

Forty Days and Forty Nights

GOD'S REVELATION:

The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights.

Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Elijah got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

**Jesus was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan;
and he was with the wild beasts;
and the angels waited on him.**

(Gen. 7:12, Exod. 24:18, 1 Kings 19:8, Mark 1:13)

OUR RESPONSE:

Lord God,
who cleansed the earth through forty days of floods,
**and gave Your guiding law
through forty days of worship,**

who revived Elijah through forty days of pilgrimage,
**and sent Your Son to fight our foe
through forty days of fasting;**

grant us grace to enter
the flood, the fire, the desert,
**the penitence and the journey,
the emptiness and the fasting,**

that leads us to Gethsemane,
and the dark scene of Golgotha,
**and leave us at the empty tomb,
to see Your risen Son.**

*In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*