

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.*

COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy... **Amen.**

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.

PSALM Psalm 94

RESPONSE: *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 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!
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!*

GOSPEL John 4:5-15. 19-26. 39-42

(a longer version may be read: John 4:5-42)

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. 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, 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour... **Amen.**

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.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive the pledge
of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth
with the Bread that comes from on high,
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,
that what is being brought about in us in mystery
may come to true completion... **Amen.**

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Catholic chaplain to the Ipswich hospitals: Awaiting new appointment.

Please contact either Fr Paul, Fr Luke or one of the other Ipswich priests if you or a family member are going in to hospital.

Please consider setting up a standing order in favour of the parish instead of a weekly cash offering. If you can Gift Aid your donation, please complete a form which you can find in the church porch.

Bank: Barclays **Account Name:** St Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Parish **Account number:** 70777323 **Sort code:** 20-44-51

Third Sunday of Lent – 12th March 2023: Sunday Readings: Liturgical Year A.

Sunday Hymns: Entrance: No. 533 *The Lord's My Shepherd* Offertory: No 243 *In Bread We Bring You*
Communion: No. 712 *I The Lord of Sea and Sky* Recession: No. 190 *Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer*
This weekend we welcome Fr Luke Goymour who will be celebrating all three weekend Masses
Services During the Coming Week

Saturday 11 th March	5:30pm	Confessions
	6:00 pm	Vigil Mass, offered for the people of the parish. Reader A Kenning, offertory Kenning family.
Sunday 12 th March	8:00 am	Mass, offered for the Vieira family. Reader A Smith, Offertory Moore family, Eucharistic Minister C Moore
	10:00 am	Mass, Conrado Fajardo RIP. Reader M Pakes, offertory Long family, Eucharistic Minister R Shorten <i>Please join us for tea and coffee in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass today prepared and served by Michael & Nigel</i>
Monday 13 th March	Lent Feria	No Mass Today
Tuesday 14 th March	Lent Feria	10:00 am Holy Mass, offered for the Vieira family
Wednesday 15 th March	Lent Feria	12 noon Holy Mass, open intention
Thursday 16 th March	Lent Feria	10:00 am Holy Mass, open intention
Friday 17 th March	St Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass, offered for James & Catherine Barrett RIP (MM), followed by Stations of the Cross
Saturday 18 th March	10:00 am	Lenten Mass Of Reconciliation at St Mark's
	5:30pm	Confessions
	6:00 pm	Second Sunday of Lent

Today's Gospel:

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 animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans should have prevented the conversation from taking place at all. 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 high point of the conversation is when Jesus reveals himself to her as the Messiah. His answer to the Samaritan woman's questions about worship is meant to predict a time when worshiping in truth and spirit will become the way to worship. After the conversation, the Samaritan woman becomes a disciple and the Samaritan townspeople return with her to meet Jesus for themselves, and many are said to come to believe in him. The encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman has many levels. The first is personal: The woman is herself converted to belief in Jesus as Messiah because he knows her sin but speaks with her just the same. The second is social: Having come to know Jesus as the Messiah, the Samaritan woman becomes an evangelist to her own people. The third level is educational: Jesus uses his encounter with the Samaritan woman to teach his disciples that God's mercy is without limit. The disciples return from their shopping quite confused to find Jesus talking with a Samaritan, and a woman at that! But the conversion of the Samaritan townspeople is a foretaste of the kind of open community that will be created among those who believe that Jesus is the Messiah. *Courtesy of Loyola Press.*

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

On Saturday 18th March, there will be a special Mass with Reconciliation and individual confessions in preparation for Easter, at St Mark's church starting at 10:00 am. All are welcome.

February Offertory:

The offertory for the month of February comprised £1,185 standing order receipts, £1,207.74 cash receipts in the collection plate – total £2,392.74. The CAFOD Lenten Fast Day collection realised a total of £865.00 of which £715 was Gift Aided, making the value to CAFOD £1,043.75. Thank you for your generosity.

Missing Spectacles

On Sunday 26th February, a pair of ladies bi-focal prescription glasses was left in the 2nd pew from the front on the right hand side by one of our parishioners. Despite a thorough search, these glasses have not been located. If you can shed any light on their whereabouts please speak to Fr Paul or Michael Long.

The Sick of the Parish

We ask your prayers for all our brothers and sisters who are unwell, afflicted, housebound or distressed. Comfort and relieve them according to their needs, and grant them the love and consolation of your Spirit: John Anderson-Hurst, Peggy Barron, Jason Beaumont, Michael Clarke, Sheila Curry, Fabiana Di Mascio, Patrick Doran, Josephine Kalagira, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Yvonne Metcalfe, Robert Mullan, David Nash, Pauline Newton, Mary O'Reilly, Carol Sims and Pippa Williamson.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Arthur Watkinson (1978), Daniel Mendonca (2013), Isabel Whittle (1969), John Roche (1983), Noel Andrews (2018), Alberto Computaro (2001), Marion Keenan, Margaret Quinn, Ambrose Andrews (1970), Margaret Savage (1982), Patricia Porteous (1995), Lilliana Zagni (2010), Margaret Stobo (2011) and Jean Keenan whose anniversaries occur about this time. A complete list of parish anniversaries can be found on the web site.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.