

# Dear Padre,

*I have done some really terrible things in my life. When I did them, I didn't think anything about them, but now I feel very guilty. Can God really forgive me?*

As we Redemptorists like to say, "With God there is plentiful redemption." God's mercy is everlasting and overflowing in its abundance. As we continue in Lent, let's remember that Easter is the sign that God forgave even the great sin of the crucifixion of his only Son. Time and time again throughout the Scriptures, Jesus demonstrates this bountiful mercy. He forgave Zacchaeus, the tax collector. He forgave the woman caught in adultery. He was tender with the Samaritan woman we hear about in today's Gospel. He spent his days living among and forgiving all manner of sinners. He even forgave Peter's great denial. The Church has named a multitude of saints, but note that in 2,000 years it has never declared anyone to be definitively condemned to eternal punishment. There is hope and mercy for all.

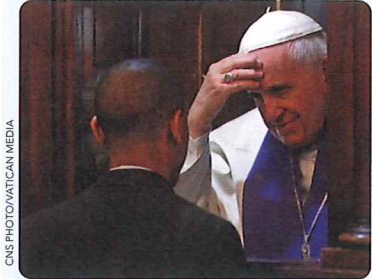
No matter how great the sin, God will forgive it. All you have to do is ask for mercy sincerely. All that takes is a repentant heart. From the tone of your message, you are truly sorry. Find a priest with whom you are comfortable and ask him to celebrate with you the sacrament of reconciliation. If you don't know how to go to confession, just ask. The priest will help you. Be at peace. ●

Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 13	March 14	March 15	March 16	March 17	March 18	March 19
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Fourth Sunday of Lent
2 Kgs 5:1-15ab	Dn 3:25, 34-43	Dt 4:1, 5-9	Jer 7:23-28	Hos 14:2-10	Hos 6:1-6	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
Lk 4:24-30	Mt 18:21-35	Mt 5:17-19	Lk 11:14-23	Mk 12:28-34	Lk 18:9-14	Eph 5:8-14
						Jn 9:1-41

### Know Someone Overly Anxious about Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit [ScrupulousAnonymous.org](https://ScrupulousAnonymous.org).



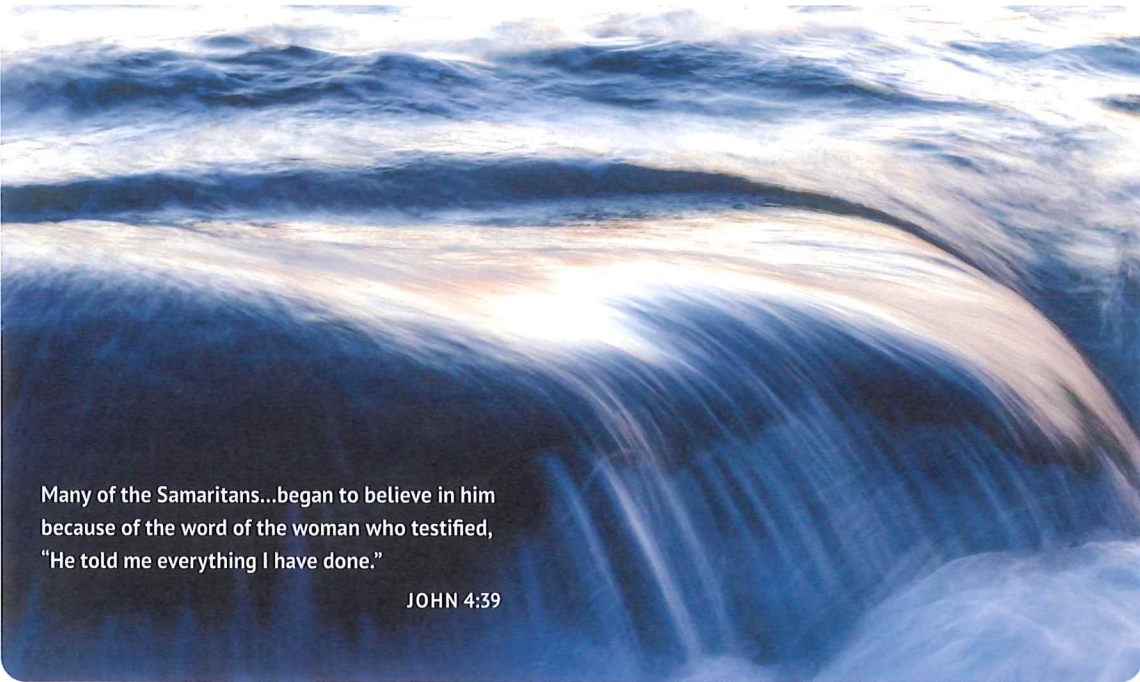
### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*We all have the right to be forgiven. All of us....Forgiveness is a "right" in the sense that God, in the Paschal Mystery of Christ, has given it in a total and irreversible way to every person willing to accept it with a humble and repentant heart.*

ADDRESS AT A COURSE ORGANIZED BY APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY, MARCH 25, 2022

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 12, 2023  
**Third Sunday of Lent (A)**  
Exodus 17:3-7 / Romans 5:1-2, 5-8  
John 4:5-42 or John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42



Many of the Samaritans...began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me everything I have done."

JOHN 4:39

## A Fountain of Life

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**he lovelorn column in the local newspaper shared a letter from someone who felt adrift. She had everything she needed or wanted —a marriage, a job, a home. Yet she felt there had to be more to life, but she didn't know what it was or where to go. She wondered, *Could anyone help me?*

Like the woman from Samaria who happened upon Jesus when she came looking for water at the local well, she and the letter writer were both eager for "living water." The woman at the well would then no longer need to come each day for her household needs, and the letter writer would have her deeper thirsts quenched. Both wanted something more out of life, not unlike most people at one time or another.

Long before Jesus encountered the woman at the well, the people who were led by Moses through the desert grumbled to him about their thirst, which triggered Moses to grumble to God about the people. The result was finding water in the desert, the most unlikely of places. As a result, they realized that God was taking care of them, that God was ultimately their source of life.

We may decide what will bring new life—a new relationship, a new job, a new home. Yet just as often the answer comes from totally unexpected sources: the deserts of our lives. Also just as often, we somehow miss the answer. When we do recognize it, however, we say, "Thanks be to God." ●

### Reflect

*When and where have you found grace in an "unexpected place"?*





Rectory & Parish Office  
600 Soderberg St. Lakin, KS 67860  
Mailing Address: PO Box 983  
Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405  
Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com

**3rd SUNDAY OF LENT (Violet)**

**3/11/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.**

**Servers:** Lucy Gannett, Jonathan Gannett, Nathan Gannett

**Reader:** Tom Bachman

**E.O.HC:** Tino Rosales Jr., Karen Burden

**3/12/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Servers:** Kirbe & Kipton Koons, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

**Reader:** Julies Kaps

**E.O. HC:** Robert Longoria, Kyle Berning

**4th SUNDAY OF LENT (Violet)**

**3/18/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.**

**Servers:** Volunteer, Jason Velasco, Ryann Bamberger

**Reader:** Debbie Frederick

**E.O.HC:** Rosemary & Tom Bachman

**3/19/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Servers:** Volunteer

**Reader:** Fred Jones

**E.O. HC:** Del & Julia Kaps

Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee	355-6388
Lisa Gannett, DRE	355-6611
RCIA	355-6405
Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Chair	272-1030
Tressa Powers, Finance Council Chair	355-6206
Altar Society President, Nanette Rice	355-7676
Tom Bachman, Grand Knight	640-8259
Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek	355-1696
& Nanette Rice	355-7676

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Saturday, Mar. 11	4:00 p.m.	For the people
Sunday, Mar. 12	9:00 p.m.	Sullen Bergkamp
Monday, Mar. 13	8:30 p.m.	Joyce Sack
Tuesday, Mar. 14	8:30 a.m.	Charles & Eileen Hoff
Thursday, Mar. 16	8:30 p.m.	For Moisture
Friday, Mar. 17	8:30 a.m.	S.Int. Powers Family
Saturday, Mar. 18	4:00 p.m.	Bergkamp Family Int.
Sunday, Mar. 19	9:00 a.m.	Urb & Pauline Steinke

**Reconciliation:** Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

**Baptism:** Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

**Marriage:** Please contact parish priest at least four to six months before the wedding.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

*If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps.95)*

My friends, I believe that each person has his or her own image of God. But while each of us thinks of God in different ways, my guess is that, when it comes to thinking about how God acts, many of us would probably have pretty similar ideas. And if we made a list of all the times we felt that God was at work in our lives, all the times God seemed to be acting in your life and mine, I’m sure a pattern would start to develop.

This Sunday’s Gospel passage from John we hear the moving account of what we call The Woman at the Well, a story we know rather well --- one about a woman who comes to collect water, and leaves with something of much greater value --- a healed and changed heart, a new sense of hope, a new beginning, a new life. The story even says that she left her water jar when she went back to tell the others. I guess what seemed so important before, was now less so.

And so Lent is really all about making room for God, discarding the things that really don’t matter much or that are cluttering our hearts or minds or souls.

Jesus invites us to do the same, empty ourselves of all that is not from him in order to make room for what he is offering --- himself. In doing so, we might discover what we’ve been thirsting for all along. Fr. Peter

**COLLECTION** for March 5, 2023: Envelopes: \$1257 Loose: \$616; Online Giving: \$1442.22; Total 3315.22 Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under +1554.05

**CHURCH PROJECT GOAL** \$52000—Building Fund To Date: \$23847.63 *Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards.*

**2023- ST. ANTHONY’S SCHOLARSHIP FORM** is available at the vestibule of the church

**ST. ANTHONY ALTAR SOCIETY** St. Anthony ladies, we are responsible for “Soup & Sermon” on March 29. If you can help with making soup or sandwiches for this event, please call Nanette Rice 620-355-7676 or 620-651-1327. Thank you so much in advance for your help!

**EASTER FLOWERS** If you want to send flowers in memory of a Loved One for Easter, please put your donation and names into the regular collection. Thank you!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR—UPCOMING EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS**

Budget Shop—Saturday 3/11 & Tuesday 3/14  
Confirmation Mass—Thursday, 3/23 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Parish Breakfast—Sunday 3/26, right after 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass  
Lent Penance Service—Sunday, 3/26 at 6:30 p.m.  
Soup & Sermon—3/29  
Holy Thursday 4/6/2023 St. Anthony’s Mass @ 6 p.m. St. Raphael’s @ 6:30 pm (MT)  
Good Friday 4/7/2023 St. Anthony’s Service @ 3:00p.m.; St. Raphael’s @ 6:00 pm (MT)  
Easter Vigil 4/8/2023 St. Anthony @ 8:30 p.m.  
Easter Sunday Mass 4/9/2023 Christ the King’s Mass @ 8:00 am.; St. Anthony’s @ 9:15am. & St. Raphael’s @ 10:30.  
Stations of the Cross —every Wednesday during Lent @ 7:30p.m.

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK** What can I do or say that will show others the living water that I have found in Jesus, the water that satisfies my spiritual thirst? Will I make that my mission this week?

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK** (adapted from a prayer by St. Columban) Merciful God, good Lord, unite me to that fountain where I may drink of the living spring of the water of life. May I dwell in that heavenly region, delighted with abundant sweetness. May I say: “How sweet is the fountain of living water which never fails, the water welling up to eternal life.” O God, you are the fountain we desire, the fountain we yearn to consume forever. Lord Jesus, give us this water always. Amen.

**OVERCOMING DISASTER** In Bangladesh, cyclones and other natural disasters are increasing—destroying farms, home and more-making it difficult for people like Noornobi to earn a living and support their families. But Noornobi has learned new techniques to protect is land and income, enabling his niece and nephew to go to school. How can you care for creation to help the planet and our global family? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

**UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (John 4: 5-42)**

**Ignoring the rules** Jesus ignores cultural and religious boundaries in order to talk with this lone (and lonely?) woman. • The Jews thought Samaritans had set up a false worship of God, so they avoided them • It was improper for a male to be alone with a female who wasn’t a relative • The woman was getting water during a hot time of day, which suggests the other village women excluded her Jesus offers the woman living water. Although she doesn’t realize it yet, this water is infinitely greater than the water from Jacob’s well. Jacob is the father of the tribes of Israel, which makes the well an important religious site. Jesus, however, is of much greater importance.

**Who is this guy?** Jesus reveals what he knows about the woman not to shame her but to help her believe in him. She, in turn, accepts that he has prophetic insight. Because she believes that he is a prophet, she asks him about the proper worship of God, a major concern of the Old Testament prophets (v.20). Jesus first says that the Jews are properly worshipping God, but then he says it doesn’t matter: the hour (the time) has come for the Father to replace all forms of worship. Jesus offers people living water (principally the Holy Spirit) so they can worship truly. The woman believes God will send someone to reveal this true worship. Jesus replies that he is the one God has sent (v.26).

**Reaping the harvest** The woman leaves her physical thirst and rushes to tell others that Jesus will quench their spiritual needs. She’s part of the harvest of people whom Jesus gathers. She also becomes a gatherer herself by bringing others to Jesus (v.28f). The Samaritans go out to see Jesus because of the woman’s testimony. They treat Jesus as kindly as he treated the woman. After spending time with him, the villagers are able to call Jesus the savior because of their own experience of him.

**Jesus’ work** The Gospel of John presents Jesus as the one who reveals the Father. Jesus gives people the Spirit of God so that they can believe in him and through him have eternal life. Bringing people to faith is Jesus’ work and the work of all who believe (v.34f). ( oursundayreadings.wordpress.com)

**UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING** (Exodus 17:3-7)

**Complaining** God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt in a dramatic display of power that included plagues, environmental disasters, and finally, the death of their enemies’ firstborn sons. Despite all that God did, the Israelites keep grumbling about how things were better in Egypt than in the Sinai desert. God provides the people with water, just as he previously gave them manna and quail (Exodus 16). By sustaining their physical needs, God is trying to teach this wayward people that they can trust him to protect and lead them. God will always be faithful to his people, even when his people aren’t faithful to him.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** Well, Well, Well “Give me a drink.” Those were the words Jesus used to introduce himself to the Samaritan woman at the well. He certainly got her attention. It is an interesting way to start off a conversation. Give me a drink? Is Jesus thirsty? What if he would have said, “I thirst”? Would the woman have paid any attention? Jesus spoke to her heart. He confronted her. What a gift! How did she respond? Not defensive. She accepted her past. In fact, she darted into town and told anyone who would listen that Jesus knew her past and he could be the Messiah! Are we that anxious to share our encounters at the well? The woman at the well did more than fetch Jesus a drink, she was the staff that drew forth the “living” water for her village, just as Moses did for the Israelites long ago, at Massah and Meribah . (Catholicdioceseofwichita.org)

**En el pozo** “Dame de beber.” Con estas palabras Jesús se presentó a la mujer samaritana en el pozo. Sin duda llamó su atención. Es una forma interesante de iniciar una conversación. ¿Dame de beber? ¿Jesús tiene sed? ¿Y si hubiera dicho: “Tengo sed”? ¿La mujer le habría prestado atención? Jesús le habló al corazón. La confrontó. ¿Qué regalo! ¿Cómo respondió ella? No a la defensiva. Ella aceptó su pasado. De hecho, corrió al pueblo y les dijo a todos los que quisieran escuchar que Jesús conocía su pasado y que él podía ser el Mesías. ¿Estamos así de ansiosos por compartir nuestros encuentros en el pozo? La mujer del pozo hizo algo más que dar de beber a Jesús. Ella fue el bastón que sacó el agua “viva” para su pueblo, igual que hizo Moisés para los israelitas hace mucho tiempo, en Masá y Meribá.

**Q:** Our new assistant pastor sometimes uses his iPad on the altar instead of the Book. This seems strange to me. Is it allowed? – Jeff

**A:** You are not alone in thinking it strange. It is one of those new things on the scene that seem odd in the context of an ancient liturgy.

To most I have discussed this with, the iPad is not ready for prime time, in its current form, for liturgical use. Indeed, the Bishops of New Zealand recently clarified for the priest that while the iPad may have many good uses, for the Liturgy, priest should stick with the liturgical books. New Zealand’s bishops are praising the usefulness of the iPad and other such electronic devices, but clarifying that for the liturgy, it’s important to stick to the book. They wrote on April 30th of this year: All faiths have sacred books which are reserved for those rituals and activities which are at the heart of the faith. The Catholic Church is no different, and the Roman Missal is one of our sacred books, and its physical form is an indicator of its special role in our worship. Based on this, they go on to say that electronic devices may not be used by the priest at the liturgy, in place of the sacred books.

One can envision a time in the future when sacred books may take on electronic form, just as current printed books replaced ancient handwritten scrolls, and paper replaced parchment and lambskins. But now is not that time.

**Q:** I read Msgr. Mannion’s answer on angels a while back and was surprised to read “the practice of assigning names to the Holy Angels should be discouraged.” Please explain this. What if I was told the name of my angel in prayer? – Rose

**A:** Msgr. Mannion is correct and seems to be quoting a document written in 2001 by the Congregation for Divine Worship entitled, Directory on Popular Piety in the Liturgy: Principles and Guidelines. It says, "The practice of assigning names to the holy angels should be discouraged, except in the cases of Gabriel Raphael and Michael, whose names are contained in Holy Scripture.” (#127)

While the Congregation does not offer reasons for discouraging the practice, I would like to offer a couple. First, there is the understanding of what a name is. For most of us in the modern Western world, a name is simply a sound we go by. But in the ancient, Biblical world, and even in many places today, a name has a far deeper meaning. A name describes something of the essence of the person. This helps explain the ancient practice of the Jews to name the child on the eighth day. The delay gave the parents some time to observe something of the essence of the child, and then, noting it, they would name the child. Indeed most Biblical names are deeply meaningful, and descriptive.

But it is presumptive to think that we can know enough of the essence of a particular angel, in order to be able to assign a name. Hence, assigning a name seems inappropriate.

The second reason is that assigning a name indicates some superiority over the one named. Thus, in the case of children, parents, who are superior over their children, rightly name them. However, in the case of angels, they are superior to us. And, even though we often speak of them as serving us, they do this on account of their superior power and as guardians. Thus, God commands us to heed their voice (cf Ex 23:20- 21)

So, naming an angel does seem problematic, and to be discouraged. As for the name being revealed to you, let me respectfully offer that this is not likely the case, since it seems unlikely that an Angel, or the Holy Spirit, would act contrary to the directive of the Church, herself graced to speak for Christ. (Msgr. Charles Pope– Our Sunday Visitor)

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Truth be told**

Pontius Pilate famously asked Jesus, “What is truth?” Pilate didn’t stick around for the answer (which in itself says a lot), but if he had, he might have heard something like the definition the Catechism of the Catholic Church provides: “Truth as uprightness in human action and speech is called truthfulness, sincerity, or candor. Truth or truthfulness is the virtue which consists in showing oneself true in deeds and truthful in words, and in guarding against duplicity, dissimulation, and hypocrisy.” Now we have a sense of what it means to imitate Christ in all things. (Preparetheword)

**TERCER DOMINGO DE CUARESMA**

**La verdad sea diccha**

Es famosa la pregunta de Poncio Pilates a Jesús: "¿Qué es la verdad?". Pilates no se quedó para oír la respuesta (lo que en sí mismo dice mucho), pero si lo hubiera hecho, podría haber oído algo parecido a la definición que da el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica: "La verdad como rectitud en la acción y en la palabra humana se llama veracidad, sinceridad o franqueza. La verdad o veracidad es la virtud que consiste en mostrarse sincero en las obras y veraz en las palabras, y en guardarse de la duplicidad, del disimulo y de la hipocresía.” Ahora tenemos una idea de lo que significa imitar a Cristo en todas las cosas.