

Calling all Youth or Tech-Savvy Young at Heart

Practicing the Art of Noticing:

Observing Lent through your cellphone

Lent calls us into closeness with God as we walk the Lenten Path toward Easter. Tradition calls us to give something up or take on something. The Start Something Old Challenge issued by Father Wiley has many ideas to consider adding to your Lenten reflection. One of his suggestions is:

Practice the Art of Noticing

In the world of cellphones, our cameras are always with us, why not use them as part of a Lenten devotion? On the attached page, you will find a new word or phrase, usually taken from the daily office that is your prompt for the day. Using your own interpretation of the meaning of the word or phrase, take a picture and send it to ann@redeemerjax.org. We will post some of the photos on Facebook and display all the photos together at Easter.

Anyone may participate, but we especially encourage our youth to observe Lent through the lens of the camera.

Take a photo and let us know who you are, the date and the prompt. Try to take a photo all 40 days, but even if you miss a day (or four) you can still participate.

How it works:

1. Read the daily prompt and think about what it means to YOU. There are NO wrong answers
2. Take a photo, and send it to ann@redeemerjax.org. Remember to tag the photo with your name, the prompt and the date.
3. Now it goes without saying so we'll say it anyway—Do not put yourself or others in unsafe or embarrassing situations. Respect others and ask permission if you would like to take a picture of a friend, adult or child. (You might want to let them know what you're doing)
4. Editing is allowed in moderation. Cropping, adding filters or adjusting color, yes. Adding something to the photo that was not in the original shot, no.
5. Try to focus on the word or phrase of the day—no skipping ahead.
6. But if you forget or don't have time to send in your photo every day, you can send in several at one time.

So, clean off your camera lens and start clickin'!

A few examples to get you started:



Name/purple/date



Name/return/date



Name/family/date



Name/walk/date

Lenten Photo Challenge 2017

March 1: Ash Wednesday—take a picture of ashes

Th, March 2: In today's Gospel reading John speaks when he baptized Jesus the Holy Spirit descended on him in the form of a dove. Take a picture of something associated with baptism (John 1:29-34)

Fri, March 3: What are you letting go of?

Sat, March 4: What are you taking on?

Wk 1 Lent Sun, March 5: The church is dressed in Purple which is a sign of penitence and royalty. Take a picture of the something Purple

Mon, March 6: Today, Jesus performs his first miracle, turning water into wine at a marriage in Cana. Water was put into the jugs and when the water was drawn out it had been transformed into wine. Take a picture of something that changes or transforms into something else. (John 2:1-12)

Tu, March 7: Jesus drives the money changers out of the temple. Take a picture of what you think about when you think about money. (John 2:13-22)

Wed, March 8: Jesus tells Nicodemus, 'you must be born anew', the wind blows where it wills and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes, so it is with every one born of the Spirit'. Take a picture of the wind. (John 2:23-3:5)

Th, March 9: In the Gospel reading today, 'that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light. . ." Take a picture of darkness (John 3:16-21)

Fri, March 10: John the Baptizer speaks to his disciples saying, "I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him." John is delivers the message to prepare for Jesus' arrival. Take a picture of a messenger. (John 3:22-36)

Sat, March 11: Today Jesus meets a woman at the well and talks to her about drinking living water and never being thirsty again. Take a picture of something associated with thirst. (John 4:1-26)

Wk 2 Lent Sun, March 12: The Parable of the Sower is part of the Gospel lesson today in which Jesus talks about what happens to seeds as they land in different areas, the path, rocky ground, thorns or good ground. When the seed falls on thorns it is choked out by the cares of the world. Take a photo of thorns in your life, or things that distract. (Mark 3:31-4:9)

Mon, March 13: Today Jesus compares people to fields of grain, "look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting." Take a picture of growth, something ripe or ready to be harvested. (John 4:27-42)

Tu, March 14: Jesus heals the son of an official in the town of Capernaum. Take a picture of something healed or in the process of healing. (John 4:43-54)

Wed, March 15: Take a picture of something that makes you think about God.

Th, March 16: Take a photo of something or someone you love.

Fri, March 17: Jesus speaks of John who spoke of His coming and of Moses who wrote of Him. Take a picture of signs (good or bad) that tell us of something ahead. (John 5:30-47)

Sat, March 18: Today in the Gospel reading, Jesus sends his disciples into Judea without Him. There is much controversy surrounding Him, some say he is a good man and others think he is leading people astray. Take a picture of something that divides or causes division. (John 7:1-13)

Wk 3 Lent Sun, March 19: The Gospel reading today is about a man possessed by demons, and chains could not hold him. Take a picture of a chain, or things that bind. (Mark 5:1-20)

Mon, March 20: Jesus speaks with authority and knowledge to the Jews in the temple. The people there argue amongst themselves about Jesus' identity. "When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?" They are caught up in details. Take a picture of a small thing or a 'detail' that makes a big impact. (John 7:14-36)

Tu, March 21: Take a picture of something that brings you Joy

Wed, March 22: Jesus speaks in today's gospel about his relationship to His Father in Heaven. Take a picture of something that signifies relationship or being related, or someone you're related to. (John 8:12-20)

Th, March 23: In today's gospel the Pharisees continue to misunderstand Jesus, who he is, why he is there and they become angry. Take a picture of something that angers or frustrates you. (John 8:21-32)

Fri, March 24: Jesus reminds the Jews in the temple of their heritage through Abraham, but no one understands him. They take him literally and do not reflect on the meaning of his words. Take a picture of reflection. (John 8:33-47)

Sat, March 25: In today's Gospel reading Jesus says things that upsets people and they throw stones at him. *Take a picture of stones or something that hurts people* (John 8:47-59)

Wk 4 Lent Sun, March 26: Today Jesus warns his disciples to "beware of the leaven of the Pharisees," which is a warning of the evil or corruptive influence of this religious/political party and the disciples misunderstand and think Jesus is talking about bread. *Take a picture of something messy, confusing, chaotic.* (Mark 8:11-21)

Mon, March 27: "The Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes". A multitude gathers around Jesus to hear him and Jesus feeds them with just five barley loaves and two fish. Everyone eats and is satisfied. *Take a picture of something that is more than enough.* (John 6:1-15)

Tu, March 28: The disciples are in a boat crossing the sea and a great wind blew up and the disciples struggled to get the boat to the shore. They are frightened when they see Jesus walking on the water. *Take a picture of a storm or the storms in your life.* (John 6:16-27)

Wed, March 29: In the gospel of John Jesus declares himself "I am the Bread of Life". *Take a picture of bread.* (John 6:27-40)

Th, March 30: Jesus mentions God providing 'Manna in the Wilderness' for the Hebrews who were lost and wandering in the desert with Moses. *Take a picture of someone or something comforting.* (John 6:41-51)

Fri, March 31: In today's gospel Jesus talks about what we know as the Eucharist, the body and blood of Jesus. *Take a picture of something that reminds you of the Eucharist.* (John 6:52-59)

Sat, April 1: Jesus reveals that one of his own disciples is lost to him and will eventually betray him. *Take a picture of something lost or that we lose often.* (John 6:60-71)

Wk 5 Lent Sun, April 2: In today's gospel while Jesus is trying to explain about his impending death, Peter rebukes him and Jesus says, "Get Behind me Satan! For you are not on the side of God, but of men." Peter doesn't realize that Christ's crucifixion is part of God's plan. *Take a picture of something in your life that seemed wrong or bad at first but eventually became a blessing.* (Mark 8:31-9:1)

Mon, April 3: When Jesus heals a man of his blindness, the church leaders cannot see the miracle, but instead focus on Jesus violating Church Law. *Take a picture of something that gets in the way of doing the work of Jesus.* (John 9:11-17)

Tu, April 4: In today's gospel, the man whose sight was restored, tells the Pharisees that he believes that the man who opened his eyes is from God. They dismiss him: "you were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" Take a picture of something or someone that is an unlikely teacher. (John 9:18-41)

Wed, April 5: Jesus speaks of himself as the good shepherd, taking care of his sheep— "I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me," Take a picture of someone that knows you well. (John 10:1-18)

Th, April 6: Today in the gospel Jesus angers the Pharisees because of his words and his works. They don't believe that He is the Son of God. Take a picture of something that you misjudged, or misunderstood. (John 10:19-42)

Fri, April 7: When Jesus arrives in Bethany, Lazarus, the brother of his friends Mary and Martha, has died. Everyone is weeping and consoling the sisters. Take a picture of something or someone sad. (John 11:27)

Sat, April 8: Jesus performs a miracle by raising Lazarus from the dead. Take a picture of something that seems miraculous to you. (John 11:28-44)

Holy Week, April 9: Palm Sunday: Show us your palms!

Mon, April 10: Take a picture of someone doing God's work or being the hands and feet of Jesus.

Tu, April 11: Today Jesus speaks of a seed dying and bearing much fruit! Take a picture of someone bearing much fruit in their life. (John 12:20-26)

April 12: Jesus who is about to be arrested compares himself to light and he tells his disciples "The Light is with you for little longer. Walk while you have the light, lest the darkness overtake you:" Take a picture of light. (John 12:27-36)

Maundy Thursday: Tonight is the Maundy Thursday Service which traditionally includes the washing of feet, mirroring Jesus washing his disciples' feet after the Last Supper. Take a picture of things associated with washing or cleaning.

Good Friday: On Good Friday Jesus died on the cross. Take a picture of a cross

Holy Saturday: Holy Saturday is a day preparing for the Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday. Take a picture of preparing for Easter

Easter Sunday: Take a picture of something resurrected/reborn or something white.