

SEPTEMBER 2018

**"Do this in Remembrance of Me"
Old Memories and New Beginnings**



Dear Friends,

September is often a time of old memories—first days of school, childhood friends, the joys and challenges we've faced in our lives. And in September we take up the challenges of the new. Even as the trees prepare to end the old season, a new church program year fills us with excitement for our path ahead as it brings to mind misty memories of old firsts—perhaps happy, perhaps poignant...old memories of the beginnings of new chapters in our lives.

As we begin an exciting season with Choir, Sunday School and other ministries back in full swing, we know that Jesus understood the mix of past memories and present hopes in our lives. When he said to his disciples "Do this in remembrance of me" he calls us into something much deeper than memory. He is saying "Don't forget who you are and what you mean to me. Take this into your Present. Take Me into your Everyday."

Jesus of Nazareth is in our cultural past. In Him, the New and the Old work together in our lives to make us what we are today. Some of our "old"—our past, our mistakes and missteps, we would like to leave in the past. Agreed! But what we bring forward in to our present is the hope, the courage and the wisdom that our past has taught us.

Jesus of Nazareth is our present and our future. Every time we meet together in the Holy Eucharist we do something extremely common place and old—we share a meal together. And we do something entirely new. Each and every time we encounter the Lord Jesus in the Eucharist we ask him to be present and make us new—filled with hope, energy, and thankfulness. Newly ready to go out to do the work we have been given to do.

May God bless us all in our new beginnings this fall, and remind us daily that Jesus is our present and our future.

Your Sister in Christ,

Mother Bonnie+