Renewed By Living Water

Join the Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) in feeding our hungry brothers and sisters as you feed your spirit during the Lenten season with *Renewed by Living Water*. This devotional booklet contains daily scripture readings, reflections, and prayers written for SoSA for 2020 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 (February 26) to Easter (April 12) as a spiritual discipline, to focus throughout Lent on your own season of life and be Renewed by Living Water.

This would be a perfect time, as part of your Lenten spiritual discipline, to commit to making a financial contribution to SoSA. Perhaps you will consider $1 a day, or 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 a healthy meal to hungry people, at a cost of just over 15¢ per meal.

**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 (emailled 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 abstention from food between Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. The physical hunger participants experience during their fast is a powerful reminder of the 42 million Americans and nearly 1 billion people throughout the world who live with hunger daily.

Order one copy of the Good Friday Fast booklet for each participating household.
Ash Wednesday, February 26 — 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 *Renewed by Living Water*, the devotional booklet prepared for you by the Society of St. Andrew, a nationwide ministry focused on feeding spiritual and physical hungers.

Sunday, March 1. Today’s culture is diverse for sure! Sharing the good news can be difficult at times. In today’s devotional *Birds of a Feather*, you will see that all of us need Living Water and are called to share it. Continue your Lenten time of daily reading, reflection, prayer, and giving, using *Renewed by Living Water*, the devotional booklet prepared for your use by the Society of St. Andrew.

Sunday, March 8. “He restores my soul!” In *Renewed by Living Water*, our Lenten devotional booklet from Society of St. Andrew, today’s writer of *Water, Water Everywhere* talks about the nourishment brought by fellow Christians in times of disaster. It is a disaster for our brothers and sisters to be hungry and thirsty! Your care for them, through a donation of any amount to the Society of St. Andrew, helps fill those broken hearts with hope, and a nutritious meal.

Sunday, March 15. In *Renewed by Living Water*, today’s devotion *Where is Our Oasis?* is about discovering newfound freedoms then feeling lonely and alone. The Society of St. Andrew, challenges us to remember our desperate 42 million children and adults here in the United States who are alone and suffer from hunger, and struggle to put enough food on the table each day. Does your daily spiritual focus this season include giving? Every $3.00 you set aside for Society of St. Andrew will put 20 meals of healthy food on the plates of those who need it most, giving both you and them, a blessing!

Sunday, March 22. Today’s devotional writer in Society of St. Andrew’s Lenten devotional booklet, *Renewed by Living Water*, writes *Oh, This is Bad*, and speaks about fear and waiting. What are we supposed to be doing while we wait? Pray! Consider praying and giving today to the Society of St. Andrew, a nationwide ministry focused on caring for actual physical hunger. Every $3 provides 20 meals of nutritious, fresh food for the hungry!

Sunday, March 29. We have many childhood memories that we carry into adulthood. *Riptides*, today’s devotional in *Renewed by Living Water*, tells of childhood experiences regarding safety. As an adult, where do you find your safety? You can provide safety and security to our hungry brothers, sisters and children by your donations of any amount to the Society of St. Andrew. During your devotional time this week, ask God to remind us to not grow weary in doing what is right – helping brothers and sisters in the United States and around the world have enough to eat.

Palm Sunday, April 5. As you read and pray through this week’s devotions in *Renewed by Living Water*, think of Baptism and all it involves. You are being baptized and welcomed into the Body of Christ, the family of Christ. You, yourself, are a part of the family at the Society of St. Andrew. Your gifts are supporting hungry families, children and adults, who suffer hunger day after day! Remember those families for whom hunger is not yet conquered, but still a daily reality. Your gifts to the Society of St. Andrew will help fight their battle with hunger.

Easter Sunday, April 12. Jesus is alive! Let’s celebrate with an Easter feast! Today’s devotional, *A New Thing*, describes a sweet potato farmer who provides not only sweet potatoes but Living Water! Among the first events following our Lord’s resurrection, was a time of eating or feasting with his disciples. Regular meals or feasts, for many, are normal, but for other hungry neighbors, there are no meals, much less a feast! You can help provide food by your generous donations that put real food on real plates, and fill real stomachs! Please help make regular meals and an Easter feast possible for our hungry neighbors!
Renewed by Living Water
Litany of Dedication

Use on Maundy Thursday (April 9), Easter (April 12), or the date designated by your church
to receive gifts made by members or friends of the congregation through
“Renewed by Living Water” Lenten devotions and giving program of the
Society of St. Andrew.

Leader: Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, the past is gone, and new life is ours through your grace and mercy. Accept these gifts we bring to share life and hope and food with your hungry children.

People: We thank you for the good gifts that you have given us to share with all people.

Leader: We pray for those who struggle to make ends meet, for those who wonder where their next meal is coming from, and for every young child who does not have enough to eat.

People: Lord, hear our prayer. Guide our congregation to care for those in need.

Leader: We pray for those whose spirits are hungry this day, for those who feel far from you, and for those who do not know your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer. Feed our spirits, and help us share your love with others.

All: God of abundant love and infinite mercy, hear our prayer. Multiply our gifts to feed those hungry for food and those hungry for you. Help us share your joy and love in this broken, hurting, and fearful world. In the name of Jesus, our Risen Savior, we pray. Amen.