

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

This year, on this Third Sunday of Lent, the liturgy again presents one of the most beautiful and profound passages of the Bible: the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman. It is impossible to give a brief explanation of the wealth of this Gospel passage. One must read and meditate on it personally, identifying oneself with that woman who, one day like so many other days, went to draw water from the well and found Jesus there, sitting next to it, "tired from the journey" in the midday heat. "Give me a drink", He said, leaving her very surprised: it was in fact completely out of the ordinary that a Jew would speak to a Samaritan woman, and all the more so to a stranger. But the woman's bewilderment was destined to increase. Jesus spoke of a "living water" able to quench her thirst and become in her "a spring of water welling up to eternal life"; in addition, He demonstrated that He knew her personal life; He revealed that the hour has come to adore the one true God in spirit and truth; and lastly, He entrusted her with something extremely rare: that He is the Messiah.

All this began from the real and notable experience of thirst. The theme of thirst runs throughout Saint John's Gospel: from the meeting with the Samaritan woman to the great prophecy during the feast of Tabernacles, even to the Cross, when Jesus, before He dies, said to fulfill the Scriptures: "I thirst". Christ's thirst is an entranceway to the mystery of God, who became thirsty to satisfy our thirst, just as He became poor to make us rich. Yes, God thirsts for our faith and our love. As a good and merciful father, He wants our total, possible good, and this good is He Himself. The Samaritan woman, on the other hand, represents the existential dissatisfaction of one who does not find what he seeks. She had "five husbands" and now she lives with another man; her going to and from the well to draw water expresses a repetitive and resigned life. However, everything changes for her that day, thanks to the conversation with the Lord Jesus, who upsets her to the point that she leaves her pitcher of water and runs to tell the villagers: "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?".

Dear brothers and sisters, like the Samaritan woman, let us also open our hearts to listen trustingly to God's Word in order to encounter Jesus who reveals His love to us and tells us: "I who speak to you am He", the Messiah, your Saviour. May Mary, the first and most perfect disciple of the Word made flesh, obtain this gift for us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

This weekend we welcome Bishop Colacicco. He will be celebrating the 11:30 Mass this Sunday. There will be a meet and greet after Mass in the Most Sacred Heart Hall.

We have begun the next Formed Lectio Bible Studies Series. We will meet in the Saint Peter and Saint Paul Meeting Room. Class runs from 6:30 to 8:00pm.

The Topic is: Lectio: Salvation with Dr. Michael Barber



Stations of the Cross are prayed every Friday at 7pm in the Church. Altar Servers- There is a sign up sheet in the vesting sacristy to serve.

- 23 March:** Session 4: Not Just Personal
- 30 March:** Session 5: Not Just a Legal Transaction
- 20 April:** Session 6: Not a Spectator Sport
- 27 April:** Session 7: Not Simply a Moment
- 4 May:** Session 8: Not Inevitable
- 1 June:** Session 9: Not Just for Other People
- 8 June:** Session 10: Not Only About the Future

Sign-Ups for the Right to Life will continue this weekend in the Narthex. For more information contact: Nancy Smith, Right to Life Coordinator at (845) 856-4610.



Liturgical Ministers for March 21st/22nd, 2020.

Mass	Lector	Ministers of Holy Communion	Altar Servers
4:00pm	B. HECKMAN	T. WEBB, W. PONDS	N. AND A. WEBB
8:30am	M. LATINI	J. SNELLINGER	J., J., J., TRUJILLO
11:30am	M. ESLING	B. DENNINGTON, H. MARINARO, T. MARION	S. AND I. CUELLO, R. WITHEROW

S.M.A.R.T. will be selling Lenten soups the weekend of March 14/15 to defray the costs of Camp Veritas. There will be onion, cheddar broccoli, vegetable, and potato soups available. Cost \$8/Quart.

S.M.A.R.T. will also be selling Palm Crosses for \$10 in the Narthex the weekend of March 28th/29th and if any are left the weekend of April 4th/5th (Palm Sunday)

These fundraisers are to help defray the cost of Camp Veritas. Please support our Youth Group any way you can.

The 2nd collection this weekend of March 14th/15th is for Catholic Relief Services.

Please give it your prayerful consideration.

Drew United Methodist will be hosting the Lenten Soup Luncheon every Wednesday beginning March 4th at noon. Our Pastor, Fr. Newcomb will be preaching on March 18th. Cost is \$3 and includes soup, bread, beverage, and dessert.

The Tri-State Pregnancy Center Events:

Saturday, March 21st, 12:00-4:00 PM, St. Patrick's Hall, 111 East High St., Milford, Pa., Family Fun Day! Snacks, crafts and Baby Shark dance Party! \$20.00 per family. For more information call 570-491-5151

Reconciliation Monday will be on April 6th. All churches within the Archdiocese of NY will be hearing confessions from 3pm until 9pm.

Due to unfortunate incidents hindering safety within the Church, we will begin locking the Church doors 15 minutes after Mass begins. You will still be able to exit but will not be able to reenter. This will take effect the weekend of April 18th/19th.

Clean up at St. Mary's Cemetery has begun. Kindly clean up and pick up any personal belongings that have been left at your loved one's gravesite.

We are in need of 3 people to step up to be on the Parish Advisory Council for a 3 year term. We thank previous members Steve Riordan, Cheryl Lovelace, and Janet Smith for their 3 years of service. Please call the parish office to submit your name by Friday, May 22nd. Names will be picked on Sunday, May 31st-Pentecost Sunday.

The Mount Carmel Society of Port Jervis N.Y. are having their famous Sausage and Pepper sit down/take out at their hall located at 21 First Street. For dessert you will be able to purchase Zeppoli's. It will be Saturday March 28th from 4:00PM until 7:00 PM. Cost \$8.

The Cardinal's Appeal has begun.

Our goal is \$34,500. We have received pledges totaling \$5,860 from 19 donors.

You can visit Cardinalsappeal.org.

Our Parish number is **518**.

Announced Masses

Monday, March 16
9:00am Les Krupp, by the Hagen family

Tuesday, March 17 (Patrick, bishop)
9:00am Intentions of Fr. Joel Usman, by Karen, Jack, and Jack, Jr.

Wednesday, March 18 (Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop and doctor of the Church)
9:00am Margaret Coughlin, by Christopher and Jesse Horan

Thursday, March 19 (Joseph, spouse of the BVM)
9:00am Eileen Darcy, by her family
Josef Kucher, by the Prager family

Friday, March 20
7:00pm *Stations of the Cross*

Saturday, March 21
4:00pm Maria Kucher, by Hannelore Kucher and family

Sunday, March 22
8:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's
11:30am Mary Wohlscheid, by Court Madonna #114
1:00pm Mr. & Mrs. Adam Mozek, by Paul and Rosemary Brislin

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Donald Wolff, Carol Gomillion, David Lisker, Nancy Parsons, Debi Cotugno, Michael Bello, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Jeannine Lincoln, James Lincoln, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Walter Szpakowicz, Carmella Balsamello, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, James Roach, Catherine Simons, Brendan Carmody, Nico Nicolette, Jaryd Viserta, Steven Gaesser, Kacey Warner, Sandra Ramsey, Lorraine Mannarino, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Mary Lynn Beam, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Jose Brito, Michael Medaglia, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Cody Bain, Robert Witherow, Susan Upton, Theresa Fuller, Allen Lynch, Enid Decker, Jackie Mundy, Chris Marion, III, Barbara Lindsay, Robert Ackerman, Wayne DeMarco, Ryan O'Connor, Elizabeth Brennan, Jerri Kavanaugh, Allan Garcia, Christine Habertzettl, Eric Hildebrandt, Rose Gotthardt, Georgia Gotthardt, John Olenick, John Hendrix, Stephen A. Odrechowski and fam., Scott Robertson, Eva Scopino, Jan Kaminski, Ana Anaya, Glenn Lagatol, Ellen Pentland, and Shirley Simeone.

Please note that we will not be having Tenebrae services this year.

Cedar Lake Estates in Port Jervis, NY, is looking to fill various positions, including housekeeping. They offer a high hourly wage, health benefits, 401k and a safe, happy place to work. If interested, contact Rania@cedarlakesestate.com. If you do not have access to email call 533-3328 ext 701 and leave a detailed message.

The collection for March 7th/8th was \$5,845.
Thank you for your continued generosity.