

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Jesus said: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength... Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.'  
(Mark 12 v 30-31)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you, in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen.

([www.churchofengland.org/prayerandworship...](http://www.churchofengland.org/prayerandworship...))

Easter is when we remember how Jesus paid for our sins in His death on the cross and defeated death when He rose again. Lent, the 40 days before Easter, is a time to consider our thoughts, words and actions and come to God in repentance for what we have done wrong.

Repentance is 1. recognising that you have sinned (offended against God), are responsible for what you have done and are guilty of it, 2. saying sorry to God and 3. turning away from your sin with the honest intention not to do it again.

Romans 3 v 23 tells us that 'all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God'.

It's not about one or two events in our life, it's about our rebellion against God's laws.

Over the next couple of weeks we'll find out why Jesus' death means we can be forgiven for all our sins.