



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT / A

8 MARCH 2026

FIRST READING

Ex 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

✱ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

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

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. R.

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. R.

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' R.

SECOND READING

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This

hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

✱ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 4:42, 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! / Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; / give me living water, that I may never thirst again. / Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Jn 4:4-5, 19-26, 39-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman 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, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you:

Give me a drink,

you would have been the one to ask,

and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water

will get thirsty again;

but anyone who drinks the water that I shall

give

will never be thirsty again:

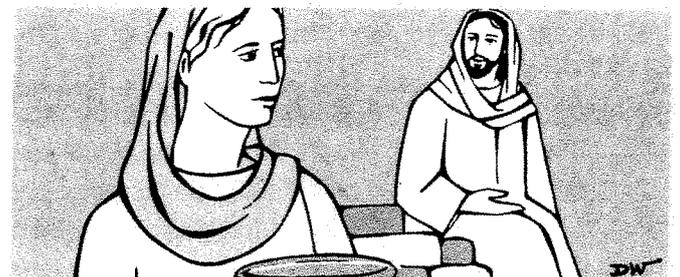
Breaking Open the Word

FOR WHAT DO WE THIRST?

The first two Sundays of Lent are from Matthew's Gospel, the Gospel of this liturgical year. They recall Jesus' temptation (*Mt 4: 1-11*) and his experience of being transfigured (*Mt 17: 1-9*). For the remaining Sundays of Lent, we listen to John's Gospel. These Sundays will explore the central religious and theological questions especially relevant for contemporary disciples in their Lenten journey: For what do we truly thirst (today's Gospel)? How might our eyes be opened to Jesus (next Sunday)? What is the life for which we deeply desire (the final Sunday of Lent)?

In today's Gospel a Samaritan woman comes to a well at noon—the brightest moment of the day—and encounters the source of Light, Jesus. She comes to draw water and only later realises that she has met the one who can quench her deepest spiritual thirst. The whole scene is replete with theological symbolism, a characteristic of John, as Jesus invites the woman to explore the depths of her thirst that only he can address. We learn that she has had several 'husbands'. This is not an admission of the woman's adventurous liaisons, as many commentators have interpreted, but an acknowledgement of her attraction to the 'husbands' (the 'Baals') of religions that are 'not her own'. She is looking for the true one from God, not these other counterfeits.

Jesus reveals himself to her: He is the 'I AM', the Old Testament name for God. Through him the woman comes to encounter the Sacred and sets her on a journey back to her townspeople. Like the woman, we, too, thirst, for God and for a deeper religious life as we journey through Lent.



the water that I shall give
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up
to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants.

God is spirit,
and those who worship
must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done,' so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

✦ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form 4:5-42

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Fr Michael Trainor

We warmly welcome you too the

Parish of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

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Fr. Thai Vu 0423 511 227 - thai.vu@perthcatholic.org.au

SUNDAY Mass Times

Kalgoorlie (St Mary)	6:30pm (Sat), 10am (Sun)
Boulder (All Hallows)	8am (Sun), 5:30pm (Sun)
Coolgardie (St Mary)	4pm (Sat)
Kambalda (St John Vianney)	9am (Sun)
Norseman (St Joseph)	12:30pm (Sun)

Notices

PARISH FINANCE

First Collection - Fr. Thai Vu BSB: 086 136
Ac/N: 743 713 570, please reference your name.
Second Collection: Kalgoorlie Boulder Parish
BSB: 036 125 - Ac/N: 790 100, reference your name.
Christian Outreach Bank A/c
BSB: 086 554 A/c No 564153619

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF KALGOORLIE-BOULDER

If you are returning to Church, or if you have just relocated to our Parish, we warmly welcome you and encourage you to introduce yourself to Fr after mass or at Morning Tea over a cuppa and a bite to eat. We are delighted to welcome you into our faith community here in the Goldfields.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK/HOUSEBOUND/HOSPITALISED

Simon D'Monte, Wendy D'Monte, Chad Miller, Nina Andinach, Rodney Braham, Noel Hicks, Ron Coumbe, Lynette Hogan, David and Pam Lavender, Janet Bartle, Gerhardt Novak, Lyn Stewart, Gianne, Lolita, Teresa Quilanita Tores, Steve Lutua and Mad Ted.

BIRTHDAYS

Donna Cross 2/3 and Leonie Harris 15/3

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Norma Henneker 8/3 and Tom Barry 10/3

BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND

Maisie Jade Edwards on Sunday 8/3 at St Mary's Kalgoorlie.

A PERSONAL REVIVAL

May you experience a personal revival that forever marks the way you walk with God. May your loved ones encounter him in ways that change how they pray, what they say, and how they live. May God move on your prayers in ways that compel you to pray more specifically, with greater fervency, and with increasing faith. Though the enemy is working overtime, he runs scared when God steps in. May God move mightily in our midst in the days ahead! Have a blessed and faith-filled evening.

"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

St Francis of Assisi

THE WEEK AHEAD

/MARCH

Mon 9	Week 3 of Lent 9.30 am SX Chapel
Tue 10	Week 3 of Lent - 5.30 pm
Wed 11	Week 3 of Lent- 7.00 am
Thu 12	Week 3 of Lent - 7.00 am
Fri 13	Week 3 of Lent - 7.00 am
Sat 14	Week 3 of Lent- 9.30 am recon at 11.00 am
Sun 15	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

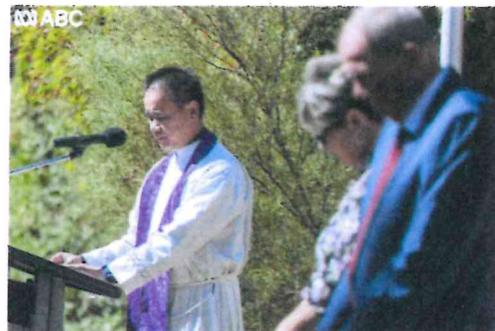
SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 28 March Menzies Mass

LET US JOURNEY TOGETHER TO EASTER

We are on a beautiful journey toward Easter. Stations of the Cross are going very well, and it is a joy to make this journey together.

Let us not forget that Lent is a time that we are invited to prayers abstinence and alms giving. During this period, God invites us back to him through the Sacrament of reconciliation because He desire to heal us, strengthen us and free us from the chains of our enslaving habits.



MINERS MEMORIAL

Last Saturday Fr. Thai officiated at the Annual Miners Memorial held at the Museum of the Goldfields to

honour those men and women who have lost their lives in mining accidents since 1892 across the Eastern Goldfields

MORNING TEA, CAN YOU HELP?

Morning Tea resumes after the Sunday Masses at All Hallows' Church in Boulder and at St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie.

We are looking for volunteers to assist with providing morning tea on the first Sunday of each month at St Mary's Kalgoorlie. If you can help in this regard, please phone our Parish office for more details. Donations of savoury or sweet plates to share at any of our morning teas are most welcome and are much appreciated and can just be left on the serving tables in our Halls before or after Mass.

CATHOLIC Q & A

"The Spirit the Lord"

In the creed at Mass, why do we say we believe in the "the Spirit, the Lord"? What is the significance of this, since that title is always reserved for Christ?

In the church's tradition, the title "Lord" (in Greek, *Kyrios*) most often refers to Jesus, but not always. Christ enjoys that title most appropriately as the God-Man, the unique mediator between God and creation, and therefore Lord of the world.

The title has also been used for the Holy Spirit, since the Spirit shares in the divine nature of the Father and Son, and therefore in all the prerogatives and attributes they have as God.

The church in the East (Constantinople), with its heavily Spirit-oriented mysticism, speaks of the Spirit as *Kyrios* more than does West (Rome) and usually relates to the title to the Third Person's work as Giver and Generator of life. Some early Eastern forms of the Apostle's Creed, as well as the Creed of Nicea (year 325) we use at Mass, illustrate this tradition.

The reference to the Holy Spirit as Lord was not in the original creed of the Council of Nicea, it was added by the Council of Constantinople half a century later.

MARK IN YOUR CALENDARS OUR ANNUAL COMMUNITY MASSES

Our Annual Community mass timetable is as follows:

Kalgoorlie 24th May 2026
Norseman 28th June 2026
Menzies 19th July 2026
Kambalda 2nd August 2026
Coolgardie 20th September 2026
Southern Cross 25th October
Boulder 1st November 2026

COME EXPERIENCE GOD'S MERCY DURING LENT

Don't wait to experience the healing power of God's forgiveness. Confession is a beautiful opportunity to start anew in his Grace. It is available every **Saturday 11.00am at St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie** or it can be arranged at a different time and day by phoning our office or arrange it with any of our three Priests either before or after Mass at any of our Churches.

PIETY STALL

A reminder that our Piety Stall is open every Sunday after the 10.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Kalgoorlie for all Your devotional gift needs. The stall can also be open at any time during the week by phoning the Parish office. If we don't have what you need, please let us know and we can order it in for you.
All purchases made from the Stall supports our Parish's many outgoings.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS



Last weekend we welcomed another new Altar server (David) to our team at All Hallows' Church, Boulder.

Here is David Darbritz along with Joshua and Joachim Bayiri, Eleanor O'Neil, Harley and Bailey Zanotta with Acoloyte Frank Andinach and Fr. Quoc Tran.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During the Lenten season, Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday at **6.30 pm at St Mary's Church Kalgoorlie** and **6.30 pm at St John Vianney Church, Kambalda**. Everyone is welcome to attend.

FIRST AID SUPPLIES APPEAL FOR THE NEEDY

We have commenced an Appeal for our parishioners to donate unused medical supplies. Can we ask that you check through your First Aid Kits at home or in the car, to see if you have any surplus items to donate such as bandages, gauze, antiseptic wipes, gloves, masks and other basic medical essentials so that you make a meaningful difference? These items will be collected and distributed to needy people in our neighbouring country of Papua New Guinea, helping provide care where access to medical supplies is extremely limited. Donations can be delivered to the Parish office or please phone Nancy MacKenzie – 0456 681 010 to arrange for her pick up of your donations. Your support of this initiative is most appreciated.



PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth is committed to the safety and security of all children, the elderly, and any other vulnerable people in our Parish. If you have any safety concerns, you can discuss it with the Parish Safeguarding Officer(s)
Carmel O'Neil: 0437 902 812 and
Carmel Salmon: 0428 240 086