



Five Loaves. Two Small Fish. Enough for a Multitude.

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Sing Baker – Travels with the Holy Spirit

When I was a little girl, the liturgy in my family's church referred to the three aspects of the Trinity as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Now, I could wrap my mind around the first two, but that last one, the Holy Ghost, was a bit of a struggle. As a child heavily influenced by popular culture and my older brother and sister, I had a limited set of references from which to draw. One was the campfire story, told by said brother and sister, of apparitions of headless British queens "summoned" by repeating phrases in front of a mirror. The other was my favorite cartoon, Caspar the Friendly Ghost. Given the alternative (really? Bloody Mary?), I began to equate the Holy Ghost with Caspar, although I couldn't quite figure out why the righteous God the Father of The Ten Commandments and the gracious God the Son of songs and coloring pages would pal around with a mischievous, and even to me, cheesy little ghost. Such is the way my mind worked then (and actually still does...).

So, it was with great relief that I first encountered the Holy Spirit in our current liturgy. For me, the Holy Spirit now represents the ethereal, luminous nature of God, the "Lord and Giver of Life", who Jesus sent to help and support us as we share the Good News. If Christ is Emanuel, God with Us, the Holy Spirit is God in Us, the embodiment of love that connects us to God and each other. So, Caspar kind of pales (so to speak) in comparison, no matter how friendly he may be.

We see the handiwork of the Holy Spirit when we recognize the unique gifts we each offer our community. May's "cover girl", Sing Baker, is an accomplished artist, photographer, intercessor,

lector, world traveler, and dancing partner (more on that later). Though Sing is probably best known as the curator and resident artist of the parish hall "Loo Gallery", she is actively involved in many groups at St. Andrew's. Sing has served as Clerk of the Vestry, worked at the Food Pantry, organized adult and children's art shows, and is currently a second year student of EfM, the co-chair of Art and Soul, a compelling lector and intercessor, and a cherished member of the Women's Spiritual Formation group.



We hear the Holy Spirit's voice calling to us when we share our stories and examine the patterns in our lives. Sing began her journey with the legacy of her name, which is shared by several members of her family; Sing is short for the Swedish name Singhild. Sing grew up in Pasadena, the only child of a solid Scandinavian Lutheran stock. She remembers her mother telling her that she had "to do something to help others"; giving back was an expected part of her social responsibility.

After graduating with a degree in psychology and sociology from Pacific Lutheran College in Tacoma, the 22-year-old social Sing moved back to southern California and went to work for the Welfare Department in Watts. As a social worker in that racially stratified and economically deprived area, Sing became aware, for the first time in her life, of the "tremendous inequities in our society". She had "no idea of the effects of poverty, prejudice, and discrimination in the world"; the experience was "truly a turning point" for Sing and developed her interest in social justice issues.

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Letter from the Rector: Spirituality & Social Media

My guess is that most of us have heard a parent, a teacher or some other mentor caution, "Never say never." We have no way of knowing what we might be challenged to do, what circumstances might force us to choose an action we had not anticipated, or what words we might hear that change our mind about something, so "never say never".

Yet as our society is swept up into the world of social media, I have heard more than one person state, "you will *never* find me tweeting, texting, blogging, etc.". But what if the very activity that seems so distasteful to you ends up creating an avenue into our church family for a seeker in the neighborhood?

For instance, we know, by studying the analytics section of our website, that as the number of Yelp reviews about St. Andrew's increases, the number of click-throughs to our website also increases. That might seem like a highly impersonal way to choose a church, but for many, reading an online recommendation is like asking your neighbor where they worship; plus the review can be read when it is most convenient—like after the kids have gone to bed!

Not only is social media a way for busy people to connect across the globe, but for a lot of us, social media has become an important

component of our spiritual vitality. For example, I start my day by reading an email sent to me by the Society of St. John the Evangelist. This Episcopal monastery reaches thousands of people on a daily basis with thought-provoking images and a brief inspirational message in a post called "Brother Give us a Word."

Many of us share the joys of our daily lives on Facebook, but I wonder how much our commitment to a deepening faith journey is reflected. Whether our mode of choice is Instagram, Snapchat, or Twitter, could we be using social media to nurture our own spiritual vitality, while also giving the world around us a glimpse into the peace we find in God?

Maybe some of you will begin an online gratitude journal of sorts, being explicit that it is God to whom we are grateful. I am sure the possibilities of meeting people right where they are—on their phone, on their computer, on their iPad—are endless. I look forward to hearing about your social media experiments as you try something you said you would "never" do! You can start by posting a review here: <http://www.yelp.com/biz/st-andrews-episcopal-church-encinitas>.

In Christ's joy,



Save the Date for Hidden Treasures: An Encinitas Community Art Project

Saturday, June 25, 1 – 5 p.m., Encinitas Community Center

Come hear the powerful and inspiring stories of five Hidden Treasures or "unsung heroes" in Encinitas and celebrate their gifts to our community. We will honor our Hidden Treasures with a book art portrait accompanying each of the stories created by our own Encinitas artists.

One of St Andrews' members will be honored: Anne Heyligers of our Food Pantry, whose tender personal life journey led her to weekly coordinate the feeding of seventy-plus Encinitas families in need. And William Feeney, a member of our Vestry as well as an award winning and highly respected artist in the San Diego region, is one of the artists.

Learn more at <http://www.storyartsinc.org/ht-june2016.php>

Sing Baker *continued from the front page*

Following the untimely deaths of her mother and father, Sing returned to graduate school, earning her Masters in Counseling at Cal State Long Beach. She met her future husband, Dan Baker, in Long Beach while he was a teacher and she was a rehab counselor in psychiatric hospitals. Dan and Sing had two sons, Ryan and Kyle, and moved to Redlands, as it was closer to Dan's job as a camp director for the LA school district. Sing worked as grants director for the non-profit Food for All, which was "the best job" as she "got to give away money for food relief all over the world."

It was in Redlands that Sing discovered The Episcopal Church; the minute she walked in the door, Sing "felt like she'd come home." Sing felt called to the church as "an extreme volunteer", and it was "a second family" to her for over 15 years. After Kyle graduated from high school, Sing joined Dan in Rancho Bernardo, where he was working as director of San Diego school district camps; she assumed duties as Program Director of the National Epilepsy Foundation. They joined the St. Bart's church family but then moved to Carlsbad, looking for a church closer to home but not finding the right fit. Sing "never let go" of her faith "but didn't go to church".

Then came 2006. Sing and Dan were retired for 6 months when Sing received word that Dan, "the picture of health", had been taken to Tri-City Hospital. Upon arriving, Sing learned that Dan had died of a massive heart attack. Devastated, Sing realized that, after leaving Redlands, she had no church family. Sing then discovered St. Andrew's; when she realized we had a Food Pantry program and were involved in "real community outreach, not just churchy outreach", Sing knew she'd found a new home. To Sing, St. Andrew's is a place where folks provide "support through difficult times" and "accept each other with all our strengths and weaknesses".

When not spending time with her sons, her daughter-in-law Malathi, and her granddaughter Sanjana, Sing hits the road to explore "out of the way places" and "totally different cultures". For years, Sing and Dan had a jar in which they placed spare change; it was called "Mom's Antarctica

Fund". Sing took that arctic trip, along with sojourns to India, Namibia, the Baltic States, and later this year, Labrador and Newfoundland in Canada. Sing loves to "see how the rest of the world lives", finding herself energized by different cultures. An avid photographer who doesn't see herself as artistic, Sing discovers the symmetry of God's creation in both exotic locales and everyday beauty.

We feel the warmth of the Holy Spirit's embrace when we share our hearts in grace. Debbie Hickson admires Sing's calm and thoughtful presence in our community, bearing "both her joy and sadness with grace and an inner comfort". Sing is an active listener in group discussions; she truly remains in the moment, taking in various perspectives, not just looking for a break in the conversation to fill with her own opinions. That said, Sing's contributions are always considered and balanced, based as they are on the breadth of her knowledge and experience. I eagerly anticipate hearing her read the familiar scriptures as intended, a living history of God's people. When I gaze at her photos, I'm always touched by the empathic vision suffusing Sing's work, her excitement in our shared humanity. Debbie calls Sing "a wonderful example of the iconic Wise Woman." And, judging by her participation in the Zydeco Mass on Mardi Gras, she can really cut a rug!

I once viewed the Holy Spirit as a mystifying, even ghostly, force of God's nature. The quiet kindness of Sing Baker reveals the Holy Spirit to an unquiet world, through her stories, actions, and inspirations. And the revelation continues to be Love, Love.... always Love.

~ Gigi Miller



Surprised by Joy

Coming out of my first Holy Week at St. Andrew's, I can say that I feel, like C.S. Lewis, surprised by joy. And what a pleasant feeling! The music during Holy Week reflected the best of what blended Episcopal worship is about. In this style, we can expect to hear all types of music, from the standard classical church music, to more current "toe-tappers." Hopefully there was at least one musical offering that uplifted you in your faith journey. The support from parishioners and staff helped us musicians to feel blessed as we prepared our worship

offerings. As we head into Pentecost, I am curious to see what God has in store for the music at St. Andrew's and invite you to get involved. The choir is in continual recruitment and I am



having a blast getting to know parishioners that are making music a priority in their spiritual lives. Have a blessed day, and see you on Sunday,

~ Chris Bingham, Director of Music Ministries



Do You Like to Sing?

When St. Andrew's hired Chris Bingham as our new Director of Music Ministries, and when Jim's duties as Senior Warden were

completed, we decided to join the St. Andrew's Choir. Why did we decide to join the Choir? Two reasons: to help support the new music ministry, and because we like to sing. Neither of us are trained singers, and we can barely read music, but we have voices and feel like 'singing is praying twice'.

It has been a great experience. Chris is a very talented musician, both in his own right and as a choir director. In the last three months we have learned so much, and while we still have a long way go to make the contribution we'd like to make, we get a little better each week. We enjoy the variety of traditional and more contemporary music Chris brings to us to perform. We have even gotten to liking practicing together at home. Sure, it's a bit of effort, but anything good requires some effort.

We practice on Tuesday evenings (currently) and meet at 9 each Sunday morning to rehearse. Chris and the rest of the choir understand that busy people have conflicts, and missing Tuesday practice does not mean you can't sing on Sunday. As we are learning to sing better together, we also

realize that the sound is better when more are singing together. So, if you like to sing – and that really is the only qualification – please consider joining us in the St. Andrew's Choir, and together we can bring even more to our shared worship experience.

~ Jim and Kathleen Stiven



The choir has a place waiting just for you

If you're curious, contact Chris Bingham at music@standrewsepiscopal.org or us: jstiven@roadrunner.net or kstiven@gmail.com

Senior Warden's Corner: Spiritual Vitality on our Playground

The vestry has been thinking about spiritual vitality at St. Andrew's. Spiritual vitality is hard to define, yet we know it when we feel it. I saw it at our recent Easter service in the sweet violin sounds, the beautiful flower cross created by the children, the swaying streamers and the uplifting hymns. I have seen it at our beach services when people are bundled up in blankets on a chilly Sunday morning, listening to our teen band perform and watching the sea gulls fly by.

Where have you spotted St. Andrew's' spiritual vitality? Perhaps you have felt it at the parish breakfast, which benefits our Friday lunch with joyful men cooking, serving and laughing behind the counter and generations of chatty parishioners enjoying a meal together.



Perhaps you have seen it through the children of Saint Andrew's: playing peek-a-boo with you across the pews, little hands reaching out for communion or hearing joyful noises and feeling palpable energy as we walk by the playground.

All of these things are signs of the spiritual vitality at St. Andrew's, but spiritual vitality doesn't happen on its own. I believe that spiritual vitality is God's love shining through us. It is

people who create spiritual vitality when they are moved to come together, combining good works, passions, special talents, generosity and love for one another. God moves us in these ways.

Your vestry is thinking deeply about how we can propel spiritual vitality in our community. One of our plans is to support a joint fundraiser with our wonderful preschool to pay for a new, more modern and safer playground for all our children. Our obsolete playground needs new fencing and playground equipment that complies with current standards. This project will give us the opportunity to come together with an expanded Saint Andrew's family to enhance our campus, delight our children and keep them safe. Reflect for a moment about how you can support this joyful effort with your ideas, participation or financial support. Join us in propelling spiritual vitality at Saint Andrew's.

Spiritual Vitality: Is it community and the feeling of belonging? Is it our heart strings being tugged? Is it a peaceful happy bliss? I am not sure, but I see it at Saint Andrew's and I know we will see more of it in our bright future.

~ Betsy Vaughn, Senior Warden

Sharing Your Beloved Bible

I have a Bible that my mother gave me to celebrate the day of my confirmation. She had it engraved with my name, and in the years following, I wrote a few favorite quotes inside, as well as underlined some of my favorite verses. Holding it in my hands brings back a flood of memories. I remember the early part of my journey as a disciple of Christ and I am instantly reconnected with some of the people who have walked beside me.

Bring your beloved Bible(s) and share your story with us at the "Great Conversation" on May 8 in honor of Mother's Day. The Great Conversation meets every Sunday in the Parish Hall at 10am for study, discussion and sharing.

~ Mother Brenda



Vestry Spotlight: Joe Whitaker

Each month, we will spotlight one of our vestry members. This month, meet Joe Whitaker, vestry liason for Adult Christian Formation and busy retiree.

First, the basics: family names, ages of kids, pets? Pam and I began dating in high school and married after college. Now, with 50 years of shared life experiences under our belts we can count almost twenty moves, thanks to corporate life, the Army, and personal choice. The Episcopal Church has always been part of our journey, no matter where we were. In 2000 we moved to Carlsbad. Our adult son, Jimi, lives with his family in LA. Our daughter, Sarah, lives with her family in the mountains of Colorado. We have four grandkids.

What path brought you to Saint Andrew's? Living here blesses us with choices of where we can attend and worship. We joined St. Andrew's in 2003, seeing that this parish excelled in putting faith into worldly action. But now, more than ever, we see Christ's teaching about love being lived daily in this parish family as words of welcome and acceptance.



Joe Whitaker and wife, Pam, help with the Friday Lunch

Favorite activities then include long walks, particularly along Neptune in Leucadia, planning our week ahead, getting caught up on Skype with our families.

Where did you grow up and why aren't you there now? I grew up in the north mid-west: Chicago, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Chicago and Minneapolis/St. Paul are two of the best cities in the country for lifestyle and culture. Why aren't we living there now? Come on, have you seen the weather reports up there?

Any other volunteer activities you're engaged? I judge myself a complete failure in volunteer activities in retirement. Many diverse interests, pastimes and self-imposed duties seem to always trump the weekly regimen of ongoing volunteer work.

What would be impossible for you to give up? It would be impossible for me to give up listening to classical music or the challenges of embracing new technologies. I enjoy them both. And I would miss the seeking part of spiritual life. For me that has been a lifelong endeavor through personal study.

How do you see your role in our parish community? What most excites you about Saint Andrew's and the contribution you can make? I am more of a "special assignments" contributor than a long-term, continuing-activity person. I hope that through service on the vestry I will find opportunities to serve in that way...as well as being able to offer occasional wisdom derived from experiences and gray hair.

What are you known for professionally or personally? What do you have a knack for? Results. In business, my work somehow always involved multiyear beginning-to-end projects: corporate headquarter relocations and lease negotiations, large computing system sales cycles, and real estate development. I am motivated by objectives that I can get my arms around.

Where can we find you when you're not working? What is your favorite way to spend a weekend or Sunday afternoon? Pam and I cherish our Sunday afternoons as our "special" time.

In Good Faith: Seeing the Big Picture

When I was a kid my parents often dragged me and my brother to museums. It wasn't just that they were trying to ram some culture down our throats; they were genuinely inspired by art and wanted to share that passion with their children. Much of which was lost on the two of us who whined and complained our way through centuries of magnificent works of art until we reached the great pinnacle of the museum experience: the gift shop.

But I remember being fascinated with one particular style of painting known as pointillism. That's the medium in which small distinct dots are placed in patterns that make up images. When you stand up close all you see is a bunch of dots. But as you back up, the figures and background begin to emerge. At a certain distance you can no longer even tell that there are any dots at all. They blend together to form what looks like a typical painting.

Perhaps the most famous example of pointillism is the late-19th century Georges Seurat painting titled "A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte." It hangs in the Art Institute of Chicago, a place I went to (of my own accord!) a few times when I was attending seminary in Chicago. They have a great gift shop, by the way.

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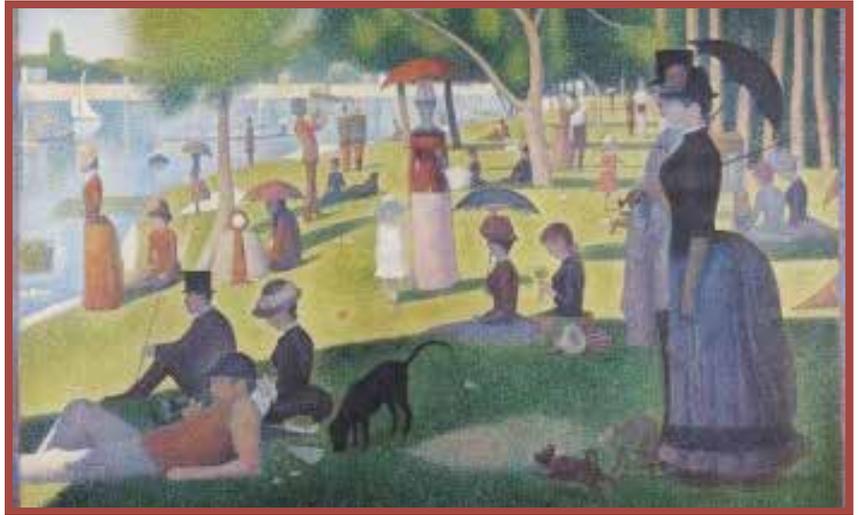
So often we focus on the dots while missing the big picture.

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I was thinking about this recently as it relates to our lives. So often we focus on the dots while missing the big picture. We get annoyed with our children for spending too much time on the Xbox rather than giving thanks for the gift of their very existence. We get frustrated with the time it takes to attend to the needs of aging parents rather than being grateful for their continued presence in our lives. We focus on doing the dishes rather than enjoying the company of our guests.

As with encountering a pointillist painting, it's important to take a step back to see the big picture of our lives, even as the details and

annoyances of the everyday continually draw us in. Otherwise we get to the end of our lives and realize we weren't really paying attention to what, in the end, matters. To paraphrase Bill Clinton's slogan on the economy, "It's about the relationships, stupid."



Much of this is about living a life of gratitude and thanksgiving. That's the posture of faith; a way of viewing life as a gift from God rather than something to endure or "get through." And it's precisely why attending to relationship with the divine makes a difference. God pulls us back, away from the dots of life, allowing us to see things in all their glorious living color. And when we let God do this, the full image of God's love for us becomes increasingly clear.

I still love museum gift shops. And while I no longer see them as sweet relief from the cruel and unusual punishment of being exposed to art, my kids sure do.

~ Tim Schenck

Tim Schenck has served as rector of the Episcopal Parish of St. John the Evangelist in Hingham, Massachusetts since 2009. The author of four books, including most recently, Father Tim's Church Survival Guide (Morehouse 2015), he also writes a syndicated monthly column titled "In Good Faith" and blogs regularly at Clergy Confidential. This post first appeared October 8, 2015 on Tim Schenck's Clergy Confidential blog and is reprinted with permission from ecfvp.org.

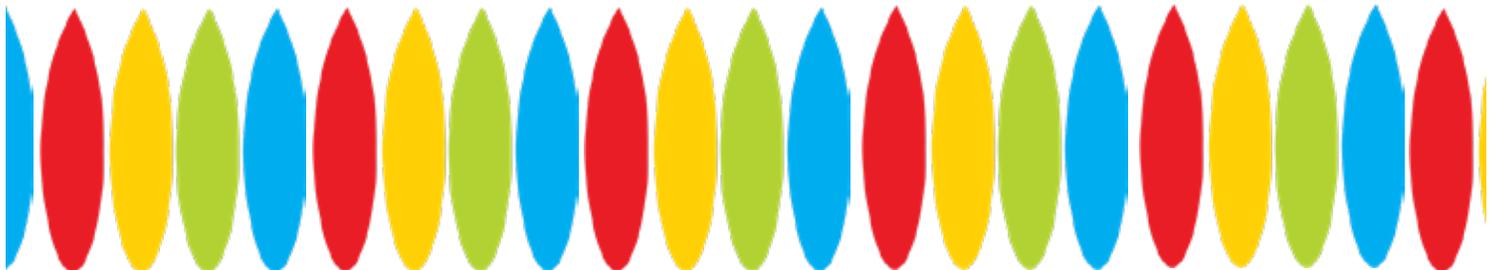


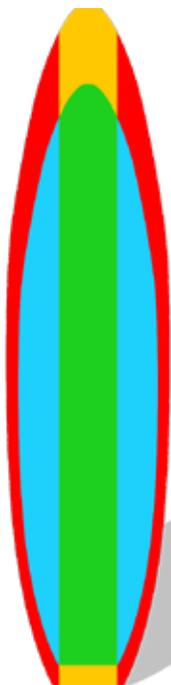
June 20-24, 9am to 12pm

Sign up now for an interactive, energizing opportunity to ride the waves with God! Surfers will explore how to serve God and experience God's amazing presence in their lives. Each day, your kids will enjoy:

- Art projects at the Craft Hut
- Interactive Bible stories at the Story Deck
- New music at Tidal Tunes
- Exciting activities at the Recreation Station
- Science activities at Discovery Dunes
- Tasty Shack Snacks

Sign up after church or on our website
at standrewsepiscopal.org/vbs





Save the Date!

SURF SHACK PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISER

WHEN? Sunday, June 5 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

WHERE? The St. Andrew's Campus

WHY? Our Playground should be as bright and shiny as our children's faces!

WHAT? Live music, silent auction, dinner, carnival games and so much more! Also, a chance to get to know some of our preschool students' families, and to let them get to know us!

HOW CAN I HELP? First, buy a ticket and attend! We also need volunteers to staff booths, to donate silent auction items, and to serve on the event committee. If you are interested in helping, contact Catherine Campbell at 760-942-8192.

Tickets will go on sale May 15. Tickets will be \$15.00 per person, with a cap of \$60.00 for a family

It Might be Time to Act

Although most of us want to put off thinking about the disposition of our remains after death, we usually know what we want to happen when that time comes. Your purchase of a niche in our columbarium will relieve your friends and family of decisions and financial concerns at a difficult time, and if you act now you'll also avoid the coming price increase. Contact Gillian Campbell at gillian@standrewsepiscopal.org for more information, to arrange a payment plan or for a tour of this lovely space.



The Columbarium Wall

12" x 12" granite faced niche of your choice
(space for 2 urns)

\$1,325.00

(Effective 09/01/16 \$1,750)

The Memorial Wall

9" x 6" granite face

325.00

(Effective 09/01/16 \$350)

(Covered in this cost is the perpetual maintenance of the columbarium and garden, as well as the engraving of names and numeric dates.)

The Episcopal Church of Saint Andrew the Apostle

890 Balour Dr.

Encinitas, CA 92024

Phone: 760-753-3017

E-mail: contact@standrewsepiscopal.org

Website: www.standrewsepiscopal.org

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Five Loaves. Two Small Fish. Enough for a Multitude.

Tag!!! You're It!

As our senior warden mentions in her column this month, one of our focuses for 2016 is spiritual vitality. Throughout the spring and summer, we will be playing an online version of "Tag, You're It!" Much like the ice bucket challenge for ALS, members of St. Andrew's will be challenged to make a video describing their ideas about spiritual vitality and how St. Andrew's adds to their spiritual lives. It works like this:

Someone will make a video, and upload it to their Facebook page or Instagram account. At the end of the video, they will tag another person, challenging them to upload their own video. If you have been tagged, you then have 7 days to create your own video for upload, or, if you are tagged and do not want to make a video, you can donate \$10.00 to the pastoral needs fund. Whichever option you chose,

you may then tag someone else – and make sure they know it. Your video can be sincere and heartfelt, or silly and lighthearted. The choice is up to you. If you would prefer not to appear on camera, find someone to interview about their ideas. (Rumor has it there might be some pets appearing instead of their camera-shy humans.)

We'll have some young consultants to help if you aren't technologically savvy, so assistance with respect to filming, photography, etc. will be available. If you don't have a Facebook or Instagram account, we can help out with that, too.

The challenge will officially launch on Pentecost Sunday – check out the television in the parish hall to see our debut videos – and to see if you've been tagged.

