

March 3, 2024: The 3rd Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)
(page 1)

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.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

Find fun, free, and faithful children's activities including our Mass Prep videos at HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep

© 2024 Holy Heroes LLC. All rights reserved

March 3, 2024: The 3rd Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)
(page 2)

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

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

Find fun, free, and faithful children's activities including our Mass Prep videos at HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep

© 2024 Holy Heroes LLC. All rights reserved

March 3, 2024: The 3rd Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)**(page 3)**

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 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.

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. "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 Who is speaking with you."

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."

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

Find fun, free, and faithful children's activities including our Mass Prep videos at HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep

© 2024 Holy Heroes LLC. All rights reserved

March 10, 2024: The 4th Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)

(page 1)

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

The LORD said to Samuel: "Fill your horn with oil, and be on your way. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen my king from among his sons."

As Jesse and his sons came to the sacrifice, Samuel looked at Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is here before him." But the LORD said to Samuel: "Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the LORD looks into the heart." In the same way Jesse presented seven sons before Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any one of these." Then Samuel asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" Jesse replied, "There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep." Samuel said to Jesse, "Send for him; we will not begin the sacrificial banquet until he arrives here." Jesse sent and had the young man brought to them. He was ruddy, a youth handsome to behold and making a splendid appearance. The LORD said, "There—anoint him, for this is the one!" Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed David in the presence of his brothers; and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

R. (1) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures He gives me repose;
beside restful waters He leads me;
He refreshes my soul.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me in right paths
for His Name's sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for You are at my side
With Your rod and Your staff
that give me courage.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You spread the table before me
in the sight of my foes;
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
for years to come.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

Find fun, free, and faithful children's activities including our Mass Prep videos at HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep

© 2024 Holy Heroes LLC. All rights reserved

March 10, 2024: The 4th Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)

(page 2)

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

Brothers and sisters:

You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness; rather expose them, for it is shameful even to mention the things done by them in secret; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore, it says:

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will give you light.”

Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

As Jesus passed by He saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked Him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the One Who sent Me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When He had said this, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, “Go wash in the Pool of Siloam” —which means Sent—. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, “Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is,” but others said, “No, he just looks like him.” He said, “I am.” So they said to him, “How were your eyes opened?” He replied, “The man called Jesus

made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went there and washed and was able to see.” And they said to him, “Where is He?” He said, “I don’t know.”

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see.” So some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, because He does not keep the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a sinful Man do such signs?” And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, “What do you have to say about Him, since He opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight.

They asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?” His parents answered and said, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged Him as the Christ, He would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, “He is of age; question him.”

So a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner.”

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

Find fun, free, and faithful children’s activities including our Mass Prep videos at HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep

© 2024 Holy Heroes LLC. All rights reserved

March 10, 2024: The 4th Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)
(page 3)

He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see." So they said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" They ridiculed him and said, "You are that Man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this One is from." The man answered and said to them, "This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where He is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this Man were not from God, He would not be able to do anything." They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out. When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, He found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, the One speaking with you is He." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped Him. Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind."

Some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard this and said to Him, "Surely we are not also blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains.

OR:**John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38**

As Jesus passed by He saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" — which means Sent —. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am."

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because He does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them.

So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about Him, since He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, He found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and the One speaking with you is He." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped Him.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

Find fun, free, and faithful children's activities including our Mass Prep videos at HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep

© 2024 Holy Heroes LLC. All rights reserved

March 17, 2024: The 5th Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)

(page 1)

First Reading

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Thus says the Lord GOD:

O My people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O My people! I will put My Spirit in you that you may live, and I will settle you upon your land; thus you shall know that I am the LORD. I have promised, and I will do it, says the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

R. (7) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to my voice in supplication.

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

If you, O LORD, mark iniquities,
LORD, who can stand?

But with you is forgiveness,
that you may be revered.

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

I trust in the LORD;

my soul trusts in his word.

More than sentinels wait for the dawn,
let Israel wait for the LORD.

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

For with the LORD is kindness
and with him is plenteous redemption;
And he will redeem Israel
from all their iniquities.

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading

Romans 8:8-11

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the One Who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the One Who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through His Spirit dwelling in you.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

Find fun, free, and faithful children's activities including our Mass Prep videos at HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep

© 2024 Holy Heroes LLC. All rights reserved

March 17, 2024: The 5th Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)

(page 2)

Gospel Reading

John 11:1-45

Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and dried His feet with her hair; it was her brother Lazarus who was ill.

So the sisters sent word to Him saying, "Master, the one You love is ill." When Jesus heard this He said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when He heard that He was ill, He remained for two days in the place where He was. Then after this He said to His disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone You, and You want to go back there?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in a day? If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." He said this, and then told them, "Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him." So the disciples said to Him, "Master, if he is asleep, he will be saved." But Jesus was talking about His death, while they thought that He meant ordinary sleep. So then Jesus said to them clearly, "Lazarus has died. And I am glad for you that I was not there, that you may believe. Let us go to him." So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with Him."

When Jesus arrived, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet Him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise."

Martha said to Him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, the One Who is coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary secretly, saying, "The Teacher is here and is asking for you." As soon as she heard this, she rose quickly and went to Him. For Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still where Martha had met Him. So when the Jews who were with her in the house comforting her saw Mary get up quickly and go out, they followed her, presuming that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet and said to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how He loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the One Who opened the eyes of the blind an have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to Him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days."

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

Find fun, free, and faithful children's activities including our Mass Prep videos at HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep

© 2024 Holy Heroes LLC. All rights reserved

March 17, 2024: The 5th Sunday of Lent (Scrutinies)**(page 3)**

Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You for hearing Me. I know that You always hear Me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." And when He had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what He had done began to believe in Him.

OR:**John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45**

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, "Master, the one You love is ill." When Jesus heard this He said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when He heard that he was ill, He remained for two days in the place where He was. Then after this He said to His disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

When Jesus arrived, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet Him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, the One Who is coming into the world."

He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how He loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the One Who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to Him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You for hearing Me. I know that You always hear Me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." And when He had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what He had done began to believe in Him.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

Find fun, free, and faithful children's activities including our Mass Prep videos at HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep

© 2024 Holy Heroes LLC. All rights reserved