



Our Church at Home

Lent

WELCOME

Hello and Welcome to Our Church at Home
This is the story of Lent

Peace be with you

Now is the time of Lent. Lent is the time for getting ready for the mystery of Easter. It takes six weeks to prepare for Easter. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday.

In some Churches ashes are taken and the mark of a cross is placed on our forehead with them.

(make sign of cross on your head)

We hear the words. "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." This reminds us that in death there is hope because of God's love. The ashes also help us remember that we all sin, we all make mistakes, and need God's love and forgiveness. And God always forgives.

When we hear: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”

We can remember that we are all God’s children, forever. All our lives long, and even after death, we belong to God.

When we are baptized, water is taken and placed on our head.

We hear the words “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” The sign of a cross is marked on our foreheads

(make sign of cross on your head)

and we hear the words “You are marked as God’s child forever”.

When the baptism is over, and your head is dry, you can’t see the mark of the water, but you always know it is there.

(make sign of cross on your head)

Hold painting of the Baptism of Jesus by your side or rest it on your lap and look at it.

This is the story of the baptism of Jesus:

John the Baptist was preaching in the desert. He wore rough clothes of camel hair and ate locusts and honey. You can just see the back of his head. Some people thought he was weird. And he sometimes sounded angry.

“Get ready” John shouted “If you have done wrong things tell God you are sorry. Live in God’s way. I baptize you with water but that alone is not enough. Make sure that you change your way of life and repent”.

People came from miles around to confess their sins and be baptized by John in the River Jordan.

Then Jesus came to be baptised. Jesus waded into the river until he was face to face with John. “How can I baptize you? said John “You are the Messiah, the one we have been waiting for. You must baptize me.”

But Jesus insisted that John baptise him and this was done Jesus went down into the dark water.

(move hand- palm to picture – down across the face of Jesus)

As he came up out of the water into the light

(move hand back up to the sky)

the sky opened and the Spirit of God came down like a dove and settled upon him

(move hand as a sign of blessing over Jesus)

and a voice from heaven said “This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to what he has to say.”

After Jesus was baptized, he went into the desert. He stayed there for forty days and forty nights to be tempted and to learn about who he was and what he would do with his life.

Go in Peace.