

Daily Mass Homily
24 March 2020
Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent

“All who are thirsty, come to the waters, says the Lord. Though you have no money, come and drink with joy.”

Reading 1: Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12

Psalm 81: **The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob.**

Gospel: John 5:1-16

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The season of Lent is a time for us to purify our lives and our hearts. We take a good, honest look at our lives and see how we stand in relation to the way that God wants us to be living. Often, we have wandered far, and we need to return.

The culmination of this time of purification and returning to the Lord prepares us for something very special and important, the renewal of our baptismal promises that we make each year on Easter. At the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday, each one of us publicly in the church renounces Satan and his evil ways and we profess our belief in God and the holy Catholic Church. This renewal of our baptismal promises is really what Lent is all about. The purification we experience helps us to be able to make that commitment of living the Christian life once again.

We see in the gospel reading today another story of someone that needed to be cleansed. There was a sick man waiting to go into the pool of water to be washed. Yet, he was never able to make it do to the waters to be washed. Others always got there before he could.

Jesus asked the man, “Do you want to be well?” What does the man say? Yes! Jesus asks you and me today, **do you want to be well?** I know that I want to be well and I pray that each of you wants to be well. Do you have the courage to respond to Jesus’ request today? You don’t even need to know what it is that is not well, but just to say yes, I want to be well, is the first step. I encourage you to take that step today.