

# Mission Together

## Lent Liturgy: Week Three



This liturgy focuses on the Gospel reading for the third Sunday of Lent, when we discover how Jesus became very angry when he saw people acting unfairly.

N.B. For this liturgy we recommend you print a copy of the Mission Together Lent calendar

### LITURGY PLAN

#### Setting the scene

Please refer to our guide: *How to Pray with Children* [missiontogether.org.uk/prayer-resources/](https://missiontogether.org.uk/prayer-resources/)

#### Opening hymn or recorded music

Our suggestions: *Taize - The Kingdom of God* or *Be Still for the presence of the Lord*.

#### Sign of the cross and opening prayer

Print the opening prayer on page 2 and ask a pupil to read.

#### Introduction

Print the introduction on page 2 and ask a pupil to read.

#### Bible reading *adapted for children from NJB*

Print the reading on page 2 and ask a pupil to read.

#### Bible reflection

See page 3. We suggest this is delivered by a teacher / chaplain.

#### Prayers of intercession

Print the prayers of intercession on page 4 and ask pupils to read.

#### Mission Together prayer

See to the right.

#### Sign of the cross

#### Closing hymn or recorded music

Our suggestions: *Taize - Wait for the Lord* or *Oh the Word of My Lord*

#### Mission Together Prayer

May all children  
In the world  
Share love  
Share friendship and live  
In the peace  
Of God's love  
Now and forever. **Amen.**

Mission Together is the children's branch of Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission.

23 Eccleston Square London SW1V 1NU 020 7821 9755 [missiontogether.org.uk](https://missiontogether.org.uk) [missio.co.uk](https://missio.co.uk)

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## Opening Prayer

**Reader:** Let us pray. God our Father, through our prayers, fasting and acts of kindness this Lent, help us to grow closer to you. Help us to always find ways to build a fairer world, where everyone can live in peace, love, and friendship. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Introduction

**Reader:** During Lent we prepare for Easter. In Lent we remember how Jesus suffered and died for us. When Jesus rose from the tomb on Easter Sunday, he showed us that death is not the end. God, our Father, wants us all to live with him in a new life of peace and joy in heaven. During Lent, we prepare for Easter in three ways: We pray, fast, and do acts of kindness. By doing these things we grow in love for God and other people.

## Bible reading: From the Gospel of John 2:13-25

**Reader:** Just before Passover Jesus went to the Temple in Jerusalem. When he saw people selling cattle, sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting there, Jesus became angry. He scattered the money changers' coins, turned over the tables and drove them all out of the Temple. He said, "Stop using my Father's house as a market!"

The Gospel of the Lord **R/ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



## Bible Reflection

*We suggest this is delivered by a teacher / chaplain.*

Perhaps you are surprised that Jesus was angry in the story? It helps if we understand that Jesus was angry, because he saw something that was very unfair.

Jesus had been watching Jewish people as they visited the Temple, something they were asked to do during a special Jewish festival called Passover. At the Temple the people had to change their money into special coins for use in the Temple. With these special coins the people bought animals that they offered to God. But the traders were mean and greedy. They overcharged people and they cheated them. The Temple should have been a place where people found God's love, not where they were treated unfairly. This is what made Jesus so angry.

Can you think of anything so unfair that it made you angry?

Maybe it was a news item on the television?

Maybe it makes you angry that there are children in the world who don't have enough to eat?

There is nothing wrong in being angry about unfairness, but we need to use our anger wisely and do something to make things fairer.

What can we do?

No matter how small, we can all do something to make the world a fairer place. We can start by praying about it. We can try to protect one another against COVID, and we can help children who don't have enough food by praying for them and by supporting Mission Together.

Mission Together is Pope Francis' charity that asks children to help children living in poverty overseas through prayer and sharing. Supporting Mission Together is a brilliant way to help our brothers and sisters around the world and to make our world fairer.

*Use the Mission Together Lent calendar to look for ways children can make a difference in the world this Lent. At the end of this liturgy there are also some fundraising ideas.*

Let's ask God to help us to build a fairer world by saying our prayers of intercession.



## Prayers of Intercession

**Reader:** The response to our prayer is: **Lord, hear us.**

**Reader:** Heavenly Father, we give thanks that you are a God of justice and fairness. Help us always to be ready to do what is right. We pray to the Lord. **R/ Lord, hear us.**

**Reader:** Heavenly Father, help us to be kind with our time and our gifts during Lent, knowing that even small things can make a big difference.

We pray to the Lord. **R/ Lord, hear us.**

**Reader:** Heavenly Father, we ask for forgiveness for the times when we have not acted fairly. Help us to build a world where we all share more and work together as friends.

We pray to the Lord. **R/ Lord, hear us.**

**Reader:** Heavenly Father, we pray for the children, families, and staff in our school. Help us to treat one another fairly, be kind and forgiving.

We pray to the Lord. **R/ Lord, hear us.**

**Reader:** Heavenly Father, we pray for children overseas whom Mission Together helps: those who are scared, sad or lonely, those who are homeless, sick, or who are refugees.

May we work together to build a fairer world for everyone.

We pray to the Lord. **R/ Lord, hear us.**

**Reader:** We end our prayers by saying together the ***Mission Together Prayer.***

**May all children  
in the world  
share love  
share friendship and live  
in the peace  
of God's love,  
now and forever. Amen.**

# Fundraising ideas



Mission Together is the children's branch of Missio – the Catholic Church's official children's charity for overseas mission. Thanks to children in England and Wales, we can provide life-changing aid around the world in whatever form it's needed. That could be a new school, feeding programme, or a generator for a children's home. Mission Together helps all children, regardless of background or beliefs. That's how we show the all-embracing nature of the Catholic Church and the true meaning of 'mission'.

Fundraising is a brilliant way to involve everyone in raising money for Mission Together. Below are a few Lenten ideas but you can find other ways to get involved throughout the year by visiting our webpage <https://missiontogether.org.uk/fundraising-ideas/>

Please **share your** fundraising events with us @missioUK adding the hashtag #missiontogether

## Ideas for Spring term

*For ideas that require a prize, maybe your Governing body could donate a small something?*

**Pancake races:** hold a Pancake Day event with race, with a small entry fee. Everyone gets to enjoy their pancakes after the fun – as long as they didn't drop them!

**Pancake flip fundraiser:** If lockdown measures prevent the traditional pancake race, try a Fundraising Pancake Flip. With an Easter Egg prize, pupils are invited to evidence their flipping skills online. Either request a participation fee or perhaps a donation per flip?

**Spring flower sale:** everyone loves the first signs of spring after winter! Why not pot some spring bulbs – snowdrops, mini daffodils, crocuses and hyacinths to sell to parents as Easter gifts?

**Sponsored give something up:** encourage pupils to give something up for Lent and either donate the money they save or get sponsored to do it. Alternatively, children can offer to take on extra chores or responsibilities in Lent for a donation to Mission Together.

**Springtime Scavenger hunt:** this is a great outdoor activity! Print off some sheets with springtime things to spot e.g. Snowdrops or crocus, tree buds, birdsong and birds nesting, cherry blossom. You can tailor the items to whatever suits your space and environment. Charge pupils to enter. Either get pupils to tick the items off or take pictures to prove they've found them! Every complete scavenger sheet is placed in a hat, with the pulled out winner receiving a prize.

**Lent through a Lens:** Run a photo competition for KS2. Challenge pupils to capture images of springtime. Charge for entry and provide a prize for the winner(s). Perhaps introduce different categories e.g. wildlife, nature, people. You could even have a category for grown up competitors!

**Easter bonnet competition:** charge pupils to enter a competition for the best Easter bonnet. Prizes for the most fabulous fashionista creations! Alternatively you could get everyone involved in egg painting or Easter cake designs, and sell them after for extra fundraising!

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