

Ash   
Wednesday

**A short service at home  
for personal use**

*Light a candle and clear a space to enter into prayer. Have your prayer card to hand.*

*Spend a moment in silence before saying the following:*

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

*A brief period of silence is kept before The Collect, is prayed.*

Holy God, my life is laid open before you:  
rescue me from the chaos of sin  
and through the death of your Son  
bring me healing and make me whole  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Keep a period of silent reflection calling to mind those things that you have not got right in your life.*

Make our hearts clean, O God; and renew a right spirit within us.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
I have sinned against you and against my neighbour,  
in what I have thought, in what I have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through my own deliberate fault.  
I have wounded your love, and marred your image in me.  
I am sorry and ashamed,

and repent of all my sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light. **Amen.**

*Using your prayer card, you can now trace the ash cross on it with your finger and symbolically make the sign of the cross upon your own forehead, saying;*

Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.  
Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

*Spend a moment of quiet with this. End with:*

May the Lord enrich me with his grace,  
and nourish me with his blessing;  
the Lord defend me in trouble and keep me from all evil;  
the Lord accept my prayers, and absolve me from my offences,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

*You may wish to place your Ash Wednesday prayer card somewhere that it will catch your eye over the coming weeks.*

