

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When I prove my holiness among you, I will gather you from all the foreign lands; and I will pour clean water upon you and cleanse you from all your impurities, and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us to one another and to the Father:
 Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
 Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division:
 Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
 Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with your Father:
 Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
 May almighty God have mercy on us..... Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Exodus 17: 3 - 7

A reading from the Book of Exodus
 Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out 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. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 94

R O that today you would listen to 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 Romans 5:1-2,5-8

A reading from the a letter of St Paul to the Romans.
 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. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God I Lord, you are really the saviour of the world; give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God I

GOSPEL John 4: 5-15, 19 - 26, 39 - 42 (Shorter Form)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John
 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.'

'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: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come - in fact it is here - already - when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him



focus on sunday

There is a thirst for the love, joy and meaning of the gospel in the hearts of our people today. It is sometimes ignored in the rush of modern consumerism. The readings today invite us to bring that deep thirst for life to Jesus and his gospel.

ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

All bow for following two lines: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters, 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.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God, 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

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

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Direct, O Lord, we pray, the hearts of your faithful, and in your kindness grant your servants this grace: that, abiding in the love of you and their neighbour, they may fulfil the whole of your commands. Through Christ our Lord.



At the end of the gospel story for this Sunday, the woman goes into town to tell everyone what the Lord has done for her. 'He has told me all about myself, he has welcomed me and told me about himself.' There was a sharing of life-stories, and for the woman a great sense of being accepted as the foreigner in the town.

SHARING OUR FAITH STORY

Sharing our faith story and the story of our relationship with Jesus, and with the Divine, connects with us very deeply. We can share truths about Jesus, or share about what the gospel might demand, but that will not lead to a change of heart in ourselves and those who hear us. Witness is what moves people. What we do reflects our faith-life. Sharing about our prayer, our love of God, our doubts and difficulties, move us.

Our young people are influenced by what actions they see of their elders in faith, not by what we say. They can put up with weaknesses and faults, if people are sincere. As with Jesus and the woman, he did not expect perfection, but an open heart.

In prayer we get to know Jesus in our heart. We can read the gospel and see what sort of person he is. We had a popular prayer - 'heart of Jesus, make my heart like yours'.

The woman of Samaria was changed by her meeting with the Lord; her account of this would bring change to others. Often the people we least expect give us a new look on our faith.

Recall a person whose faith-story influenced you. Be grateful!

Lord, make my heart like your heart.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger

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St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield



**Third Sunday
of Lent**
19th March 2017

Mass Times

Saturday : 6 pm Vigil
Sundays : 10:30 am & 12 noon
Weekdays : Mon. – Fri. 10:00 am
Monday 7:30 pm

Contact: Co-Parish Priest Fr. Paddy Boyle 086 1011 415
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We remember at Mass and in our prayers those who have gone before us

Saturday 17th 6:00 pm

Shay O'Hare 7th Anniversary

Liam Madden 8th Anniversary

Patricia Hennessy 3rd Anniversary

Kathleen Boyle Anniversary

Sunday 18th 10:30am

Bridget Keating, Margaret Sutton & Jimmy Flemming
Anniversaries

Sunday 18th 12:00 noon

Kathleen Boyle Anniversary

Your prayers are also requested for the happy repose of the soul of Patrick Keegan recently deceased.

Monday 19th 7:30pm

Lisa Murphy Birthday Rem.

Brian O'Keeffe 30th Anniversary

Tuesday 21st 10:00am

Mary Byrne Anniversary

Wednesday 22nd 10:00am

John & Eileen Walker Anniversary

Thursday 23rd 10:00am

Patrick Cummiskey & Geraldine Cullen Anniversary

Anniversary

May they rest in peace

Liturgy Team

There will be a meeting of the Liturgy Team on **Monday 20th March at 6pm.**

Finance Committee

There will be a meeting of the Finance Committee on **Monday 20th March at 8pm.**

Baptism Preparation night for parents and godparents of children who will be baptised during the month of April, will take place on **Tuesday 21st at 7:00 pm** in the Pastoral Centre.

Lenten Talks

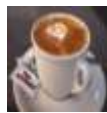
Continue every Wednesday at 10am Mass 'Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.' **Prayer and the Christian Life** – Deacon Gerard Reilly
See our notice board for more details.



Notice for Ministers of the Eucharist

Fr. Paddy Boyle is inviting you to a special mass on **Saturday 25th March at 11:00am** in St. Paul's Church.

A meeting will be held with the Ministers, afterwards in the Pastoral Centre.



Coffee Weekend

We will be hosting a Coffee/Tea weekend after all the Masses next weekend **25th & 26th March.**

All proceeds will go to the Infant Jesus Sisters' Mission in Nigeria.

Devine Mercy Pilgrimage in Knock

A coach for the Divine Mercy Pilgrimage in Knock is being organised for **Sunday 23rd April.** The Seats are €25 each and the bus will depart at 8am sharp. See our notice board for more details.



You Shall Be My Witness - Confirmation Preparation Mass

This **Saturday at the 6:00pm Mass**, we welcome the children who are preparing for Confirmation and their families.

Do This In Memory – First Holy Communion

This **Sunday at the 12 noon Mass**, we welcome the children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion and their families.



The Annual Collection for **CROSSCARE Youth Services** - Social Support Agency of the Catholic Archdiocese

of Dublin will be taken up at all masses **this weekend the 18th & 19th March.** This will replace the normal *SHARE* collection.

CROSSCARE provide a wide range of focused supports and programmes aimed at empowering people to achieve their own potential. Their work is person centred, rights based and supports peer led initiatives that give people the power to make changes in their own lives.

Thought for the day: "Is the LORD in our midst or not?"

True love and mercy is action, as Jesus did today with the woman at the well "reaching out to and accompanying people where they're at, even in their state of brokenness... in order to bring new life," Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. (Jn 14:6)

Prayer: *Jesus, teach me to know you to love you and to serve you*



2017 St. Patrick's Day Sponsored Swim



A reminder that the 2017 St. Patrick's Day sponsored swim, took place at 12 noon at Portmarnock Strand on Friday last. **The swim this year was also be held in fond memory of Fr. Tom Colreavy R.I.P., who encouraged everyone and participated each year.** All funds go to the Children's Cancer Support Centre, of Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin. Sponsorship can still be given to any of the committee members **Shay O'Reilly - 8482068, Irene Killeen - 8479629, Margaret Maher - 8472251** or can be given in to the Parish office or Sacristy.



By supporting Trócaire at Lent, you help ensure that families in developing countries can earn an income and have enough to eat, you help communities rebuild their lives after disasters and conflict, and you defend the rights of people under threat.

Trócaire Boxes are available on the stands in the church.

Notice to Coeliacs: *If you have been advised to abstain from Gluten, please contact the Priest before Mass so that we can try to accommodate your requirements.*