

THANK YOU!

Matthew 28: 18-20

Monday after Easter, April 2, 2018

I want to thank Rev. Barry Steiner Ball for his contribution to the Laity Devotional this Lenten Season. Barry has worked for years with the Drug Task Force in Maryland, and has seen first-hand the devastation that opioid addiction has on the lives of those suffering from substance abuse disorder as well as their families.

Thank You, to Rev. Deborah Coble (Conference Communications Director) for making these devotionals available online and sending out the daily devotional emails.

I also want to thank each of the individual laity writers of the 40 devotionals, without your help this devotional ministry would not be possible. THANK YOU!

The laity of the Conference thanks you for using this devotional guide. I hope you have given some thought about the opioid crisis in our state and country during this Season of Lent. Has God spoken to your heart to make a difference? Do you need some suggestions?

1. Pray about the things you can do, and ask for direction from God.
2. Start a support group for families of those suffering from substance abuse disorder.
3. Join your community action group fighting drugs and become an active participant.
4. Involve youth in your church, give them a place to belong.
5. Become a mentor for kids in your neighborhood.
6. Listen for guidance from the Holy Spirit, we have no better guide!

If you have questions about the opioid crisis and want to know what you can do, Rev. Barry Steiner Ball can be contacted at steinerball@gmail.com

As you will remember, the Lenten season is made up of 40 days prior to Easter, not counting Sundays. The Sundays during the Lenten Season are considered mini Easters. I did use laity writers for the 40 days of the Lenten Season, but the devotionals for the mini Easters this year were written by clergy, Rev. Barry Ball. This I know is a technicality, but I believe this series of devotionals will give glory to God and provide inspiration to its readers.

May God bless you in your ministry!

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