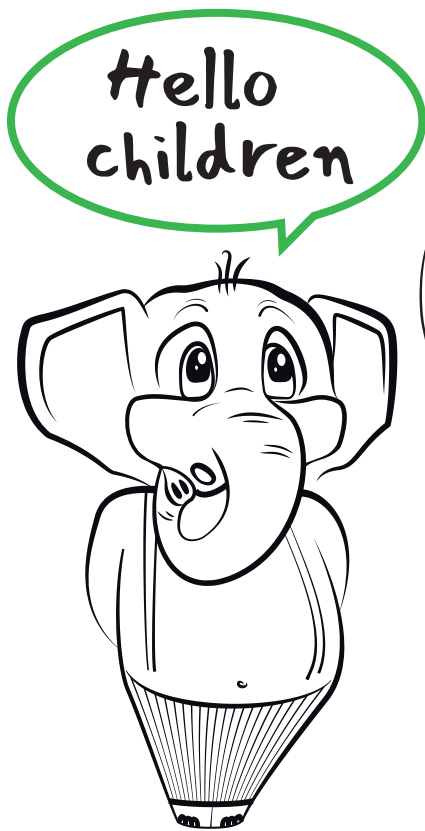


# Lent



**We are now on our Lenten journey. This is a special time of waiting and preparation.**

**A**sh Wednesday fell on February 22 this year. Ash Wednesday begins Lent and is a day of penance. It falls on a different day each year because it depends on when Easter falls. The earliest it can start is February 4 and the latest is March 10.

On Ash Wednesday, many Christians go to church for mass. The priest will put ashes on their foreheads. He makes the sign of the cross with ashes. The cross reminds people of what happened to Jesus. The ashes

are made from burnt palm leaves and blessed with holy water. The priest says: "Convert and preach the Gospel." Lent lasts 40 days. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter Sunday. However, if you look at the calendar and count the days, there are more than 40. Lent actually lasts 46 days, however six Sundays are excluded as there is no obligation to fast on Sundays of Lent.

What have you decided to do this year for Lent?

Have you made a Lenten vow? Or maybe you gave up sweets or treats? Maybe you've taken to saying a special prayer each day with your family? I would like to hear from you about what you have decided to give up or take up this Lent.

Please email me at [toby@salesiansireland.ie](mailto:toby@salesiansireland.ie) to share your Lenten promises with me.

Good luck and take care of yourself.

God bless,



K L R E A S T E R R G P O S T S E G  
 Y E F A S T I N G B A M S W X M P P  
 C N K L A F D E S E R T K C Q F R A  
 D T J A E T E M P T A T I O N Y A L  
 H O L Y T H U R S D A Y S C D V Y M  
 R C T Y W D T E D G T O Q N N O E S  
 D Z O A K R Z Y Z K H A I B E A R U  
 U A Y A M S L E I T X O T Z P S Z N  
 S D G O O D F R I D A Y W N Z H V D  
 T G Q J W R E P E N T A N C E E J A  
 P U R P L E X J G J W E Z Y F S D Y  
 E S O C R O S S J E S U S T I G T L

Find the following words in the puzzle. Words are hidden →, ↓ and ↘ .

- |               |         |       |
|---------------|---------|-------|
| HOLY THURSDAY | FASTING | ASHES |
| PALM SUNDAY   | DESERT  | JESUS |
| GOOD FRIDAY   | EASTER  | CROSS |
| TEMPTATION    | PURPLE  | LENT  |
| REPENTANCE    | PRAYER  | DUST  |



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