

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

12 MARCH 2023

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT / A

'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:

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE OF 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 4:13-14

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven and are nourished while

still on earth with the Bread that comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you,

the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

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

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 24:15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. For we have sinned against you.

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

R. And grant us your salvation.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

The Gloria is not said during Lent.

COLLECT

P. O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

THE WATER OF LIFE. Jesus is the saviour of the world. In today's Gospel he offers the water of life to a Samaritan woman who, in turn, becomes the first missionary of Jesus. She hurries to tell the people of her town about him. We, who have received the life of God in baptism, are also called to be missionaries by inviting others to come and see Jesus.

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.

R. Thanks be to God.

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.

R. Thanks be to God.

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

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

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



HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH RYDALMERE

Third Sunday of Lent / A
12 March 2023

Church: 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere
Mail: 2 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere 2116
Phone: (02) 9684 1541, 0432 950 895
Email: admin@holymary.org.au
Website: www.holymary.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Lamont
Ass. Priest: Fr. Yong Ho Jang (Fr. Pio)
St Mary's School: Mr. Richard Blissenden
St Patrick's Marist: Mr. Paul Ryan

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY EUCHARIST:	Saturday Vigil	5.30pm
	Sunday	7.30am & 10.00am
WEEKDAY EUCHARIST:	Tuesday - Saturday	9.15am
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday	4.30pm - 5.15pm
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT	Exposition: Wednesday and Saturday	8.30am
	Exposition: Monday - Friday	7.00pm - 12.00am
BAPTISMS:	2 nd and 4 th Sunday of month	11.30am

Please Pray For

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Enea Menin - Trudi Fisher, Fr John De Luca, Les Riedling (Father of Fr Robert Riedling), Fr Ruben Elago.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Lyal West, Fr Paul Gardiner SJ, Jacob Dzido, Janja Dzido, Josip Staresincic, Josipa Staresincic - John Crawley, Fraolina Stornelli, Issac Moses, Michael Saad, Katie Saad, Alston Mortier, Bernard Bozic.

Rosters – 18/19 March

Cleaning Ministry:

Computer Operators:

	Thess Davidson & family
Vigil 5.30pm	Lynette Rodrigues
Sun. 7.30am	Pamela McKay
Sun. 10.00am	Antonya Fernando
	Lawrence Tsang, Frank Camilleri
Vigil 5.30pm	Mia Boulous, Anne Betteridge
Sun. 7.30am	Anne Marie Lyons, Gail Dick
Sun. 10.00am	Romeo Urqueza, Yolanda Urqueza



NEWS FROM ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Did you know? Enrolments for children starting school in 2024 are currently being accepted through the St Mary's school office. Please call 8844 5700 for more information. Enrolment forms are available on line via the school's website <http://www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au/>



MT SCHOENSTATT 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

Come and spend some time with Our Lord and Our Lady in the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa, beginning with **6pm Mass on Friday 17 March**, followed by Reconciliation from 7:15pm – 10pm. On Saturday, Reconciliation will be held at 10am-12pm, and at 3pm-4.45pm with a Vigil Mass at 5pm. The Shrine will be welcoming people for prayer for the full 24 Hours. Groups to lead prayer are welcome. Contact paulandramani@gmail.com

HOLY WEEK/EASTER CHOIR

Choir rehearsal for Holy Week/Easter will continue this **Wednesday 15 March at 7.30pm** in the Church under the direction of Catherine Parker and John Galla.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross will continue **Fridays from 7.00pm to 7.30pm**. Eucharistic Adoration will follow The Stations of the Cross and conclude at midnight.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Priscilla lives in the Hwange district in Zimbabwe with her husband, Charles, and their two grandsons. With unprecedented challenges for people living in the most vulnerable and remote communities in Zimbabwe. With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops to support her family during the current food crisis. Priscilla was able to produce a bumper harvest in her first year of practising conservation farming. Priscilla used the funds from her harvest to start poultry farming, which enabled her to sell eggs to pay for her grandchildren's school fees, books and stationery. The poultry farming provides a safety net for Priscilla and her family during times of hardship. While the situation in Zimbabwe and across eastern Africa remains dire, the work of Caritas Hwange means that Priscilla can learn the skills she needs to build resilience and support her family during this current food crisis. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.** Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.** You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP

The group meet after 9.15am Mass and reflect on Sunday's Liturgy of the Word. All welcome. Contact Irene 0418 403 358 if you need transport.

ST PATRICK'S DAY BUSINESS BREAKFAST

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, are hosting the St Patrick's Day Business Breakfast, an annual event acknowledging faith and nation building & connecting Not-For-Profit organisations with business communities. The Breakfast is **17 March from 7am to 9am** at the Cathedral Hall, guest speaker Andrew Charlton, Federal Member for Parramatta. Tickets are \$100/person at: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1012636

GLENBROOK PARISH GOOD FRIDAY MUSIC & MEDITATION

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a performance of the music of J.S. Bach and special meditations and reflections on **Good Friday, 7 April, from 7.30pm** in the parish church. Offering choral and organ music of J.S. Bach together with special readings and meditations, this annual service will feature several of the wonderful chorale settings from the Passions according to St John and St Matthew. Suggested donations for entry are \$15 for adults, \$10 for concessions. Any enquiries, please contact 0421 105 017.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS COMMISSIONING CEREMONY

New career teachers and newly appointed (first time) Principals and Directors of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta are invited to a Commissioning and welcoming ceremony to commence the academic year. The ceremony will be conducted as Vespers on **Thursday 16 March** at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. RSVP to Christie Shaylor at events@parra.catholic.edu.au or phone (02) 9840 5656 by Friday 9 March 2023.

RYDALMEN

Our men's group next gathers on **Thursday 16th March at 7.15pm for 7.30pm** start in the Parish meeting room. We will continue our Lenten study based on the Diocese of Wollongong's "Triumph" program which includes Sunday Scripture readings, responsorial psalms, prayers and reflection questions. We also study beautiful artwork from the Masters with accompanying artwork reflections. Contact details: shane.young@ozemail.com.au, 0432 815 165.



GREYSTANES PARISH IS HIRING! MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING

Two employment positions at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, are available for 8-10 hours a week, or the possibility of combining both roles.

- Role 1: Maintenance and improvement works in the buildings and grounds – Requires proven handy-person skills with trade experience or equivalent.
- Role 2: Cleaning and hygiene care for offices, bathrooms and meeting areas – Requires practical experience and pride in work

Role descriptions are available. Please contact Christine via (02) 9631 8135 or parishoffice@olqp.org.au

FEAST OF THE WEEK

Friday, 17 March – Saint Patrick

St. Patrick is one of the most well-known saints in Christendom, and he left an indelible stamp on the Church. In addition to being the missionary who almost single handedly converted Ireland. St. Patrick also happens to be the author of what is perhaps the manliest prayer the Church has ever seen—the "Lorica" or "Breastplate" of St. Patrick. Its Gaelic title is *Fáed Fiada* or *The Deer's Cry*. St. Patrick wrote it in 433 A.D. for divine protection before successfully converting Ireland Leoghaire mac Neil the High King of and his subjects from paganism to Christianity. Tradition has it that on Easter morning, as St Patrick and his band of missionaries proceeded in processional order, toward the king's court, they chanted the sacred Lorica, or Deer's Cry, specially composed by Patrick for their protection. As the minions of the Druids lay in ambush to intercept and kill Patrick's band on their way to court, the assassins now saw not Patrick and his companions pass, but a harmless herd of gentle deer, a doe followed by her twenty fawns.



Hence the hymn's title, the *Fáed Fiada – The Deer's Cry*. When St. Paul referred to putting on the "Armour of God" in his letter to the Ephesians (6:11) to fight sin and evil inclinations, he could have been thinking of prayers just like this one! We may not wear combat gear in our daily lives, but St. Patrick's Breastplate can function as divine armour for protection against spiritual adversity. This powerful, and quite beautiful, this prayer can be said each morning.