



Third Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2020

While we were still sinners Christ died for us.

— *Romans 5:8*

THIRST

Each time today's Gospel story is read, I can't help but think of the many television commercials I've seen depicting perspiring athletes lifting a beverage to their lips while the scorching sun beats down on them. Our culture has definite ideas about how to quench thirst. Today, those ideas are turned upside down. The Samaritan woman operates, initially, on the TV commercial level. She asks Jesus for the flowing water so that she will not have to keep coming to the well. Jesus then talks about what real thirst is, and how he, and he alone, can quench that thirst. Lent calls us to find those places deep within ourselves where we thirst. In our thirst, as did the Israelites, we cry out to God asking for springs of living water. Deep down we know that only the Lord can satisfy these thirsts.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Christians have always imagined initiation as a journey. Saul was on a journey on the Damascus road when he was knocked off his feet by an encounter with the Risen Lord. After stumbling, blind, to a Christian household, he emerged days later, baptized and clear-sighted, as Paul. Enlightened, he begins a life so disconnected with his former ways that it seems to require a new name.

The custom of acquiring a new name at baptism is thus very old, and is a deeper question than "naming the baby"; it is, rather, one of a break with the past and a place in the community. The first Christians mostly kept their pagan names, and therefore blended in with their neighbors. Eventually, some people began to name their children after Christian virtues or feasts, like "Ephiphanius" for a child born on Epiphany, or "Fides" for faith. Later, the names of beloved martyrs or saints began to take hold, as older converts exchanged their birth names for the names of admired saints. Today, catechumens may still choose to assume a "Christian name" before baptism, and parents are still asked to be mindful of our tradition as they give a name to a child.

AVAILABILITY

God does not ask for our ability or our inability,

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — When the people grumbled to Moses for water in the desert, the Lord heard and brought forth water from the rock for all to drink (Exodus 17:3-7).

Psalm — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

Second Reading — God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:1-2, 5-8).

Gospel — Ask, and you will be given living water so that you will never thirst again (John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4;

Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-51b, 6, 7bc, 8-9;

Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20;

Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;

Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17;

Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6;

Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41[1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

Fish Fry March 27th

Plates are \$8.00. Take-out will be available .Everyone is asked to help with this annual fund raiser . Help with the prep ,serving, and clean-up. Please bring your favorite cakes and desserts .

Annual Catholic Appeal

Our Goal is **\$5,000** and 100% Participation of our 34 registered Families

2.5 % Participation

\$125.00 Pledged

WISDOM

A wise old owl lived in an oak. The more he saw the less he spoke. The less he spoke the more he heard. Why can't we all be like that wise old bird?



STATIONS OF THE CROSS ARE AT 4:30 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

MARCH 22nd

LECTOR Jeff

USHERS Michael/Sal

SERVER Ty

Offertory 3/8/2020

BUDGET \$1351.00

ACTUAL \$1547.00

+\$196.00

St. Regina's Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

DRE: Christina Hammond

Facilities Manager : Jim Molitor

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Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,
Emanuel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,
Louis Humble Sr. , Joy Williams,
Martha Jo Neuenschwander ,
Mary Taylor