

Lent

Lent is a preparation for the celebration of Easter. For the Lenten liturgy disposes both catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery: catechumens, through the several stages of Christian initiation; the faithful, through reminders of their own baptism and through penitential practices.

(Norms Governing Liturgical Calendars, 27)

Overview

In this chapter the students will learn that the season of Lent is a period of preparation for Easter.

For Adult Reading and Reflection

You may want to refer to paragraph 1429 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Catechist Background

What memories does the word “pilgrimage” prompt in you?

During the season of Lent, the Church prepares for the celebration of Easter. “For the Lenten liturgy disposes both catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery: catechumens, through the several stages of Christian initiation; the faithful, through the reminders of their own baptism and through penitential practices” (*Norms Governing Liturgical Calendars, 27*). Lent may be seen as a forty-day pilgrimage uniting the baptized with Christ on a journey of dying and rising to new life.

Through its seasonal liturgical celebrations, the Church enters into the mystery of suffering and death. We are united with Christ in his saving actions on our behalf:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.
(Eucharistic Prayer, Second Acclamation)

Go to www.webelieveweb.com, Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter’s correlation to Six Tasks of Catechesis.

On its Lenten pilgrimage the Church undergoes an experience of conversion as it responds to Christ’s call to “Repent, and believe in the gospel” (Mark 1:15). The first conversion of Baptism is strengthened by the second conversion of repentance and Penance.

The three traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving likewise strengthen the pilgrim to put on Christ. As Saint Peter Chrysologus advises: “So if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others” (*Sermon, Non-Biblical Readings for the Lenten Season, Christian Prayer*).

How will you help others to experience Lent as a pilgrimage to Easter?

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Steps

Presentation

Materials

1 WE GATHER

<p>page 231 Introduce the Season</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the <i>Chapter Story</i>. • Introduce the season of Lent. • Proclaim the words on the chapter opener. 	
<p>page 232</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the responses to the <i>We Gather</i> questions. 	

2 WE BELIEVE

<p>pages 232–234 <i>The season of Lent is a period of preparation for Easter.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present the <i>We Believe</i> text. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • large box covered in purple, green plant, Alleluia banner, bell • photos of the stations of the cross in the parish church • art supplies and writing materials
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3 WE RESPOND

<p>page 234</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present the <i>We Respond</i> text.  Design a station of the cross and write a meditation. 	
<p>Text page 235 Guide page 235–236 We Respond in Prayer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to Scripture. • Respond in prayer.  Respond in song. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  “My God, My God,” Christopher Walker, #22, Grade 6 CD • bowl of holy water, bowl of ashes, collection basket, dinner plate, cross, purple candle, incense
<p>Text page 236 Guide pages 235–236, 236A Project Disciple</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the Project Disciple activities. • Complete Reproducible Master 20 activity. See Guide pages 236A and 231C. • Discuss/send home Sharing Faith with My Family, guide page 236B. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copies of Reproducible Master 20, guide page 236A. • copies of Sharing Faith with My Family, guide page 236B.

For additional ideas, activities, and opportunities: Visit Sadlier’s

www.WEBELIEVEweb.com