

**Achievement Objective**

Children will be able to: recognise Lent as a season for getting ready for Easter.

**Learning Outcomes:**

The children will:

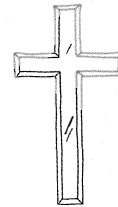
- 1 recognise *Lent* as the season for getting ready for Easter
- 2 identify ways people can get ready for Easter

**Preparation for the Lesson:**

- Enlarge, copy and colour the *Liturgical Year Calendar*, page 3 or Photograph Resource - *Liturgical Year Calendar*
- Teacher Resource - *Lenten Calendar*, enlarge and photocopy, page 24
- Crucifix
- Small table or stool, purple cloth - hessian or coarse linen, plain candle
- Large outline letters of the word - *Lent* is a preparing season, purple felts or crayons
- A large twiggy branch without leaves, fixed firmly in a pot. Heart shapes cut from scraps of coloured card, with space for an action to be written
- Children's Home Activity, page 25 - copy for each child

**He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.**

**Matthew 4:2**



**Teacher's Notes:**

Easter is a very important season in our year, so we have a long time to get ready. This preparation season is called *Lent*, and it lasts for 40 days.

We remember how Jesus died on a cross, so we take time to think about the cross in *Lent*.

It is a preparation time, a quiet time. During the season of *Lent* we think about Jesus, and try to be more like him. We remember how he died on a cross to show how much he loved us. We pray for others, and try to show more aroha - be more loving to them.

In *Lent* everything is kept as plain and simple as possible because it is a 'getting ready' season. The colour for *Lent* is violet which is the colour used for the preparation seasons in the Church's year. The cross is the sign used in *Lent* to remind people that the time when we remember when Jesus died on the cross is approaching.

**Teaching and Learning Experiences:**

- Children look at the *Liturgical Year Calendar* to see where the season of *Lent* comes following *Ordinary Time* and before *Holy Week* and Easter. Teacher explains the Church's year has seasons just like the natural seasons of the year - Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring, and just as they have colours and signs so too do the seasons of the Church's year. Violet is the colour of the seasons of preparation. Children are shown the *Lenten Calendar* with the Days of *Lent* from the Teacher Resource page 24. They colour in violet each day, as they count off the weeks, numbering the Sundays from 1 - 6.
- Children look at, and pass the crucifix around the circle. This could be part of prayer time this week.
- Children set up a getting ready table in the prayer corner, with a violet cloth, the crucifix, and a plain candle. The children colour and cut out the letters of the words - *Lent* is a season to get ready for Easter. These could be stapled to the cloth.

**Consolidation and Extension Activities:**

- Make a *Lenten Loving Tree* using the tree in the pot. This can be kept on the prayer table during *Lent*. Children take home cut out hearts. On the cards family-whanau members write acts of love and kindness done by the children at home. The hearts can then be decorated, and attached to the tree. This activity is explained also in the Children's Home Activity

**Suggested Assessment Examples:**

- **LO 1** Complete the sentence:  
The season of preparing for Easter is called *Lent*.
- **LO 2** Tell a partner one way people can use the season of *Lent* to get ready for Easter

