



Lent 5 (Year B): Litany for Losing

LITANY FROM FRAN PRATT (franpratt.com)

This litany is based on the Lectionary for Lent 5, Year B.

Today's litany comes from the Lectionary text in John 12.

God, it's an upside-down, unexpected world
you've made.

**We can't assume we understand
anything.**

Your imagination is unfathomable;
**We can spend our whole lives exploring
your ways.**

To gain status
We must become lowly.

To grow up
We must root down.

To be glorified
We must embrace death. (John 12:24)

To gain life
We must lose it. (John 12:25)

To gain assurance
We must embrace paradox.

We all face loss in this life:
Loss of loved ones
Loss of status
Loss of fortune

Loss of certainty

In loss we choose: hope or misery.

For in your unfathomable mystery,
what was lost
Is found.

What was buried in death
Is planted.

What was useless
Is glorified.

What was old
Is new.

What was hopeless,
Is full of possibility.

Help us to remember the hopelessness of
Christ
As he lay in the tomb;

How in his stillness, in his loss,
Lay the seeds of life. Amen