

**March 7, 2021: The 3rd Sunday of Lent****First Reading****Ex 20:1-17**

In those days, God delivered all these commandments:  
“I, the LORD, am your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery.

You shall not have other gods besides Me.

You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth; you shall not bow down before them or worship them. For I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God, inflicting punishment for their fathers’ wickedness on the children of those who hate Me, down to the third and fourth generation; but bestowing mercy down to the thousandth generation on the children of those who love me and keep My commandments.

“You shall not take the Name of the LORD, your God, in vain. For the LORD will not leave unpunished the one who takes His Name in vain.

“Remember to keep holy the sabbath day.

Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD, your God. No work may be done then either by you, or your son or daughter, or your male or female slave, or your beast, or by the alien who lives with you. In six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them; but on the seventh day he rested.

That is why the LORD has blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.

“Honor your father and your mother,  
that you may have a long life in the land which the LORD, your God, is giving you.

You shall not kill.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.  
You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.  
You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife,  
nor his male or female slave, nor his ox or ass,  
nor anything else that belongs to him.”

**OR:****Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17**

In those days, God delivered all these commandments:  
“I, the LORD am your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery.

You shall not have other gods besides Me.

“You shall not take the name of the LORD, your God, in vain. For the LORD will not leave unpunished the one who takes His Name in vain.

“Remember to keep holy the sabbath day.

Honor your father and your mother,  
that you may have a long life in the land which the Lord, your God, is giving you.

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nor his male or female slave, nor his ox or ass,  
nor anything else that belongs to him.”

Gospel readings source: [www.usccb.org/bible/readings/](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/)

**March 7, 2021: The 3rd Sunday of Lent (continued)****Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11****R. (John 6:68c) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**The law of the LORD is perfect,  
refreshing the soul;The decree of the LORD is trustworthy,  
giving wisdom to the simple.**R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**The precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;the command of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eye.**R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**The fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;the ordinances of the LORD are true,  
all of them just.**R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**They are more precious than gold,  
than a heap of purest gold;  
sweeter also than syrup  
or honey from the comb.**R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.****Second Reading****1 Corinthians 1:22-25**

Brothers and sisters:

Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom,  
but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to  
Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are  
called, Jews and Greeks alike, Christ the power of God  
and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is  
wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is  
stronger than human strength.**Gospel Reading****Jn 2:13-25**Since the Passover of the Jews was near,  
Jesus went up to Jerusalem.He found in the temple area those who sold oxen,  
sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers  
seated there.He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of  
the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled  
the coins of the money changers and overturned their  
tables,and to those who sold doves He said,  
“Take these out of here,  
and stop making My Father’s house a marketplace.”His disciples recalled the words of Scripture,  
*Zeal for Your house will consume me.*At this the Jews answered and said to Him,  
“What sign can You show us for doing this?”Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple  
and in three days I will raise it up.”The Jews said, “This temple has been under  
construction for forty-six years, and You will raise it up  
in three days?”But He was speaking about the temple of His body.  
Therefore, when He was raised from the dead, His  
disciples remembered that He had said this, and they  
came to believe the Scripture  
and the word Jesus had spoken.While He was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover,  
many began to believe in His Name  
when they saw the signs He was doing.But Jesus would not trust Himself to them because He  
knew them all, and did not need anyone to testify  
about human nature.

He Himself understood it well.

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**March 7, 2021: The 3rd Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)****First Reading****Exodus 17:3-7**

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?"

**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9**

**R. (8) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into His Presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to Him.

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD Who made us.  
For He is our God,  
and we are the people He shepherds, the flock He guides.

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Oh, that today you would hear His voice:  
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Massah in the desert,  
Where your fathers tempted Me;  
they tested Me though they had seen My works."

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

**Second Reading****Romans 5:1-2, 5-8**

Brothers and sisters:

Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.

And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves His love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

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**March 7, 2021: The 3rd Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)**

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**Gospel Reading****John 4:5-42**

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 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? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" 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. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but You people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem."

Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship 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 speaking with you."

At that moment His disciples returned, and were amazed that He was talking with a woman, but still no one said, "What are You looking for?" or "Why are You talking with her?"

The woman left her water jar and went into the town and said to the people, "Come see a Man Who told me everything I have done. Could He possibly be the Christ?" They went out of the town and came to Him. Meanwhile, the disciples urged Him, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the disciples said to one another, "Could someone have brought Him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of the One Who sent Me and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'In four months the harvest will be here'? I tell you, look up and see the fields ripe for the harvest. The reaper is already receiving payment and

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**March 7, 2021: The 3rd Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)**

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gathering crops for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together. For here the saying is verified that 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap what you have not worked for; others have done the work, and you are sharing the fruits of their work." 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." When the Samaritans came to Him, they invited Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in Him because of His word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of Your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

**OR:****John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42**

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from His journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

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get this living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" 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.

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Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in Him. When the Samaritans came to Him, they invited Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in Him because of His word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of Your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

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