

# ASH WEDNESDAY DUST

March 2, 2022



## A DAY OF MARKINGS

Today marks the beginning of the church season of Lent, a time of discipline and spirituality as we prepare for Easter.

On this day we become physically marked with the imposition of ashes on our forehead, symbolizing our sinfulness as well as our mortality.

**BEGIN BY READING PSALM 51**

## PARDONING PRAYER

God desires not that we die as sinners but that we turn from wickedness and live. May the almighty and merciful Lord accept our repentance, forgive our sins, and restore us by the Holy Spirit to newness of life.

Amen.



## ACTIVITY

The ashes imposed on the head are intended to remind us that we are dust; we are from the earth and will return to the earth. This year, go to your yard, garden, farm, or a nearby park and collect some soil in a cup or small bowl. Bring your soil back inside. Place your fingers in the soil; dig around and hold some in your hand. As you do, speak aloud the following:

## PRAYER OF ASHES

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, so that we may remember that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.



LENT  
IN  
PLAIN  
SIGHT

A DEVOTION  
THROUGH  
TEN OBJECTS



## LENT IN PLAIN SIGHT

Throughout the season you'll have several opportunities to collect everyday objects, starting with the soil you gathered today. Choose a place in your home or workplace to build an altar with these objects, adding to it from week to week. Allow the soil to remind you that even from dirt, new life is nourished and grown.

**Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.**