



faith FORMATION

ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH // VOLUME 1 // ISSUE 26 // MAR. 09, 2023

3rd
Sunday
of Lent

In the Beginning...

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Last Sunday, we celebrated the Rite of Sending at the 10:30am Mass and then the Rite of Election at the Cathedral in the afternoon. Father Ayub was happy to introduce Phyllis deLongpre and Emily Smith to Bishop Walkowiak at the Cathedral. As we pray for Phyllis and Emily as they are preparing to come into full communion with the Catholic Church, let us also pray for Tara who is returning to the Catholic faith after being away for many years. She is journeying along with Phyllis and Emily in our RCIA program. If you are interested in renewing your faith or journeying along with those who are becoming Catholic, you're welcome to join us in RCIA as well. Just send me an email and let's connect!



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Confession

Saturday: 2:00 - 3:30PM
Also, by appointment

Daily Mass

Tuesday: 8:30AM
Thursday: 8:30AM
Friday: 8:30AM

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00PM
Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION PREP

We're continuing our series for parents. When parents live the faith and are equipped to explain it, children are more likely to remain Catholic. *Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession*, explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love. By looking at God's revelation of his mercy in Scripture and making a step-by-step examination of the Rite itself, *Forgiven* communicates God's invitation to each one of us to come experience his indescribable love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

[Session 3: Embraced in Mercy:
The Rite Explained](#)



SAINT JUDE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION / RECONCILIATION DATES TO REMEMBER

PARENT MEETINGS

Sunday, January 15, 2023 5:30- 7 PM
Sunday, February 19, 2023 5:30 - 7PM
Sunday, March 19, 2023 5:30 - 7 PM

FAMILY MASS & BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 16, 10:30AM Mass
Breakfast after Mass
Student decorate Communion Plates

RECONCILIATION REVIEW & CHURCH TOUR

Students only
Sunday April 23, 2023 5:30 - 6:30 PM

RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Thursday April 27, 2023 6:30 PM

FIRST COMMUNION PRACTICE

Thursday May 4, 2023 6:30PM

First Holy Communion Mass

Sunday May 7, 2023 10:30AM

Signs of Grace
"You Are Loved"
(about the Eucharist)

[Episode 1](#)

[Episode 2](#)

[Episode 3](#)

[Episode 4](#)

[Episode 5](#)

[Episode 6](#)

[Episode 7](#)

[Presence for Children](#)

Signs of Grace
"You Are Forgiven"
(about Reconciliation)

[Episode 1](#)

[Episode 2](#)

[Episode 3](#)

[Episode 4](#)

[Episode 5](#)

[Episode 6](#)

[How to Make a Great
Confession](#)

[Forgiven](#)

[Session 1](#)

[Session 2](#)

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute" (CCC 2221).

Although the parish helps to form our children in the faith, no one can take the place of the parents' role in forming holy individuals. As parents, we should be well equipped to answer questions and to act, not only as the first teachers, but as the first witnesses of faith. This page is intended to help you in the journey as we work together to prepare your children for this special moment in their lives!

SUNDAY LITURGY REFLECTION

By Scott Hahn

Readings:

[Exodus 17:3-7](#)

[Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9](#)

[Romans 5:1-2, 5-8](#)

[John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42](#)

[LISTEN HERE](#)



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

Though they saw 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 the 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?

"So he came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

JOHN 4:5-10

Source: [St. Paul Center](#)

The Gospel at Home

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Gospel Reading:

John 4:5-42

Jesus reveals himself to the Samaritan woman at the well.

Background on the Gospel Reading

On this Sunday and the next two Sundays, we break from reading the Gospel of Matthew to read from John's Gospel. The Gospel of John is the only Gospel not assigned to a particular liturgical year. Instead, readings from John's Gospel are interspersed throughout our three-year liturgical cycle.

In today's Gospel, the dialogue between Jesus and a woman from Samaria is among the most lengthy and most theological found in Scripture. The most startling aspect of the conversation is that it happens at all. Jesus, an observant Jew of that time, was expected to avoid conversation with women in public. The animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans should have prevented the conversation as well. The woman herself alludes to the break from tradition: "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" Yet Jesus not only converses with the woman, he also asks to share her drinking vessel, an action that makes him unclean according to Jewish law. The initial conversation between Jesus and the woman is better understood if we consider the importance of water, especially in the climate of Israel. At first, the woman understands Jesus' promise of "living water" in a literal sense: "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." With no running water, the daily trip to the well by the women of the community was of paramount importance. The women of the town would have traveled to the well in the early morning, but this woman came to the well at noon, the hottest time of the day. The timing of her visit is a clear sign that she is an outcast within the Samaritan community. We learn in her conversation with Jesus that she is an outcast because of her "many husbands." [Continue Reading....](#)

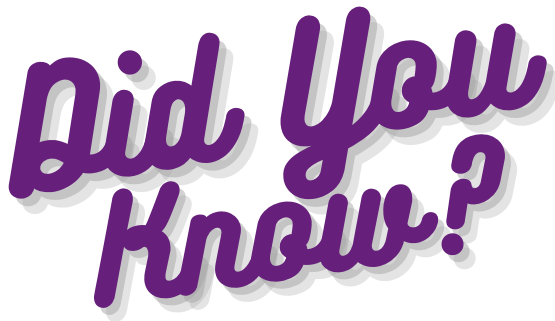
Family Connection

Lent is a season for repentance. It is a season during which we are called to reflect upon and to live deeply the promises of Baptism. The well and the conversation about water immediately recall for us the Sacrament of Baptism. As the Samaritan woman was converted and sent on a mission because of the conversation about water, we too are converted and sent by our Baptism to preach the good news of Jesus to others. Take this opportunity to reflect upon the importance of Baptism with your family. If you have photos or other mementos of your family's Baptisms, bring them out and take some time to recall the day of Baptism and its importance to you and your family. Create a prayer table that includes these mementos and a bowl of holy water. After you have spent some time talking about Baptism, invite everyone to listen carefully and prayerfully to today's Gospel. Read John 4:5-42 together. Ask how Jesus' meeting with the woman at the well is like Baptism. (Jesus knows the woman's sin and forgives her. The woman comes to know Jesus as the Messiah. The woman invites others to meet Jesus.) Pray a prayer of blessing for each member of the family that God will help each one live the promises of his or her Baptism. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

"The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Every one who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

JOHN 4:11-15

Source: [Loyola Press](#)



St. Patrick was a Bishop

St. Patrick's Day is another Catholic feast day that has made its way into popular culture. But it's not just about shamrocks and green beer. It's about a Catholic bishop, his life and his example as a model of the faith.

Legends about Patrick abound; but truth is best served by our seeing two solid qualities in him: He was humble and he was courageous. The determination to accept suffering and success with equal indifference guided the life of God's instrument for winning most of Ireland for Christ. Details of his life are uncertain. Current research places his dates of birth and death a little later than earlier accounts. Patrick may have been born in Dunbarton, Scotland, Cumberland, England, or in northern Wales. He called himself both a Roman and a Briton. At 16, he and a large number of his father's slaves and vassals were captured by Irish raiders and sold as slaves in Ireland. Forced to work as a shepherd, he suffered greatly from hunger and cold.

After six years Patrick escaped, probably to France, and later returned to Britain at the age of 22. His captivity had meant spiritual conversion. He may have studied at Lerins, off the French coast; he spent years at Auxerre, France, and was consecrated bishop at the age of 43. His great desire was to proclaim the good news to the Irish.

In a dream vision it seemed "all the children of Ireland from their mothers' wombs were stretching out their hands" to him. He understood the vision to be a call to do mission work in pagan Ireland. Despite opposition from those who felt his education had been defective, he was sent to carry out the task. He went to the west and north—where the faith had never been preached—obtained the protection of local kings, and made numerous converts.

Because of the island's pagan background, Patrick was emphatic in encouraging widows to remain chaste and young women to consecrate their virginity to Christ. He ordained many priests, divided the country into dioceses, held Church councils, founded several monasteries and continually urged his people to greater holiness in Christ.

He suffered much opposition from pagan druids and was criticized in both England and Ireland for the way he conducted his mission. In a relatively short time, the island had experienced deeply the Christian spirit, and was prepared to send out missionaries whose efforts were greatly responsible for Christianizing Europe.

Patrick was a man of action, with little inclination toward learning. He had a rock-like belief in his vocation, in the cause he had espoused. One of the few certainly authentic writings is his *Confessio*, above all an act of homage to God for having called Patrick, unworthy sinner, to the apostolate. There is hope rather than irony in the fact that his burial place is said to be in County Down in Northern Ireland, long the scene of strife and violence.

Source:
[Franciscan Media](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Opportunities to Grow in Faith

Sunday, March 12:

10:30am - Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 10:30am Mass.
5:30pm - Religious education classes for grades 1-8.

Monday, March 13:

7:00pm - Women's Bible Study in the Thaddeus Center.
7:30pm - Bible Study on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary in the Kelly Conference Room.

Tuesday, March 14:

7:00pm - Men of Emmaus in the Millennium Conference Room.
7:30pm - Book Club. This week we're discussing chapter 2 of "The Abolition of Man" by C.S. Lewis. [More info here!](#)

Wednesday, March 15:

8:30am - Senior Men's Group in the Thaddeus Center.

Thursday, March 16:

7:00pm - Testimony Night in the Brophy Center. Fr. Ayub and Deacon Dan will share their faith journeys.

Friday, March 17:

7:00pm - Stations of the Cross.

"Jesus replied,
'The first is
this: 'Hear, O
Israel! The Lord
our God is Lord
alone! You shall
love the Lord
your God with
all your heart,
with all your
soul, with all
your mind, and
with all your
strength.'"

MARK 12:29-30

Confession

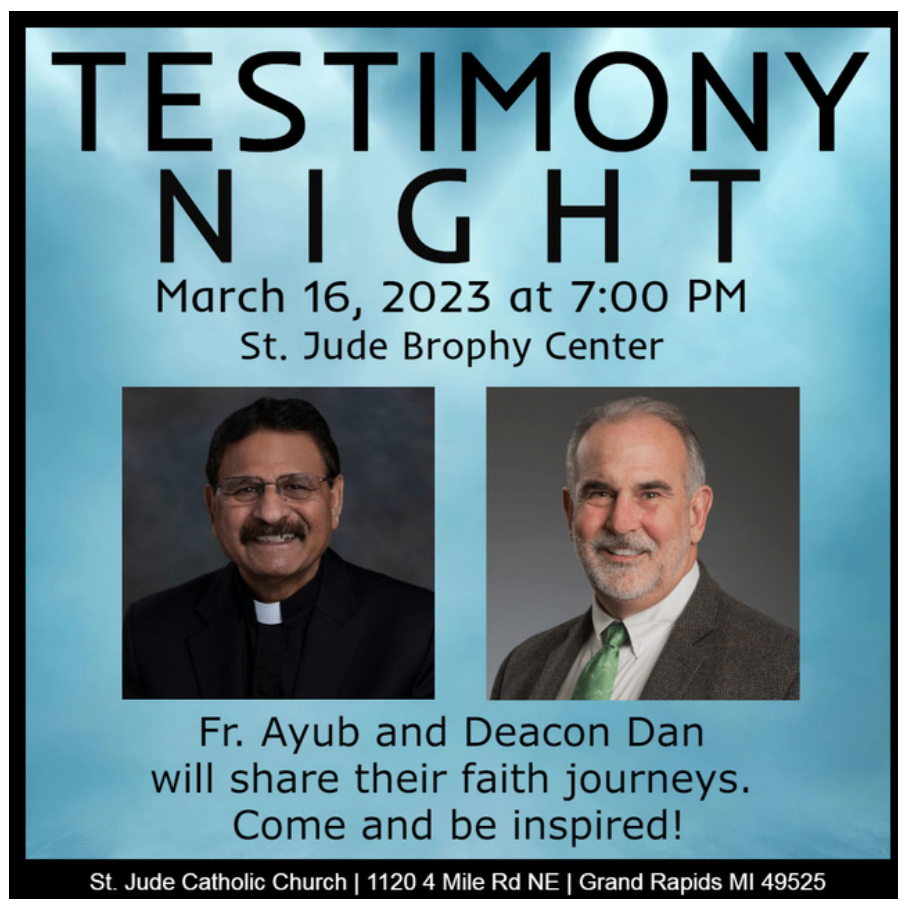
Saturday: 2:00 - 3:30PM
Also, by appointment

Daily Mass



Tuesday: 8:30AM
Thursday: 8:30AM
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Weekend Mass

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Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM



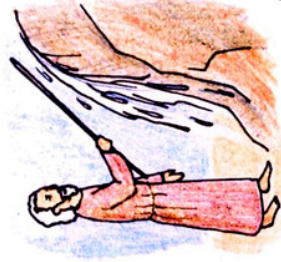
TESTIMONY
NIGHT
March 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM
St. Jude Brophy Center



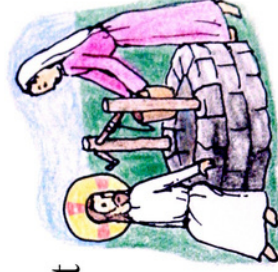
Fr. Ayub and Deacon Dan
will share their faith journeys.
Come and be inspired!

St. Jude Catholic Church | 1120 4 Mile Rd NE | Grand Rapids MI 49525

Water...



In today's first reading, the Israelites in the desert are thirsty and ask Moses for water. So God tells him to strike a big rock with his staff and water comes out. In the Gospel reading, Jesus tells the Samaritan woman that He can give her living water so that she will never be thirsty.



Water is a symbol of life. In the first story the people in the desert would have died if they didn't get water. Now Jesus gives us His life, which is grace. We receive it especially in Holy Communion. This is the living water that He is talking about. Our souls need His grace to stay alive.

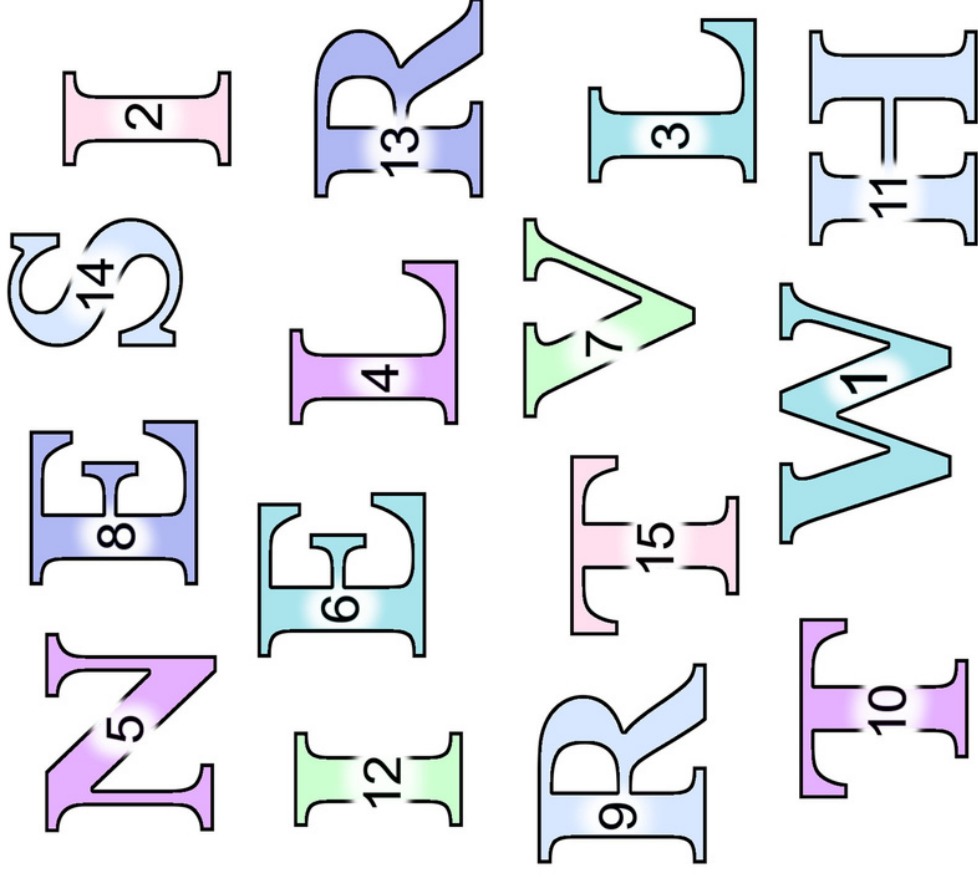
When you have a drink of water, think about how your body needs water to stay alive, and how your soul needs God's grace. Saying a prayer is kind of like giving your soul a little drink!



Answer to puzzle on front: will never thirst. Answer to puzzle inside: because, hearts, Spirit, given, still, time, difficulty, might, courage, God. "Christ died!"

The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Lent
March 12th, 2023



*Jesus says that if we drink
His living water, we*



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15			

Saint Leander of Seville

March 13



SAINT LEANDER WAS BORN TO A WEALTHY ROMAN FAMILY IN THE 500'S. THE FAMILY MOVED TO SEVILLE, IN SPAIN.



THE FAMILY WAS CHRISTIAN- HE HAD TWO BROTHERS AND A SISTER WHO ALL BECAME SAINTS.

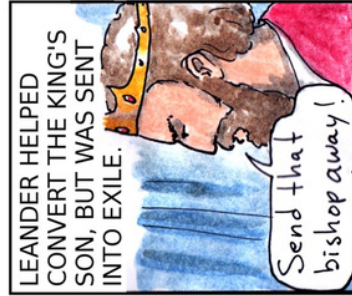


LEANDER BECAME A MONK, BUT WAS CHOSEN TO BECOME BISHOP OF SEVILLE.



So you see, Jesus isn't really God.

AT THAT TIME MANY PEOPLE AND LEADERS BELIEVED IN THE ARIAN HERESY.



LEANDER HELPED CONVERT THE KING'S SON, BUT WAS SENT INTO EXILE.

Send that bishop away!



IN EXILE IN BYZANTIUM HE MET AND BECAME FRIENDS WITH POPE SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT.

Your holiness!



I believe in one God, the Father Almighty...

SAINT LEANDER WROTE AND PREACHED AGAINST THE HERESY, BRINGING MANY BACK TO THE TRUE FAITH. HE STARTED USING THE NICENE CREED IN THE MASS.

SAINT LEANDER DIED AROUND THE YEAR 600. WHEN HE DIED HIS BROTHER BECAME THE NEW BISHOP. BECAUSE THE LEADERS HATED THE TRUTH, BISHOP LEANDER HAD RISKED HIS LIFE TO TRY TO CONVERT PEOPLE. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIM THAT WE SHOULD ALWAYS TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FAITH.

Fill-in-the-Blanks

Fill in the blanks with the words in the box.

Use the marked letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

- And hope does not disappoint,
1. the love of God has
been poured into our 2.
through the Holy 3. who
has been 4. to us. For
Christ, while we were 5.
helpless, died at the appointed
6. for the ungodly. Indeed,
only with 7.
does one die for a just person, though
perhaps for a good person one
8. even find
9. to die. But
10. proves his love for us in that...
...WHILE WE WERE STILL SINNERS
FOR US.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

COURAGE	DIFFICULTY	HEARTS
GOD	TIME	GIVEN
SPIRIT	MIGHT	STILL
		BECAUSE