The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” Today’s gospel passage of the woman at the well should leave us walking away understanding and knowing one thing...that we are seekers, each and every one of us, and it is wherever we go, the Lord is already there. This passage contains so much within it that we can relate to, for as the Church has said for centuries, each of us has a longing for God, a desire written on our hearts to seek Him out, a desire to obtain the divine life, that life giving water that the Lord offers us, that will cause us to stop searching once and for all in everything else that isn’t of, for or from God. But more importantly is to recognize that yes we are looking, but it is God who says, “it is not you who found/chose me, but I who found/chose you.” Showing us that it is prevenient grace, His divine grace that precedes any human decision. It exists prior to and without reference to anything we have done. God wants us, you and I, long before we ever had our first inkling to search for Him. Hence, His just happening to be at that one place that we are going to, before we have arrived, just as He was with the woman in the gospel scene. And as the story goes on, if we place ourselves in this story, you can see that the woman at the well is each of us...as like her, we wrestle with this, for at first like her, we just don’t understand. Saying how and where can I get this living water, that will once and for all stop my coming here day after day. For that is what we do, we come back to the same old things time after time, or maybe even something different in hopes of filling us up once and for all...it could be something good, it could be something bad and sinful, it really doesn’t matter at the heart of it, because the point is, it is only in the Lord that we will ever be satisfied and only in Him that our thirst will finally cease. And from submitting to, recognizing and understanding this, that God will turn the emptiness inside into a spring welling up to eternal life.

My friends, this is the perfect gospel for us to read over and over again for the rest of Lent and anytime we are in need of some spiritual guidance. For within it we find ourselves, our sinfulness, the longings of the heart wanting God...and it is in this too, that we find His response, the fact that we are chosen and met by Him before we even went out looking, His willingness to offer even to the worst of all the sinners this same gift of eternal life, for in it He looks right through that part of her and offers her the olive branch of peace once and for all in her life. Meet Him here, the place where we now encounter Him every time in the sacraments that He chose to shower us with His grace and to be directly in His midst. Shout out to Him from wherever you are going that leaves you coming back time after time, unsatisfied, saying, “Lord, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water” ever again.

Rev. B. Kelly
St. Ambrose Church, Latham, New York

Mass Intentions

4:30 PM  Saturday, March 3, 2018
Richard Bango by Doreen
Jean Hillje by Family
George Robert Hillje by Family

7:30 AM  Sunday, March 4, 2018
Teresa & Vincent Popolizio by Clara Aliberti
Gerald & Gertrude Magin by Mary Kiely

9:00 AM  Sunday, March 4, 2018
Gertrude & Edward Bak by Nolles Family
Margaret (Peggy) McNamara
by Bud & Cindy Esterby
Nancy LaRow by Clark & Colleen Hicks

11:30 AM  Sunday, March 4, 2018
Ellsworth & Stephen King by Wife/Mother
Jen Robertaccio by Jessica Galasso
Domenica J. Krakat by Andrew, Jennifer & Maria
Krakat

5:30 PM  Sunday, March 4, 2018
Thomas Flanagan by Justina Treventi

6:30 AM  Monday, March 5
Rocco C. Tozzi by St. Ambrose Parish

9:00 AM  Tuesday, March 6
Frances Lonzack by Eileen & Rich Zmijewski

6:30 AM  Wednesday, March 7
People of St. Ambrose

9:00 AM  Thursday, March 8
Jean Mooney by Bill & Irene Murray

6:30 AM  Friday, March 9
Communion Service

4:30 PM  Saturday, March 10
Kevin O’Day by Joe & Nancy Couch
Elvira Gradoni by Jeanette Crola & Family
Elias Carey by Richard & Debbie DeVoe
Edmund Pater by Elizabeth Pater

7:30 AM  Sunday, March 11
Sam Aliberti by Children

9:00 AM  Sunday, March 11
Margaret (Peggy) McNamara by Janice &
Michael Rayball
Millie Nazarovech by Daughter
John Doyle by Family
Girls Scouts of St. Ambrose Parish

11:30 AM  Sunday, March 11
James Meyring by St. Ambrose Parish
Jen Robertaccio by Jessica Galasso
Nancy LaRow by Charlotte Minogue & Family

5:30 PM  Sunday, March 11
Sharon Callahan by Noah Smith & Family

Now available:
Mass Intention requests can be submitted online on our parish website.

On Sunday, February 18th, our candidates and catechumens, along with their sponsors, participated in the Rite of Election with Bishop Scharfenberger at the Cathedral in Albany.

Throughout Lent the RCIA participants move into the final period of preparation for the sacraments they will receive at the Easter Vigil. Did you know they are present each week at the 9:00 Mass? Please say hello and welcome them to the St. Ambrose community!

As they continue their faith journey, please keep them in prayer:

Meghan Forcier
Terry Peek
Kelsey Blakeney
Shane Alheim
Jaime Pratt

Father, bless those who are moving forward into the fullness of faith in You and full communion in the life of our Catholic Family. Protect them on their journey. Reveal to them the love of Your Son Jesus. Empower them with the gifts of Your Holy Spirit. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Amen.
GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR EASTER FOOD BAGS

The St. Ambrose Food Pantry Volunteers will again offer Easter dinner supplies for families in need. Market bags will be available this weekend. In addition to the food list attached to the Easter bags, gift certificates from Hannaford or Price Chopper in $5, $10 or $15 amounts would be most appreciated. These will be distributed according to the family size for purchase of a meat choice. Please DO NOT PLACE GIFT CERTIFICATES IN THE BAGS. Please place in an envelope or drop off no later than March 18th at the office or in offertory collection marked St. Ambrose Food Pantry or Easter Dinner. The number of families requesting assistance has increased a great deal; together we can help these families experience a most BLESSED EASTER.

MUSIC & MOVIES

Order your tickets by March 15th and join us Thursday, April 12 7:00 pm Times Union Center $33.54 Payment options online by credit card or send a check payable to St. Ambrose Church

Attention Movie Lovers

We are looking into group tickets at a local Regal Theatre for two upcoming movies: I Can Only Imagine—March 12 & Paul, Apostle of Christ—April 2

In order to receive a group rate, we will need 25 people to express interest. Please contact the office at 518-785-1351, if you would like to be placed on the group list.
Upcoming Events

Sun, March 4
7:30 AM—Noon
Breakfast Fundraiser for Gr. 8 Washington trip
Parish Center

Tues, March 6
7:00 PM
Pivotal Players Parish Center

Thurs, March 8
9:30 -11:30 AM
Mary’s Circle of Love Lounge

Fri, Mar. 9
7:00 PM
Stations of the Cross Church

NIGHT OF PRAISE
We are looking for you help out with this months Night of Praise. We will be presenting the Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 16th starting at 7:00. We invite you to come and present a station. If you are interested, please see Tom Green after any Mass. Hope to see you there.

ATTENTION GIRL SCOUTS
Please join the Girl Scout girls and volunteers of our Parish during 9:00am Mass on Sunday March 11 as we celebrate Girl Scout Sunday. Celebrating over 100 years of community service, the Girl Scouts remain committed to building girls of courage, confidence and character who help make the world a better place. We thank all of you who have given your time, talents and donations so the Girl Scouts can continue their legacy of service to others.

Albany NY Chapter of Magnificat
Join us for an inspiring morning of prayer, testimony, and praise!
Saturday, March 10, 2018
9:00 am—12:00 pm (doors open at 8:30 am)
Holiday Inn Express Latham
400 Old Loudon Rd
Guest Speaker: Father Anthony Ligato
Tickets:
$20 mailed, $22 online
Mail check to:
Albany NY Chapter of Magnificat
P.O. Box 340
Clifton Park, NY 12065
Questions, please call Kelly Stiffen at 518-384-0989

Parish Support
We are a tithing parish following God’s plan for giving
February 18, 2018 $13,454.56
February 12, 2017 $12,133.74
Deepest thanks for your continued and generous support for our parish. Your gifts enable so much to be done in so many ways.

Parish Easter Egg Hunt
Martha Ministry would appreciate your help in donating small individually wrapped candy that will fit inside plastic Easter eggs. There will be a basket available for the candy at the main entrance of the Church through March 25th.
THANK YOU!

Catholicism: The Pivotal Players
March 6—St. Catherine of Siena
March 13—Bl. John Henry Newman
March 20—G.K. Chesterton
March 27—Michelangelo

Join us this Tuesday to meet some new heroes and to see how the Church of yesterday . . . became the Church of today.