

Stepping Forward Into Lent: giving up and taking on

Scripture

“By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance;
and he set out, not knowing where he was going to end up.” *(Hebrews 11:8)*

Invitation to Prayer

As we step forward into a new Lent,
we know that there will be challenges for us during this year,
and that we will respond to opportunities we have not anticipated
with a variety of gifts which we do not fully realise we have.

As we venture forward, in expectation and hope,
we pray for your blessing, O Lord,
and for the enlivening power of your Spirit:

Prayers

Bless us, O Lord, with hope.

Teach us to see the signs of hope in our midst
and to approach our task in the spirit of hope and confidence.

Bless us, O Lord

Bless us, O Lord, with listening.

Your Spirit works through each of us and speaks through each of us.

Teach us to listen to one another with an open and generous disposition.

Bless us, O Lord

Bless us, O Lord, with appreciation.

We are rich in a variety of gifts.

Teach us to see the positive in others, too.

and to welcome and prize this as a gift from you.

Bless us, O Lord

Bless us, O Lord, with perseverance.

The seeds we are sowing grow slowly;

teach us to be patient and to trust.

Bless us, O Lord

Bless us, O Lord, with joy.

Teach us to enjoy being together and working together.

Bless us, O Lord

Bless us Lord with the practicality of Martha

and with the reflective spirit of Mary

as we go about doing your work.

Bless us, O Lord

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit!