

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. 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.

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

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The Jewish people worshipped at the Temple in Jerusalem. The Samaritans to the north worshipped on Mount Gerizem. But Jesus says to the woman of Samaria: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem . . . true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.'

We do this by acknowledging Jesus Christ as *our* sacred site. Jesus is where God is to be found. In his earthly ministry this was around places like the well in Samaria. As Risen Lord, he is to be found in those in dire need, and in the Heavenly Bread. In both cases we need to incline the body as an act of worship: in the case of the needy, by doing something practical; in the case of the Heavenly Bread, by genuflecting, bowing, before the Blessed Sacrament.

We could pause for a moment to reorientate ourselves to the Sacred Site who is the Risen Christ, acknowledging him as indeed the 'Saviour of the World'.

mtate@bigpond.com

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The Living Word

Third Sunday of Lent Year: Alternate Readings, Year A

12 March 2023

First Reading Ex 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

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?'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

(R.) 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. (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 Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

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.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 4:42. 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel shorter form Jn 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

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:



MASS TIMES (English):

Vigil Mass 5 pm (Saturday) Sunday 8.00 am & 10.00 am Weekdays: Tuesday 6pm Mon. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9.00 am

VIETNAMESE MASS Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday) Sunday 5.30PM

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm
or anytime on request

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK Offered to those in need on 1st Wednesday at 9.00am Mass

Baptisms: Sat. 11.30am, Bookings are necessary.

Children first Sacraments: Please contact Elaine Nehme Phone TBA; Email TBA

Parish site maintenance: John Impala Phone TBA Ivan Leskur Phone TBA

Parish Pastoral Council:

Bernie Freeburn, Veronica Dening, Elaine Nehme, Zena Azar, Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz, Monica Palmer, Linh Bui, Jannette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

Finance Committee:

Bernie Freeburn, Michael Anderson, Ted Goetz, Veronica Dening, Eileen Stevenson

Golden oldies: Lorraine Impala

St Vincent de Paul: Mary Scott

Music ministry: TBA

Youth Ministry: TBA

Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Administrator: Rev. Peter Krigovsky Secretary: Mrs. Veronica Dening

(Wednesday 9.30am—4pm)

Address: 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall; Telephone: 9727 3759
Website: http://www.smgh.org.au Email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Facebook: fb.me/smgh2 Streaming: https://cutt.ly/StMarys

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall

God and US Together

Principal: Mrs Monica Palmer **Website:** www.stmgeorgeshall.syd.catholic.edu.au **School Tel:** 9727 0000 **School email:** info@stmgeorgeshall.catholic.edu.au

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.

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.

COVID-19 is still around, Please use sanitiser when you enter the church.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS each Friday during Lent at 7pm

FUNERAL of the late Jenny Tankard of Haig Avenue, will be held on Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 12.00pm at the Sacred Heart Chapel, Barnet Avenue, Rookwood Catholic Cemetery. Jenny, along with her husband John (RIP), were pioneers of our parish. May the angels lead her to paradise.

OUR PARISH SECRETARY Mrs

Veronica Dening is currently on leave until Monday 20th March. All the enquiries sent to our parish email address will be answered upon her return.

CHOIR PRACTICE There will be choir practice on Thursday 16 March at 7.00pm in preparation for the 8.00am Mass on Sunday 19 March. New members are always welcome. Please ring Pat Falvy on 0425-219-660.

DAILY MASS BOOK 2023 Additional copies were purchased and are available at the back of the church for those attending the weekday Mass. Feel free to collect a copy to assist you at Mass. Please return after the Mass. Thank you.

BREAK OPEN THE WORD 2023 books with all the liturgical readings to help our lectors to prepare for the Mass. All lectors in our parish are welcome to collect their personal copy from the sacristy.

ACOLYTE MINISTRY Our parish is blessed with the Acolyte Ministry which we would like to enrich with new members. If you are a practicing member of our community and are interested in this ministry, please see Fr. Peter. All selected candidates will undergo a training in an archdiocesan course and installed by a bishop.

any children who received their 1st Holy Communion are invited to apply. No prior experience needed.

All training will be provided.

SPIRIT AND TRUTH: The Power of Christ Revealed

this Lenten companion for 2023 has been prepared by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney and provides a great opportunity for Catholics to prepare themselves, through prayer, reflection and discussion, to experience Christ's Passion. Pick up your free copy of this resource from the church.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *For All Future Generations*. Please donate through Project Compassion donation boxes available from our parish, or by visiting <u>caritas.org.au/project-compassion</u>, or by calling 1800 024 413.



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Thursday during school term in the iCentre, meet at 8.45am out the front of the church near Our Lady's statue.

Enquiries: ntalie.goetz@syd.catholic.edu.au

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC) Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services operate an OSHC facility to provide before, afterschool and vacation care for our primary school children. Please contact the OSHC on

0438 118 864 or veenita.chand@syd.catholic.edu.au

WALKING WITH OUR LADY THROUGH HOLY WEEK A Womens Retreat Day with the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia

Date: 1 April Time: 10am-4pm

Where: St Peter Chanel Church, 62 Kingsland Rd,

Berala

Along with talks and discussion, the day will include time for silence and prayer during a Holy Hour. An opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. Morning tea and lunch are provided. Register online: https://www.trybooking.com/CGHGO

TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE DISASTER A 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Turkey and Syria, leaving thousands of people dead. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs assistance.

We must act NOW and help those affected by this catastrophe. Your generous donation means our partners in Turkey and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy.

Visit: www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.

NEW PARISH BULLETIN FORMAT The objective is to have a larger text and ease of production. Your ideas and suggestions are welcome.

MASS TIMES Fr. Peter is offering to celebrate Mass also on Mondays and Saturdays at 9am.

ADORATION WITH EXPOSED BLESSED SACRA-

MENT Fr. Peter is offering to establish an adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each Friday after Mass until 10.30am. He is also proposing to establish a Divine Mercy devotion consisting of a reading from the Diary of St. Faustina Kowalska and recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet during the adoration. Anyone interested in Divine Mercy Apostolate, please see Fr. Peter.

safeguarding our parish - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

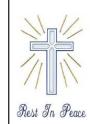
Our parish has a folder (with Safeguarding infor-

mation including quarterly newsletters) in the church – parishioners are welcome to view. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com.



Please Remember In Your Prayers Our Sick (please advise delisting)

Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Roger Luck, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio



Let Us Pray For All Those Who Have Died

Jenny Tankard, Warren Ashley, Marian Pientka, Josephine & Thomas Pientka, Ross Graham, Bertha Smith, Les Bayley, Sandor Toth, Margaret McHugh, Eleanor Vereesen, James Mancini, Margaret Ward, Cardinal George Pell, Pope Benedict 16th, Jennie Falvy, Vic Ryan, Marlene Drew, Garry Czinner, Desmond Eisenhuth, Marie Goetz, Carlo Pianta, Eddie Tannous, Len Kelly, Desmond Armbruster, Peter Tosi, Terry King, Bradley Kerin

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.