

STS PETER & PAUL'S

CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH MELBOURNE

Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

15th March 2020



The Third Sunday of Lent A

Striking The Rock

The Israelites' hearts were hardened by their hardships in the desert.

Though they have seen His mighty deeds, in their thirst they grumble and put God to the test in today's First Reading—a crisis point recalled also in today's Psalm.

Jesus is thirsty, too, in today's Gospel. He thirsts for souls (see **John 19:28**). He longs to give the Samaritan woman the living waters that well up to eternal life.

These waters couldn't be drawn from the well of Jacob, father of the Israelites and the Samaritans, but Jesus was something greater than Jacob (see **Luke 11:31–32**).

The Samaritans were Israelites who escaped exile when Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom eight centuries before Christ (see **2 Kings 17:6, 24–41**). They were despised for intermarrying with non-Israelites and worshipping at Mount Gerazim, not Jerusalem.

But Jesus tells the woman that the "hour" of true worship is coming, when all will worship God in Spirit and truth.

Jesus' "hour" is the "appointed time" that Paul speaks of in today's Epistle. It is the hour when the Rock of our salvation was struck on the Cross. Struck by the soldier's lance, living waters flowed out from our Rock (see **John 19:34–37**).

These waters are the Holy Spirit (see **John 7:38–39**), the gift of God (see **Hebrews 6:4**).

By the living waters the ancient enmities of Samaritans and Jews have been washed away, the dividing wall between Israel and the nations is broken down (see **Ephesians 2:12–14, 18**). Since His hour, all may drink of the Spirit in Baptism (see **1 Corinthians 12:13**).

In this Eucharist, the Lord now is in our midst—as He was at the Rock of Horeb and at the well of Jacob.

In the "today" of our Liturgy, He calls us to believe: "I am He," come to pour out the love of God into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. How can we continue to worship as if we don't understand? How can our hearts remain hardened?

Scott Hahn

ABOUT OUR PARISH

Parish administrator:
Fr John Spiteri OFM Cap

Parish secretary:
Mon, Tues and Thurs
9:30am–3pm

Emerald Hill Mission (EHM)

CONTACT US:

Phone
9690 5895 (parish)
0409 417 412 (EHM)

Email
stspeterandpauls@gmail.com

Facebook
[@stspeterandpauls](https://www.facebook.com/stspeterandpauls)

Web
stspeterandpauls.com

MASS TIMES

Sunday	10am
Saturday (Vigil)	6pm
Mon–Thurs	8am
Friday	10am
Saturday	10am

CONFESSION TIMES

Saturday	10.30am 5.30pm
----------	-------------------

COMING UP

Parish Reconciliation Night 7th April 2020, 7pm
Stations of The Cross Every Friday during Lent, 7pm
Lenten Reflection Group Every Friday 2pm

Lenten reflection – week 3
(Diocese of Wollongong – Grace Lenten Program 2020)

Give me some of that water. Sr. Anastasia Reeves, OP.



In her humanity, the Samaritan woman desires deep happiness. She is drawing water at the sixth hour, about midday, in the heat of the day, at the worst possible time of the day. Why? Presumably to avoid all the other women who probably know her marital history, and shield herself from their judgements, criticism and disdain. When she meets Jesus and he offers her water that will well up to eternal life, she understands, saying that she desires a reliable source of water so she will never have to come to the well ever again.

It would seem that now being in her sixth relationship, her experience of marriage and relationships has not been a happy one. Her daily task of collecting water is a heavy drudgery, but weighing her down even more are the heavy psychological and emotional buckets from her past experiences.

We all carry heavy buckets of some sort, whether from our past, our present or concerning our fears about the future. Just like this encounter with the Samaritan woman, Jesus knows all about us - our present sufferings, past shame, painful memories, guilt, anxieties and future focused fears, and he loves us in the midst of it all.

He wants us to fill up all our longings and to relieve us of our burdens so that we will have nothing but joy as we proclaim his love to whomever will listen. So, let us try today to stop running after those lesser desires that will not truly satisfy, and once and for all, let God be our everything.

Personal reflection for the week ahead.

- Over the course of the next week, be attentive to the things that distract you, particularly in times of quiet and prayer, and consciously offer them to Jesus.
- You might pray a prayer like: “Lord Jesus, this memory, guilt, anxiety keeps coming to mind. I know only you can satisfy the longings in my heart, and so I choose to give this to you in exchange for living water. Thank you for your free gifts of grace, love and mercy. Amen

Daily reflection:

- Monday: If the prophet had asked you to do something difficult, would you not have done it?
Jesus, I trust in you. Amen
- Tuesday I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. Lord, help me to see the good, help me to see the grace of God at work in myself, in others and in your church. Amen
- Wednesday I did not come to change the Law, but to complete it.
Lord, here I am. Help me to absorb your loving teachings and allow your Spirit to weave them into the fabric of my being. Amen
- Thursday Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit.
Oh, St Joseph, may I never weary of contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. St Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen
- Friday You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. Father, fill us with a deep knowledge of your love that we may fall in love with you in return, and thus, with you, enable your kingdom to come in our world. Amen
- Saturday This man, I tell you, went home at rights with God;
God, be merciful to me, a sinner. Amen

The Orchestra Project
GUSTAV MAHLER
Symphony No.2
'RESURRECTION'

Artistic Director
Fabian Russell

soloists
Lorina Gore
Liane Keegan

2:30pm
Sunday 12 April 2020
 South Melbourne Town Hall

Tickets: www.trybooking.com/BIIOB or
www.theorchestraproject.com.au

Southern Stars Social Club Party

Saturday 21st March 2020

Starting at 8pm

At Benedict House (Next to the St Benedicts Presbytery)

301 Warrigal Rd Burwood

Single Catholic 28 to 60 Age Group

Cost \$13 includes Supper and Lucky Door Prizes

Enquiries: Peter 98852167

Craft Group

Please note change of date for the Craft's group Mother's Day stall, it will now be held directly after the 10am Mass on Sunday April 19th instead of Sunday April 26th.

Raffle tickets will be sold after all weekend Masses from the weekend of Saturday 28th March till Sunday April 19th.

Please support the work of our Craft group, All proceeds go towards the needs of the Parish.

Room Needed

Dear Friends,

We are friendly students couple, Telmo and Isabel. We are looking for an economic place to live. We are adaptable. Small place would not be a problem.

In response we are very happy to help solving common problems with your computer, laptop, mobil phone, facebook, all about software in your home. We can also help with housekeeping or handyman tasks such as painting, gardening, demolition, mosaic, rendering and construction in general as Iam currently doing casual work in those areas.

We are very passionate to use our creative skills to make places cosy.

Should you have anything available please contact us: telmofrank@hotmail.com (0401544633)



FEAST OF THE WEEK

St Joseph, Husband of The Blessed Virgin Mary
19th March

Nothing is known of St Joseph except what is said of him in the Gospels. He was a carpenter; he accepted the will of God; and he supported Mary and brought up Jesus. From the human character of his son we can see that he was a good and responsible father. He is widely venerated as a patron of artisans who honourably do good work with the gifts God has given them, and of workers in general. To those who exercise the role of an adoptive parent, whether formally or informally, whether over one child or as the support of a whole family, he is a source of inspiration

Please remember in your prayers and Masses the following people who are ill: Sr Annunciata, Valda Hogan, Flo O'Hara, Sr Joyce Stewart, Peter Wood, Vandersman Family, Joanne Kilmer, Liliana Bobadilla, Ruby Roxa, Eunice Costa, Richard Fennessy, Giovanna Santarossa, James Burnes, James Atkins, Bonnie Breen, Jeff Martin, Naomi McSweeney, Alison Fraser, Steven Wallace, Elaine Wallace, Richard, Miles Buntleski, Colin Crawford, Frank O'Connor, Maria Cimino.



3rd week of Lent- Year A.

Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

1st Reading – Exodus 17:3-7

We hear the prelude to the classic story in Exodus of how Moses drew water in striking the rock. It was an unfolding manifestation of how the Lord Yahweh manifested His presence with the people in spite of their grumbling and unworthiness

Responsorial Psalm

If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts.

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.

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.

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.”

If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts.

2nd Reading – Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

We hear the background to St. Paul’s explanation about justification or how we are saved. We are saved by faith through Jesus and the Holy spirit given to us, the fruits of our baptism in Christ.

Acclamation: Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water that I may never thirst again. **Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Gospel – John 4:5-42

We hear the first of the Scrutiny Gospels. The dialogue of Jesus with the Samaritan woman develops from her need of water to drink to the teaching of Jesus about a deeper meaning of life.

Next week’s readings: 1^s 1 Samuel 16: 6-7. 10-13
2nd Ephesians 5: 8-14
Gospel John 9:1-41

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray together:

We pray for Pope Francis and the College of Bishops that they may inspire all the faithful to reach out in love and friendship to those in their community.

We pray for the ongoing support of Project Compassion, that the stories and work of Caritas may inspire us to live more simply that others might simply live.

We pray for the victims of the Coronavirus and for all those suffering fear and anxiety because of the sickness. May they be guided by your love and compassion.

Lord, we remember with compassion our family and friends who have gone before us. Hold them in your keeping, especially those who have died recently Archbishop John Bathersby and those whose anniversaries occur about this time Ann Rzesniowlecki, Luke O’Keefe, Brett and Shirley Blair, Francis Trindade Sr Presentation Marnell, Len Decker, Kevin McLeod, Sofia Tabacco, Mick Dermot, Margaret and Jack McIntosh, Eileen Powell, Patricia Roberts, Francesco Vozzo, Maria Teresa Vozzo, Nicola Vozzo, Claire Raminez, Sr. Margaret Mary Kennedy FCJ, Nuala Purves, Kristine McDonough.

Collections : Mar 7/8, 2020
1st Collection: \$776.9
2nd Collection: \$490
Online per week (Feb): \$250
1st Collection goes to the Friars, and the 2nd collection goes to the running costs of the Parish.
EFT Donations:
Account Name: Parish SS Peter & Paul
BSB: 083 155
Account number: 515577466

	READERS	E.M.E	HOSPITALITY	FLOWERS
Sat 14	Ann M			Gerardine & Sue
Sun 15	Michele & Natalie	Sue& Carmel	Frank & Mavis	
Sat 21	Andy			Doris
Sun 22	Michelle & Merlin	Carmel & Gerardine	Andy & Gerardine	