



# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

*"Our mission is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ's love to our entire community through traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, fellowship, outreach, and Christian formation."*

## THIS SUNDAY March 15 & BEYOND

### The Fountain That Quenches Our Thirst



Thirst is the physical sensation that drives us to drink water in order to rehydrate our bodies, which are made up of about 60% of this precious liquid. Those who have experienced severe thirst know how persistent and unbearable this sensation can be, so it is

a good image for our inmost spiritual needs. "My soul thirsts for you", says the psalmist referring to God.

As human beings, we have essential biological needs, but we also have spiritual needs. Our main spiritual need can only be satiated by our full communion with our Creator, but unfortunately it takes most of us some time to realize that truth. In the meantime, we wander through life looking for different wells where to satiate our thirst. Some of these wells can give us a water that may temporarily satisfy us, but we will soon thirst again.

Some of us strive to drink from the well of material possessions, but we all know the vicious circle: the more we have, the more we want. Others may go after sensual pleasures, with the same disappointing result. We can even drink from the well of human relationships based on the recognition of talents and human knowledge. That can be a quite satisfying water for some time, but will never quench our thirst in the end. Even relationships based on human love, which are highly commendable, although they will temporarily quench our thirst and make us feel fulfilled, will

eventually point us to a deeper well, the fountain of unconditional love, the source of all human love, which is God Himself.

The Samaritan woman who talks with Jesus by Jacob's well needed water and so did Jesus. But Jesus perceived the deep spiritual thirst in her. So He initiated a dialogue that led the woman to open her thirsty life to Him. She had had five husbands and the man she had now was not even her husband. She had longed to quench her thirst in human relationships, but they had failed to give her what she had expected. Who knows why she had been married five times. Divorced? Widowed? Or a combination of both? And the man she had now was not even legally committed to her. But now Jesus was offering her a different kind of water; one that would spring forth in her for everlasting life; one that would quench her thirst for ever.

At the beginning she misunderstands Jesus' offer. She thinks He is talking about physical water that would magically quench her thirst so that she would not have to drink water again. If we think about the long distances people had to walk at that time to get and carry water that would have been a very good offer. But later she realizes that this man talking to her is a prophet, and perhaps the Messiah, so her soul is suddenly filled with an inner source of life, a different kind of life, full of hope, certainty, and love. And she cannot keep it to herself. She goes out to tell everyone. She becomes a witness to Him who transforms her life, who gives her the only water that quenches her innermost thirst for ever more.

May we go after the true fountain of everlasting life that our thirst may be quenched, and may we also become witnesses to Him who is the true source of this living water.

Fr, Carlos Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Third Sunday in Lent:

Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95:6-11 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-26, 39-42

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY: **The Third Sunday in Lent**

8:00am Low Mass (Church)

10:30am Solemn High Mass (Church)

7:00pm Little Apple Group (Parish Hall)

—*The entrance to the church is on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue*—

*Note: Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.*

MONDAY 6:00pm Experience, Strength and Hope AA Group (Parish Hall)

TUESDAY: 11:00am Lenten Study (Library)

Noon Mass (St. Mary Chapel)

WEDNESDAY Noon Noon Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)

6:30pm Contemplative Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)

THURSDAY Noon Noon Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)

FRIDAY Noon Noon Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)

12:30pm Way of the Cross Pilgrimage (Church)

1:00pm Potluck Luncheon (Flower Room)

AA Meetings

8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)

8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)

### SUNDAY **The Fourth Sunday in Lent**

8:00am Low Mass (Church)

10:30am Solemn Mass (Church)

AA Meeting

7:00p Little Apple Group (Parish Hall)