**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](mailto: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.

**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](mailto: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.

**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.

#### 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.

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

***Collect***

Most merciful God, by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you created humanity anew. May the power of his victorious cross transform those who turn in faith to him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Readings**

1st Reading: *Jeremiah 31.31–34* Psalm: *51.1–13 or 119.9–16*

Second Reading: *Hebrews 5.5–10* Refrain: **Create in me a clean heart, O God.**

Holy Gospel: *John 12.20–33*

**Welcome to the**

**Parish of St. John the Evangelist**

Conception Bay South, Newfoundland

March 21, 2021

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

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

Twitter: @StJohnEvang

Office email: [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto: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:**

**MWO Charlie H.T. Mercer C.D**

**By**

**Mother, Audrey Mercer & Family**

**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 V**

**Financial Stewardship**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Let’s talk financial stewardship for a moment. During our Ash Wednesday Service, we were invited to observe a Holy lent. The invitation was stated like this:

*I invite you therefore, in the* ***name of the Lord,***

*To observe a holy Lent, by self-examination, penitence, prayer,*

*Fasting, and* ***almsgiving,***

*And by reading and meditating on the Word of God.*

Notice that among the spiritual exercises mentioned, **“Almsgiving”** is an important part of our Lenten observance, and keeping a Holy Lent. “Almsgiving” is a spiritual discipline and NOT, as Billy Graham would say, “a question of the wallet.” Almsgiving by its very definition means a gift or gifts to the poor or to some other need. Traditionally that has always been done through the ministry of the Church. The invitation then is asking us what we are presently giving to the church, to support the work of the Lord. It is asking us to think about what we are giving to the church to support the work of ministry. Well, let’s think about it! When was the last time you gave any though to increasing your financial contribution to the church? Are you stuck on five dollars a week? Are you giving regularly? If almsgiving is a spiritual exercise and not a matter of the pocket book as suggested, then are you being honest with God when it comes to your financial stewardship and the Church?

For Jesus, money WAS a spiritual issue and not a financial issue. The fact is, our Lord commanded us to give: “Give and it shall be given unto you” (Luke 6:38). This is more than a command. It was an invitation to glorious and abundant living. You see the chief motive of the selfish, unregenerate person is “get.” The chief motive of the dedicated Christian should be to “give.” The Bible teaches us that great blessings follow those who give liberally. And probably the greatest of blessings that you receive is a sense of being honest of God, and a consciousness that you are in partnership with God, and doing something constructive. However, we must be careful that our motive to give is to receive blessings. In his command to give, our Lord is just stating a fact, that in giving, we receive. He is not suggesting that “blessings” received should be our motive to give. In the Spirit of generosity, we give with unconditional love.

Your readiness to give to the work of Christ is a solid witness to your love for Christ and his Church.

In His Service,

Archdeacon Greg+

**Tri-Diocesan Intercessions**

**Parish of Church Falls (Joint Ministry)**

The Ven. Julie Brace

**Parish of Cow Head**

Priest-in-Charge The Rev. Terry Rose

Catechist Ms. Nora Shears

**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:

**John Hillier** by **Donald & Patricia Regular**

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**The Parish Office is now accepting**

**Easter Memorials**

The **deadline** for Memorials will be **March 30th** You may drop off your memorials in the drop box located outside the parish office entrance. You can also email the parish office at [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net) If you are sending an e-transfer please put the name(s) of the person(s) to be remembered in the message section of your transfer.

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

Wednesday, March 31st – 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday, April 1st – 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and

Stripping of the Altar

##### Good Friday, April 2nd - 12:00 noon The Passion of Christ

Liturgy

At present (Level 5) these services will be offered online only.  Further updates will be available as our Government assesses our current Covid 19 situation.