

With Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed

Join the Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) in feeding our hungry brothers and sisters as you feed your spirit during the Lenten season, *With Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed*. This devotional booklet contains daily scripture readings, reflections, and prayers written for SoSA for 2017 by more than 40 people of faith, laypersons, missionaries, and pastors, across the United States and beyond. Set aside a few minutes each day from Ash Wednesday (March 1) to Easter (April 16) as a spiritual discipline, to focus throughout the season on your own needs for forgiveness and renewal.

As part of your Lenten spiritual discipline, commit to making a financial contribution to the Society of St. Andrew. Perhaps you will set aside your pocket change every day at day's end. You might give an amount equivalent to what you spend for fresh fruits and vegetables each week, or a few cents per meal. Some families even choose to tithe their food budget throughout the season. Your gift, in any amount, will provide healthy food to hungry people, at a cost of just over 2¢ per serving.

Promote Society of St. Andrew's Lenten Devotions and Giving Program Within Your Congregation

Order one booklet for each participating household. Paper-saving alternatives include daily e-devotions (emailed devotions) and e-books, available at EndHunger.org/Lent.

Request free coin banks for each household, if you wish to use them. (By ordering only the quantity of materials you need, you will help keep SoSA's overhead low and ensure that your congregation's gifts go directly to putting nutritious food on the tables of those who need it most!)

Use the bulletin insert sheet and weekly announcements (enclosed) to keep the Devotions and Giving Program in front of your congregation throughout the weeks of Lent.

Use the pew envelopes, inserted with each bulletin (enclosed) to allow your congregation to put their donation to the Society of St. Andrew in the envelope and put it in the offering plate. Your church could then send those checks and envelopes to SoSA.

Put a "stamp of approval" on the program by seeking the support of your pastor, missions committee, and church board. Encourage your pastor to participate personally and to be "front and center" recommending the program to the congregation.

Receive gifts generated through SoSA's Lenten Devotions and Giving Program on Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday, or the Sunday following Easter. Send a single check for the total amount contributed, made out to Society of St. Andrew, to the address below, noting "Lenten offerings" on the memo line.

Good Friday Fast

Many congregations, house churches, and small groups wish to add an additional spiritual discipline during Holy Week by participating in a **Good Friday Fast**. SoSA makes available a booklet of reflections and prayers to accompany a 24-48 hour period of purposeful abstinence from food between Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. The physical hunger participants experience during their fast is a powerful reminder of the 45 million Americans and nearly 1 billion people throughout the world who live with hunger daily.

Order one copy of the Good Friday Fast booklet, *Joy Comes with the Morning*, for each participating household.

Society of St. Andrew

GLEANNING AMERICA'S FIELDS ~ FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY

Newsletter / Social Media / Bulletin Announcements

Society of St. Andrew Lenten Devotions & Giving Program

Ash Wednesday, March 1—The ashes placed on our foreheads this day remind us that our lives are brief, and that all we are and all we have come from God, our Creator. Begin your Lenten time of daily reading, reflection, prayer, and giving today by using *With Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed*, the devotional booklet prepared for you by the Society of St. Andrew, a nationwide ministry focused on feeding spiritual and physical hunger.

Sunday, March 5. Today's culture, influenced by media, wants to create false standards of perfection. In today's devotional "It Can All Be Yours" you can reflect on God's vision of you, and rest in the plans he has made for you. Continue your Lenten time of daily reading, reflection, prayer, and giving, using *With Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed*, the devotional booklet prepared for your use by the Society of St. Andrew.

Sunday, March 12. Stepping into a holy moment? In *With Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed*, our Lenten devotional booklet from Society of St. Andrew, today's writer asks us to view our daily paths with new eyes. Are we walking on regular ground or Holy Ground?

Sunday, March 19. *With Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed*, today's devotion shows the desperation of unquenched thirst. The Society of St. Andrew, challenges us to remember our desperate 45 million children and adults here in the United States who struggle to put enough food on the table each day. Does your daily spiritual focus this season include giving? Every quarter you set aside for Society of St. Andrew will put ten servings of healthy food on the plates of those who need it most.

Sunday, March 26. Are there invisible people around you? Are you invisible to someone else? Today's devotional writer in *With Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed*, our Lenten devotional booklet from Society of St. Andrew, asks us to take a new look at people – to see and to value each one as God does. Are there invisible hungry brothers and sisters in your neighborhoods? Consider giving today to the Society of St. Andrew, a nationwide ministry focused on feeding spiritual and physical hunger. Every \$1 provides 50 servings of nutritious, fresh food to the hungry!

Sunday, April 2. All tied up? All around us are people bound by poverty and hunger. Today's devotional asks us to think about the story of Lazarus in a new light. In 2016, the Society of St. Andrew mobilized more than 30,000 volunteers to glean (pick, dig, or gather) and bag fresh fruits and vegetables to feed hungry people across the United States, sharing more than 80 million servings of nourishing food. During your devotional time this week, take time to pray for all who work to see that our brothers and sisters in the United States and around the world have enough to eat.

Palm Sunday, April 9. Same-ol, same-ol? Maybe just revise our viewpoint. Put yourself in the different characters found in the story of Jesus coming into Jerusalem on a donkey. As you read and pray through this week's devotions in *With Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed*, think about this week's journey from joy, through the abyss, to New Life. Picture yourself as a character in the story of hunger, as you plan your **Good Friday Fast**. Remember those, for whom hunger is not a "fast", but a daily reality. Your gifts to the Society of St. Andrew will help fight the battle with hunger.

Easter Sunday, April 16. Have you ever been so happy that it scared you? Read about some women who felt just this way – puzzled, frightened, but so happy! Not only have they seen an angel, experienced an earthquake, but also they have seen the resurrected Jesus! This is truly a day to rejoice and celebrate! As you make your financial gift for Society of St. Andrew that you have set aside during the Lenten season, do not let your spiritual discipline come to an end. Plan now to continue a daily time of prayer, scripture reading, and faith-growing throughout the year.