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| ***Worship Calendar***  **Wednesday, February 21, Wednesday in Lent,**  7:00 p.m. Compline (Reckless Prayer – Daily Devotions)  **Sunday, February 25, Second Sunday in Lent**  10:30 a.m. (Purple) Holy Eucharist  **Wednesday, February 28th**  7:00 p.m. Compline (Reckless Prayer – Daily Devotions)  **Sunday, March 3rd h, Third Sunday in Lent**  10:30 a.m. – (Purple) Family Service  followed by a Cup O’ Tea in the Parish Hall |

**2024 Envelopes -** If you need a new box of envelopes for 2024, please contact the parish office by email [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net) or call 709-834-2336. We also have the option of Pre-Authorized payment or e-transfer. To learn more about these options please call the Parish Office.

**A Note from the Treasurer:** Please ensure your **envelope number is on** all financial **correspondence** so that we can credit your account for income tax purposes.

**Parish Office hours are Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**2024 Bulletins -** If you’d like to give a weekly bulletin to commemorate the life of a loved one or in Thanksgiving for an event in your life, please contact David in the office for the dates available.

**Parish E-mail List** – We have begun e-mailing the Sunday Bulletin on the previous Thursday and will be sending other information of Parish Life from time to time. If you would like to add your name to this Parish List, please call the Office or email us at [**sjtetopsail@nfld.net**](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net)

***Service Roster:*** Sidespersons Sound Room

February 25th Rex H. Philip G.

March 3rd Betty P. Robert D

March 10th Gail T. Andrew B.

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| Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose  Diocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene Taylor  Rector: The Reverend Canon Josiah “Jotie” Noel, T.S.S.F.(Third Order, Society of St. Francis)  Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa Cox  Organists/Choir Director: Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-Ledwell  Parish Wardens: Rex Hillier & Leanne Squire  Office Administrator: David Kelland |

**Welcome to the**

**Parish of St. John The Evangelist**

**Conception Bay South, Newfoundland**

**February 18, 2024**



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

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

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

Office phone number: 709-834-2336

Address: P.O. Box 13033, CBS, NL, A1W 2K1

E-transfer: sjtetopsail@nfld.net

Rector Email: jotienoel@gmail.com

Rector’s Cell: 709-325-2366

**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**

**Falling Into Lent**

“Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

Almighty God, from the dust of the earth you have created us. May the memory of ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Dear friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery.

We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We continue our journey to Easter first recalling the sign of ashes, an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole.

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.

*Almighty and holy God,*

*your Son, in obedience to the Spirit,*

*fasted forty days in the desert:*

*give us grace to discipline ourselves,*

*so that we may press on towards Easter*

*with eager faith and love;*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord,*

*who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,*

*one God, now and for ever. Amen. (ACC)*

**We invite prayers for those who are sick -** Patricia B., Elaine M., Benjamin C., Doug T., Tammy H., Jeanette P., Wally H., Trudy T., Brad L., Ruby H.

**Set Sail - Life on Board** - A Bible Study Series based on suggested Lessons for Season of Creation 2023, “Let Peace and Justice Flow Down like a River,” will take place on Wednesday morning, **February 21**, at 10:30 a.m. Join us for an hour of conversation and discernment.

**The Laying on of Hands** – In preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, **Sunday, May 26,** **2024**, 10:30 a.m. we plan to start Confirmation Classes in late January. Confirmation Candidates should currently be in Grade 6 or older. Please contact the Church Office to register or for more information (709-834-2336 or [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net)).

We are ready, willing and able to prepare adults for Confirmation if you may be interested. Please contact Reverend Jotie for details.

**Thank you! -** The ACW sends a sincere thank you to all who supported our Shrove Tuesday Supper. A lovely evening meal enjoyed with our parish family and friends!

**Lent is Coming - The Discipline of Reckless Prayer**

The word **reckless** refers to a person or their action without thinking or caring about the consequences of an action. If we say that someone is **reckless**, we mean that they act in a way which shows that they do not care about danger or the effect their behavior will have on themselves or other people. Well indeed, you might ask **what this has to do with prayer?**

It is a good question. Many of us in our faith community pray using the prayers and forms set out in Anglican Books of Prayer, much like we do on Sunday when the community gathers. These prescribed and approved Orders of Service and Prayers keep us within a boundary and direct exactly what we say, think and believe.

**Reckless Prayer** references stepping outside these boundaries of words and form into a wilderness, an unfamiliar borderland. We seek to encounter the *“holy”* without the walls of prescribed words or actions. We seek to listen, to hear, to know, completely on our own without the filters (approved forms and words). Without the safety net of the censoring norms of the faith community we dare to bask in the presence of *‘the source of our being, the eternal word and the Holy Spirit’.*

**Our Mid-Week Lenten Observance, Wednesdays in Lent, 7:00 p.m.:**

Wednesday, February 21 – ***Turning from Ashes to Reckless Prayer***

Wednesday, February 28 – ***Reckless Prayer through Daily Devotions***

Wednesday, March 6 – ***Reckless Prayer through Lectio Divina (Reading the Bible)***

Wednesday, March 13 – ***Reckless Prayer through The Jesus Prayer***

Wednesday, March 20 – ***Reckless Prayer through Beathing***

Wednesday, March 27 – ***Reckless prayer Through Silence***