

# The Lord's Prayer Experience

The Lord's Prayer has been the focus of a multi-sensory worship experience at St Boniface. Building upon the work with Bunbury Primary School, and the success of the Fruits of the Spirit and Easter Experience projects, a similar experience has been created for Holy Week this year.

The Lord's Prayer is all about relationships - it is a 'together' prayer: 'Our father... give us...'. Adults and children, new Christians and old, Christians from all traditions, can all pray this prayer together with faith and hope and love.



## Station 1 - Our Father We are all children of God

Children from school and church were invited to bring family photos to hang on our family tree. We reflected that we are all children of God, we are all precious, and we must look after and care for each other. No matter who we are, even if we look different, or talk differently, or believe different things. We recorded and listened to the Lord's Prayer in several different languages.

## Station 2 - who art in heaven At home with God

Children from school and church were invited to bring photos of loved ones who have sadly died and hang them onto fairy lights in the chancel. They also made a home out of clay and put a tea light inside. We reflected that God does not live on his own, but with all our precious loved ones, and they are safe and sound with him - in a happy, holy place filled with love.



## Station 3 - hallowed be thy name We stand on holy ground

We sat round a camp fire outside church and listened to the story of Moses - one of God's very first friends. We heard about the burning bush and learnt about God's holy name. The story of Moses teaches us two things: the ground he farmed and lived and loved was holy; but also God is holy, and so are we because we are made in God's image - we are special too. So we celebrated this by toasting marshmallows around the camp fire.

## Station 4 - they kingdom come How will you make your mark?

We built a prayer labyrinth and the children and young people were invited to take off their shoes, put their feet in shiny metallic paint, and as they walked the labyrinth, think about how they would leave their mark on this earth. What are the good things in life they want to be and do? At the end of the labyrinth they washed each other's feet and thought about how Jesus washed his disciples feet and modelled a life of love and service.



## Station 5 - give us this day our daily bread What really matters

With a huge suitcase overflowing with goodies and things for a holiday, the children and young people were told they could only take four things, so had to prioritise, to think about what they really needed. A freshly baked bread roll encouraged them to savour the simple things in life.



## Station 6 - forgiveness Love your neighbour as yourself

We built a beautiful hill in front of the altar with a simple cross on top, and reflected about how important it is to forgive and to love each other and ourselves - even the dark sides, the sides that cause hurt and upset. Decorated crosses created a multi-coloured hill, inspired by the love and forgiveness that Jesus has shown us.



## Station 7 - lead us not into temptation Clothe yourself with God's armour, goodness and love

We thought of things we find tempting, and how some are good and that's ok, but that you can have too much of a good thing, or it might not be right for you at that precise time. We thought about how to learn the self-control to say no, and how God might give us the strength and courage we need. We put on God's armour - his belt of truth, his breastplate of righteousness, his helmet of love - all the good things that will help us walk in the right way, and we made a cairn out of stones, remembering God's promises - he will always be with us.

## Station 8 - thine is the kingdom the power and the glory

We thought about how God's power is different to how we might think. His strength is shown in weakness, in the small things. Jesus turned the world upside down and encouraged us to do the same. Each child was given a crown to wear and think what king or queen they might like to be - and how the kingdom of God is not won by overpowering others, but through humility and love.

