

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.

