

Lenten Resources 2018

Year B



Reflection Space

Our focus this year is on family and becoming followers of Christ by the way we live together as families....

Create your space with coloured cloths....Use images or symbols of family in the space to remind us that we encounter God in our families and how we live in family reflects our love of God. Remember that family is not just parents and children – everyone is part of a family: children, adult siblings, single people, parents, older people] Place a large purple candle in the space – this candle will move each week depending on which image you wish to highlight.... The phrase, *We are all God's family*, is placed within the space, or could be hung on the backdrop.

Each week we will be adding a focus for how we might show love in our families. In order to keep the space from getting cluttered, move the sayings after each week. They could be placed on the backdrop or at the back of the space. What you are aiming for is a space that has a new invitation or emphasis each week.....so that we build up a sense in our parish of what it means to be a Christian, what it means to be family, shown by the way we love one another. When you put in the new phrases, choose a different spot each week in the sacred space, and place the purple candle beside the phrase.

First Sunday of Lent

Place in the space the following phrases:

- In large, *Love is patient*
- In a smaller size, *Jesus is patient with us. Pray for the grace to be more patient. How can I be more patient with others?*
- Place some nightlights in a basket and invite people to take one as they pray for someone in their family with whom they need to show patience.

Second Sunday of Lent

Place in the space the following phrases:

- In large, *Love is kind*

- In a smaller size, *Jesus shows kindness to all. Give of your time, love and belongings to others. Who needs kindness in our family?*
- Invite people to share their time and kindness with someone outside of their family this week.

Third Sunday of Lent

Place in the space the following phrases:

- In large, *Love is not envious, boastful, arrogant or rude*
- In a smaller size, *God is love. Pray for a loving heart. How can I show love to others? Give the cost of your lunch to Trócaire.*
- Place the Trócaire box in the reflection space and pictures of families in the developing world.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Place in the space, the following phrases:

- In large, *Love is not irritable or resentful*
- In a smaller size, *Jesus shows love to all. I pray for those I resent and I fast from irritability. Spend time with someone who irritates you....notice their gifts and abilities.*
- Place a basket in the space and invite people to write a prayer giving thanks to God for those who have been like a mother to them.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Place in the space, the following phrases:

- In large, *Love does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth*
- In a smaller size, *Jesus loves truth. Fast for all who suffer injustice. Pray for all in despair.*
- Leave a basket with small stones in the space and invite people to take a stone home with them as they pray for those who suffer injustice in the family of humanity.

Palm Sunday

Place in the space, the following phrases:

- In large, *Love endures all things*
- In a smaller size, *Jesus loves us to the end. Fast with Jesu. Pray with Jesus. Give to Jesus.*
- Leave a basket of wooden splinters and invite people to take one as they remember the cross of different members of their families and parish community...and Jesus' way of the Cross.