

St. John's Good News



Lenten Reflections from the Priest-in-Charge February 2023

Dear Friends,

February brings with it opportunities for personal and institutional reflection.

Firstly, we are invited to enter a Holy Lent. This season provides us with an opportunity to consider those things which are truly important to us. We re-discover those things which give us both peace and joy. For some of us, this is made easier but putting aside something which distracts us from taking an inventory of our lives. In our current age, it seems that most of temptations to distraction take on an electronic form. Perhaps we might consider putting limits on the amount of time we spend on our computers or staring at our phones. We may even discover that the world is more beautiful and fascinating than we had realized. Lent is also a time for us to celebrate those people who touch our lives and are very precious to us. Perhaps we might use our electronic devices for their original purpose – writing letters and phoning loved ones.

Secondly, February brings with it our Annual Congregational Meeting. This provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the ways in which God had been glorified this past year. It also provides us with an opportunity to consider what the upcoming year holds for us.

I enter this season with joy, gratitude, and little bit of anxiety. Self-reflection can sometimes be unsettling. Sometimes there are things about myself that I would prefer to ignore. We do this, however, with the knowledge that we are God's beloved children. For this I rejoice.

Peace,
John+

**February
2023**

Sunday worship remains at 10am, in-person and virtually: All are welcome to participate, and seating capacity is now at 75. The service also continues to broadcast via Zoom, with link options shared by email.

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Online diocesan Bible study

A weekly online Bible study will be offered during Lent from the diocese on **Wednesdays at 9 a.m.**, using *We Cry Justice: Reading the Bible with the Poor People's Campaign*.

All are welcome, and anyone can drop in during a given week as they are able - contact The Rev. John Beach for more information.

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Lenten Quiet Day
February 25, 2023, 10am - 2pm

The Desert Tradition: Silence, Stillness, Solitude

The theme of wilderness is a common one for God's people, and as we engage in Lent, we are invited to enter the desert landscape. Through silence, stillness, and solitude, the noises of life that so often drown out that still, small voice of God cease to hold sway over us. Together we will seek the nourishment we so seldom recognize because it is so far outside our comfort zone. During this day of quiet and reflection, we will journey in the desert and listen for God's voice.

Lenten Quiet Day

This event will be held at Grace Church in Medford. Those who are interested in participating may contact Rev. Beach for more details.

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Annual Meeting

A friendly reminder that our annual meeting has been rescheduled for **Sunday, February 12th**. Parishioners are encouraged to attend this important gathering to discuss goals, elect officers, vestry, and delegates, and review church financials. If you are not able to attend in-person, a Zoom link will be available to view it online.

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Annual Fair & Roast Beef Dinner Discussion

On **Sunday, Feb. 19th**, St. John's will host a discussion regarding the annual fair and roast beef dinner. Parishioners' input is welcome, as we consider when the church holds each fundraiser and how our past events can be tweaked/improved. For more information, please reach out to Fritz White or Donna Manoogian (contact info is available through the parish office). We look forward to your participation!

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Every Child Deserves to Smile



THANK YOU to everyone who dug deep into their closets and generously donated to the clothing drive, and to those who contributed snacks and made it possible to deliver fresh fruit to the families.

Recipients were blessed with an array of beautiful hats, mittens, scarves, warm winter jackets and clothing. Also, four boxes of food items were gratefully received by those who truly needed them. Winter is not over, so if you missed turning in your clothing donation, we will continue to accept clothing that is in-season.



FEBRUARY is our **SOUPE**R BOWL! We will be holding a Soup & Cracker drive on Super Bowl Sunday, February 12.

Non-perishable food items, bottled water and juice boxes, paper goods, plastic storage containers, can openers and microwaveable containers are always welcomed donations.

Donations may be left in the donation baskets in the vestibule. Please contact Jeanne Seaboyer if you have questions.

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Ash Wednesday Worship ~ February 22nd

Our journey through Lent begins with Ash Wednesday services to be held at 12pm (Noon) and 7pm – all are welcome.

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Football Word Search

Since it's that time of year, see if you can find these football-related terms... :)

H O L D I N G R M C B L I N E M A N
 D N U K T E I K U Q P B H U D D L E
 T O U C H D O W N S E Z A W C T N X
 Q F Y A R D A G E K H W P C V F N Y
 K U J C H A M P I O N S H I P W K H
 L M A M E Y J T R D L P P J Y O Z J
 K B W R V R S L W O H Y Q O A Q V M
 N L D T T D C O R N E R B A C K R O
 X E Y F T E E E H B G B S F P K K R
 I Y Y O R A R F Q E Y R R O B S E B
 V T O U I A C B E K L X I A S K T T
 N F A L O S Y K A N C M V D C N U E
 T J A B F L Q T L C S G E I I I R Z
 M L L A R T P Y Y E K E K T M R N P
 S C R A M B L E X H P L S J M N O A
 I B H H J D R H M Q G I Z H D N V N
 L X V N E N C R O A C H M E N T E E
 R H D L A T E R A L B L I T Z T R Y

Blitz ~ Championship ~ Cornerback ~ Defense ~ Encroachment ~ Foul
 Fumble ~ Gridiron ~ Helmet ~ Holding ~ Huddle ~ Kicker ~ Lateral
 Lineman ~ Pocket ~ Quarterback ~ Rush ~ Scramble ~ Tackle
 Touchdown ~ Turnover ~ Yardage
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Officers: The Rev. John T. Beach, Priest-in-Charge, Brenda Caggiano and Daniel Casey, Jr., Wardens, Phil Littlehale, Treasurer, Paul Felci, Assistant Treasurer, and Kristina Palazzo, Clerk of the Vestry

Vestry: Duana 'Dee' LeMay (2024), Sandy Mears (2025), Donna Manoogian (2024), and Kenneth Webber (2023)