



# Title: Looking for meaning

## Prayers

### Mission week prayer:

Dear Lord,

We are the seed of Notre Dame and we can grow together as a family if we love our neighbours the way God taught us to.

Our college Mission Week helps us to have faith to accept that with this gift nothing will be impossible so we can truly live out St Julie's message to "do small things with great love".

St Julie and Francoise pray for us, protect us and bless us.

Amen

**Reflect:** This joyful time of Eastertide is a wonderful time for us to stop and think about all the things that bring us joy, things that bring meaning to our life. Top of that list should be our own lives: the fact that we are here, alive and with a wonderfully exciting future ahead of us!

Our world is beautiful but it is also suffering - life is so fragile for so many on our planet, the happy balance of seasons and weather has been upset causing hurt and damage, death and destruction. The challenge for us is to value and respect all life and all of creation.

How can we live out the message of our bible reading today?

Today is a new chance to live my life fully: to make the most of each opportunity, to appreciate all that I have and all that I am, to respect others and myself. Help me to do it Lord! Amen

### Pray for:

- Those welcomed into the Church at Easter
- The grace to be thankful for all our world provides us with
- Those who do not listen to words Jesus taught us



Focus on one each day

### Matthew 25:31-46

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

Father, during this season of Lent, help us to see, in our ordinary difficulties and duties, in the trials and temptations of every day, the best opportunity of making up for past wrongs.

We ask this in Jesus' name,

Amen

### Respect for all life

God our Father, inspire us with a respect for all human life: from the time of the child growing in the womb to the point of death. May that respect lead us to grow in a sense of responsibility for all our brothers and sisters throughout the world, knowing that, where one person suffers and is degraded- all of humanity is belittled and abused. May we grow in a sense of love and care for those less fortunate than ourselves, and lead us to do something about the troubles in our world.

Amen



On the 17<sup>th</sup> of March St Patrick's Day is celebrated. Saint Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland and brought Christianity to Ireland.

St Patrick is traditionally associated with the Shamrock plant, which he used to explain the concept of the Trinity.



### Saint Patrick's prayer

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me. I arise today through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, through belief in the Threeness, through confession of the oneness of the Creator of creation.

Father, through our observance of Lent, help us to understand the meaning of your Son's death and resurrection, and teach us to reflect it in our lives. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.