**Office Closure**

The Parish Office will be **closed to the public** until further notice. You may call the parish office @ 834-2336 and leave a message or by email sjtetopsail@nfld.net at any time and we will get back to you as soon as possible. A drop box is available for your convenience. If you have an emergency outside of office hours, please contact Archdeacon Greg Mercer @ 325-2366.

**Online Service – Lent 3**

Please join us this Sunday, March 7th at 10:30 a.m. we will be going live on our Facebook page - SJTE Topsail

**Church Closure**

Public worship is cancelled until further notice.  **We will be offering an online Service on our Facebook page.**  Please continue to check our website and our Facebook page SJTE Topsail for updates.

#### Envelope Number

You are reminded to please put your envelope numbers on your giving’s envelope. If we don’t have a number or name we will not know who to credit for year-end tax receipts.

#### Sunday Bulletins

If you would like to give the bulletin in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving of an event in your life, please call the parish office (834-2336) to book a date. Dates available are: April 11th & 25th, May 2nd, 9th, 16th, & 30th, June 6th, 13th, 20th, September 19th, October 3rd & 31st, November 14th, 21st, 28th, December 5th, 12th, Christmas Bulletin.

**Second Sunday of Lent**

***Collect***

Father of mercy, alone we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves. When we are discouraged by our weakness, strengthen us to follow Christ, our pattern and our hope; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Readings**

1st Reading: Exodus 20.1–17

Psalm: 19 *Refrain:* The words of the Lord are spirit and life.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.18–25

Holy Gospel: John 2.13–22

Diocesan Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

Diocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene Taylor

Priest-in-Charge: Archdeacon Gregory Mercer

Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa Cox

Organist/Choir Director : Stephanie Gavell

Parish Wardens: Sharon Smith and Rex Hillier

Office Administrator: Madonna Scott

**Welcome to the**

**Parish of St. John the Evangelist**

Conception Bay South, Newfoundland

March 7, 2021

[www.stjohntheevangelistnl.com](http://www.stjohntheevangelistnl.com/)

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

Twitter: @StJohnEvang

Office email: sjtetopsail@nfld.net

Office phone number: (709) 834-2336

Priest-in-Charge Email: archdeacon.gregory@anglicanenl.net

Cell: (709) 325-2366



**The Bulletin is given to the Glory of God**

**and in Loving Memory of:**

**Grandparents, Gill & Wicks**

**& Dear Friends, Millicent Morey & Carol Parker**

**By**

**Clemmie Smith**

**Our Parish Mission Statement We believe in nurturing a community of faith dedicated to inclusion, support and sharing the story of God's love with all people regardless of the stage of their spiritual journey**



**Lent III**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Loneliness has been called the “silent killer.” Many people suffer from loneliness, young and old. And for certain, this pandemic hasn’t made it any easier. Moreover, the worshipping community which is a vital organism for those who suffer from loneliness, has been unallowed because of the current level 5 restrictions regarding Covid-19.

At the heart of loneliness is the painful realization that we lack meaningful and close relationship with others. This lack can lead to emptiness, melancholy, isolation, and even despair. A sense of rejection and a low self-image is often associated to the fact that we can’t relate, or we feel left out, unwanted and appreciated, no matter how hard we try to belong. Most often loneliness is the result of unfortunate circumstances as in the death of a life-long soul mate (spouse). Some persons find it difficult to communicate with others or lack confidence because they have a poor self-image. Then there is what the late Billy Graham would call, “cosmic loneliness” – the person who is separated from God and feels life has lost all meaning. He continues, “There are thousands of lonely people who carry heavy burdens of grief, anxiety, pain, and disappointment.” Almost seems like he said that with a Pandemic in mind.

As we can see, loneliness can be complicated by any number of reasons or circumstances. How do we counsel people who suffer from loneliness? Certainly, strengthening bonds within family is good counsel. Constant efforts to communicate with your own family – learning to share, to respect and care, to forgive, to become a part of each other – will do much to prevent loneliness. This is made rather difficult during the pandemic, but thank God for the current technology that allows us to be present via “live streaming” and facetime, etc. It’s not the same as being physically present but it sure makes it easier for some. Focusing on the needs of others is also good counsel. Note, however, that while this approach may help, put your own problems into perspective, it can also be a coverup and denial of the real problem.

One final thought on this important subject. Probably the best recipe for conquering loneliness is to develop a daily quiet time. Lent invites us to spend more time in prayer. A sense of God’s never-failing presence will help diminish feelings of loneliness. Billy Graham says, “I am never lonely when I am praying, for this brings me into companionship with the greatest friend of all – Jesus Christ.

Prayerfully Yours,

 Archdeacon Greg+

**Tri-Diocesan Intercessions**

**Cathedral Parish of St. John the Baptist** **Parish of Catalina**

The Ven. Roger Whelan Deacon-in-Charge – The Rev. Eli

Vicar Missional – The Rv. Khaliah Kinkead Cross

**The Sick**

Michael, Salem, Paul, Michael C, Randy S, Eleanor M., Fred T.

A donation has been given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of

**Louis Walters**

By

**Maud & Family**

A donation has been given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of

**John Hillier**

By

### Barry & Lois Redding

**\*\*\*\***

**From our Treasurer**

Thank you for watching our services on our Facebook page (SJTE Topsail) as we continue to strive to bring the Word of God to each of you.  Through your financial support during these difficult times, we are able to keep your church operating.  Please continue to support us in this way. You have answered this challenge in the past and I know you will do the same in the future. As I’m sure you are all aware, we are no longer able to do our usual fundraising events.  These fundraisers provide significant financial support for our Church.  The COVID 19 virus is a challenge to us all, but we will persevere and one day soon we will worship together without fear and enjoy our social times together again.  May God Bless and keep you safe. Below are ways to continue to contribute to your church safely:

1. Drop box, which is cleared daily, located outside the office entrance.

2. By mail via Canada Post. - P.O. Box 13033, CBS, NL A1W 2K1

3. By E-Mail transfer to sjtetopsail@nfld.net

4. Pre-authorized debit (PAD) automatic deductions from your bank account. You would need to contact the parish office for details on this option.