

Prayer Gathering for Third Week of Lent

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

OPENING PRAYER

**God of Every Moment,
you approach us without fanfare, cloaked in disguise.
Remind us to stay alert to your presence in our lives,
and fill us with a desire to turn each moment
into an encounter with your grace.
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

READING

MOMENT FOR SILENCE

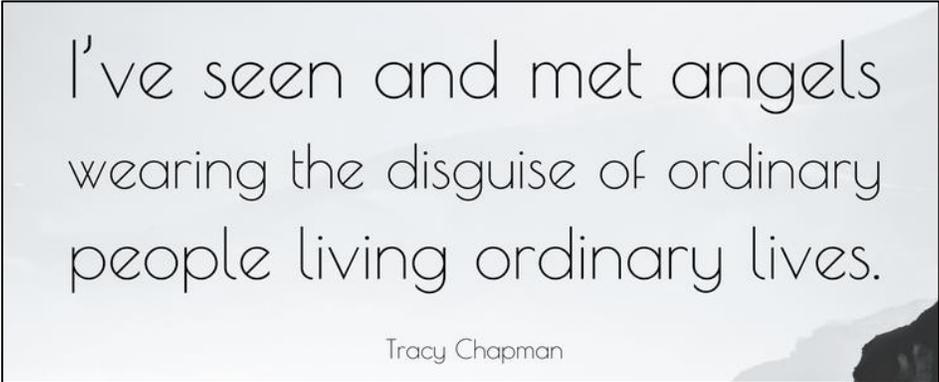
GOSPEL PASSAGE

SHARING QUESTIONS

“In those days, in their thirst for water, the people grumbled against Moses...”
**The feeling of thirst makes us desperate; it’s a fitting metaphor for many things in life.
When have you experienced that kind of feeling?
Have you ever seen something provoke a whole society in this way? What exactly?**

“The Israelites quarreled there and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD in our midst or not?”
Have you ever put God to the test by asking God to show you a sign or prove something to you? What happened? How did whatever happened affect your faith?

POSTED RECENTLY



I've seen and met angels
wearing the disguise of ordinary
people living ordinary lives.

Tracy Chapman

DISCUSSION

Woman at the Well: *“I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything.”*

Jesus: *“I am he, the one who is speaking with you.”*

Have you ever had an encounter with someone that was so powerful, you wondered if he or she might be an angel or prophet? What happened?

LITANY

When my parched soul burns with frustration and I am about to say words I can't take back...
Lord, I ask you, give me your living water...

When my pride cuts me off from the river of your guidance...
Lord, I ask you, give me your living water...

When I cover my tracks to the cave of half-truths...
Lord, I ask you, give me your living water...

When the shallows in which I've taken comfort begin to dry up...
Lord, I ask you, give me your living water...

When I seethe with resentment, seeing unkind people prosper...
Lord, I ask you, give me your living water...

When my chosen isolation begins to make my heart feel brittle...
Lord, I ask you, give me your living water...

When my anxiety starts to make every day a trial...
Lord, I ask you, give me your living water...

When I met all my goals... and played with all my toys... and still feel hollow...
Lord, I ask you, give me your living water...

When I look back at my choices and can't forgive myself...
Lord, I ask you, give me your living water...

OUR FATHER

[OPTIONAL] PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.**

CLOSING PRAYER

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.**

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

READING 1

A reading from the book of Exodus

In those days, in their thirst for water,
the people grumbled against Moses, saying,
*“Why did you ever make us leave Egypt?
Was it just to have us die here of thirst
with our children and our livestock?”*

So Moses cried out to the LORD,
*“What shall I do with this people?
a little more and they will stone me!”*

The LORD answered Moses,
*“Go over there in front of the people,
along with some of the elders of Israel,
holding in your hand, as you go,
the staff with which you struck the river.
I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb.
Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it
for the people to drink.”*

This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel.

The place was called Massah and Meribah,
because the Israelites quarreled there
and tested the LORD, saying,
“Is the LORD in our midst or not?”

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

READING 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar... Jacob's well was there.
Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

A woman of Samaria 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,
"How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?"
—For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.—

Jesus answered and said to her,
"If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink, ' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

The woman said to him,
"Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water?"

Jesus answered and said to her,
"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

The woman said to him,
"Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water..."

Jesus said to her, *"Go call your husband and come back."*
The woman answered and said to him, *"I do not have a husband."*

Jesus answered her, *"You are right in saying, 'I do not have a husband.' For you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true."*

The woman said to him, *"Sir, I can see that you are a prophet..."*

Jesus said to her, *"Believe me, woman... the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth..."*

The woman said to him, *"I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything."*

Jesus said to her, *"I am he, the one who is speaking with you."*

Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ