

SCRIPTURE READINGS

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

This story from Exodus reveals that the Israelites, after their escape from

Egypt, cast all blame for their sufferings on Moses. In this instance, they were dying of thirst. When Moses appealed to the Lord, the Lord directed Moses to strike a rock and water would gush forth.



Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Paul reminds the Romans that because Christ died for all people, they are acceptable in God's sight.

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Jesus converses with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's Well. When Jesus indicates that whoever drinks from the water He gives will never be thirsty again, the woman immediately answers, "Give me this water, sir...". Jesus then reveals that she has had five husbands and tells her that He is the Messiah. The woman believes Jesus and proclaims this news to all the townspeople, who believe her and come to see Jesus.



For the Week of March 15th through
March 22nd

Sunday

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Monday

2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday

Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday

Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;

Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Friday

Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday

Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website, <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 14th

4:00 p.m. Jerry Peterson

Sunday, March 15th

8:00 a.m. Florence Jankowski

10:00 a.m. Joe Dawson

Monday, March 16th

8:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners,
Living and Deceased

Tuesday, March 17th

8:30 a.m. Charlie and Doris Moloney

Wednesday, March 18th

8:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 19th

8:30 a.m.

Saturday, March 21st

4:00 p.m. James Schaubert

Sunday, March 22nd

8:00 a.m. Antoni Jankowski

10:00 a.m. Barbara Gillin



REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE PARISH: Remember in your prayers the sick of the parish: *John Troffo, Valerie Lindyberg, Patricia Dana, Angela Wilmer, Faith King, Eugenia Brooks, Alicia Bourne, Tom Blum, Betty Ann Strong, Joan Szwajkowski, Joseph Williams* and all those whose names appear in the PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS.

NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Grasing after Mass. Registration forms are available at the doors of the Church, the Parish Office, or online. For additional information, please call 410-778-3160, or go to sacredparish.org.

NEW PARISHONERS: The following family has registered in our parish recently: The family of Brian and Heather Rush of Millington. We pray that you will become closer to God through your participation in our Faith Community. We look forward to getting to know you. Welcome!

PREP

Parish Religious Education Program

Bringing the Gospel Home

Third Sunday of Lent – John 4:5-42

Reflection for Parents

Jesus offers us living water just as he did the woman at the well. It is the water of salvation so when we stumble, we know that Jesus refreshes us with forgiveness. This is helpful to remember on days when we are disappointed by our anger, impatience, and discouragement.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

When you go to mass this weekend, be sure to invite the whole family to bless themselves at the baptismal font. On the way home, share your ideas about "living water" and how the holy water of the font is living water for each person. Invite every member of the family to offer a way in which they can refresh someone at school, at work, or in the neighborhood by being Living water for that person.

Discussion Starters

1. I know Jesus is living water in my life because...
2. I was surprised when someone unexpected offered me living water...
3. This reading calls me to evangelization. I will respond (or have already responded) by...



© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"If you knew who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

Sheepish Question:

Realizing it is all about Jesus, what must I do differently with my life?

MARCH SAINTS



MARCH 17 – PATRICK, APOSTLE OF IRELAND

An apostle leaves home and country, family and friends to preach the good news of God's love. God uses the apostle to reach out to pagans who believe in many gods. They do not know the beauty and goodness of the one true God. The apostle Patrick brought the great good news of the Christian God to the Irish.

Patrick was born Maewyn Succat in England, near the Scottish border, in about 389 AD. When he was 16, Irish raiders kidnapped him. They sailed back to Ireland, where Patrick became the slave of a Druid priest and worked as a shepherd. Throughout cold nights and hungry days, he dreamed of escape. Finally, after six years, he crept aboard a ship bound for Britain.

For the next 20 years, Patrick studied in France and England. At age 43 he became a bishop, and Pope Celestine called him "Patricius," which means "father of the citizens." In a dream, he felt God's call to return to Ireland. Patrick said "yes" to God and sailed back to Ireland.

At first, the Druids and the kings did not welcome Patrick. (The Druids were pagan priests.) But God worked miracles through Patrick. These miracles showed people the power of the Christian God.

For 30 years, Patrick ordained priests and built monasteries in Ireland. By the time he died—in 461 at age 72—he had showed the Irish how to find Christ in one another. A famous legend about St. Patrick says he explained the Holy Trinity to the people by using a shamrock, the three-leaved plant which is today the Irish national emblem.

CATHOLIC FAMILY NETWORK

FAMILY GAME NIGHT: The Catholic Family Network is hosting a Family Game Night at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall on **Saturday March 28th at 5:00 p.m.** Food and beverages will be provided. Bring your favorite game!! Everyone is invited.



PARISH NEWS

Offertory – Week Ending March 8th - Week 37

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John's are made possible. "Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold."

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 03/08 Wk. 37	\$4,011	\$5,121	\$6,635	\$2,497
YTD Wk. 37	\$180,444	\$67,404	\$245,495	\$2,353



One in three people worldwide are adversely affected by vitamin and mineral deficiencies. Rise Against Hunger meals are

designed to provide a comprehensive array of micronutrients. Rise Against Hunger meals include enriched rice, soy protein, dried vegetables and 23 essential vitamins and nutrients. Each meal costs about .34 cents and can feed up to 6 people. **For less than the cost of a McDonald's Happy Meal, you can provide 10 meal packages and positively affect the lives of 60 hungry people, many of them children.**

Sacred Heart Parish has pledged to raise \$1,500 towards the cost of the meals we will package in the fall. **Donations for this project can be placed in the regular collection in a separate envelope marked "Rise Against Hunger".** If you are writing a check, please make it out to Sacred Heart Parish and write Rise Against Hunger on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity.

For more information or to volunteer for the meal packaging event (date to be determined), please, contact Ann Anderson at 410-778-4243 or wmandersonfamily@verizon.net or visit the website: www.riseagainsthunger.org.

No donation is too small when the need is so great.....



Fridays of Lent

An opportunity to look more closely at the readings for the coming weekend
4:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Hall
Soup will be served at 5:30 p.m.
Come for the 4 o'clock session and stay for soup or come for soup and stay for 6:30 p.m. session.

SOUP DONATIONS ARE NEEDED for Fridays of Lent - **through April 3rd**. You are asked to make a homemade, meatless soup in a personal crock pot and bring it with one loaf of artisan bread to the hall on your chosen night. If you can contribute, call Becky Davis at 410-778-3160 or e-mail her at: sacredparish@gmail.com.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE:

Tim Abeska
Marcie Cooper
Joseph Fick, Jr.
* Mary Jo Frohlich
Ed Gordon
* Rev. John Grasing
Marianne Hickman
Dot Mench
Tammy Yowell

BUILDING COMMITTEE:

Nancy Blum
* Deacon John Davis
Joseph Fick, Jr.
* Mary Jo Frohlich
Michael Graham
* Rev. John Grasing
Maria Grimes
Henry Gruber
George Hagerty
Joe Hickman
Nancy McCloy
Louise Shearer
Kevin Shearon
Tot Strong
Dick Swanson

* Ex Officio

CHURCH CALENDAR

MARCH

- Tuesday, 17** **Bible Study**
10:30 a.m.
Sacred Heart Church Hall
- Friday, 20** **Lenten Program**
4:00 p.m. – Session 1
Soup: 5:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. – Session 2
- Sunday, 22** **Households of Faith**
Whole Family Session:
Holy Spirit
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church Hall
- Tuesday, 24** **Bible Study**
10:30 a.m.
Sacred Heart Church Hall
- Friday, 27** **Lenten Program**
4:00 p.m. – Session 1
Soup: 5:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. – Session 2
- Saturday, 28** **Catholic Family Network**
Family Game Night
Sacred Heart Parish Hall
5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, 31** **Bible Study**
10:30 a.m.
Sacred Heart Church Hall

APRIL

- Friday, 3** **Holy Hour**
8:30 a.m.
Sacred Heart Church Hall



WEEKLY SCHEDULED EVENTS, SACRED HEART CHURCH HALL:

Coffee Social in the Sacred Heart Church Foyer following the 10:00 a.m. Mass every Sunday.

Knights of Columbus. Regular Membership Meetings: 7:00 PM on 1st and 3rd Thursdays. Fourth Degree Knights' Meeting: 7:00 PM on 2nd Thursdays. Contact Grand Knight, Matt Gerstung (443-907-6626) for more information.

SCRUTINIES

Every time we celebrate the sacrament of baptism, we ask the questions, "Do you renounce Satan? and all his works? and all his empty promises?" These are serious questions. We should consider them carefully before answering. And that is what the elect, those preparing to be baptized at the Easter Vigil, spend much of Lent doing.

For those who are making their final preparation for baptism, Lent is a time of purification and enlightenment. They examine their lives in the light of God's word and ask the entire Christian community to pray that whatever is weak and sinful within them may be eliminated and that whatever is good and holy may be affirmed. And we do. After the homily, in a litany of intercession, we proclaim the power of Jesus over all sin. Then we pray over the elect for their deliverance and strengthening. The presider, catechists, sponsors and other members of the community also may lay their hands on the heads of the elect in an ancient sign of forgiveness, healing and empowerment.

And because the entire community will renew its baptismal promises at Easter, we too examine our lives in light of God's word. Of course, this is something we should be doing throughout the year, but we focus on this self-examination in a special way during Lent. In every community that will baptize adults or older children at the Easter Vigil, special rites known as the "scrutinies" are celebrated at liturgy on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent.

On these Sundays, the gospel readings are from the Gospel of John; they are the stories of the Samaritan woman whom Jesus meets at Jacob's well, the healing and coming to faith of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus from the dead. These readings have been used for centuries to prepare the elect and the church for baptism. The readings focus on sin and redemption using the images of thirst and water, darkness and light, death and life. By examining ourselves through these readings, we come to know how we have become parched, how we have been blinded, how we have become deadened through sin. When we and the elect are asked at Easter to renounce Satan, evil works and empty promises, our answer can be a thoughtful, strong and heartfelt "I do."

Copyright © 1997 Archdiocese of Chicago, Liturgy Training Publications, 1800 North Hermitage Avenue, Chicago, IL 60622-1101; 1-800-933-1800. Text by Victoria M. Tufano.

