



St Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community

Madison Heights, Michigan www.stvincentferrer.net

MARCH 12, 2023 † THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

From The Pastor

Conversion can be a push-pull game of come close but not too close. Most want the benefits of conversion felt in new movements of self-acceptance, letting go of negative memories of the past, and realizing truth-based relationships going forward. We are not quite so fond of the vulnerability and the fear this process can stir up in our desire for greater freedom with God, self, and others.

The story of the Samaritan woman captures all of this and more. This woman is a snapshot of many of us. Her story is a kind of frame through which we can look at our story and imagine how such an event might impact us. So many can relate to her life circumstances with empathy and compassion because in one way or another we can see ourselves in the picture. If not literally, we are drawn to the engagement of Jesus who is the giver of 'living water' as he reveals that God will be worshipped in Spirit and in truth.

The action of the story is progressive. First, we notice that Jesus is not hindered by social or cultural boundaries. He knows he is not to speak to a woman in public or engage with a Samaritan. He sees neither. Jesus sees a woman in pain who holds a seed of faith that he intends to draw out. Jesus is not put off by her snarky resistance. He recognizes her fear and discomfort in being vulnerable.

Isolated as the woman may appear, she is not ignorant socially or religiously. She knows her history and holds her place before God as a Samaritan Jew. The social division between the Jewish sects began six hundred years previously at the time of the Babylonian exile. As such, the point of the story is not only her personal conversion, but an image and invitation for the universal conversion of all who seek God in the hope of a coming Messiah.

The scene opens as you might expect. Jesus purposely asks for a drink. The woman's response is resistant and snarky. She rather sharply points out to him that he is not to speak to her. Jesus is seeking more than social niceties as he reveals his deeper intention. He is calling her to faith which will lead to her freedom. "If you knew the gift of God...you would ask and he would have given you living water." Still resisting, she is thinking of flowing or running fresh water. Jesus bides his time as he prepares his approach.

He makes his point clear trusting she will catch on. "...the water I will give will become a spring of living water welling up to eternal life." Conversion is

not simply an activity of human interest for personal betterment. Conversion is an awakening to the action of God's grace that inspires living faith. Living faith grows from the living waters of Baptism. Living faith is a maturing relationship with the living God that is real and personal.

Now the woman wants the water, but only to satisfy her ongoing thirst. Jesus is thirsting for her soul. To reach her soul, he must free her heart from the wounds and losses of the past. This is another layer we all face in the movements of conversion. Surrendering the hurt and losses of the past frees the heart to accept God's healing grace. Jesus must take a risk as he seeks to free her from painful memories of hurt, loss, abuse, or shame.

"Go call your husband and come back." That kicked it up a notch. Her resistance and defense thicken as she denies her previous engagements. She now sees Jesus as a Prophet and the conversation turns to God and worship. The religious tension surfaces again as they wrestle with where God should best be worshipped. Jesus makes his point clear: "...true worshipers will worship God in Spirit and in truth."

Notice the empathy and compassion of Jesus. He was not soliciting a confession for past sins, but releasing past hurts that the woman may realize the true nature of God. Where God is worshipped does not matter. True worship is from the heart through the Spirit that reveals the truth. And what is the truth?

The woman knows of and hopes for a coming Messiah. How and when is not clear, but she has hope. Now it is Jesus who reveals the truth of God in the Spirit to the woman. "I am he, the one speaking to you." This is a personal and unique revelation Jesus shares with the woman. He wants her as his own in faith and love.

This interaction makes clear that true conversion is an action of God. The woman not only found personal freedom, healing, and a new identity going forward, she also came to faith in the true Lord Jesus. The effect is clear. She immediately goes and shares her experience with the townspeople. Her social isolation is gone. She wants others to encounter the same power she received in the words and actions of Jesus.

What in the story most strikes you? What tones of resistance, vulnerability, or past hurts are stirred? Does the story inspire your faith? Are you able to worship freely in Spirit and in truth secure in the love and mercy of the Lord Jesus?

Father John Esper

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday thru Thursday

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday - 4:00pm

Sunday - 9:00am

Church doors open 1/2 hour before Mass begins

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45pm
in Adoration Chapel

Only one person allowed in chapel at a time. Persons seeking Sacrament of Reconciliation will be allowed in church to line up at 3:00pm



LIVESTREAMING

Live Streaming of Mass
Monday thru Thursday 8:00am
and Sunday 9:00am

Adoration on Tuesdays 8:45am to 12:30pm

Livestream of Rosary on Thursday following Mass

Search for St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church (in Madison Heights) on youtube to find our channel or connect via our APP or website

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

ST VINCENT FERRER PARISH OFFICE

28353 Herbert St., Madison Heights, MI 48071
248-542-8720 Fax 248-542-8721
Website: www.stvincentferrer.net

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday

9am to Noon - 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Friday - 9am to Noon - Closed Saturday & Sunday

Parish Office Staff

Reverend John C. Esper, Priest in Solidum
Deborah Tourville, Bus. Mgr/Adult Faith Formation
Sheryl Brown, Parish Secretary/Bulletin
Jim Balistreri, Music Coordinator
Mary Ann Przybysz, Evangelical Charity Coordinator/
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults(OCIA) Coordinator
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

Faith Formation Office

Hours: Monday thru Thursday Noon-3pm or by appointment 248-398-1743

Matthew Zinser, Childhood Faith Formation Coordinator

For information on Baptisms, RCIA and Funerals contact the Parish Office 248-542-8720



MONDAY, March 13, 2023

8:00am Mass: Christopher Hudy (Special Intention) req. by Mom

TUESDAY, March 14, 2023

8:00am Mass: Sam Balstrerit req. by Marie Bessler

WEDNESDAY, March 15, 2023

8:00am Mass: Nick Szczerba† (15th R.A.) req. by Wife & Children

THURSDAY, March 16, 2023

8:00am Mass: Mike Higgins† req. by Family

SATURDAY, March 18, 2023,

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Huard Family req. by Bill & Mary Beth Hochstetler
Peter Conway† req. by Mom
Anthony Milko† req. by Wife

SUNDAY, March 19, 2023

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Jerry Gutowski† req. by Barb & Joe Miller
Patricia James† req. by Bill & Sue Gordon
Annabelle Malotke† req. by Camille Keyes
Sally Doyle† req. by Jessie Giszczak



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF March 12, 2023



- Sunday: Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]
- Monday: 2Kings 5:1-5ab Ps 42: 2-3, 43: 3-4 Lk 4:24-30
- Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43, Ps 25:4-9 Mt 18:21-35
- Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9, Ps 147: 12-13, 15-16, 19-20, Mt 5:17-19
- Thursday: Jer 7: 23-28, Ps 95:1-2, 6-9, Lk 11:14-23
- Friday: Hos 14:2-10, Ps 81:6-11,14,17, Mk 12:28-34
- Saturday: Hos 6:1-6, Ps 51: 3-4, 18-21, Lk 18: 9-14
- Sunday: 1Sm 16:1b, 6-7,13a, Eph 5:8-14, Ps 23:1-6 Jn 9:1-41 or 9: 1,6-9, 13-17,34-38



CELEBRATE YOUR MARRIAGE
Sunday, March 19, 2023
9am Mass

Fr. John will offer a special blessing and an opportunity for all married couples to renew their marriage vows at the 9am Mass on Sunday, March 19th. No registration is required for Mass.

Your love for each other is a light to the world. Come and renew your commitment as a witness to Christ's love in our world through your love for each other.

**A Brunch & Presentation
 for Married Couples**

following 9am Mass on March 19th
 SVF Admin Bldg. Dining Hall

\$20 per couple - Paid in advance

Dr. Patricia Cooney Hathaway, PhD, a Professor of Spirituality and Systematic Theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary will present insights into

Faith During Seasons of Life

Join like minded couples in this insightful opportunity for expanding your love for each other within the context of the Sacrament of Matrimony. A light brunch will be served.

Register by this Monday, March 14th!



*...all government leaders to seek wisdom in finding a peaceful resolution to the Ukraine crisis.
 ...medical and humanitarian aid for the wounded in Ukraine and*

the refugees fleeing the country.

...the safety of men and women dedicated to protecting lives and freedom.

...the homeless and all who are suffering physically and emotionally due to economic conditions.

...all who are sick, homebound, undergoing or recovering from surgery, medical procedures, treatments or testing, and those who have made specific prayer requests.

Lord Jesus,

You are the Divine Physician and Healer. To You, we lift up in prayer all who are lonely, homeless, sick or addicted; all who are unemployed or underemployed; all who are anxious or depressed and all who are suffering in any way spiritually, physically or emotionally especially during this crisis. In their pain and brokenness, we ask that you bring them the comfort of your loving presence. In You, may they find strength for the day and hope for the journey. Amen

**All are invited to join us in church or online
 for Fr. John's Lenten Reflection Series**

Hope in Changing Times

Wednesday evening - March 15 & 22 - 7pm

To watch livestream visit St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church (Madison Heights) youtube channel.



Virtual Soup Supper

Thank you to all who made contributions to Lighthouse of Oakland County. This week's charity is Song and Spirit Outreach. The Song and Spirit Outreach seeks to bring people together from different faith traditions to engage in creative services through outreach to the poor, music, art and education. It is located in Royal Oak. It collects and delivers food, clothing, care packages containing everyday necessities for personal hygiene across Metro Detroit. It is committed to engaging others in creative service. You can read more about this service by going to their website: <https://songandspirit.org>.

Charitable donations can be made at Fr. John's Lenten Reflection, at the Parish Office or online by visiting our website.

Chilled Beet Soup

Ingredients:

- 4 cups buttermilk (can use kefir) or plain yogurt
- 2 1/2 cups milk
- 1 lb. marinated beets **OR** 3 small, boiled beets **OR** 1 can of beets
- splash of lemon juice or vinegar
- 2 small cucumbers
- handful scallions
- pinch of pepper
- handful of chopped fresh dill
- 2 eggs
- pinch of salt
- pinch of sugar
- 3-4 medium potatoes

Directions:

1. Hard boil the eggs and cool off
2. Peel and boil potatoes and set aside to cool
3. Julienne the beets and transfer them to a bowl with the juices
4. Peel and julienne cucumbers and add to beets in bowl
5. Finely chop scallions
6. Pour milk and buttermilk (or kefir) **OR** milk and yogurt over the beets and cucumbers
7. Add dill
8. Taste to make sure that the soup is sour, salty and sweet. Season as desired
9. Put chilled beet soup in refrigerator for a at least 2 hours to intensify the flavor and color (do not be alarmed that soup may look like Pepto Bismol :-); it is supposed to have the pinkish color)
10. Quarter the eggs and add some to each bowl of soup and top with scallions
11. Place boiled potatoes in a separate bowl as a side dish and sprinkle with dill. Enjoy!

Easter Table Goodies Raffle on Palm Sunday

Because Easter falls on the second Sunday of April, our monthly coffee & donut hospitality will be moved to the first Sunday, which is Palm Sunday, April 2nd. All are welcome!

Again this year, on Palm Sunday, we will be conducting an Easter table themed raffle. If you wish to donate a basket of goodies (such as cheese/crackers, small ham, bacon/eggs, confections or a Spring potted plant such as tulips, daffodils, hydrangea, etc.) we would be grateful.

If you plan to donate items or an entire basket for the raffle, please call the Parish Office by March 30th to let us know what you plan to bring. Non-perishable items or baskets filled with non-perishable items can be left at the Parish Office during business hours thru March 30th. If your basket will contain perishable food items, please let us know by Thursday, March 30th what your item is, and then bring it to the hall on the day of the raffle.

You can also support this activity by purchasing raffle tickets - One (1) ticket at \$2 or three (3) tickets at \$5.

The raffle ticket proceeds will be put toward the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

EVANGELICAL SERVICE CORNER

FOOD PANTRY

Our food Pantry has closed, but if you are in need of food, contact the parish office for information on local food pantries.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The St. Vincent de Paul Ministry will meet this Tuesday, March 14th at 6:30pm in church.

FILLED EASTER BASKETS FOR OAKLAND COUNTY JAIL OUTREACH MINISTRY Collection March 13 thru 26

Help the Oakland County Jail Outreach Ministry secure Easter Baskets for families that they serve.

Filled Easter Baskets are needed for all ages

Label baskets by age and gender:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Infant to age 1 | Toddlers ages 2-4 |
| Youngsters ages 5-8 | Pre-teen ages 9-12 |
| Teens ages 13-18 | Adults |

ITEM SUGGESTIONS:

Baskets should come complete with your typical items found in an Easter basket such as but not limited to: stuffed or plush animals, toys, candy, games, a card or a prayer, children's books/coloring books/religious books

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS:

hair brush, comb, hair ornaments, toothbrush, toothpaste, body wash, bubble bath, soap etc.

SPECIAL TOUCH OF BEAUTY

You might consider including a packet of seeds, so a child or adult is encouraged to plant and care for some beauty of their own planted near their home.

Filled Easter Baskets can be left on designated tables in church on weekends or dropped off at the Parish Office during the week.



RESULTS OF PARISH HEALTH SURVEY

This survey came at a good time. As we observe Lent, we often sacrifice something as a form of repentance, we can include the addition of a new habit to further benefit our health and our journey toward Jesus.

The results show the most interest in blood pressure/hypertension, exercise and health, and complementary therapy, followed by stroke, Alzheimer's/dementia, CPR/AED, weight control, and anxiety. There was interest in all the topics, and we will plan to address them through out the year starting with the most popular. The common theme I see is that there is interest in developing and promoting health behaviors through diet, exercise, and complementary therapies. I also see the need to cope with anxiety, stress, depression, and chronic illness in a healthful way.

Stay tuned for health events. In this time of renewal take on a healthy habit, promote acts of kindness, share your blessings with others, pray more than ever, seek out others and tell them how much you appreciate them. Pope Francis said, "Start from where you are, and from there, try to journey together." So, let's find the joy of learning, praying and sharing together!

Angela Maynard,
Parish Nurse



JOIN US IN CHURCH FRIDAYS DURING LENT AT 7:00PM

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION March 18/19

The annual collection for Catholic Relief Services will be next weekend. Contributions are used to support "organizations that aid travelers, people affected by war and natural disasters, others whose work or unique cultural circumstances require special pastoral support and migrants and refugees displaced by conflict, persecution or political instability."

Envelopes for this collection are at the church entrances. Please make checks payable to St. Vincent Ferrer Church.



Early bulletin deadline: To have names of deceased loved ones included in the Easter bulletin, memorial flower envelopes must be returned by Monday, March 27, 2023.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Question: During what two liturgical seasons is the Gloria omitted from the Mass?

Answer: Lent & Advent

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?
CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED
EASTER**

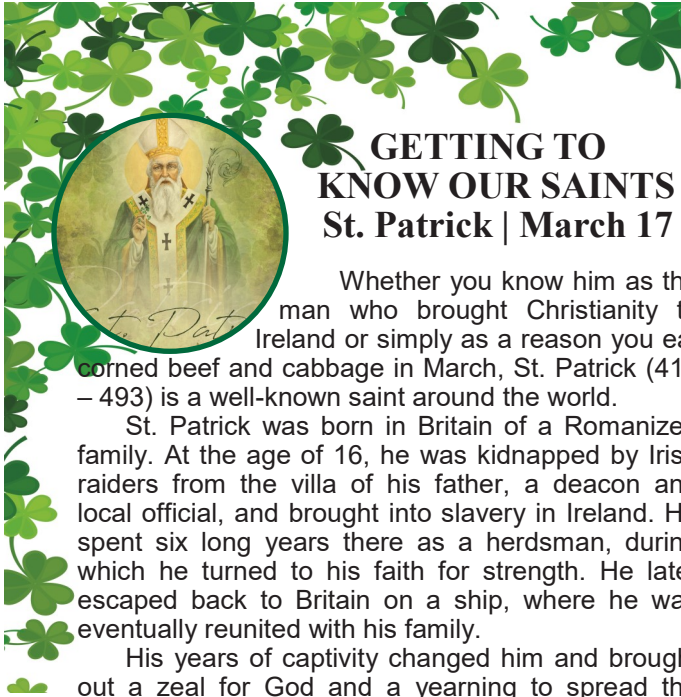
Question:

Why does the date of Easter change every year, while most other celebrations are celebrated on the same day?

Answer:

Every feast is celebrated at a certain time for a reason. Saints feast days are commonly the day of their death. While we don't know Jesus' exact birthday, we celebrate the "light of the world" around the time of winter solstice, as dark, wintery days begin to lengthen again. We have a historical clue, however, to when the Easter events occurred. We know that Jesus was crucified the day before Passover. The Jews calculated the date for Passover based on both the solar and lunar calendars. It corresponds to the first full moon after the spring equinox. The early Christians maintained this connection in their celebrations of Easter on the first Sunday after the paschal full moon.

We don't re-calculate the full moon every year. As astronomy developed, so too did the forecasts of when Easter would occur in future years. The Church has created a table of calculated dates, projecting the date of Easter decades in advance. The date of Easter also determines the date of Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent, as well as the feast days following in the Easter season, including Pentecost. So these feasts move, too! This tradition may seem complicated, but it connects our Christian faith now to what has come before - our Jewish roots and the real, historical reality of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. ©LPi



**GETTING TO
KNOW OUR SAINTS
St. Patrick | March 17**

Whether you know him as the man who brought Christianity to Ireland or simply as a reason you eat corned beef and cabbage in March, St. Patrick (415 – 493) is a well-known saint around the world.

St. Patrick was born in Britain of a Romanized family. At the age of 16, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders from the villa of his father, a deacon and local official, and brought into slavery in Ireland. He spent six long years there as a herdsman, during which he turned to his faith for strength. He later escaped back to Britain on a ship, where he was eventually reunited with his family.

His years of captivity changed him and brought out a zeal for God and a yearning to spread the message of Jesus Christ. Despite the constant danger of martyrdom, he continued to travel throughout Ireland where he baptized and confirmed in the name of Christ. ©LPi

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

M
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H
12

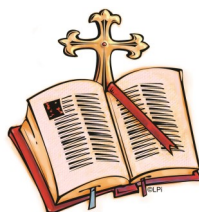
- Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent, Daylight Saving Time begins
- Friday: St. Patrick, Bishop, St. Patrick's Day
- Saturday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent

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**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP &
SCRIPTURE REFLECTION**

Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 9am
Faith Formation Office in School

The men's fellowship group gathers for a scripture reflection/sharing every other Saturday at 9am in the Faith Formation Office of the school building. All men are welcome. No registration is required.



Ministry Schedule		
March 18/19, 2023		
Mass	4:00pm	9:00am
Sacristan	T Riley	L Yolkiewicz
Reader #1	D Tourville	R Grant
Reader #2	T Riley	L Yolkiewicz
EME	D Tourville	C McCarthy
	J McCown	M Black
	M Kairis	R Grant
Greeters	R Pasiak	R Juska-Svoba
	L Proszkowski	S Bosetti
	K Heffner	B Gutowski
	T Pasiak	P Rarus

GOSPEL MEDITATION
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

When I became the pastor of a large parish, I soon found myself, for the first time in my life, riddled with anxiety, headaches, difficulty making decisions, and fatigue. I called a therapist friend and told her my symptoms and asked if she thought I needed a serious medical exam. She said, "How much water do you drink?" I told her, "I haven't had time to drink water lately." She responded, "You're chronically dehydrated. Drink eighty-five ounces a day and call me in a week." I started guzzling water and in a week all my symptoms went away. I felt great.

Like me, the people in the Exodus wanderings were dehydrated. But unlike me, they knew it. Their symptoms were bad. They fight with each other. They accuse God of being a monster who wants them and their children to die of thirst. Their thirst drives them to plot the bloody assassination of the man who rescued them. God responds by using Moses to strike a rock from which rivers of living waters flow to quench their thirst for years to come.

The Holy Spirit is the living water of love which flows from the pierced side of Jesus, the new Moses. What symptoms in your life suggest you're spiritually dehydrated? Anger at God? Cynicism at your leaders? Bitter rivalry and bickering with others? Don't panic. *Of course* we have those symptoms. Ask God to provide his water to quench your spiritual thirst, and he will. And all those symptoms will soon disappear. — *Father John Muir*

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Oakland County Jail Ministry Seeking Volunteers

For I was in prison and you visited me."

The Oakland County Jail Chaplain's Office is a hub of activity responding to requests from inmates. We are in need of several volunteers to join us to work in the office, to visit inmates on a one-to-one basis, or by being a member of a team that meets in the evening for church services.

Want to learn more? Sign up and come to the two sessions of Jail Chaplaincy Orientation. It is important that you attend both days Monday, March 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Monday, March 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Registration is required.

Register by sending an email before March 13 to OCSOCLERGY@OAKGOV.COM Information needed: NAME, PHONE NUMBER, EMAIL, CHURCH OR FAITH GROUP. You must bring picture id (e.g. driver's license) to both sessions.

Questions? Contact Mary Ann Simmons 248-543-3420.



OUR FAMILY - MASS SCHEDULES

National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica

2100 W. 12 Mile, Royal Oak, 48073

SATURDAY

8:30 am and 4:30 pm (livestreamed)

SUNDAY

7:30 am, 9:30 am (livestreamed), 11:30 am

4:00 pm (Spanish-livestreamed), and 6:00 pm

WEEKDAYS (*Monday - Friday*)

6:30 am (livestreamed), 8:30 am

St. Justin, St. Mary Magdalen

1631 E. Elza Hazel Park, 48030 (St J)

50 E Annabelle Ave. Hazel Park, 48030 (St MM)

SATURDAY - 4 pm - St. Justin

SUNDAY - 9 am & 11 am - St. Mary Magdalen

MON-WED & FRI- 9am - St. Justin

St. Mary


730 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, 48067

SATURDAY - 4:30 pm

SUNDAY - 9 am, 11 am

MON, TUES, THURS, FRI - 7:30 am

WED - 12:10 pm

 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP	
Offertory Env. Distributed & e-fund participants	717
Offertory Env. Used & e-fund participants	109
Total Amount in Offertory Env. & e-funds rec'd	\$ 4,927.55
Loose Cash /Check Collection	206.00
Total	\$ 5,133.55
Budgeted Amount for Offertory	\$ 9,340.46
Energy	\$ 312.00



Come...walk with us on our journey!

We are seminarians at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. Every year in preparation for ordination to the priesthood our first-year theology class makes a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We will spend four weeks participating in intensive prayer, study and spiritual formation. Our journey will end in Rome.

St. Vincent Ferrer Parish and Detroit Oakland Serra Club invite you and your family to

2023 DESERT MEAL

A potluck dinner to support our seminarians on their journey. (Goodwill Donations)
National Shrine of the Little Flower Grade School Gym
12 Mile Rd @ Woodward, Royal Oak, MI

We ask you to bring dishes for the potluck according to the first initial of your last name.

- Vegetable: A,B,C,D Potatoes: P,Q,R,S
- Green Salad E,F,G, Dessert: T thru Z
- Appetizer: H,I,J,K Meat, Wine, Beverages
- Fruit Salad: L,M,N,O Will Be Provided

Please RSVP by March 21st: Call Marte Bewick at 248.761.2175

The Desert Experience is funded by your generous donations at this Desert Meal.

Unable to attend, but want to offer financial support
The Desert Formation Experience
Sacred Heart Major Seminary
2701 Chicago Blvd., Detroit, MI 48206

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION

First Reading: Ex 17:3-7

The Lord responded to the prayer of Moses with the miracle of water from the rock for the Israelites to drink. What might you ask from the Lord this week?

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

Paul speaks of having “hope” because “the love of God has been poured into our hearts though the Holy Spirit.” How does your faith in Jesus give you hope?

Gospel: Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15,19b-26, 40-42

Through her dialogue with Jesus, the Samaritan woman comes to the realization that Jesus is the Messiah. In her joy, she tells other Samaritans about her encounter with Jesus. How can you share your faith in Jesus with others?

©LPi

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Sometimes, like the Samaritan woman, we can scarcely believe that God would meet us here in this fallen world. The truth of what he speaks and the beauty of what he proclaims is like a well of spring water in a dry desert. Do we dare accept the gift?
©LPi

The Messiah Before You

by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

If you would have asked me on the morning of my confirmation what the chances were of the Holy Spirit getting into my heart, I would have told you they were about the same as getting water from a stone.

My faith was fragile at this time in my life, primarily because I viewed it as exactly that — my faith. Something within my possession and subject to my own power. And I hadn't done the things I thought I needed to do in order to be the kind of Christian who knows the truth and lives it. I was waiting to be made stronger. I was waiting to be made more faithful. I was waiting for a transformation.

Little did I know, I was like the woman at the well, standing around talking about the coming of the Messiah, unaware that he was standing right in front of me. She wasn't ready; she was still living in her sin. She was caught so unawares that she left her water jar at the well, rushing out to tell what she had seen.

When I was anointed with the oil it no longer mattered that I wasn't strong enough to break open the stone that I was convinced encased my heart — God's grace gushed forth through the cracks. While I certainly didn't become a perfect Christian — and never will, in this life — I did learn that when God tells you to strike, it's probably best not to second-guess Him.

“We boast in the glory of God... and hope does not disappoint.” Romans 5:2-5
©LPi

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT



Sendin' Bless! ©2002 LPi WWJD

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CONTACT ME
Larry Burgett

lburgett@4LPi.com
(800) 477-4574 x6268

Elizabeth "Betty" McEvoy E.A.

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Cell: (248) 808-4353

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Madison Heights, MI 48071

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St. Vincent De Paul upon any
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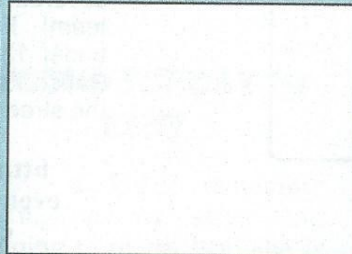


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