



These daily readings leading up to Easter will reflect on conversations Jesus had during his ministry. As you read God’s word, keep a note of what God says to you and what your response is to him.

The daily readings tie in with the Sunday teaching series and with studies in small groups. Alongside this are a series of questions as prompts for reflection in 2s or 3s.

“May God the Creator bless us. May God the Son walk with us. May God the Spirit lead our lives with love.

May the blessing of the One who was, and who is and who is to come be upon us all - redeeming our past, filling our present and lighting up our future.”

A Celtic blessing

<p>Day 34 Mon Apr 3rd</p>	<p>Jesus clears the Temple Read Mark 11:15-19 Perhaps the crowds expected Jesus to head for the Antonia Fortress which housed Roman troops overlooking the Temple courts, and challenge the occupying forces. Instead he challenges those profiting from people who had come to worship God. The moneychangers in the outer Court of the Gentiles in the Temple did big business during the Passover festival with inflated exchange rates for Greek or Roman currency. Jesus quotes Isaiah 56:7 about the “house of prayer for all nations” and the “den of robbers” from Jeremiah 7:11. We see here Jesus’ passion for true worship, his authority, and his response to injustice. How much do we share Jesus’ passion for purity of purpose, and for God’s name to be honoured? Paul states in 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 that our bodies are a “temple of the Holy Spirit” who God has given us. How are we honouring God? How are we <i>dishonouring</i> God? Give God thanks that we can “approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” Hebrews 4:16 Be Lord of our lives, we pray.</p>
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