Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 15, 2020
Third Sunday of Lent (A)
Ex 17:3–7
Rom 5:1–2, 5–8
Jn 4:5–42 or 4:5–15, 19b–26, 39a, 40–42

Water for Living, or Living Water?

Water flows through this Sunday's readings. In the passage from Exodus, the Hebrews cry out for the water so necessary for life. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of living water that provides eternal life.

The exchange between the Hebrews and Moses is straightforward and startling. Physical thirst led them to question the divine care that miraculously delivered them from the hands of Egyptian oppressors. We shouldn't be too quick to shake our fingers at them. How many times have we looked past blessings we take for granted, only to focus on lesser immediate needs? These desert people are our ancestors in more ways than one.

The Gospel of John is most interesting. Jesus is in Samaria, a land hated by the Jews. There he initiates a conversation with an inhabitant of the town of Sychar, someone who is an outcast in three major ways. She is a woman—no self-respecting man would be alone with a woman he didn't know. She is a Samaritan—Jews considered Samaritans unclean. And she is promiscuous—his own honor might be at risk. The woman's questionable social status does not prevent Jesus from engaging her, first in social etiquette ("Give me a drink" [4:7]), then in a theological exchange ("Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst" [4:14]).

The Hebrews experienced God's saving action in their exodus, but they lacked trust. The woman, hated by the Jews, was an outcast of her own people, yet she believed. How do we respond to the water?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- *Look at the deepest longings of your heart. What might quench your thirst?*
- *The Samaritan woman may have been the last person we would expect Jesus to engage with. What does this say about us?*

RICCARDO MAYER /SHUTTERSTOCK

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

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Emergencies 270-863-1596

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Altar Society -Dee Dee Johnston 270-723-2740 deedeej80@gmail.com

Prayer Chain - Betty Miller 270-259-3303 bettymil@windstream.net

Masses: March 17-March 22

Monday	7:30 am	Prayer/Communion
Tuesday	12:05 pm	Winnett Powell
Wednesday	5:00 pm	†Martha Matthews
Thursday	12:05 pm	†Edwina Neel
Friday	7:30 am	Special Intention(HAB)
Saturday	4:00 pm	Frank & Pauline Henning
Sunday	7:00 am	St. Joseph & St. John
Sunday	11:00 am	†Mary Emma Jarboe

Confessions

Wed 4:30 pm
Sat 3:00 pm

Pastoral Council

Barbara Allen
Jim Cecil
Jerry Clemons-Chair
Kirk Collard
Billy Dallas
Edna Duggins
Ann Marshall-Secretary
Chris Nelson
Carolyn Thomason– Vice Chair

Stewardship of Finance

March 1 $6553.58
Outreach $120
Diocese of Mandeville $317
Thank you for your generosity!

July 1– February 29

Total Income	$240,600
Total Expenses	$224,100

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	March 21—4:00 p.m.		March 22—7:00 a.m.		March 22—11:00 a.m.
L	Emily Taylor	L	Kevin Collard	L	Eddie Clemons
S	Ethan & Zach	S	James & John	S	Jackson & Lilly
C	Deacon Dale DePoyster	C	Deacon Dale DePoyster	C	Deacon Dale DePoyster
C	Jim Marshall	C	Eddie Milliner	C	Gail Dejarnette
H	Ann Marshall	H	Sue King	H	Joan Dobson
U	Jimmy & Sue Kipper	U	Jerry C./David C.	U	Wade L./Lamont M.
Gr	Danny Joe & Barbara Allen	Gr	David & Amelia Thompson	Gr	Joyce M./Debbie S.
Gi	Bob & Joanne Deweese	Gi	Craig & Joanne Johnson	Gi	Jeffery & Donna Wilson

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

430 St. John Church Rd, Sunfish, KY 42210
Website: www.stjohnch.org St. John Thrift Store 270-597-1038
Pastor Fr. Tony Bickett 270-863-1596

Pastoral Council

Nancy Farmer, Secretary	Joe Durbin
Barbara Fitzhugh	Shelia Durbin
James Hughes-Chair	Jim Sims-Vice Chair

This Week

Tue 5:00 pm Stations of the Cross

3rd Sunday of Lent: Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us for long. When we build our lives around material possessions we always want more. True Joy and Peace only comes when we follow Jesus; when we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered".

Lenten Almsgiving: In his 2018 Message for Lent, Pope Francis said, "Almsgiving sets us free from greed and helps us to regard our neighbor as a brother or sister. What I possess is never mine alone. . . . When we give alms, we share in God's providential care for each of his children. If through me God helps someone today, will he not tomorrow provide for my own needs? For no one is more generous than God."

Stewardship of Finance
March 8 $1132

Thank you for your generosity!
July 1– February 29

Total Income	$40,000
Total Expenses	$44,000

Mass March 22

Sunday 9:00 am The Family of Celestine & Lillie Durbin Living & Deceased

Lector	Joe Durbin
Server	Brian Davis
Cup	Deacon Dale/Bill Canty
Host	Cathy Canty
Ushers	Dwayne F./Bill Duvall
Gifts	Joe & Rita Fowler
Greeters	Dwayne F.

BIRTHDAYS

Jacob Madden	3/21

St. John Prayer List: Shirley Bush, Joe & Joan Childress, Jack Coop, Judy Dombrowski, Susan Drury, **Martha Durbin**, Catherine Duvall, Doug Farmer, Ken Farris, Laura Hamilton, Deacon Bob Higbee, Betty Jennings, Joe Lonsbery, **Rosemary Kenney**, Vickie Ranburger, Kathryn Sowders, Jim Vessels, Chris Wolfe, For our Military & their families

St. John's Thrift Store & Food Pantry
301 N Main St., Brownsville, KY 42210
Store Open: Mon - Fri - 9 am - 2:30 pm
270-597-1038 Sat - 9 am - 1:00 pm
Pantry Open: Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am -2 pm

This Week at St. Joseph

Mon	7:30 am	Prayer/Communion
Tue	12:05 pm	Mass
	5:00 pm	(Stations at St. John)
Wed	4:30 pm	Confession
	5:00 pm	Mass
	5:30 pm	Religious Ed
Thu	12:05 pm	Mass
	6:00 pm	RCIA—Journey of Faith
Fri	7:30 am	Mass
	6:00 pm	**Stations of the Cross**
	6:30 PM	**Catholic Singles at Farmers**

UPCOMING

March

24	7:00 pm	Cemetery Committee

Catholic Singles: If you are a single Catholic (divorced, widowed, never married) then you are invited to join us for dinner on **Friday, March 20 at 6:30 pm at Farmer's Restaurant.** For more information contact Betty M. Johnston at 270-589-7950, Gail Dejarnette at 502-523-6452, Michelle Smith at 318-789-6261, Fr. Tony or Deacon Bob.

Assess the Excess: Where is there excess in your life? Lent is a time for simplicity. It is a time to take an inventory of your life. Where is there excess in your life? Is this excess taking you away from the one thing that matters the most, to be a son/daughter of Christ? Walk around your house with a bag and fill it with things you can donate to the needy. Some ideas: a sweater you no longer wear, an extra pair of socks, books that haven't been cracked open in a while, extra food items to the local shelter.

BIRTHDAYS

Alexis Hart	3/15
Kim Pennington	3/16
Debbie Sanders	3/16
Andrew Butler	3/17
Kevin Mudd	3/17
Lynlea Clemons	3/19
Noah Mattingly	3/19
Danny Joe Allen	3/20
Reagan Nash	3/20
Merri Ellen Bratcher	3/21

ANNIVERSARY

Steve & Libby Vincent	3/18

Thank you: We deeply appreciate your support of our 2020 Empty Bowls. Your parish hall is a wonderful venue to invite our community to come support the pantry. Thank you for always caring for our friends and neighbors in need—Debbie Childress & Grayson County Alliance

COMMUNION MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Nursing Home		Homebound
Father Babu	3/15-3/21	Rita Grant
Joanne Johnson	3/22-3/28	Mary Pierce
Jim Marshall	3/29-4/04	Deloris Alvey

St. Joseph Prayer List, Matt Alvey, Margaret Beckner, Pat Boone, Jill Bradley, Glenn Braun, Melissa Willis Cilwok, Carlos Clemons, Anna Critchelow, Juanita Drake, Beverly Eck, Steve Fey, Carol Gatto, Joyce Green, Linda Handzus, Deacon Bob Higbee, Ken Farris, Jane Johnston, Patricia Lindsey, Amy Logsdon, Joseph Lyons, Geral Dean Mattingly, Bill Meredith, David Pawley, Janette Pierce, Mandy Egan Pierce, Winnett Powell, Wanda Rickling, Steve Robertson, Veronica Robertson, Aaron Shull, Betty Stone

Youth & Children's Collection March 1

4-Child Gave $8.00 Youth Gave $0

Parish Hall Windows: Our new stained glass windows for the parish hall were installed last week. Again we thank all those to make this possible by their generous donations.

Slow Down: Let's face it, we're all just a little too busy. Some days, it's hard to take time to pray, slow down and listen to our loved ones share the story of their day, or make it to that weeknight Bible study. But slowing down and paying attention to those who matter most in our lives is one of the most important things we can do for ourselves and those loved ones. This includes slowing down and spending time with the Lord.

Weekly Happenings During Lent:

Monday	7:30 am	Communion
Tuesday	**12:05 pm**	**Mass**
	5:00 pm	Stations at St. John
Wednesday	4:30 pm	Confession
	5:00 pm	**Mass**
Thursday	12:00 pm	Prayer/Lunch(UMC)
	12:05 pm	**Mass**
Friday	**7:30 am**	**Mass**
	4:30 pm	K of C Fish Fries
	6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross

Data Entry: We could use some help updating our cemetery records. This could be done on your home computer. To find out more contact Fr. Tony

Prayer of Giving: Loving and gracious God, I have given gold, But there is only so much gold. I have given blood, But I have only so much blood to give. I have given my time, But days have only so many hours. I have given my strength, But even that has its limits. So I give my love. Because love is gold, and love is blood. And love is time, and love is strength. But love is also so much more. Because love is God. And God is love. And only you, God, have no limits. Amen —A prayer from Catholic Relief Services

Feast of St. Joseph: This Thursday, March 19 is the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Joseph was the legal father of Jesus according to Jewish law and a model of humility and obedience to God's will. He followed God's instructions, given by angels in dreams, and took the pregnant Mary into his home as his wife, protected her and Jesus at the child's birth in Bethlehem through the family's sojourn in Egypt, and provided for them as a carpenter in Nazareth. He is the patron saint of carpenters, the dying, and workers.

Quote About St. Joseph: "St Joseph persevered in this mission with fidelity and love. The Church, therefore, offers him to us as an exceptional model of service to Christ and to his mysterious plan of salvation. And she calls upon him as the special patron and protector of the whole family of believers. In a special way, Joseph is presented to us on his feast day as the saint under whose powerful protection divine Providence has wished to place the persons and ministry of all who are called to be "fathers" and "guardians" among the Christian people." (St. John Paul II, Homily, March 19, 2001)

Weekly Penance: From the beginnings of Christianity, Fridays have been observed as a special fast day in observance of the ultimate sacrifice Christ made for us on Good Friday. For some this meant giving up meat, and for others it meant giving up meat plus any dairy products.

Why is fasting important? The apostles and early Christians knew that in order to say yes to Jesus, we have to practice saying no to ourselves. Fasting helps us to deny ourselves and keeps us from making pleasure, honor and glory the center of our thoughts instead of Christ and His will for us.

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3. **You can choose the date and frequency of contribution**
4. **You can make a 1-time donation**

Go to stjosephch.org and click Donate

Sunday, Mar 15, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT; FIRST SCRUTINY OF THE ELECT

Great expectations

The view from today is limited. From here, some things may look irreparably broken, from personal relationships to global ones. Yet Jesus promises a future of hope available to anyone who reaches out for it. A Samaritan woman at a well had endured a loop of failure and disappointment that seemed impossible to transcend. When Jesus invited her to step out of it, she did—and was reborn as an apostle to her people. Today, we pray for our Elect (those in the process of joining the Catholic Church) as they choose the way of rebirth and hope. Let's choose the same, with them!

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42 (28). *"But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth."*

Monday, Mar 16, 2020

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Stand with the prophets

Prophets have never had an easy time of it. It's been pointed out that we often assassinate prophets when they speak out too forcefully, and then once they are safely silenced and buried, we might later build a monument to honor them (or perhaps to flatter ourselves for honoring them?). Jesus saw all this and yet continued to speak out despite the resistance and hostility he often faced from his own people. Not all of us are gifted prophets, but each of us can do our best to recognize the prophets in our midst and stand with them when they speak the truth, even against the angry mob.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Kings 5:1-15b; Luke 4:24-30 (237). *"No prophet is accepted in his own native place."*

Tuesday, Mar 17, 2020

MEMORIAL OF PATRICK, BISHOP

A feast of merriment and mercy

How odd it seems that the feast of Saint Patrick falls during Lent. But despite the merriment of the day, Patrick's story is a serious one—of captivity and freedom, of cruelty and forgiveness—starting with his teen years as a slave to his escape and return to the Emerald Isle where he became a shepherd to his people and shared the Good News. Patrick even set out on a mission of mercy and forgiveness to see his cruel former master. Join Patrick by reciting his lorica (prayer of protection) against the dark forces we battle during Lent, asking "God's host to secure me against snares of devils, against temptations of vices, against inclinations of nature, against everyone who shall wish me ill."

TODAY'S READINGS: Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21–35 (238). *"Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him?"*

Wednesday, Mar 18, 2020

MEMORIAL OF CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

People come first

Saint Cyril (c. 318-386) was between a rock and a hard place. A severe food shortage was afflicting Jerusalem and the people were starving. As bishop he had to do something. So he sold church treasures, in violation of the rules, to buy food for his people. That got him into trouble with church higher-ups, and he was deposed for a time as punishment. Jesus taught that the rules are there for the sake of people, not people for the rules. Cyril understood that. It's good for us to be mindful of it as well.

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19 (239). *"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets."*

Thursday, Mar 19, 2020

SOLEMNITY OF JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY

Watch for signs

There are times in all of our lives when we face dilemmas or challenges: How to help a child struggling with tantrums. How to guide a teen who is making bad friend choices. How to recognize and act on the need to make a job change. How to listen to a friend who is negative about so much of life. How to support a spouse who is unhappy and grumpy. God is present in all things and will help us if we ask and pay attention to the signs that are sent our way.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a (543). *"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had directed him."*

Friday, Mar 20, 2020

LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Go where no (wo)man has gone before

Mother Catherine Spalding, who died on this day in 1858, was a pioneer in every sense. Not only did she live on the Kentucky frontier, but she was elected to lead a new community, the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth—at a time when female leaders, especially young ones, were almost nonexistent. To top it off, she broke ground bringing education to girls and healthcare and social services to those who received none. Her legacy, alive in her sisters and in groups who do the same work, now spans the globe. Where do you see unfulfilled needs, and how can you blaze new trails to meet them?

TODAY'S READINGS: Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34 (241). *"You are not far from the kingdom of God."*

Saturday, Mar 21, 2020

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Walk humbly

Truly humble people know that in the scheme of life, they have a unique role to play that is theirs alone—but it is no more significant than that of any other human being. Scripture tells us to bring that spirit of humility to prayer, comparing ourselves to no one. We may use words. We may sit in silence. We may tell God what we are thinking, or trust that God knows. We may ask for help or express gratitude. We may share our feelings of sorrow, frustration, contentment, anger, or joy. The most important step is to show up with head bowed. There God awaits you with a crown of love and forgiveness.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14 (242). *"For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, while he who humbles himself shall be exalted."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time

Take Five for Faith

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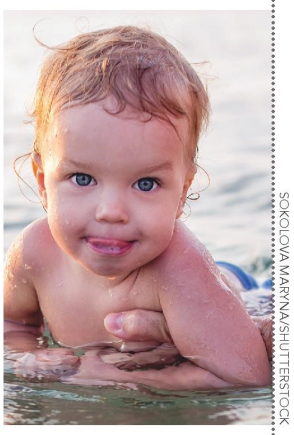
Dear Padre,

For many of us older Catholics, our children have either left the faith or they don't belong to any church. Consequently, their children aren't baptized. We were taught that anyone may baptize in an emergency. Can we baptize our grandchildren? If so, how?

When necessary, "any person," even one who is not baptized, "can baptize provided that he has the intention of doing that which the Church does and provided that he pours water on the candidate's head while saying: 'I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit'" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1284).



SOKOLOVA MARYNA/SHUTTERSTOCK

Church law permits baptism when at least one consenting Catholic parent or guardian plans to nurture the child in the faith and in the faith community. Some people—with the best intentions—may disregard these legal conditions and resort to baptizing a child in secret or against the parents' will. However, while the Trinitarian formula used while pouring water over a child qualifies as the sacrament even under non-life-threatening circumstances, it's also contrary to Church law. This has negative consequences both for the child being baptized and the grandparents doing the baptizing!

May you find consolation in these words: "Baptism is necessary for salvation for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament" (*CCC* 1257). Should a child die without baptism, we can trust in God's mercy, since the full proclamation of the gospel and request for the sacrament was not possible for the child. Moreover, Jesus' tenderness toward children allows us "to hope that there is a way of salvation for children who have died without baptism" (*CCC* 1261).

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

This season of Lent is a good occasion to draw near to [Jesus], to encounter him in prayer in a heart-to-heart dialogue; to speak with him, to listen to him....In this way we can renew in ourselves the grace of baptism, quench our thirst at the wellspring of the Word of God.

—ANGELUS, MARCH 19, 2017

Calendar

Monday
MARCH 16
Lenten Weekday
2 Kgs 5:1–15b
Lk 4:24–30

Tuesday
MARCH 17
Lenten Weekday
Dn 3:25, 34–43
Mt 18:21–35

Wednesday
MARCH 18
Lenten Weekday
Dt 4:1, 5–9
Mt 5:17–19

Thursday
MARCH 19
St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16
Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22
Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a
or Lk 2:41–51a

Friday
MARCH 20
Lenten Weekday
Hos 14:2–10
Mk 12:28–34

Saturday
MARCH 21
Lenten Weekday
Hos 6:1–6
Lk 18:9–14

Sunday
MARCH 22
Fourth Sunday of Lent
1 Sm 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a
Eph 5:8–14
Jn 9:1–41 or
Jn 9:1, 6–9, 13–17, 34–38

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