

3rd Sunday of Lent

Reflection

This is a pivotal week of Lent. We can solidify the patterns we have begun or we can make a new start, if we haven't been able to get started yet. If we have begun to recognize what needs realigning in our lives and have begun to fast and abstain from some things that get in the way of our relationship with the Lord, then we are engaging in a struggle. We are likely uncovering resistance and experiencing our personal sinfulness face-to-face. This is all preparing us for a deeper conversion, a readiness for reconciliation with God and the graces that will allow us to be a source of reconciliation with others. This is the time when we begin to see and experience how much God loves us at a new and more personal level. These graces prepare us to keep our eyes focused on Jesus in the weeks ahead - to learn from him, to fall in love with him more deeply and to be drawn to imitate him more completely. If we are just getting started with our Lenten journey, renewing our desires for these graces will be all we need to begin with a renewed openness. God does not need a lot of time to convince us of his love for us.

This is a week about God's love for us and our call to love others the same way. It is a time blessed by our gratitude for the fidelity of Joseph and Mary, who responded to God's fidelity to them. It is a week to keep our daily focus on naming a desire each morning. The day ahead will shape what we ask for as our feet hit the floor in the morning. Pausing to thank the Lord for this day and to ask for the grace to let our mind and heart be renewed in the concrete circumstances, relationships and obligations of our day. Throughout the day, we can then return to those desires in background of our awareness. Our request for the Lord's help is always there and our consciousness of it, will help us make the choice we desire to make, to let go of what we need to let go of, to add what we need to add. This will take us deeper and deeper into self-awareness and a sense of our need for a Savior, who is right there to embrace us and give us the graces we ask for.

<https://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Prayer/A2-L-03.html>



In Minnesota we are proud of calling ourselves the land of 10,000 lakes. Owning, or at least having access to, a cabin on a lake seems like a birthright to native Minnesotans. In many parts of the world, though, access to water is severely limited. This is certainly the case in Israel, where people rely on the yearly rains for a significant amount of their water supply. At the time of Jesus, cisterns were used to store water from the yearly rains, and wells were public places where people gathered to draw water for their daily use. Now I mention this because in our Gospel this 3rd Sunday of Lent Jesus encounters a Samaritan woman at “*Jacob’s well.*”

There are a couple of details in this Gospel that are significant. First, notice that the Gospel tells us that it is about noon. Most people would have come to draw water early in the morning when it was cooler, as opposed to mid-day. This suggests that perhaps the woman didn’t want to bump into other people. Possibly (as we discover later in the Gospel) this is because the woman had 5 husbands and was currently living with another man. Second, it would have been highly unusual for a man (and a Jew) to talk with a single woman (and a Samaritan). The reason for this is that there was a great deal of hostility between Jews and Samaritans, and at that time there wasn’t any fraternization between men and women, most especially when they were strangers.

Although the woman initially misunderstood Jesus and his offer to give her “living water,” after talking with Jesus we discover that she was transformed by the encounter.

Our first reading this Sunday is taken from the book of Exodus. It is the story of the Jews in the desert grumbling against Moses because of their thirst for water. God instructed Moses to “*Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink.*” The connection to the Gospel is evident. The difference, though, is that the water Moses provided only satisfied the people’s physical thirst. Jesus satisfies our spiritual thirst.

Our second reading this Sunday is taken from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans. It reminds us that “*God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*”

Questions for Reflection/Discussion:

1. I suspect we have all been physically thirsty at some point in our lives, and we know what that feels like. What does it feel like to be spiritually thirsty?
2. Can you remember a time when Jesus has quenched your spiritual thirst?
3. While it is easy for me to acknowledge that I have sinned, it is hard for me to see myself as a sinner. Our second reading today, though, reminds us that Christ died for sinners. Do you, like me, have difficulty seeing yourself as a sinner?

<https://www.mary.org/blog/202003/thoughts-readings-3rd-sunday-lent-2020#.Xmk2yUBFyUk>

ANUNCIOS PARROQUIALES

Calendario Breve

Desde el domingo, 22 de marzo se suspenderán hasta nuevo aviso:

- Los Estudios Bíblicos, los lunes, a las 7:30pm en la biblioteca de la ASI;
- Circulo de Oración los jueves en la Capilla.

Seguimos por el momento con:

- La reunión de la Pastoral de la Salud el 2do lunes de mes a las 9am en la Terraza Parroquial.
- El rezo del Santo Rosario media hora antes de las dos misas diarias de lunes a sábado.
- La reflexión de los Guerreros de la Oración el primer lunes de mes de 4 a 4:45pm en el Templo.
- El Ministerio del Sagrado Corazón los primeros viernes de mes para la misa de 8:00am en el Templo.
- El **Via Crucis** los **viernes** de la Cuaresma al finalizar la Misa de 8:00am.
- La reunión de la Cofradía de Nuestra Señora del Carmen el primer sábado de mes a las 7:30am.
- El desayuno de Comunidad de la Misa de las 9:30am el segundo domingo de mes al finalizar la Misa.
- El desayuno de la Comunidad de la Misa de las 8:00am el tercer domingo de mes al finalizar la Misa.

Calendario Breve de Jardines de San Francisco

Desde el 22 de marzo, se suspende hasta nuevo aviso:

- El **Día de Reflexión** con **P. Flavio Bravo, SJ** en **Jardines de San Francisco**, el sábado, 28 de marzo;
- Catequesis de niños todos los miércoles en el Centro de 5 a 6pm **hasta la semana de la Pascua**.
- Estudios Bíblicos todos los miércoles a las 7:15pm, usando el libro, "Grupos de Jesús" de José Antonio Pagola.

Por el momento seguirá en pie:

- Reunión de CVX el primer y tercer lunes de mes a las 7:15pm y el rezo del Santo Rosario 40 minutos antes de la Misa dominical.

Semana de las Girl Scouts

Las Girl Scouts de la Academia San Ignacio celebraron su semana participando en la Misa de 11:30am el domingo, 8 de marzo. Las niñas proclamaron las lecturas, llevaron los dones en el Ofertorio y ayudaron con la colecta. En la foto vemos al grupo completo que participaron.



Queridos Feligreses:

Estamos viviendo en tiempos muy interesantes que requieren decisiones cuyo propósito es prevenir desgracias mayores. Como saben, nuestra comunidad parroquial contiene un número de personas mayores quienes podrían ser negativamente afectadas por el coronavirus. Existen dos estrategias para bregar con la pandémica: A) aislar a los infectados cuando ya manifiestan los síntomas, o B) no dejar un espacio para que el virus entre e infecte a la población. Mi impresión es que el gobierno haya seguido la opción B, y que debemos seguir sus recomendaciones. Eso significa que **no estamos entrando en un pánico generalizado**, sino que **estamos tratando de evitar una situación donde una cantidad anormal de personas se infecten** de tal modo que nuestros hospitales no tengan cómo atenderlas. Por esa razón quisiera informarles que, empezando domingo, 22 de marzo, **se suspenderá cualquier reunión innecesaria en la parroquia**, incluyendo las siguientes reuniones y actividades hasta nuevo aviso:

- La última tanda de los **Ejercicios Espirituales de 7-Días** planificada para marzo;
- Las **Noches de Película** los viernes;
- El **Día de Reflexión** con **P. Flavio Bravo, SJ** en **Jardines de San Francisco**, el sábado, 28 de marzo;
- La **Cena Pascual Judía** pautada para el jueves, 2 de abril;
- La reunión del **Retiro Espiritual en Año Mariano** (13-30 de julio) pautada para el sábado, 21 de marzo en Miranda Trável (se pospone hasta nuevo aviso). **El retiro sigue en pie. (Se necesita pasaporte vigente.)** Para más información, llame a 787-722-4999.
- La **peregrinación al Santuario de la Divina Providencia** pautado para el jueves, 19 de marzo y auspiciada por la Cofradía de Ntra Señora del Carmen ha sido suspendido hasta mayo en una fecha a ser determinada.

Por el momento **no habrá cambios en el horario de las misas**. Habrá un **Triduo en honor a San José**, después de las misas diarias, los días **16, 17 y 18 de marzo**. El día de su fiesta, el **jueves 19**, la Misa de **5:30 pm** se le dedicará de una manera especial.

Con el auspicio de la **Compañía de Jesús**, se estarán todavía ofreciendo los **Ejercicios Espirituales de 8 días en Silencio**, del 21 al 28 de julio 2020 en Casa Fernando. El recurso es el P. Hermann Rodríguez, SJ. Para mas información, favor de contactar a **P. Flavio Bravo, SJ** al fbravosj@gmail.com.

RECEMOS POR NUESTROS ENFERMOS

Amaryllis Velilla, Ana Livia Otaño, Gloria Negrón, Lisardo Batán, María Consuelo (Chela) Longo, Natalio Izquierdo, Sister Rosario CSJ, Nancy y Emmanuel Vega, Jean Oliver, Rafael Martínez, Teresita Colberg, Moraima Ayende, niño Arturo Javier Alonso, Olga De Jesús, Marifé Pons

RECEMOS POR LOS RECIÉN FALLECIDOS

Etienne Otaño+, Marie Clouthier Vda de Calaf +

Favor de informarle a la Oficina Parroquial de los enfermos y de los fallecidos para que podamos anunciarlos en el boletín. Gracias.