

“Turn away from sin and  
be faithful to the gospel.”

The Marking of Ashes



This chapter offers preparation for  
the season of Lent.

LENT



Lent is a season of preparing.

### WE GATHER

Sometimes a special logo or mark stands for something or someone. Think about some logos or marks that you know. What do they stand for?

### WE BELIEVE

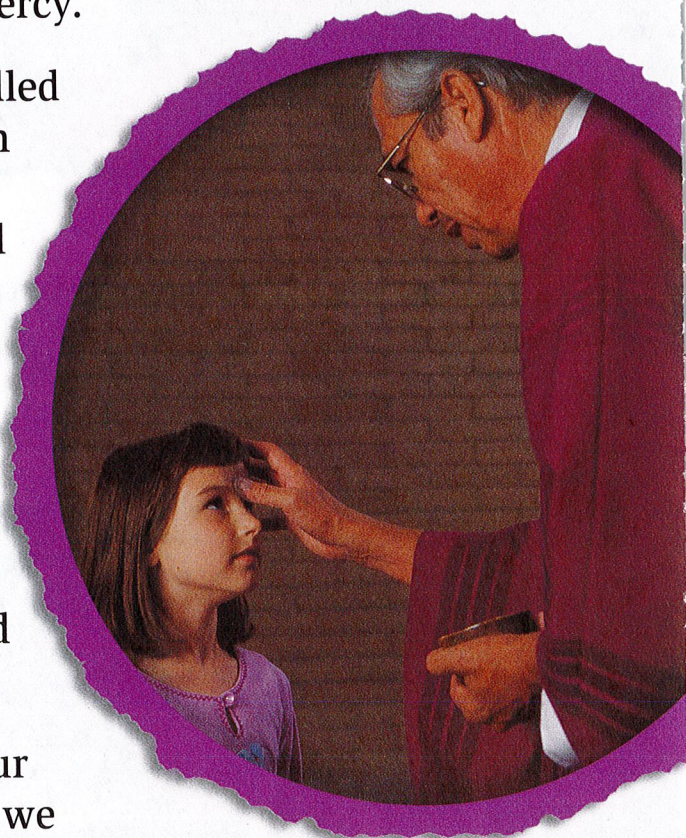
Lent is a time of remembering all that Jesus did to save us. It is a time to get ready. We get ready for the celebration of Easter and the new life that Jesus brings us.

The season of Lent lasts forty days. During that time we pray to God and ask for his forgiveness. We thank him for his mercy.

Lent begins on a day called Ash Wednesday. On Ash Wednesday, Catholics are marked with blessed ashes. The ashes are used to make a cross on our foreheads.

The cross reminds us that Jesus suffered and died for each of us. He did this so that we could live with God forever.

The cross of ashes on our foreheads is a sign that we are sorry for our sins and want to follow Jesus.

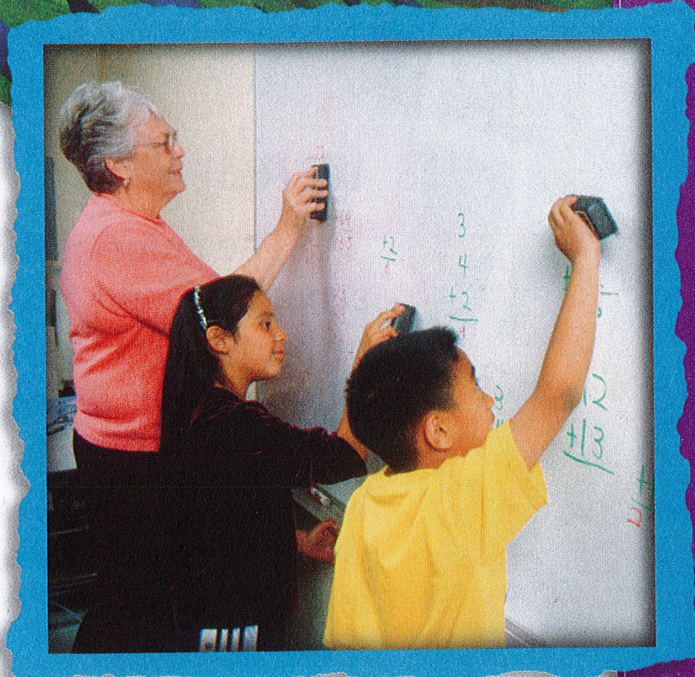




Lent is a time when we try to grow closer to Jesus. We follow Jesus by praying, doing good things for others, and helping the poor. We treat people with love and respect, the way Jesus did.


Look at the photos on this page.

Talk about the ways people are following Jesus.



LENT

## WE RESPOND

 The color of the season of Lent is violet or purple. On the chart, color the word *Lent*. During Lent, each time you show your love for God and others, draw a cross in one of these boxes.



# LENT




## We Respond in Prayer

**Leader:** Loving God, open our ears and our hearts to the message of your Son.

**Reader:** A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

“Or what woman having ten coins and losing one would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching carefully until she finds it? And when she does find it, she calls together her friends and neighbors and says to them, ‘Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that I lost.’ In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” (Luke 15:8-10)

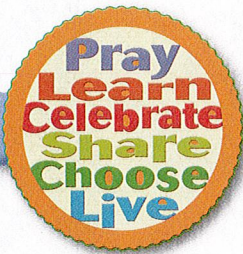
The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

### We Are Yours, O Lord

Help us to remember  
who and what we are:  
We are yours, O Lord.





# PROJECT DISCIPLINE

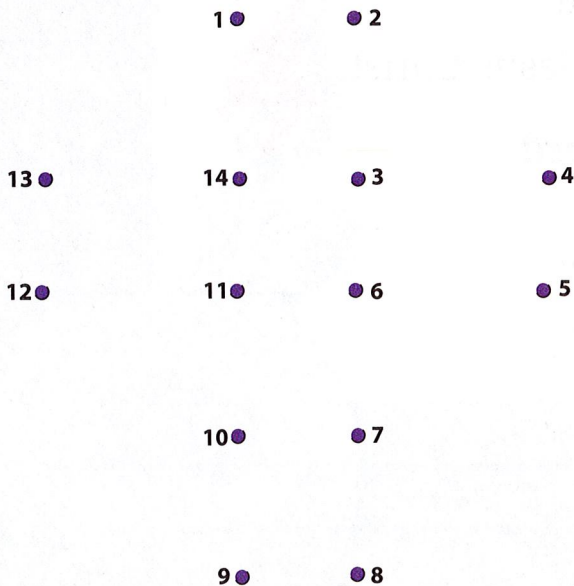
## Picture This

Complete the chart about Lent.  
Use words or pictures.

The color of Lent is	Lent begins on	A sign of Lent is	The number of days in Lent

## Celebrate!

Connect the dots to find a sign of Lent.  
Then, color it in.



## Take Home

Think of a person who needs your prayer during Lent. Write his or her name in this prayer.

Let the light of God shine on

Say your prayer together.

### DISCIPLINE CHALLENGE

Talk about what you can do during the season to help this person.

