

Sharing our Learning about LENT with family whānau, other classes and parish

Make a poster showing how Autumn and Lent are seasons of change. Explain how change is good because it helps things and people to grow and become the best they can be as God planned.

Present the short plays about Zacchaeus to other classes and ask them how they are trying to change their ways this Lent – are they learning the lesson Zacchaeus learned about being generous and honest?

Make a prayer bag with a crucifix, 40 stones or pebbles for the 40 days of Lent and a pair of little shoes to move on the journey through Lent. Children can have turns at taking it home and setting it up to pray with their family during Lent. Add a photograph of it set up and some prayers for families to use.

Remind families that Lent and Autumn are seasons of change and suggest they go for a walk together and notice signs of change in nature. Encourage them to talk about things they would like to change in their family to make room for some new life and habits. This is what Lent is for and it helps people grow closer to Jesus.

Suggest that parents involve children in cleaning up the parts of the garden that have died and look for signs of new life coming through. Explain that life is like that – we need to clear away things that are no longer life giving to make way for new life – that is why we have Lent.

Research the practice of wearing sack cloth and ashes and present your findings to your family. Make a list to share of ways people today can show they are sorry for what they have done wrong.

Make up your own way of showing and sharing what you have learned and decide whom you would like to share it with.

