



ST. JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 12, 2023

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am

Weekday Masses

Mon, Thu, Fri: 8:00 am
Wednesday: 6:00 pm
Tues: 5:30 pm Communion Service

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:15-4:45 pm
Wednesday 5:15-5:30 pm
or by appointment

Parish Office

Location 902 St. John Drive
..... in the Activity Center

Mailing Address P.O. Box 229
..... Sherman, IL 62684

Email parish@sjv.dio.org

Phone 217-523-3816

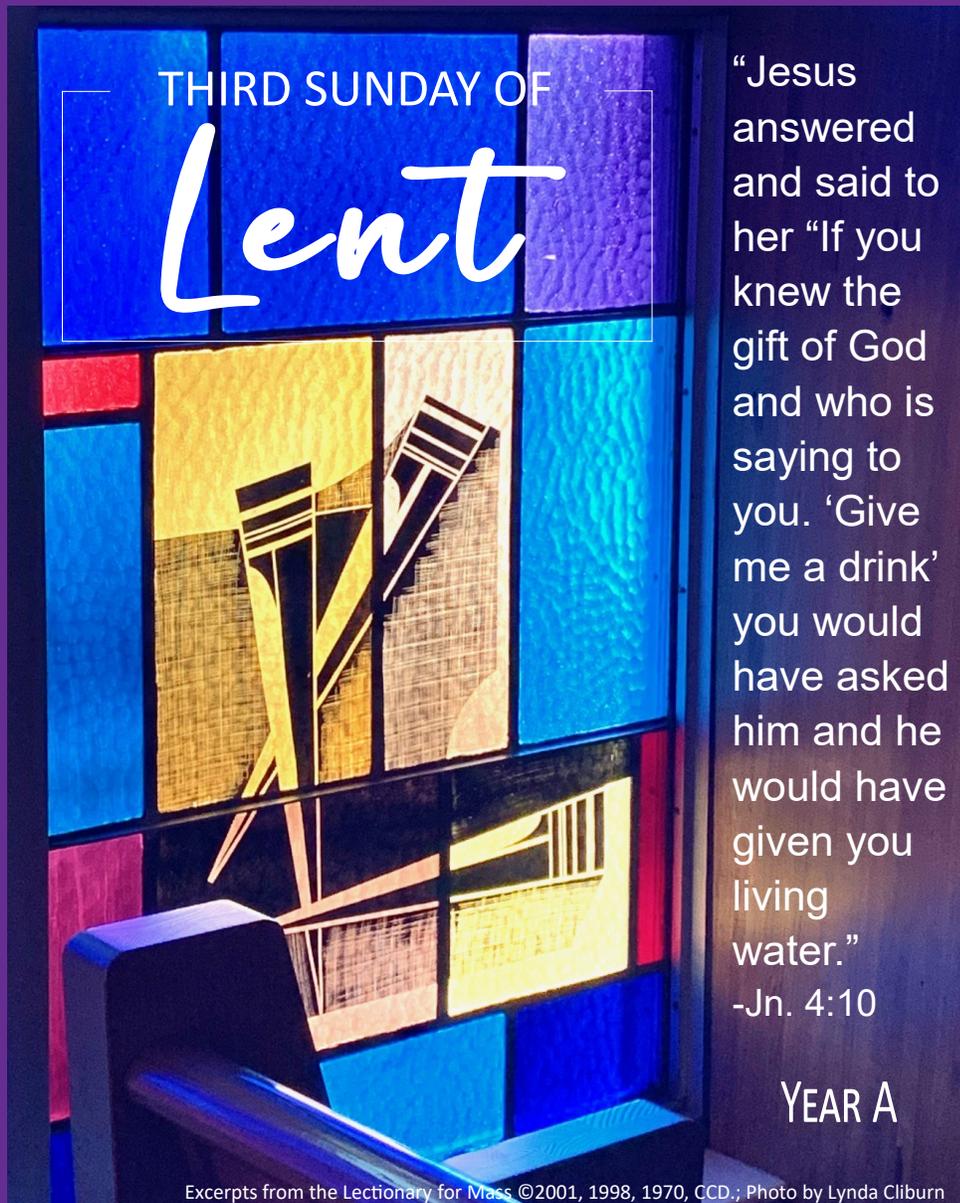
Office Hours Monday-Friday
..... 8:30 am—1:30 pm

Pastor:..... Fr. Fredrick Chima Mbiere
..... cmbiere@dio.org
..... 217-650-9276

Deacon:..... Andy Krug
..... parish@sjv.dio.org

Office Manager:.. Cliff Shehorn
..... cshehorn@sjv.dio.org

Bookkeeper: Lynda Cliburn
..... lcliburn@sjv.dio.org



“Jesus answered and said to her “If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you. ‘Give me a drink’ you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”
-Jn. 4:10

YEAR A

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970, CCD.; Photo by Lynda Cliburn

PARISH MINISTRIES CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Molly Kershaw 217-725-1389 mskershaw@gmail.com	Women's Society President: Barb Doud bdoudlinn@yahoo.com	Adult Faith Enrichment: Cliff & Carol Shehorn 217-553-0039 cliffcarol@yahoo.com	Council 14024 KC Grand Knight: John Ausmus jpausmus56@gmail.com 217-415-2109
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Parish Nurse: Nancy Barrett barrettnancy259@gmail.com	Youth Group Coordinator: Molly Ishmael mnh82@hotmail.com	Faith Formation Coordinators: Stacie Henderson/Jennifer Grebner psr@sjv.dio.org
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Pro-Life Coordinator: Valerie Henderson tvh@casscomm.com	Caregivers Ministry: Cindy Bahner 217-741-0224 cbee355@aol.com	Prayer Line: Terry Willis 725-2005 ter2will@aol.com	Tribunal Advocate: Rita Friedewald ritafriedewald@yahoo.com
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Find us online at
[https://
sjvsherman.org](https://sjvsherman.org)



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What do I thirst for in my life?

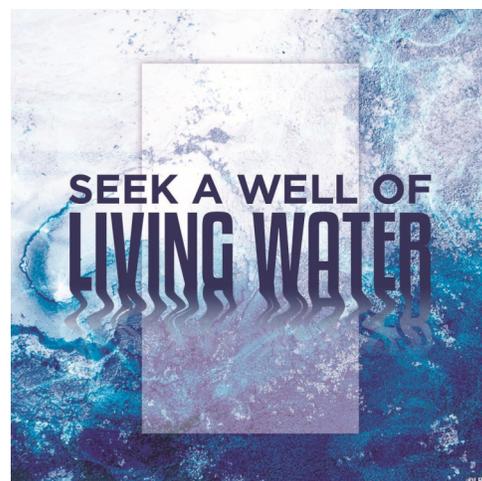
Beloved brothers and sisters, on this 3rd Sunday of Lent, the holy Mother Church encourages us to come to Christ the Eternal Living Water. She calls us to break all cultural barriers and prejudices in order to let the eternal living water flow into all hearts.

The 1st reading of today tells us of the ordeal of the Israelites in the wilderness. After 430 years of slavery in Egypt, God came to deliver them (Ex 12:40). Yet, they grumbled against Moses, and consequently, against God because they were thirsty. And so, when they complained about lack of water in the wilderness, God instructed Moses to strike the rock, and a stream of fresh living water gushed out (Ex 17:6). The Israelites drank, and were satisfied. Both the rock Moses struck, and the water that gushed out from it allegorically and metaphorically prefigure Christ. He is both the rock of our salvation, and our eternal living water. Of course, in the Old Testament, water is a common metaphor for spiritual satisfaction (Is 12:3). On our part today, we also need a spiritual drink from the living water that flows from Christ, the Rock of Ages. Hence, we must: "Draw water from the well of salvation" (Is 12:3) in order to quench our spiritual thirst this Lenten season.

The reading prepares us for the Gospel when we hear Jesus offer "living water" to a woman he meets in Samaria as he is travelling in that area. Jesus, in the Gospel presents himself to this woman as the Eternal Living Water, which underscores the importance of Christ in our life. What is the point of Jesus'

exchange with the Samaritan woman about water? She was an outcast and not welcomed among her own townspeople. Jesus then did something no respectable Jew would think of doing. He reached out to her, thus risking ritual impurity and scorn from his fellow Jews. He also did something no strict Rabbi would dare to do in public without loss to his reputation. He treated the woman like he would treat one of his friends - he greeted her and spoke at length with her. Jesus broke through the barriers of prejudice, hostility, and tradition to bring the good news of peace and reconciliation to Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles alike. He demonstrated the universality of the gospel both in word and deed. No one is barred from the love of God and the good news of salvation. Water is a source of life and growth for all living things. But, the kind of water which Jesus spoke about was living, running, fresh, pure water.

The image of "living water" is used throughout the scriptures as a symbol of God's wisdom, a wisdom that imparts life and blessing to all who receive it. "The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life" (Proverbs 13:14). "Living water" was also a symbol for the Jews of thirst of the soul for God. The water which Jesus spoke of symbolized the Holy Spirit and his work of recreating us in God's image and sustaining in us the new life which comes from God. The life which the Holy Spirit produces in us makes us a "new creation" in Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). Remember, this



living water that leads to eternal life he offers us today as we meet him in faith and prayer. Do you thirst for God and for the life of the Holy Spirit within you? May God give us the grace to always thirst for Him. Amen.

2ND WEEKEND OF SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP:

We listen to our lay witnesses this weekend. We pray that we will continue to be inspired by all these testimonies.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE: I plan to conduct our Parish Lenten Penance Service on the 5th Sunday of Lent, March 26 at 2:30 p.m. We will be having 2 extra priests for the individual confessions. It will be an opportunity for a common penance and individual confessions in preparation for Easter. Meanwhile, the 1st Reconciliation for our kids will be on Saturday, March 25, at 10:00 a.m. Do not forget that I am available to hear your confessions even on appointments. Have a blessed new week ahead and a grace-filled Lent.

FR. FREDDIE MBIERE

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

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. 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



Stewardship is not meant for someone else.

Jesus calls each of us, no matter our age or ability, to serve the church.

What is your response to Jesus' call?

Live boldly. Live a stewardship way of life!

Season of Stewardship Witness Sunday

Lay Witness Sunday

Do you desire a deeper prayer life? Do you desire purpose and authenticity? Do you desire to meet new people? Are you looking to serve the community or help parishioners? Are you looking to be more charitable or increase your giving to the parish family? If you answered yes to any of these questions, stewardship of time, talent, or treasure is your answer! Just as our parish families share their witness stories this weekend, we each have a stewardship witness to share! What is your story?

SAVE THE DATE

for SJV's Stewardship Ministry Fair on March 26th

SJV KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #14024



FRIDAY FISH FRY

SJV Activity Center

March 17, 24 and 31

Dine In: 4:30-7:00 PM

Drive Thru: 4:30-6:30 PM

Carry-out available



\$10 ADULT MEAL

Kid's Meal \$5 WITH 1 SIDE

Assorted Desserts
Beer, Wine, and Soda
available for purchase

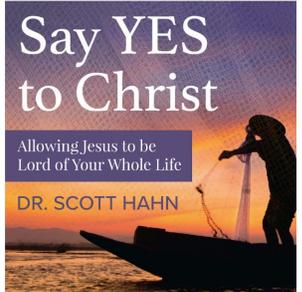
FREE TO ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISHIONERS

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

Mary conformed the entirety of her life to the Divine Will. In doing so, she became the model of perfect discipleship. In this talk, Dr. Scott Hahn discusses why we too should surrender our lives to the Lord.

Visit formed.org/signup
and type in **62684**



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and IGNATIUS PRESS

Women's SOCIETY

The Women's Society continues to need desserts each Friday for the K of C Fish Fry dinners. Doors to the Activity Center will be open Friday at 7:30 am and remain open all day for dessert drop off. We thank those that have helped so far.



Collection for Catholic Relief Services. The second collection next weekend will support Catholic Relief Services, which helps victims of war and natural disasters receive emergency assistance; assists migrants and refugees who need housing, education, and specialized immigration legal assistance; and supports travelers and people whose livelihoods require special pastoral support and access to the sacraments. Thank you for your support.

St. John Vianney WEEKLY PARISH OFFERING March 4 & 5, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	\$	2995.00,
Loose Donations	\$	1,050.00
WeShare	\$	1,610.00
Total	\$	5,655.00
Weekly Budget	\$	4,788.46
Building & Maintenance	\$	255.00
Easter Flowers	\$	280.00
Capital Improvement	\$	255.00
Catholic Charities	\$	702.00
Catholic Times	\$	15.00

WeShare, our online donation tool, is not working properly for second collections, such as the collection for the *Catholic Times* subscription. Please write a check and drop it in the collection basket for any second collection until further notice.

Thank you for your generous support of our parish needs and those of the greater Church.

Our faith grows and becomes more fully alive the more we feed it. SJV has two great opportunities to feed our faith, meet fellow parishioners, enjoy good conversation, and great coffee!



What are you doing during Lent?

EVERY SUNDAY morning after Mass and after the opening of CFF, we watch videos from FORMED, drink wonderful coffee (or hot chocolate), and have some great discussions about our faith as we get to know fellow parishioners and maybe ourselves better.

Sundays 9:45—11 am

EVERY WEDNESDAY evening after Mass we meet to watch videos or study the bible and share our thoughts.

Wednesdays 6:45-8 pm

YOU ARE INVITED

Come to one or both

BE A PART OF BUILDING THE ST. JOHN VIANNEY FAMILY

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This Friday is St. Patrick's Day and the obligation of abstaining from meat on this day, as on the other Fridays of Lent, is a commendable way to honor the heroic virtue and sacrifice of St. Patrick's life as a disciple of Our Lord. For a just cause in individual cases, a pastor can grant a dispensation



from the obligation of observing a day of penance or can grant a commutation of the obligation into other pious good works (per canon 1245 of the *Code of Canon Law*). The faithful who are desirous of such a dispensation or commutation of the obligation to abstain from meat on Friday, March 17, should speak with their pastor.



JOIN US FOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT OUR PARISH

MONDAYS 6 PM

WEDNESDAYS 5:30 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

There is an opportunity for someone to join our Adoration group for the noon to 1 pm spot. This hour with Jesus is very rewarding. Please contact Michelle Campbell at 217-836-3778 if you are interested.

MASS INTENTIONS AND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	MAR. 11	MAR. 12	MAR. 13	MAR. 14	MAR. 15	MAR. 16	MAR. 17	MAR. 18	MAR. 19
	5:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	5:30 PM	6:00 PM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	8:30 AM
OBSERVANCES	VIGIL FOR 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT	3RD SUNDAY OF LENT					<i>St. Patrick, Bishop, St. Patrick's Day</i>	VIGIL FOR 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT	4TH SUNDAY OF LENT
MASS INTENTION	Kathy Reed †	For the People (Pro Populo)	Ann & Larry Buhr †	Communion Service	SJV Women's Society Members †	Special Intention	Glenn Allision †	Bill Camille †	For the People (Pro Populo)
LECTOR	Dan Blentlinger	Tom Henderson Grades 4 & 5	Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm		Eucharistic Adoration 7 am-6 pm			John Ausmus	LaDonna Rowden Grades 6-8
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	Deacon Andy	Deacon Andy				Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm		Kim Ausmus	Bev Hoffman
SERVER	Jonathan Wiesenmeyer Conor Wiesenmeyer	Allison O'Neill Samantha O'Neill Grades 4 & 5						Conor Ausmus	Gage Reedy Grades 6-8
SACRISTAN	Deacon Andy	Deacon Andy						Deacon Andy	Deacon Andy
GREETER	Carol Shehorn	Grades 4 & 5						Carolyn Adams	Grades 6-8

Our desire for God can only grow when we place ourselves in His presence.

-Pope Francis



Thank You!

Thank you's are in order to so many who make St. John Vianney's the wonderful faith-filled and active parish that it is:

To the SJV Women's Society — thank you for your generous donation to the parish's Capital Improvement Fund. This fund is used to pay for large improvements / repairs to the parish facilities.

To the young people who have been helping at the K of C Fish Fries — last week, Jonathan Wiesenmeyer, Conor Wiesenmeyer, and Amelia Kershaw (pictured at left) were tasked with working the order window. So many others worked the dining floor to keep the tables clean and ready for diners, ran orders out the drive up, and helped with many kitchen duties.

To the ladies at Wal Mart who make the donuts — The fresh and tasty donuts are enjoyed every Sunday by the children and their parents each week at CFF prior to going to their classrooms. The donut ladies always ask how our CFF program is doing. The donuts are made with love as one of the donuts even had a heart on it (pictured at left)!

To the Knights of Columbus Council #14024 — for buying and installing the new ceiling tiles and LED fixtures over the carpeted area in the Activity Center.

To the SJV Parish Council — for sponsoring the recent trivia night and using the proceeds to purchase the 85" TV and sound bar now newly installed in the big room of the Activity Center.



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

The Messiah before you

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.

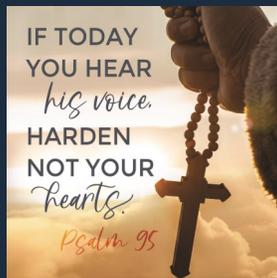
My faith was fragile at this time in my life, primarily because I viewed it as exactly that — my faith. Something within my possession and subject to my own power. And I hadn't done the things I thought I needed to do in order to be the kind of Christian who knows the truth and lives it. I was waiting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

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



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WHERE'S THE SACRIFICE

"It's not that I want you to do it. It's that I want you to want to do it."

If you're married or in a relationship, your partner has probably either said something like this to you or you have said it to them. If one of you hasn't said it, you have probably wanted to, and it's likely that a big argument or two was had where you dance around the sentiment, these exact words flashing in your mind like an old-time movie marquee.

"...The heart of the matter is the sacrifice and desire. That's what it all hangs on..."

The "it" never really matters much. Taking out the trash, painting the bedroom, traveling to your in-laws' for Christmas — whatever the subject matter of the disagreement is, it's all just so much set dressing. The heart of the matter is the sacrifice and desire. That's what it all hangs on. *Am I with a person who will sacrifice for me?*

When Paul writes to Philemon that he is sending Onesimus to him, he says exactly this. He tells Philemon that he would prefer to keep Onesimus with him, but that he does not want to deprive Philemon both of Onesimus and the opportunity to make a sacrifice worthy in the sight of the Lord.

The point is not who gets to hang out with Onesimus. The point is, as it says in the Gospel, who is willing to carry his cross? Who is willing to renounce his possessions? Who is willing to do the good deed for the sake of the other?

God doesn't care that much about what we have to offer. He cares much more that we have the strength to offer whatever we have.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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