

March 4, 2018

**Lent**  
**Third Sunday**



**Living Waters**

**Moses in today's first reading is presented as frustrated with the incessant and ungrateful grumbling of the Israelites, yet God responds with patience, providing a supply of water from the rock to the thirsty wanderers. The gift of water in an otherwise waterless desert became a sign of God's perpetual presence in the midst of his people.**

**The Samaritan woman in the gospel will also be given to drink of the water of life; through her, Jesus will teach each of us how to similarly satisfy all our thirsts in him.**

Today's Bulletin is in memory of  
Ella Migl sponsored by her family.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Wednesday March 7  
8:00 a.m. Elizabeth Koranek  
Thursday, March 8  
8:00 a.m. Dolores Tousignant  
Friday, March 9  
8:00 a.m. Dannis Wagner, Clara Zeisberg  
Saturday, March 10  
6:30 p.m. Patricia Schultz  
Sunday, March 11  
6:30 a.m. Annette Fojtik  
9:30 a.m. Delia Nieto Brigman  
11:00 a.m. A.C.T.S. Retreat Return Mass

**PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY**

Next weekend is *The Fourth Sunday of Lent*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.\*

**First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a**

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14**

**Gospel: John 9:1-41**

\* We return to the Cycle A readings of Lent on Sundays.

**MEN'S A.C.T.S. RETREAT – MARCH 8-11**

Remember the retreatants & team members in your prayers.

**The Sanctuary Light**  
**will be lit this week**  
**in memory of Jewel & Cecil Castro.**

**LENTEN BULLETIN BOARD**

**Second Collection Today – Rice Bowl**

Today as we hear the Israelites grumbling that they will die of thirst and Jesus offering living water to the woman at the well, we remember the people throughout the world who do not have clean and safe water to drink. Consider sharing your blessings with those in need of the basic necessities of life. *Use your Rice Bowl envelope to help make a difference in someone's life. Be generous.*

**Lenten Penance Services**

Mon., March 19 **Moulton 5:30 p.m.**

Wed., March 21 Praha 4:30-5:30 p.m.

*Priests from the area will be assisting.*

*\* No scheduled confessions in Moulton during Holy Week.*

**Easter Flowers:** It is the tradition in our parish to have Easter Lilies for our Easter celebration. Use the attached envelope to make your donation in memory of your loved ones. Drop the envelope in the collection basket or mail slot at the rectory.

**Easter Eggs:** We need 15 dozen eggs for the baskets for the homebound and the Easter Egg Hunt. Donations of individually wrapped candy for plastic eggs are also welcome. To make a donation, contact the Parish Office.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** An hour after Mass on Fridays of Lent.

**Stations of the Cross:** Fridays of Lent, 6:00 p.m.

**Lenten Food Drive:** Leave your canned goods for the needy at the main entrance to Church.

**Lenten Fish Fry:** Next Friday's Menu - Fish, Hush Puppies, Red Potatoes, Beans, Dessert

\* 20+ desserts are needed each Friday. Contact Nancy Tomek, Dolores Scott or the parish office to help.

**ST. JOSEPH'S MEMORIAL FUND**

*In Memory of Delia Nieto Brigman: Mary Lou Dierschke  
Donna & Thomas Perez Sheri & Glenn Grohmann*

**ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY FUND**

*In Memory of Delia Nieto Brigman  
Gladys Seifert Evelyn Kubicek*

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

MON. – Gold Star Club Meets, 3:30-5:30 p.m., YMC  
TUES & THURS. – Quilting Ladies Meet, Quilting Room  
WED. – Champions Club Meets, 3:30-5:30 p.m., YMC  
– Lenten Bible Study, 7:00 p.m., Family Room  
THURS. – KC Bingo, 7:30 p.m., Moulton Oaks Hall  
– Men's A.C.T.S. Retreat Send-off, Parish Hall  
FRI. – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament After Mass  
– K.J.Z.T. Meeting, 8:45 a.m., Parish Hall  
– Stations of the Cross, 6:00 p.m., Church  
– Fish Fry, serving starts at 5:00 p.m., Parish Hall  
– Parish Office closed on Fridays. For any Pastoral emergency call the Parish Office at any time.

## REFLECTION

### *Living Water, Gift of God*

Each year at this time the Gospels hold forth teachers to guide and inspire us on our shared journey. Our mentor today is a “thirsty” Samaritan woman. Because of her physical thirst, she initially misunderstood Jesus’ offer of living water. Jacob’s well had satisfied the physical life of his descendants for centuries, but Jesus supplemented Jacob in offering *living water* that would give eternal life. Even without a bucket, Jesus and his gift of living water was greater than Jacob. Jesus’ gift is the truth of his teaching and he invites the thirsty to be satisfied with the word of God proclaimed to us. His invitation and her encounter with him set in motion a process of transformation whereby the woman evolved from a sinner to a witness.

God continues to reach out to us, offering us what satisfies. Like the Samaritan woman we must first come thirsting for God.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Mar. 4 – Eugene Kresta  
Mar. 5- Stephanie Fojtik  
Mar. 6 – Jessica Fikac, Regina Kleihege  
Mar. 7 – Judy Haase  
Mar. 8 – Toby Rothbauer  
Mar. 9 - Georgia Berckenhoff  
Mar. 10 – Larry Berckenhoff, Emily Pilat

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Mar. 5 – Congratulations Roberta & Daniel Mejias  
on your 35<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

**Today** – CCD  
**Mar. 5** – K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade After School Program  
**Mar. 7** – 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade After School Program; 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> CCD  
**Mar. 10** – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Leads the Saturday Evening Rosary  
**Next Sunday** – Youth Mass (6<sup>th</sup> Grade); CCD

**L.A.M.B. NEWS:** *Just a reminder as you clean out your closets this Winter and Spring that L.A.M.B. (Lavaca Assistance Ministry Body) in Hallettsville takes donations of clothing and other articles such as toys, picture frames, dishes, books, glassware and other knick-knacks. At this time they cannot take large items such as furniture and electronics. Monetary donations are also welcome. The address for making your donation is P. O. Box 232 Hallettsville, TX 779764. You may also contribute by contacting me at 596-7193. The Thrift Store is open Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m. The Manna Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon for those offering food donations. Thank you,*

**Lisa Rothbauer,**

L.A.M.B. Board Member (St. Joseph’s Church Representative)

## Orientation: The Midpoint of Lent

Are you at the midpoint of Lent and not much is going on? Maybe you began with the best of intentions, but you are not sure what you’re doing or what you want to be doing. ***Can your Lent be rescued? Yes. It doesn’t take long for God, when you are ready.***

The first step to beginning again has already begun. You have the desire for something real during Lent. What you need is a real desire – a real sense of expectation that God has something for you to hear, to learn, to change, and you want to be ready to listen. This desire can co-exist with fear, with resistance, with bad habits that have been obstacles in the past. God doesn’t need much of an opening to begin to free us and show us a transforming love. Once we say we want to make something of these precious days remaining in Lent then we can start naming some more specific desires.

It usually takes a little reflection, a bit of honest examination of conscience to really see what is getting in the way of being a follower of Jesus. It may be a streak of stubbornness or impatience or harshness that keeps putting us at odds with people. Perhaps there is an old wound or a fresh experience of hurt or loss that has turned into a festering anger that robs you of simple joys and sorrows or compassion for suffering of others.

Maybe you are obsessed with how you look or you may be compensating for some emptiness or loneliness or sadness or insecurity by trying to fill in what is missing with quite temporary satisfaction – over-eating, drinking too much, etc. Perhaps your conflicts with your spouse are getting to a bad place and your refuse to die to yourself in loving him/her.

Maybe you really have not paid attention to the needs of the poor. After some reflection you may just realize you’re not very grateful for what has been given you, and therefore, you’re just not very happy, generous or free.

***Lent begins when you can say, “Help Me Lord!”*** Now you can turn to the Lord with some real concrete desires. You can practice waking up each morning and naming your desire. If you have a plan, you are more likely to follow it.

- *What are you going to give up each day?* Something you need to fast from, abstain from every day. Whenever you feel the temptation to do something that is a bad pattern, recognize it quickly and refrain from doing it. Practice some response that will replace it. It is basically training in self-discipline, for the purpose of letting God’s grace have a chance to work in you.

- *How can you be generous today?* Almsgiving is an important part of Lent. For most of us it involves being more generous to the poor. It is again, all about de-selfishing ourselves, so that God can free us to be more comfortable with the graces of gratitude and generosity.

***Give Lent a new start in the days ahead.***

***God is offering you more than you can ask or imagine.***

– Culled from Praying Lent, Creighton University

**Daylight Saving Time Begins March 11.**