

Lenten Mission

Dear St. James Parishioner:

We begin the Lenten season with the theme "It is in giving that we receive." This theme was taken from the beautiful Prayer of St. Francis that you may have heard sung at church. St.

Francis asked God to make him an instrument of peace so that love could prevail over hatred, so that joy could win over our sadness, and so that light could cast away all darkness. Like us, Francis lived in a time when there was need for peace, and he chose to do something about it. Likewise, we want to do the same during this Lenten season.

Our Lenten Mission collection will continue through Holy Week with proceeds going to the Heifer International Project. Heifer Project goes where invited and works with partner organizations. Communities determine what they need and form a plan for achieving their goals. For over half a century, Heifer International has provided livestock and training to more than four million families around the world. Last year, Heifer helped over 30,000 families in 46 countries. Heifer helps hungry people feed themselves, earn income, and care for their environment. For more information, you can go to www.heifer.org to learn more about this organization.

We encourage everyone to contribute to the Lenten Mission throughout the season. You may use the attached envelope and drop in the collection basket at Mass. Checks can be made to St. James with a memo to Heifer International. Our goal is to once again purchase a Heifer for \$500.

May the spirit of St. Francis transform our church during this Lenten season so that we may truly become the instruments of God's peace.

Thanks,
St. James Social Concerns Committee

