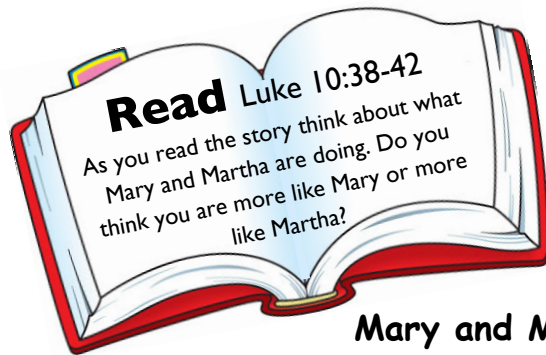


Mārch FaithVenture

Families meeting with God, growing together, having fun!

These activities are for the whole family to do. Have fun! Do them at a time of day and as often as best fits your family. Do as many as you like, in any order or adapt them to suit. Mix them up with things the family like to do and involve other family members or families if you want.



Mary and Martha

While Jesus and his followers were traveling, he went into a town, and a woman named Martha let him stay at her house. She had a sister named Mary. Mary was sitting at Jesus' feet and listening to him teach. But her sister Martha was busy doing all the work that had to be done. Martha went in and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are getting worried and upset about too many things. Only one thing is important. Mary has made the right choice, and it will never be taken away from her."

(This text is taken from the Easy-to-read Version of the Bible.)



Mary and Martha live with their brother Lazarus in a village called Bethany, not far from Jerusalem. It seems that Jesus often stayed with this family whenever he travelled south for the festivals, although this story may have been from the first time they met. Martha wanted to prepare her best home-cooked meal for Jesus, but her sister Mary chose to sit and listen to Jesus telling stories instead of helping. Lent is a time when we can think about being a Mary or a Martha. Focusing our attention on Jesus and our walk with him and thinking about giving up our time and energy to serving others.

Roll-a-Question



(Roll a dice and chat about the question that matches the number. There are no right or wrong answers.)

- 1 ... What part of the story did you like most?
- 2 ... What part of the story is most important?
- 3 ... Where might you be in this story?
- 4 ... Which part of the story could we miss out and still have all the story we need?
- 5 ... What questions do you have about the story?
- 6 ... What you would like to create in response to the story? Create it!

Get Creative



Martha's Biscuits

Help Martha make some yummy biscuits and then share them with the family or friends.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/mini_three-way_biscuits_95845



Puppets

Using whatever you can find, (lolly stick, toilet rolls, etc.) make 3 puppets - Mary, Martha and Jesus. Then act out the story using the puppets and your own words. (Picture: mary-and-martha-puppets)



Thank you card

Make a thank you card for someone who works really hard. Give it to them to encourage them and let them know how much they are appreciated.



Awe & Wonder

Spend some time in the garden or go on a nature walk.

- ~ Can you spot busy animals or insects getting ready to start new families or build new homes?
- ~ Can you spot any plants starting to bud or bloom?
- ~ Can you find any creatures that are sitting still or basking in the sun?
- ~ Find a nice spot to sit quietly ... what can you see, smell, taste, hear, feel?
- ~ Why not create some 'busy' nature art using twigs and stones and anything else you can find.



Here is a fun way to pray through the week.

Choose one or more fingers and then say a short prayer for the people in the same colour box.

If you are stuck ... start by saying a thank you prayer, followed by an asking prayer.

(e.g. Pointing finger: Thank you God for teachers - thank you for their energy and love as they teach, please help them find times of rest and bless them for all they do. Amen)

Start with short simple prayers.

Your ring finger is the weakest. Pray for the sick, poor and those in need.

Your pinkie finger is the smallest. Pray for yourself and your needs.

Your middle finger is the tallest. Pray for leaders in government, business and church.

Your pointing finger is used to give direction. Pray for those who teach and heal. Teachers, doctors, nurses, coaches etc.

Your thumb is closest to your heart, so pray for those closest to you - friends and family.



5 Finger Prayer