

ALL SAINTS' NEWSLETTER, LENT 2016



Dear Friends

In Lent we are seeking to renew our relationship with God in love and commitment, so that it is a place that is life giving, loving, and a place of transformation. We are encouraged to let go of striving and to be holy ourselves. If we can allow Jesus to be our holiness we can let him live in us. May this be the right kind of inspiration for renewing that sacred space of our relationship with Jesus and ourselves this Lent - to let him live in us so that we become the place for his unconditional love.

May this journey of Lent be about allowing God to show us – show us where we need to de-clutter our lives, make space, enlarge our hearts and deepen our understanding – so that we can flourish in the bigger picture of his love – offered to us in the sacred space of Jesus' life and death and resurrection.

If you and I can make space for the mess we are so aware of in the world around us, the burdens we see others carrying, those we carry ourselves, and in following Jesus through his own journey of suffering, may we be transformed by the greater truth – the unknown deeper love - that God holds for us. May Jesus' holiness be the sacred life and space within us – transforming all these experiences of the cross, with unconditional love and offering life and hope in the midst of it all.

Could you and I create a sacred space that can hold 'love unknown'; that creates within us a hunger to see justice done; that continues to work for dialogue in our church that opens the way for real equality and sacred space for all; that will remember our friend who is depressed and give words of encouragement and help to lead them through it; that acknowledges where we have denied love and seeks to make amends; that holds our own suffering and allows God to show us where there is life in it; a place where we know Christ's encouragement to hold the bigger picture of our world , for one another? I pray that we can allow the life and death and resurrection of Jesus to be lived in us.

Our time of Lent is a time for us to make space in our lives for Jesus' suffering and death – allow him to dwell in us and in this sacred space open our eyes the scale of God's overflowing and unconditional love for us and for our world.

In a small way we do this with our Lenten envelopes which are enclosed in this newsletter and in the Faithwork's campaign that occurs during this Lenten season in our parish. Please do give generously for the sake of the greater good.

May we deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow him – down the winding tree-lined track that he invites us to follow down in all weathers.

Geoff



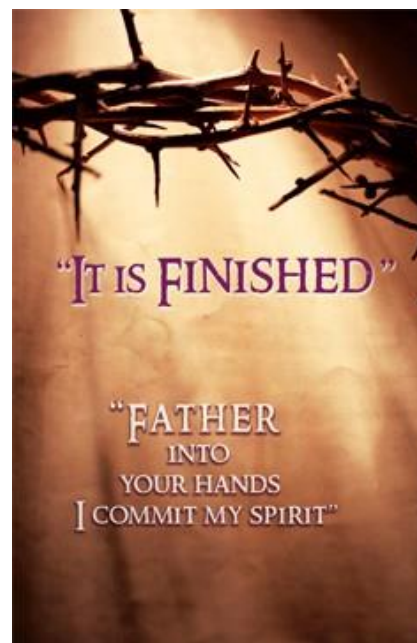
Faithworks 2016

Lent is a time to get closer to God, to appreciate Jesus' sacrifice, to take something on, to give something up! Do you remember the Lenten Boxes families kept on the kitchen table to put coins in during Lent?

A version of those very boxes is on their way to us this Lent! Keep your eyes open and there will be one for every household to use. I can't wait....back to my childhood!!

Our Faithworks Chili Lunch is just around the corner too. It's in sync with the Lenten boxes! Mark your calendar for Sunday, March 13th after the 10:30 service. Cost is \$5.00 per person! Come and enjoy the fellowship and pick up your Faithworks package. All proceeds to Faithworks!!

Thanks, *Suzanne*



Dates & Times for Lent & Easter

Sunday February 28	Annual Vestry	11 am (after the joint 9:30 service)
Wednesday March 2	Seniors' Lunch	12:00 pm
Sunday March 13	Chili Lunch	12:00 pm (after the 10:30 service)
Sunday March 20	Palm Sunday	8:30 am 10:30 am
Monday March 21	Holy Eucharist	12:10 pm
Tuesday March 22	Holy Eucharist	12:10 pm
Wednesday March 22	Holy Eucharist	12:10 pm
Thursday March 23	Maundy Thursday	7 pm
Friday March 24	Good Friday	10:30 am
Sunday March 27	Easter Day	8:30 am 10:30 am, Bishop Linda Nicholls celebrating & preaching