Our Lenten Prayer Place K-6

YOU WILL NEED:

- small table
- *purple* fabric, Bible, bookstand, crucifix, candle, ashes, Liturgical calendar, project compassion box placed in a basket

PREPARATION - Invite the children to enter the storytelling space, have them seated in a semi-circle, ready to listen to the story. Ensure that all materials are prepared in a basket and that a Bible is in close proximity, elevated off the floor on a book stand.

TELLING THE STORY - Story is a key part of our faith tradition. Young children, with their capacity for intuitive learning, are particularly able to find meaning through story.

Begin by saying...

As Lent begins we're going to change our prayer place. During Lent we will have different symbols and objects to help us to be with God.

Cover the prayer table with a purple cloth.

At this time of the Church's year we place purple fabric on the table. The colour purple symbolises a time of preparing. During Lent we prepare ourselves to celebrate the great season of Easter.

Point to the season of Lent on the Liturgical calendar.

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for forty days.

Hold the <u>Bible</u> up for all children to see. Be conscious of handling the Bible in a reverent manner

This is our Bible, the Word of God, our Sacred Scripture. At this time in the Church's year we remember, and listen to stories from the Bible, about what Jesus said and did towards the end of his life on earth.

Place the Bible on the bookstand.

Hold the crucifix

This is a crucifix. It's different to a cross because it has Jesus on it. The crucifix reminds us that Jesus suffered, was crucified and died on Good Friday.

Place the crucifix on the prayer place.

Hold the candle.

The candle reminds us that Jesus is always with us. We'll light the candle each time we pray or when we're listening to the stories from the Bible. The light of the candle reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world.

Place the candle on the prayer place.

Hold the <u>ashes</u>

The Ash Wednesday ceremony invites us to turn back to God during Lent in preparation for Easter.

Hold the Project Compassion box

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We are invited to spend time with God in prayer, give up things we really like and donate to those in need.

This is our prayer place for the season of Lent.

Point to the symbols and objects as you name them again.

It has a purple cloth, Bible, crucifix, candle, ashes and Project Compassion box.

PRAYER - Conclude the session with prayer. Children come closer to God through the experience of prayer. Teachers help students to pray by praying with them, providing a variety of prayer experiences. These may include spontaneous prayer, prayer related to the Scripture, prayers found in KWL, informal or formal prayers, or a hymn.

