

Our Gospel Value this week is Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dk7llf2LkKc&list=RDMM&index=24>

Our Virtue this week is Solidarity



**We gather together to love,
value and respect each
other within our Catholic
family, to nurture each
individual's talents and skills
as Jesus taught us.**

***Everyone matters and is loved
by God.***

Peace be with you
and with your Spirit

Jesus Christ light of the world
... **shine brightly in our lives**



Jesus Christ God's living
Word
... **speak to us your truth**



Jesus Christ God's love
revealed
... **dwell among us**



Our lit candle reminds us that
we are in God's presence as
we mark ourselves with the
sign of the cross

**In the name of the Father,
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit
Amen**

We Say Sorry

You call us to follow you
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You ask us to love one another
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You open your arms to all of us
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Today Jesus tells a story about a tree that did not bear any fruit and all the things that the gardener planned to try to make it grow better. People are like trees, they need certain things to grow and be healthy too.

Let's think a bit more about this today...

Forgiving God, we thank
you for the love and care
that you show for us all.
Help us to grow in that
love, and to do all that we
can to help each other to
live free from poverty and
hunger.

Amen.

We listen to the word

Gospel according to Luke 13:1-9

May the words of Jesus be

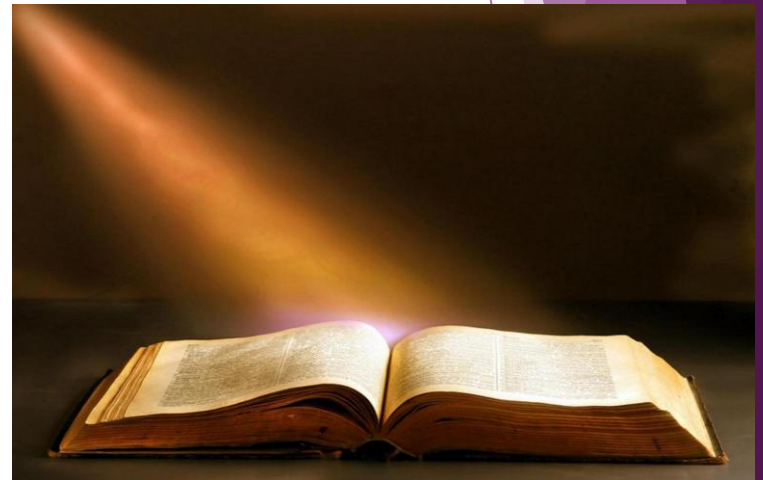
On my mind

On my lips and

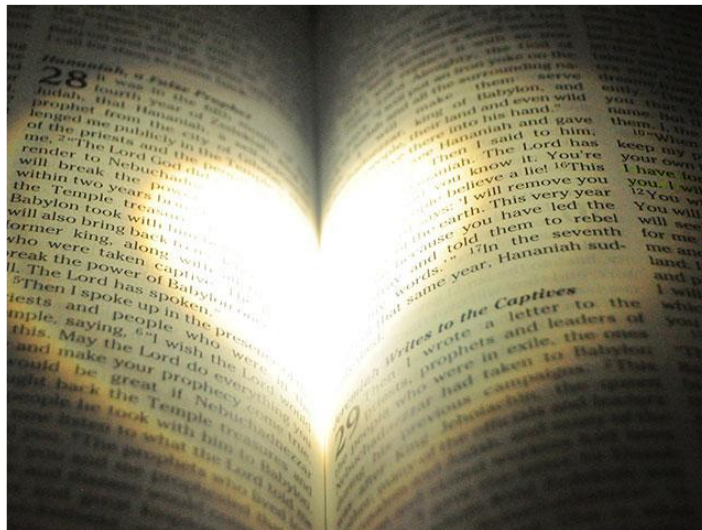
In my heart

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



We are still and silent as
we reflect on God's
word for us in the Gospel.



Jesus told a parable.

A parable is a story
which teaches us
something.

Jesus liked to use stories
to explain things that
were complicated.

The parable Jesus tells us today is about a fig tree.



The man who had planted the fig tree came out to pick some fruit, but there wasn't any.



How do you think the man felt?
What did he decide to do?

The man had been waiting for three years for the tree to give him some fruit. He was angry and disappointed. He asked his gardener to cut down the tree.



But what did the gardener say?

The gardener asks for one more year to look after the tree – to dig round it and give it some manure to help it grow. Plants and trees need the right conditions to grow and the gardener hopes that by doing this, the tree will grow fruit.



People need the right conditions to live their lives well too. Everyone needs enough food and water to stay healthy and strong.

What else do we need to live?

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- The background of the slide features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of purple, ranging from light lavender to deep, dark purple. These shapes create a dynamic, layered effect on the right side of the image.
- ▶ Love
 - ▶ Shelter
 - ▶ Clean air to breathe
 - ▶ Peace

Lokho lives in a small village in Kenya, where there was no rain for almost three years.

When her cows and goats died because of the lack of water, she had no other way to feed her family.

It is very hard to live without water and it is hard to grow food too. But Lokho and the other women in her village have learnt some new skills for growing food in very hot and dry places.

They have special shade nets that protect their crops from the scorching sun and they use dry grass as mulch to keep as much moisture in the soil as possible.

The women work together and share with one another as Lokho explains, “Unity is strength – that is what we believe. Everything in this place is done as a community.”

The fig tree in Jesus' story is supposed to share its fruit with the man who planted it, but it is not doing what it is supposed to. Sometimes we are a bit like the fig tree. We do not share as well as we could.



So, if the fig tree in Jesus' story is a bit like us, who do you think the gardener is?



The gardener is like Jesus. The gardener gives the fig tree another chance and gives it all the things it needs to live. Jesus is always ready to forgive us when we have done something wrong. And Jesus shows us how we should live our lives.



God gives us the chance to change, to share what we have and to do all that we can to make sure that all people have the things that they need to live.

In silence, pray for each other - that God will be with all of us.



As we try to draw closer to
God this Lent, we pray
together:

We pray for the world's
leaders: that they may make
real changes so that we may
all have the right conditions to
live our lives well.

Lord, in your mercy...
Hear our prayer

We pray for all people
throughout the world who
are hungry or struggle
because of a lack of water:
that together we may make
a change, so everyone has
their fair share of God's gifts.

Lord, in your mercy...

Hear our prayer

We pray for our school,
parish, families and friends:
that we may share what we
have with others, and help
make sure that all people
have the chance to grow
and live well.

Lord, in your mercy...

Hear our prayer

We take a moment now to pray for our own intentions.

We ask Our Lady to intercede on our behalf as we say together...



HAIL, MARY,
FULL OF GRACE,
THE LORD IS WITH THEE;
BLESSED ART THOU
AMONG WOMEN,
AND BLESSED IS THE FRUIT
OF THY WOMB JESUS.
HOLY MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD,
PRAY FOR US SINNERS,
NOW AND AT THE
HOUR OF OUR DEATH.
AMEN.

Creator God,
you gave us a world full of
wonderful things. May we share
these fairly with each other, so
all people have the chance to
grow and live happy lives.

Amen

St Anthony
Pray for us

St Mark
Pray for us

St Francis
Pray for us

St Alban
Pray for us

How will
you follow
Jesus this
week?

What will you do this week, to show love?

- ▶ Share with other people
- ▶ Include others in your games
- ▶ Take turns

Jesus, I offer my day to you
Jesus, I offer my day to you
Jesus, I offer my day to you

Let us go in
peace

Thanks be to God

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DMWrAqMWhWs&list=RDMM&index=11>

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