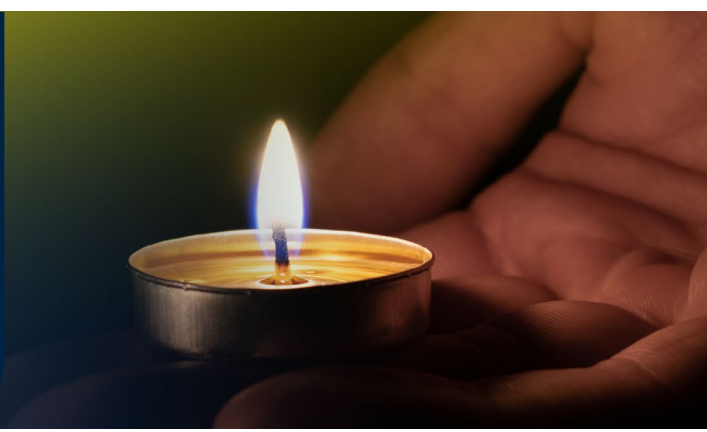
Extinguish candles and pause.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



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Wednesday

Today's Daily Prayer – The parable of the fig tree.

Preparation: Choose readers and someone to light the candle.

Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of God present in the word, in each other and in ourselves. Take a few slow, deep breaths to help us to focus on this moment. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer.

The Sign of the Cross

Leader: As we gather together in God's presence, let us make the Sign of the Cross.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Light candle and pause.

Background to Sunday's Gospel

Leader: The fig tree provided both fruit and shade, necessary in the hot climate of Israel. The early fruit, or blossoms, appear in spring before the leaves open, on branches of the last year's growth, and the first ripe fruit is ready in summer. After planting, the fig tree was expected to produce fruit after three years; if it did not, it was cut down and replaced with another. In this parable, the gardener gave the fig tree some extra tender, loving care in order to give it a chance to bear fruit the following year.

Listen

If possible, the scripture passage is to be read from a lectionary or a bible, which could be put in an honoured place. Readers are to read slowly and clearly when proclaiming the word of God and treat the text with reverence.

Reader:

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So, he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still, I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

(Pause)

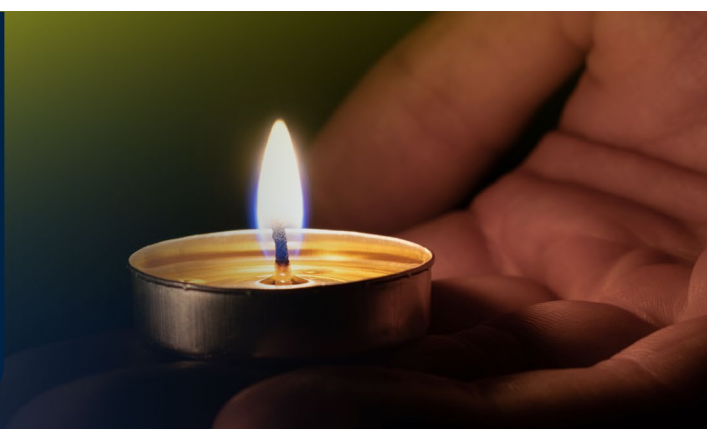
The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



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Respond



Leader:

We can think of God as the gardener.

God shows us mercy and he is patient with us.

He hopes that we will begin to bear the fruit he desires from us, to do the right thing, to turn back to him.

He is very patient and continues to wait for us. What stops us from answering God's call?

(Pause)

Go Forth

Leader:

Gracious God, you love us and wait patiently for us to come to you.

Even when we turn away from you, you are always hopeful that we will ask for your forgiveness.

Help us to become the people you intend us to be.

Continue to reach out to us with hopefulness, patience and love.

Pope Francis tells us that "with the Jubilee, we start a new life, a new phase... we begin again."

[Source](#)

Let us go forth from here in all that we do confident of God's everlasting love.

All: **God, guide us on our journey as 'Pilgrims of Hope.'**

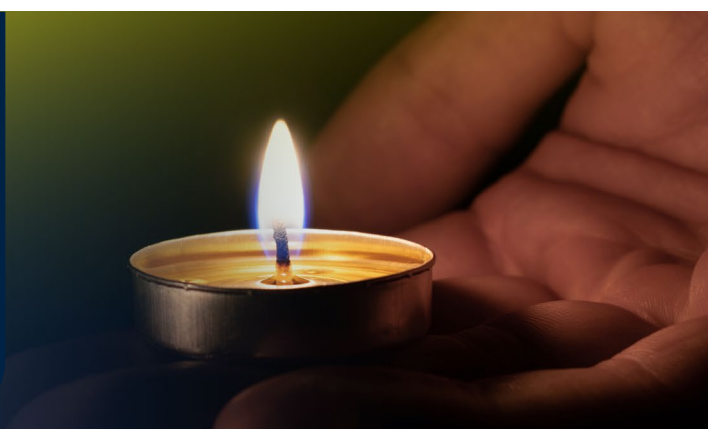
Extinguish candles and pause.

All: **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**



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Readings: Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15; Psalm 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9.

Thursday

Today's Daily Prayer – The Lord calls Moses from a burning bush.

Preparation: Choose a reader and someone to light the candle, you will need AV access to play the video and song.

Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of God present in the word, in each other and in ourselves. Take a few slow, deep breaths to help us focus on this moment. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer. Sound a singing bowl, a bell, or a chime to begin.

The Sign of the Cross

Leader: As we gather together in God's presence, let us make the Sign of the Cross.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Light candle and pause.

Leader: Today we focus on the first reading from the book of Exodus and the story of Moses and the Burning Bush. The God of the burning bush is a holy God, and God warns Moses not to come any closer because the ground on which he stood was holy.

(Pause)

Listen

Reader: A reading from the book of Exodus.

God called to him out of the burning bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

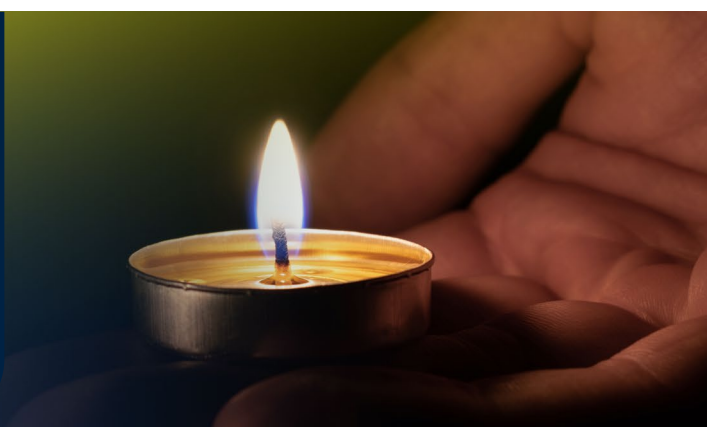
Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



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Respond

Leader: Let's watch and sing along together to this hymn, *Holy is His Name*:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FolAovi3-Vw>

Go Forth

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

All: **God's love is eternal.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is mighty.

All: **God's love is eternal.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is patient.

All: **God's love is eternal.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is merciful.

All: **God's love is eternal.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is kind and generous.

All: **God's love is eternal.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is compassionate.

All: **God's love is eternal.**

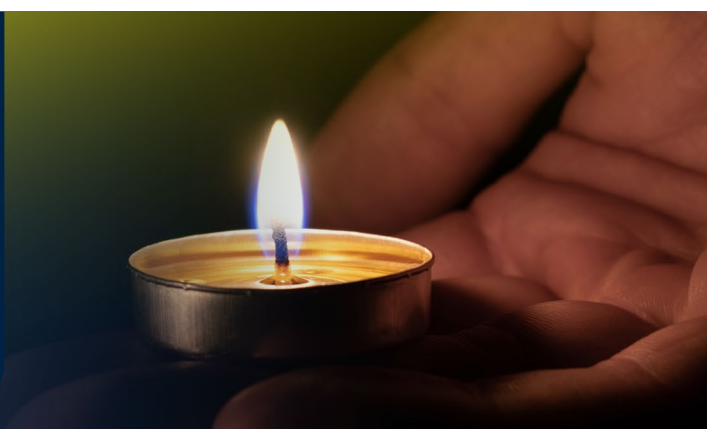
Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is holy.

All: **God's love is eternal.**



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All: God, guide us on our journey as ‘Pilgrims of Hope.’

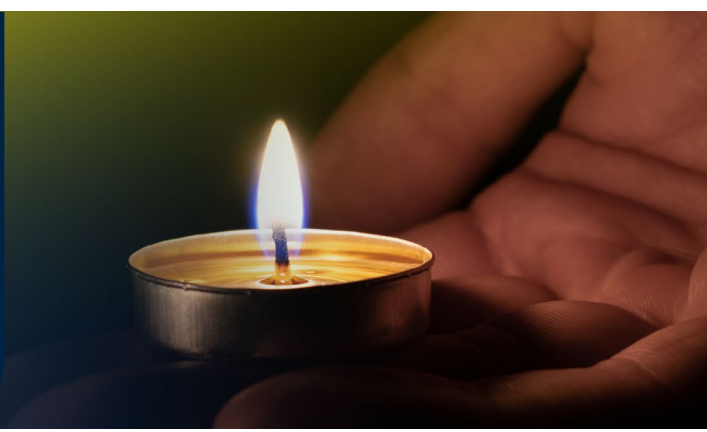
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All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



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Readings: Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15; Psalm 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9.

Friday

Today's Daily Prayer will focus on the Second Reading,
we must learn from the example of our ancestors.

Preparation: Choose a reader and someone to light the candle.

Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of God present in the word, in each other and in ourselves. Take a few slow, deep breaths to help us focus on this moment. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer.

The Sign of the Cross

Leader: *We gather together to pray.*
(Pause)

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Light candle and pause.

Background about the Second Reading

Saint Paul reminds the Corinthians to learn from the mistakes of the Israelites, who, despite experiencing God's blessings - crossing the Red Sea, receiving spiritual food and drink - failed to remain faithful. He warns that privilege does not guarantee faithfulness and cautions against complacency, complaining, and self-reliance. This passage is a call to humility and trust in God, especially during Lent, a time of reflection and renewal. Paul urges us to stand firm in faith, not by our own strength but through God's grace, learning from the past to walk more faithfully in the present.

Listen

Reader:

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

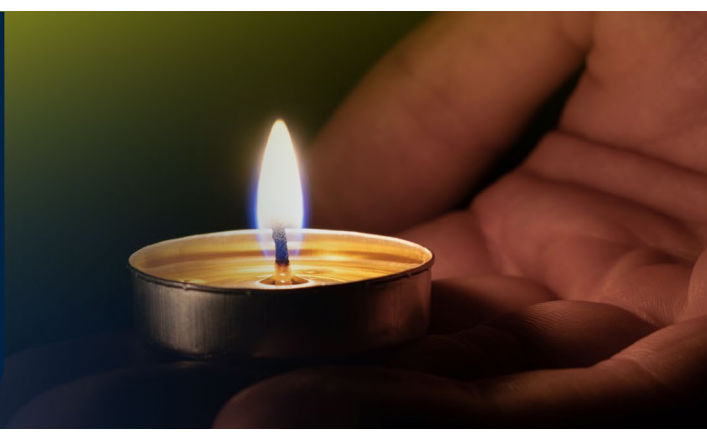
I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.



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All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Respond

Leader: In this passage, Paul reminds the Corinthians of how God guided the Israelites through the desert, yet many failed to trust Him. Their experiences serve as a warning: faith requires perseverance and humility. During Lent, we are called to examine our hearts, are we truly relying on God, or do we fall into the same patterns of doubt and complaint? Paul urges us to stand firm, but not with pride. Instead, we are to recognize our need for God's grace every step of the way.

Go Forth

Leader:

Loving God, as we continue our Lenten journey, may we learn from the past and trust in Your grace.

Help us to stand firm in faith, relying not on our own strength but on Your unending mercy.

May our words and actions reflect Your love to the world. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Pope Francis tells us that "with the Jubilee, we start a new life, a new phase... we begin again."
[Source](#)

Let us go forth from here sharing the light of hope and message of God's love in all that we say and do.

All: God, guide us on our journey as 'Pilgrims of Hope.'

Extinguish candles and pause.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

