

ST. ROBERTS JUNIOR CHURCH
FEBRUARY 2021 – YELLOW GROUP

Lent - Sunday 7th February

It's only a few weeks since we were remembering Jesus as a baby at Christmas. You might think it's a bit strange, but we're now thinking of Jesus as a grown up!

LENT

This month's *All Age* service talks about Lent.

Lent is the period of six weeks leading up to Easter, the most important festival in the Christian calendar.

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday. The last week of Lent is called Holy Week.

This year, Lent starts on Wednesday 17th February.

Shrove Tuesday

In western Christian churches, the day before Lent starts is Shrove Tuesday. This is also known as **Pancake Day**. This day was traditionally the last chance to use up the foods Christians would not be eating during Lent.

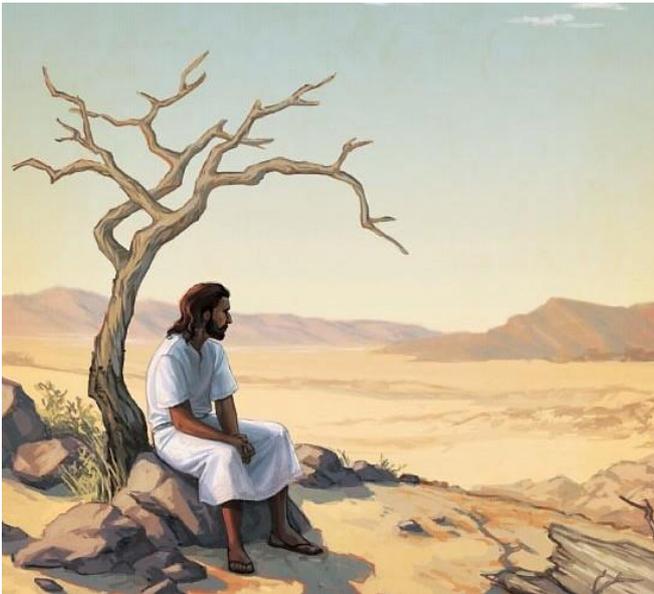
Pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday as they were a simple meal that could use up all the eggs, fats and milk in the house by just adding flour.

DID YOU KNOW?

Lent is an old English word meaning 'lengthen'. Lent is observed in spring, when the days begin to get longer.



What are your favourite pancake toppings?



The Story of Lent

The Bible tells us how Jesus went into the desert to fast and pray for 40 days before beginning his work for God.

Jesus was tempted several times by the devil, for example, wanting him to turn stones into bread to eat, but Jesus refused every time.

Lent allows us to remember Jesus' fasting in the desert. It is a time when we think about what things we might give up and why.

This might be things we really enjoy to eat, such as cakes or chocolate. Or it might be things we do that clutter up our lives and get in the way.

What could you give up for Lent?

You might choose foods you really like, such as biscuits, crisps or chocolate.



Or it might be things you do. For example, could you spend less time watching TV? Could you give up your phone, tablet or video games for a day?

Draw pictures below of some things you might try to give up for Lent.

What could you 'take up' for Lent?

Now you've thought about what you could give up for Lent, is there anything you could take up or do instead over the next 6 weeks? Here are some ideas to get you started. Try to do a few every week and tick them off as you go. (Remember, Lent is also a time when we think about what we can do to help others.)

Offer to help out with jobs around the house



Make someone laugh



Phone or video call a relative who might be lonely



Take up a new hobby, like painting or making music

Have a TV-free day and do something you've meant to do for ages instead

Bake a special treat for your family

Make sure you don't leave the tap running when you brush your teeth.



Read a story to a younger brother or sister

Light a candle and pray for someone



Plant some flower seeds in the garden

Put on a jumper instead of turning up the heating



Write an Easter letter or card to someone



Spend time playing outdoors instead of gaming or watching TV



Pick up any litter you see if you're out for a walk



Be extra careful to turn off lights in the house and don't leave electronics on standby





HEART BOMBING ACTIVITY FOR VALENTINE'S DAY

We'd love you to join in this community project and help share the love by preparing hearts and messages of love for this Valentine's Day on 14th February. Follow the instructions below.



Heart Bombing

Pannal



Beckwithshaw



A project to share God's love with our village communities on St Valentine's Day (14 February 2021)

Join in and help by

crafting heart shapes any way you want / buying heart-shaped items and

- displaying them at the front of your house (windows, gardens, fences, gates)
- sending (weatherproof!) hearts in to form a gathered display in the church grounds

For maximum heart-bombing impact, these hearts need to appear 'overnight' SO

- put them up early on 14 February – NOT BEFORE!!
OR
- deliver your hearts for the church display to the box in the vicarage garage (23 Crimple Meadows) or the Curacy (80 Beckwith Crescent) by Wednesday 10 February
AND
- Send us photos of your creations by Wednesday 10 February so we can fill our social media with love too (email to curate@strobertschurch.co.uk)

