

Dear Fellow Followers of Christ:

It is my prayer for you that you are finding this Lent to be a time of reflection, prayer, and gaining a deeper understanding of God's call in your life. This Lent, our theme is *Hunger: Physical, Spiritual, and Mental*. We began Lent with our guest preacher, Jill Oettinger, Executive Director of Good Samaritan Community Services. She woke us up to God's call to serve one another in our community and throughout the world.

We will listen for this call to serve each Tuesday evening, at the home of Ashley Jackson, while we are study what scripture has to say about hunger. We are using a study guide put together by The Society of St. Andrew. This faith-based, nonprofit works to combat hunger in our nation by using food resources that would otherwise go to waste.

On March 9, we will go to the Witte Museum at 6:30 pm (meeting at I-Hop across the street at 5:30) to experience the photography exhibit, *Hunger*. We will return again on Sunday, March 28, when the photographer will be present to answer questions and walk through the exhibit with us. I recommend going both times, the first to walk through on your own and the second time to be guided. Hearing the stories of these individuals will awaken you as to how close each of us can be to experiencing hunger. Please email me or sign up in church for both of these visits to the Witte.

As part of our Lenten discipline, we have also "given up Rite II Holy Eucharist" to experience the more penitential nature of Rite I and to awaken another of the rich liturgies in the Book of Common Prayer. We also began Lent with the Great Litany, which is a series of prayers for the world, God's Church, and ourselves.

I am very grateful to Alfredo Castillo for all the work he did organizing volunteers for the Holy Spirit Lenten Devotional. The entire devotional can be found on our website or you can pick up your copy in church. This devotional is a wonderful collection of the thoughts, prayers and artistic expressions from every generation of our congregation. This theme of this devotional is Hunger.

Because we are spending our time in Lent focusing on Hunger, we will spend Easter doing something about it. Listen for announcements in church and watch your emails about how we will continue our conversation about hunger by serving together in the community. To learn more about hunger in our community, you can go to the Food Bank of San Antonio's website where there is a wealth of information about food, hunger, and health.

As always, it is a pleasure to serve Christ and his Church with each of you. Thank you for your dedication to this congregation and serving the world that God has created.

Praying for a Holy Lent,  
Jason