**Christian Formation Ideas for February, 2019**

*Welcome to my new resource! If you are in a small congregation or do not have someone in charge, these resource sheets will provide you with information about the various holidays during the month and some ideas to celebrate.*

*If you have any questions or ideas, please share with me at* [*sevans@epiok.org*](mailto:sevans@epiok.org)

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**February 3** **Super Bowl – Souper Bowl of Caring**

This event empowers youth and unites communities around the time of the Big Game to help those in need. <https://souperbowl.org/welcome> . There are lots of resources at: <https://souperbowl.org/resources/index/23> . Why not invite others to come and have a soup lunch or takeout soup so you can all watch the game in your church!

**February 10 – Valentine’s Day is February 14**

What about offering a community First Aid and CPR class through the American Heart Association?

What about a heart- shaped cookie baking opportunity for homebound seniors?

What about a marriage vow renewal service?

Or you can offer a free Parents Night Out so parents can enjoy the evening. (Make sure your adults have Safeguarding training before this event.)

**February 17 Today the Anglican Church of Canada remembers Ordination of Florence Li Tim-Oi, First Woman Priest in the Anglican Communion, 1944.** In 2003, the Episcopal Church fixed 24 January as her feast day in *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, based on the eve of the anniversary of her ordination. In 2007, the Anglican Communion celebrated the centennial of her birth. In 2018, she was made a permanent part of the Episcopal Church’s calendar of saints.

Born in Hong Kong in 1907 and baptized as a student, Li Tim-Oi chose the name Florence in honor of Florence Nightingale (see August 12). In 1931 at the ordination of deacononesses, Florence Li Tim-Oi heard and responded a call to ordained ministry. After attending theological school, she was serving as a deacon in Macau when fighting intensified between Japan and China. There were no available priests to minister to Christians in the area, and so in 1944 the Bishop of Victoria ordained Florence as a priest.

She served for the remainder of the war, but shortly after the war she voluntarily gave up her license to function as a priest. Among Anglicans her ordination was controversial, so she stepped down while the Communion was in discernment. She remained in China for many years, though she was forced to work in a factory during the years of the Cultural Revolution.

Florence moved to Canada in her later years, and she served as a priest in Toronto. Finally, most Anglicans had come to support the ordination of women. She was awarded Doctorates of Divinity by the General Theological Seminary, New York, and Trinity College, Toronto. Florence Li Tim-Oi died in 1992.

*Give us strength and patience, Lord Christ, to follow in your way. Amen.*

*FYI: In the United States the church at first declared those (women) ordinations -- 11 women in Philadelphia on July 29, 1974, and four the next year in Washington, D.C. -- to be both "irregular" and "invalid," but eventually labeled them valid though irregular. In 1976, the church's national governing body, pressured by wide acceptance of those irregular ordinations, changed the rules and allowed for the ordination of women as priests, not just as deacons. It also "regularized" the Philadelphia and Washington ordinations.*

**Teaching Opportunity**

Today would be a good day to look in the Book of Common Prayer, Pages 525 – 533 regarding the Ordination of a Priest.

Ask how many of them have been to an ordination before? What did they see? What do they remember?

Ask someone to read the Consecration of the Priest, Page 533-34. What do you hear in this? Does anything surprise you? Was there anything in the ordination you saw that touched you?

At the end of February resources, there are two activities that can be offered to your participants.

Looking Ahead:

March 5 Shrove Tuesday

March 6 Ash Wednesday

**Ordination**

**D T D T X T V S P W N U F K S U E K K I**

**O E N K E S W R S G Q U F E G K N S C Y**

**C N W E F D O V E S T J R Q X K I D P O**

**T G H E S C V L N Q C U Y E B O L P A V**

**R J N K L E P O Z J T Z X W I O P Y S B**

**I W T A L M R N P P C A N O N S I K X F**

**N T I M A J V P I V Q A Y T N X C Z Q X**

**E M U X S Q O R F B V D C M R H S N R X**

**J J E J M S C R L U F H T I A F I P P G**

**I U N F H S E N D Q L F D Y F W D I R N**

**Y B F F B I S N A I Y Y D Y S M O H A G**

**M F I Z H Z U N E C N Q B W L E F S Y Z**

**S P E J D G B Y I V V A R I O E G R E M**

**W C I C R I F V I F I G T Y S O B O R D**

**F E B X B U Y O B P B G A I V H E W Y R**

**A L X L Q W Y M C J D H R W O O O B F F**

**J G E R S O Z D R T K C O O D N J P Z U**

**P R I E S T H O O D A H Q S F U I T A E**

**Q V B P D E R A J G H U P H C V H B P E**

**R X L R O H G U T C A C D P T I M P X M**

**BIBLE**

**BISHOP**

**CANONS**

**DISCIPLINE**

**DOCTRINE**

**EXAMPLE**

**FAITHFUL**

**FORGIVENESS**

**OBEY**

**ORDINATION**

**PRAYER**

**PRESENT**

**PRIESTHOOD**

**How Many Words?**

**Using the letters ORDINATION, how many other words can you make?**

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| **2 Letter Words** | **3 Letter Words** | **4 Letter Words** | **5 Letter Words** |
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| **6 Letter Words** | **More+++** |  |  |
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