

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4:00 PM	March 26 Anne & Frank Schuler
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM	March 27 Petra Santana Family Mass Parishioners
Monday 12:10 PM	March 28
Tuesday 12:10 PM	March 29 Ralph L. Roberts, Jr. - 16th Anniversary
Wednesday 12:10 PM	March 30 James Walsh
Thursday 12:10 PM	March 31
Friday 12:10 PM	April 1 — First Friday Sanctuary Fund
Saturday 4:00 PM	April 2
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM	April 3 Japan disaster victims Parishioners

OUR PARISH SUPPORT

Offertory - March 20 **\$3,462.**



SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

March 26/27

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Japan and to the Catholic community there. The challenges facing the government and people of Japan are extraordinary. The small and vibrant Catholic community in Japan will be greatly aided by the concern of the universal Church. Cardinal O'Malley has authorized a second collection in the parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston to provide assistance through CRS. Funds collected will be sent to CRS to assist in relief efforts in Japan. CRS will coordinate with Caritas Japan to provide immediate and long-term assistance.



The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" 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." - Jn 4:9a, 10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

3rd Sunday of Lent

In the nineteenth century, the Greek Orthodox began building a new church over the site of Jacob's well in Nablus, Palestine. The First World War interrupted the construction, and it was not until the end of the twentieth century that building resumed. The impetus for finishing the new church was spurred on by the martyrdom of the monk Philomenos in 1979 by Jewish extremists who broke into the monastic compound and hacked him to death as he was preparing for vespers. The new church was completed in 2007 and the remains of St. Philomenos were transferred there upon his glorification in 2008. Jacob's well is in the crypt of the church, the site of the monk's martyrdom, which occurred as he got ready to glorify God.

In the Gospel today Jesus points out to the Samaritan woman that the worship of God will take place neither at the Samaritan high place on the mountain that can be seen from Jacob's well (Mt. Gerizim) nor on the mountain of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem (Mt. Zion). Jesus indicates that the worship of God will take place "in Spirit and truth" (John 4:23). The place of worship is no longer tied to a physical location. Rather, the worship of God takes place within the human heart that is attentive to God's word.

While the monk Philomenos died defending a physical location, he would be among the first to acknowledge that Christianity is less about place and more about spirit. While buildings or shrines can inspire us, they do not constitute our faith, which resides in the person of Jesus Christ. The men and women who are preparing for baptism at the Easter vigil are committing themselves to following Christ, just as we who are already baptized profess to do. As the Samaritans told the woman in the Gospel, "we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world" (Jn 4:42).

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REFLECTIONS FROM FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY

Heart of Jesus - Son of the Eternal Father

Love of the Father: "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son."

Jesus in His human nature, as one of us, is divine assurance that we are loved by God. C. S. Lewis speaks of gift love and need love. God's love is totally and purely gift love. Jesus speaks to His Father, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; for what you have hidden from the learned and the clever, you have revealed to the merest children; Father, it is so, you have graciously willed it so."

In some ways the Father wants to need us, not as a necessity, but as a way for us to love Him. For we are free to accept or reject love, even the love of God. The quality of love seems to be both gift love and need love, for love means union; "Anyone who loves me will be loved by my Father, and we will come to him and make our abode with him."

March 30, April 6 and 13
The Church encourages all Catholics to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation each Lent. In addition to our normal Saturday afternoon confession time, St. Joseph and all the Catholic parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese will be open on Lenten Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm. Please take advantage of this opportunity to make a good Lenten confession.

CATHOLICS COME HOME

This week we hear about water and thirst. With all of the precipitation this winter has brought, it is hard to imagine being thirsty. The Samaritan woman at the well is an important figure in the Gospel. She is an evangelist par excellence leaving her water jug to tell the townspeople what she had heard. John writes: "Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified: he told me everything I have done." We do not know her name but we know that her conversation with Jesus is lengthy.

With whom do we need to have a conversation this week? To whom can we bring the news that Jesus offers living water? Invite someone who has been away to come home. Jesus is waiting. www.CatholicsComeHomeBoston.org

THANK YOU! Last Saturday we celebrated Stations of the Cross with Mary. It was a beneficial spiritual moment of this Lenten season for all who attended. After the service in celebration of the Feast of St. Joseph, a gathering took place in the parish hall where we enjoyed conversation, Zeppoles and more. Thanks to all who worked to make it a success. We almost ran out of pastries!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Happy Lent! Enjoy reading through the Booklets we have sent home. Continue to encourage the children to sacrifice in their own way to prepare them for a glorious Easter.

April 3, 2011 is our First Penance Workshop. All the levels will review the meaning of Penance and prepare for our Family Penance Service. PLEASE plan to attend!

Our Family Mass - TODAY, March 27, April 17 at 11:30 Mass. Religious Education - TODAY, March 27, and Next Week April 3 at 10:00 am.

Family Penance Service - April 10 at 2:00 pm All Religious Education families to attend.



Posted in the back of the Church are prayer cards with our First Penance participants. Please take one home and include them in your prayers. Pray for John Cassedy, Andrew Chan, Cameron Demerski, Margaret Fleck, Riley Leetch, Nico Morreale, Caitlin Poltack, Kelsie Rizzo, Jonathan Vilms, and Theodore Wilson.

LENT AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH

LENTEN HOLY HOURS - On Sunday, April 10 at 3:45pm we will come together before the Blessed Sacrament in prayer. We will pray for peace in our world that through His gift of grace the Lord's peace may reign.



LENTEN NOVENA - Join us each Wednesday during the 12:10pm Mass to pray the Lenten Novena. The Novena has had a long history in our Catholic tradition and is an important prayer of thanksgiving and supplication.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS - The Stations of the Cross are a powerful way to contemplate and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' gift of himself to us. It takes the reflection on the passions out of our heads, and makes it an imaginative exercise. It involves our senses, experiences and emotions. Come join us each Friday during Lent following the 12:10PM Mass.

RELIGIOUS LIFE An evening of prayer and conversation for men and women interested in religious life will be held on Thursday, April 7, 6:00PM to 9:30 PM, at the Sisters of St. Joseph, 637 Cambridge St., Brighton. To register, please E-mail Sr_Marian_Batho@rcab.org, or call 617-746-5637.