

*Daniel 3:
The three young men in the furnace*

Daniel 3.1-28

Silence is kept.

Let us pray for courage to remain faithful to Christ even through the fires of this life.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.

You rewarded the faithfulness of the three young men
with your protection against the blazing fire.

When the burning flames of life threaten to consume us,

be faithful to us and transform our fear into your praise,

O Lord, our maker and redeemer.

All **Amen.**

*Daniel 6:
Daniel in the lions' den*

Daniel 6.1-24

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that God will sustain us when evil threatens to overcome us.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.

Your servant Daniel was devoted to you,

even in the face of the death threats of his enemies.

As your angels kept shut the jaws of death,
protect your people as they try to be faithful today

and stir in us a trust in your unfailing love,

O Lord, our maker and redeemer.

All **Amen.**

EASTER VIGIL

Saturday 3rd April 2010



Genesis 1–2:

The Creation

Genesis 1.1–2.4a

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that we may see God's image restored.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.

Your love cannot be contained and over flows in the wonder of creation.

You formed the universe out of nothing

and moulded us from the clay of the earth.

All you have made sings of your marvellous deeds,

O Lord, our maker and redeemer.

All **Amen.**

Genesis 3:

The Fall

Genesis 3

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that our merciful God will show compassion
on all who fall victim to the power of sin.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.

The sin which we dare not confront breaks your heart

and nothing can be concealed from your sight,

yet you showed mercy to our ancestors.

Show mercy today to all who fall prey to sin's lure, and shatter the power of evil,

O Lord, our maker and redeemer.

All **Amen.**

Genesis 7,8,9:

Noah and the flood

Genesis 7.1-5, 11-18; 8.6-19; 9.8-13

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that God will wash away all that corrupts his work
and restore in us the beauty for which we were made.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.

In your perfect justice you hate the world's sin.

Noah and his family risked ridicule for your sake yet their obedience brought them blessing.

Flood our world with the tide of your love

and rid us of all that disfigures your glorious creation,

O Lord, our maker and redeemer.

All **Amen.**

Exodus 3:

Moses and the burning bush

Exodus 3.1-6

Silence is kept.

Let us pray for a renewed vision for the people of God
and a new commitment to break the chains of oppression.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.

You revealed yourself to your servant Moses in the awesome wonder of the burning bush
and appointed him to lead your people to freedom in the promised land.

By the fire of your Spirit today reveal yourself afresh

and strengthen us to free the enslaved and break the bonds of the captive,

that they may openly sing your praise,

O Lord, our maker and redeemer.

All **Amen.**

Exodus 14:

Crossing the Red Sea

Exodus 14.10-end; 15.1a

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that God will give freedom to his enslaved people.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.

You heard the agony of your people as they cried out from their slavery, and you gave them Moses
to lead them to a land flowing with milk and honey.

Hear the cry of the enslaved and the homeless today and lead us through the turbulent sea of life
to our true home with you,

O Lord, our maker and redeemer.

All **Amen.**

Ezekiel 37:

The valley of dry bones

Ezekiel 37.1-14

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that God will breathe new life into his weary creation.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation. You bring life from the darkest valley of death.

When hope is lost and our dry bones are scattered in shame,

speak your word to your broken people, that we may stand confidently before you,

and breathe your Spirit into us that we might live,

O Lord, our maker and redeemer.

All **Amen.**