****

Dear Diocesan Family,

#### **PWRDF is supporting the emergency response of those displaced by the invasion of Ukraine through its partner** [ACT Alliance](https://www.facebook.com/actalliance/?__cft__%5b0%5d=AZUNNMfX0ctIyH-VRrnfF2pLkOOVVLuaCS2aWflUnIK1xYv2tI5aPm4ClGS-tPBFfN_kxUPXx8J-QgFx4Zr0_42JHjW-31ZGWUgVrYE_DMFzRzkzeA_FIXF6GLOA4XWQJBY7rds490ENbDsM1zmFNNQx&__tn__=kK-R) **with $20,000 and is accepting donations.**

As the war in Ukraine began on February 24, tens of thousands of Ukrainians became displaced, fleeing for safety in neighbouring countries.  ACT member Hungarian Interchurch Aid, who has been working in Ukraine for more than 25 years in humanitarian and development projects, has already shipped [**28 tons of food**](https://actalliance.org/act-news/first-shipment-of-relief-supplies-from-act-members-shipped-to-ukraine/) to support those fleeing to Hungary, and their staff has been working with refugees at the Ukraine/Hungary border.

**Donations to PWRDF for Ukraine can be made by visiting** **pwrdf@pwrdf.org** **or by mail at PWRDF 80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2.  Please specify it is for Ukraine**.

**2022 Envelopes**

Your 2022 contribution envelopes are available in the church office. Please call the office if you would like to pick them up or if you would like to them placed at the registration desk in the church foyer for pick up. If you currently do not have envelopes but would like to contribute financially to our parish, please email the office sjtetopsail@nfld.net or call 834-2336. A reminder that we also have the option of Pre-Authorized payment or

e-transfer. To find out more about these options please call the office.

**Welcome to the Anglican**

Diocesan Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

Diocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene Taylor

Priest-in-Charge: The Reverend Jotie Noel, T.S.S.F.

Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa Cox

Organists/Choir Director: Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-Ledwell

Parish Wardens: Sharon Smith and Rex Hillier

Office Administrator: Madonna Scott

**Parish of St. John The Evangelist**

**Conception Bay South, Newfoundland**

February 27, 2022

[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: jotienoel@gmail.com

Cell: (709) 325-2366



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

**and in Loving Memory of:**

**Louis Walters**

**By**

**Maud & 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**

****Welcome to all who are joining us for worship this morning – in person and online, as we come together to praise and worship God. We hope this service will be a blessing to you. We offer the invitation for you to join our wide and varied parish family life – worship, fellowship, nurturing or mission.**

On the first Sunday of Lent we always reflect on the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness. Jesus cannot begin his ministry without being jumped by Satan. Up to this point in Luke’s Gospel, Jesus has not said or done much.

All he has done is to be baptized in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. Satan offers Jesus three tempting alternatives. Now the first thing I want you to note is that the temptations Satan throws in the way of Jesus are not just any sort of temptations to sin. These are not temptations to take some money out of the company till, nor is Jesus tempted by some sin of the flesh: a see-through negligée or a romantic encounter in some darkened bar or some illegal chemical substance. The temptations that the devil offers are very particular temptations - “If you are God’s Son,” that is, if you are the one whom the voice at your baptism said you are, then . . .

Last Sunday, on the Mount of Transfiguration, we heard a voice similar to the voice we heard at Jesus’ baptism. “You are my Son.” Jesus is proclaimed, by the heavenly voice, as God’s Son.

But just because the voice has spoken, that doesn’t settle the matter as far as the devil is concerned. Now Satan says, “If you are God’s Son, let’s see you act like it!” Give us some solid evidence that you are who the heavenly voice said you are. We need facts. We need proof.

You are here not here this morning on the basis of undeniable, hard-and-fast evidence. you are here on the basis of your experience, your sense that what Luke says about Jesus is truthful, that the mysterious, inexplicable voice at Jesus’ baptism was telling the truth about God.

I remind you that Luke says Satan slinked away until a more opportune time, and we do hear the words of Satan again in the story of Jesus. We will hear them again at the end of these forty days of Lent. We will hear these words not out in the wilderness but on Golgotha. “If you are God’s Son,” the crowd said, “then act like it. Throw yourself down from the cross.” Surely that will be undeniable, certifiable proof that you really are God’s Son. But Jesus doesn’t submit to our demand for certainty. He just hangs there in agony. He looks down from the cross and says, “Sisters and brothers, I love you still.”

Here’s a question implied in today’s Gospel: Can you love and serve God without absolute certainty? Are you able to bet your life as a matter of trust rather than as a matter of certainty, of having received an absolute knockdown argument or undeniable proof ? I bet you can. I expect that many of you here this morning have done just that. You are here this morning, praying with God, listing to God, singing songs to God, listening for God’s word on the basis of trust, with nothing more substantial to stand on than your experience of mere love.

 Reverend Jotie, tssf

**Tri-Diocesan Intercessions**

**Parish of Catalina**

Rector – The Rev. Eli Cross

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

Rector- The Ven. Roger Whelan

Vicar Missional- The Rev. Khaliah Kinkead

**People who are sick who have asked us to pray for them**

Michael C., Eleanor M., Fred T., Hilda S., Dave G., Curtis L.

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

**The ACW sends a sincere thank you to everyone, who helped in any way to our Shrove Tuesday Takeout Supper! It was a very successful event and your support is greatly appreciated!**

**Calendar**

Wednesday, March 9, Mid-Week Lenten Service, 7:00 p.m. *Sensing The Passion – ‘Seeing is Believing’*

Sunday, March 13, Second Sunday in Lent, 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Annual Meeting**

In preparation for our upcoming Annual Meeting we want to give notice that according to our Diocesan Constitution and the practice in this Parish all positions are vacant, except for three:

Treasurer, Philip Gavel

Elected Members, Tracey Carter and John Hillier.

Please take time to discern, the prayerfully consider, offering yourself for a position on Vestry. Rather than cherish Parish Family Business in the context of wisdom and good humour once a year at the Annual Meeting, you can experience the joy monthly at one of our Vestry Meetings.

**Reminder!!**

**Please ensure your envelope number is written on all financial correspondence!**

***Sensing The Passion***

This year our Mid-Week Lenten Series, Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., **Sensing the Passion**, is based on a publication by Kevin Scully with the same title. Scully’s work explores the sentient reaction from reflecting on the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ asking:

Did You SEE That?

What CAN WE Hear?

What is THAT Smell?

How Does THAT Feel?

What is THAT Taste?

Humanity, personhood, is the whole being. Senses contribute to it but they do not constitute it. Yet death, at the end of physical life, is pronounced when the senses stop. Dead people hear nothing, see nothing, feel nothing, taste nothing, smell nothing.

The importance of the senses in the Passion of Jesus is vital. They link us to him. His experiences were complete human experiences. His senses were complete human senses. His sight, hearing, touch, taste and sense of smell were like our sight, hearing, touch, taste and sense of smell.

We know the transformation of his suffering lies in the resurrection. We know we share the human nature of the Word made flesh. While Jesus was wholly God, he was also wholly human. And it is his humanity, his movement from life to death, from sense to non-sense, which these meditations celebrate. The other amazing part of the story, of humanity becoming divine, is something we must await with faith and hope.

**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.

**Years’ Mind Calendar**

A strong and wel**l-**established focus in the Christian faith community is memory, especially the memory of our departed loved ones. To this end we are initiating a Years’ Mind Calendar where we will record the death of our departed parishioners on a calendar and remember them annually on the anniversary of their death for five years. After that period, names will be remembered as requested.