

SO SEND I YOU, INC. 2024 LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Saint John Baptist Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: 2024 LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Time: Feb 29, 2024 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every day, until Mar 31, 2024

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82089300351?pwd=qdHdd5LGaTRWPhJCRgOxsK6bL2Fnji.1>

Meeting ID: 820 8930 0351

Passcode: 628471

Dial by your location

- **+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**
- **+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)**

DAY 14 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

THE MYSTERY WILL BE UNRAVELED

Rev. Elmer Porter Hardy, Jr.

I Corinthians 13:13 “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

There is nothing more mentally stimulating and emotionally satisfying than solving a mystery. Can I get a witness?

Somebody just said, “Yes!” This is because you just had a flashback of your favorite childhood books: Nancy Drew, The Hardy Boys, Tom Swift, and The Bobbsey Twins, all created by American Publisher Edward Stratemeyer, whose “Stratemeyer Syndicate” was the first, from 1899-1987, to have its books aimed at children, rather than adults, solving those mind-boggling mysteries.

The best part about solving a mystery is putting together all the clues, details, and facts, and finally closing the case like a Crime Scene Investigator discovering “Who Dunit!” Well, the good news gospel today for all of us self-proclaimed Christian detectives is that there is just as much mystery in the Word as there is in the world. Perhaps that’s why the Apostle Paul, in Ephesians 5:32, describes the relationship between Christ and

the church as a “Great Mystery” where he compares it to a marriage between a husband and wife.

When Paul writes this first century ‘Love Letter’ to the church, we find yet another example of how the Lord works in mysterious ways—His wonders to perform. Paul started his missionary journey to Corinth in ancient Greece, around the year A.D. 56 and he wanted to help Christians experience ‘the subtraction of division’ by focusing more on what unites than what divides them, as they left their lifestyles of gambling and prostitution for grace and peace.

While we humbly accept that the limited capacity of our carnal humanity will never comprehend the infinite quality of God’s supremacy, we are beyond grateful that one day, when we rest in the eternal presence of our Heavenly Father, we will be graced to grasp His glory. This will be when all the mystery surrounding His identity will be unraveled. We will understand it better by and by and finally get to know God for who He truly is.

But, in the meantime and in between time, God gifts us with three keys called Faith (keep trusting), Hope (keep expecting), and Love (keep caring). Let’s in this season of our annual 40-day Lenten commemoration of the greatest display of public affection in the history of humanity—when Jesus bled out on the cross and rose up from the grave—show to this hateful world that God is Love. Let them know us by our love – Agape Love—which is truly the greatest of everything that remains.

Prayer:

Abba, thank you for Lenten Love until the mystery is unraveled. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.