



LIVING WATER

Despite the floods of recent years, Australians more than many people appreciate just how precious a resource water is. There would be very few of us who would not be able to remember living through some period of drought or scarcity of water. Our experience places us in a good position to appreciate the problem faced by the people of Israel. Having been rescued from the oppression of the Egyptians the people of Israel felt betrayed – had they been saved from Egypt only to perish in the desert by thirst? Despite their lack of faith God reached out through Moses and provided them with water in the desert.

When the Samaritan woman came to the well searching for water she could barely have imagined where her encounter with Jesus would lead. She came seeking water but left having come to terms with her past, and having led others to Jesus, the source of living water. As is so often the case, personal experience is the best teacher and having heard Jesus for themselves her fellow Samaritans come to see Jesus as their saviour and source of living water.

When Paul reflected on salvation history he came to see that despite the hardness of the human heart God has always been as he was with the people in the desert. The life-giving love of God has been poured into our hearts to quench our thirst and bring us to life. This love has always been freely given and undeserved. The most powerful proof of this is that Jesus died for us while we were yet sinners.

Christopher Monaghan CP

will never be thirsty again:
the water that I shall give
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up
to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshiper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done,' so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form 4:5-42

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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FIRST READING

Ex 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have

entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 4:42, 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! / Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; / give me living water, that I may never thirst again. / Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Jn 4:4-5, 19-26, 39-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give

Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood

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www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood

www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic

NB: New Parish PO Box address: PO Box 437 West Ryde NSW 1685. For your information

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION AND DEVOTION

Weekday Mass: Monday - 7:30am (Communion Service, except on Feast Days);

Tuesday to Thursday - 7:30am (followed by Holy Rosary); Friday - 5pm

Weekend Mass: Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm (livestreamed); Sunday - 8am, 9:30am, 6pm

CCC Mass: Sunday at 11:30am (English/Cantonese)

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday 4pm-5pm

First Friday Devotion: Monthly at 4pm

First Saturday Mass and Devotion: Monthly at 9am

Exposition and Benediction: First weekend of the month at all Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday 4pm-4:45pm and Saturday 4:30pm-5:15pm

SCAN OUR
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Third Sunday of Lent/Year A

12th March 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Deceased: Milly Farrell, Pasquale Sorbilli; Des Ebejer; Jonathan Ellsmore; Gerald Crown; Denis Hoey; Patrick O' Connor; Ella Barton; John Davidson; Lucy Ng; Cecilia Tan; Francis Murray; Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott & Stewart families; Geoff and Patricia Clarke; Ron & Jan Brayan; John, Bonnie Bowdern & family; & all souls in purgatory.

Sick: Lyn Crown, Burkardt Foertsch, Graham Rumble, Ben Isaacs, Harriet D'Souza, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw, Ceferino Ramirez.

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS AND MEMORIALS:

St. Gregory the Great 12th March, St. Louise de Marillac 15th March

JOIN US FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASS ON FRIDAY 17 MARCH AT 5PM. ALL WELCOME.

- **Our Lenten 2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be on Tuesday 28th March at 6pm.**
- **Stations of the Cross** every Friday right after the 5pm Mass during Lent.
- To help us prepare and reflect on the Gospels this season of Lent, we invite you to join our Parish Lenten Group led by Fr Pawel, Thursdays at 6pm in the Church. Parishioners are welcome to form their own groups. Resource available: **Lenten Companion—'SPIRIT AND TRUTH: The Power of Christ Revealed'** - free to download at: <https://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/resources/>.



- **Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season.** You can also donate online via: caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or call 1800 024 413. Project Compassion boxes/envelopes can be returned until Easter Sunday.


**LENT
2023**



PARISH NEWS:

- *New Liturgical Rosters are now available for collection from the table near the sacristy.*
NB: 8am Readers please collect your updated roster.
- **At the Vigil Mass this weekend, we welcome back Rahul, Alex, Ewan and Jina, our RCIA participants, now called 'the elect,' for their First Rite of Scrutiny as we present them with the Nicene Creed.** Please give them a warm welcome as they continue their journey to becoming Catholics.
- **We welcome Natalia into the family of God. Congratulations on your Baptism!**
- **Sunday Concert 19th March** - Come Along for a great musical afternoon - our own Kevinwood and visiting performers. Starts 2.30pm in Haseler Centre. Handbills at front desk
- **If you wish to offer a Mass and/or include the names of your sick or departed relatives/friends in the parish bulletin, please collect an envelope in the church foyer and write the date when you want the Mass to be said, name/s and the intention. Drop the envelope in the weekend collection bag or in the parish letterbox next to the sacristy. Thank you.**

SAVE THE DATE: Sat 1st April, 2pm-4pm, Haseler Centre (parish hall) -

Retreat for Engaged and Married Couples: 'When Love Gets Boring,' with  Fr Mirco Integlia. Fr Mirco is a chaplain and lecturer in Philosophy at the Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus. More details to follow. Watch this space!

Lenten Retreat organised by Olivia Cullen, St Kevin's Family Educator: Experience God's love and peace this Lent by joining us for a special retreat on **Tue 28th or Fri 31st March** at the beautiful **Franciscan Friary in Kellyville**. There will be time for quiet reflection in the chapel and gardens, an opportunity to pray the stations of the cross & conclude by making a resurrection garden to take home and display as an Easter centrepiece. Morning Tea & lunch provided. **RSVP essential. Places limited. Suggested donation: \$20** (to cover costs of garden materials, meals, donation to the friars). Email: olivia.cullen@syd.catholic.edu.au or scan the QR code to register.



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **Day of the Unborn Child:** Feast of the Annunciation Mass and Procession, Sunday 26th March, St Mary's Cathedral - 10:30am Mass presided by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP. Street Procession starts at 12nn. Benediction at 1:30pm.
- **St Patrick's Day Mass:** Friday 17th March, 10.30am at St Mary's Cathedral Bishop Emeritus Terry Brady (Principal Celebrant).

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL:



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:



Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office (02) 9390 5810 or E: safeguarding-enquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police.