

## Scrutinies for use in Lent 3, 4 & 5

This rite would normally take place immediately following the homily.

The catechumens come to kneel before the icon of Christ baptised.

### PRAYER OF THE CATECHUMENS

(Lent 3:)

Hear the word of the apostle:

The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brother and sisters: not many of you are wise by human standards, not many are powerful, not many are of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what barely exists, as far as most people are concerned, in order to shame the machinations of celebrity. All this so that no-one may blow their own trumpet in the presence of God.

I Corinthians 1.18, 25-29

(Lent 4:)

Hear the word of the apostle:

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit who is now at work amongst those who are disobedient. But God, who is rich in mercy and love, made us alive together with Christ. It is by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. No one has earned their way to salvation, so no-one is in a position to boast.

Ephesians 2. 1-2, 4-6, 8-9

(Lent 5:)

Listen to the word of the gospel:

Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains but a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, but those who hate their life in this world will save it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will be my servant also. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.

John 12.24-26, 31, 36

That we may remain humble in our preparation for the blessings of Easter,  
let us pray to the Lord:

Sung:           **Lord hear our prayer,  
                    O Lord hear our prayer,**

**When we call answer us  
O Lord hear our prayer  
O Lord hear our prayer  
Come and listen to us.**

by Jacques Berthier © Taize Community

That we may treasure the Word spoken into our hearts,  
learning to understand and live it out, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord hear our prayer . . .**

That we may learn to know Christ, who came to save all who are lost,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord hear our prayer . . .**

That we may acknowledge our sin in truth and humility,  
Let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord hear our prayer . . .**

That we may turn from evil and embrace the good,  
Let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord hear our prayer . . .**

That the Holy Spirit, who searches the hearts of all people, may strengthen our weakness  
with the power of God, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord hear our prayer . . .**

That this preparation for the feast of Christ's resurrection may change our hearts so that  
we may love even the least, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord hear our prayer . . .**

That our families and friends may be converted to faith in Christ,  
and receive from him the peace that passes all understanding,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord hear our prayer . . .**

That the world might be healed of its grievous wounds,  
that wars would cease and sorrow and mourning flee away,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord hear our prayer . . .**

## EXORCISM

The Pastor approaches each person and signs their ears, nose, mouth & eyes with the following words:

N, Jesus the crucified  
commands the evil in you to be gone!  
Hide your soul in Christ now;  
For he is your strength and your refuge.

When everyone has been signed, all stand to affirm the faith together.

The catechumens return to their seats and the usual intercessions are omitted.

Prepared for the South Yarra Community Baptist Church  
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