

## Strengthening Faith during Lent



I wonder if you made a New Year resolution. If you did I suspect that it's more likely that you've been able to keep it if you've been doing it with others or gaining encouragement from them.

Lent is a time when we're encouraged to make a change, either by giving something up or taking something on. And, just like a New Year resolution, it's much easier to keep Lent together with others than on your own. That's part of what a church community is for: to give encouragement and support in faith. I've definitely found that talking about my journey of faith to others has actually enabled me to understand myself (and God) much better, both through explaining my own experience and through listening to stories told by others.

During Lent we'll have the opportunity to encourage each other in our faith using a resource called Faith Pictures. Home Groups will be following this material and two Lent Groups will also be formed, meeting on a Wednesday evening or a Thursday morning. If you're not already a member of a Home Group, please do sign up for one of these groups on the sheet at church or by e-mail to me ([hazelos58@gmail.com](mailto:hazelos58@gmail.com)).

*Hazel*

## **Faith Pictures Groups – Lent 2017**

### **Session 1: Opening the conversation**

- Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 10.30am, St Francis' Church Hall
- Weds 8<sup>th</sup> March, 8pm, St Mary's Youth Hall

### **Session 2: The Power of the Ordinary**

- Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30am, St Francis' Church Hall
- Weds 15<sup>th</sup> March, 8pm, St Mary's Youth Hall

### **Session 3: Travellers' Tales**

- Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30am, St Francis' Church Hall
- Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 8pm, St Mary's Youth Hall

### **Session 4: Talking pictures**

- Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 10.30am, St Francis' Church Hall
- Weds 29<sup>th</sup> March, 8pm, St Mary's Youth Hall

### **Session 5: Companions on the Journey**

- Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30am, St Francis' Church Hall
- Weds 5<sup>th</sup> April, 8pm, St Mary's Youth Hall

### **Session 6: Hidden Opportunities**

- Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30am, St Francis' Church Hall
- Weds 12<sup>th</sup> April, 8pm, St Mary's Youth Hall