

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE OCIA

PURIFICATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT

Third Sunday of Lent, Cycle A Readings Used

Jesus, Living Water,
when I thirst
for answers to questions,
or friends by my side,
for peace or for joy,
help me remember to turn to you.

Meet me at the well.

Listen to my prayers,
and speak to me as my friend
and as my Lord.

Amen.



Sunday Word

Exodus 17:3-7

Psalms 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

John 4:5-42

The above readings are available at
usccb.org/bible/readings.

To Help You Remember



1. **The desert**—the times in life when God feels far away.
2. **The rock**—Christ's Law of Love, our firm foundation, our highest calling.
3. **The laying on of hands**—the touch of the Holy Spirit, which strengthens and anoints us to be more like Christ.
4. **The well**—the depths of faith that take a lifetime to explore.

Key Teachings



God Meets Our Needs

Food gives fuel to our bodies. Shelter keeps us safe from harsh weather and from danger. Friends keep us from feeling so alone. God made us this way so that we would turn to him and to each other for what we need in order to live as faithful children of the Kingdom of God.

What else has God given you to help you live as his faithful child?

What is your greatest need right now, today?

We Meet Jesus in the Liturgy

The Samaritan woman met Jesus at the well. We meet Jesus in the liturgy. We meet Jesus in the Body of Christ, the Church. We hear Jesus' voice proclaimed in the Gospel. Soon we will receive the Eucharist—Jesus' Body and Blood—under the appearance of bread and wine. The living waters of Jesus flow through the liturgy in the presider and in the assembly, in the Word, and in the Eucharist. They fill us with faith and help us live as faithful followers of Christ, disciples of Jesus.

Reflection



This week, keep meeting Jesus at the well. Talk with him about what you are feeling and about what you need. Ask him the questions that are on your heart. Be still and listen to what he says to you.

What is he asking you to change?

What is he asking you to do?

With My Family



We Listen

Water is a powerful image in these readings for the First Scrutiny. Jesus is living water. He tells the Samaritan woman as much when they meet at the well. Jesus and the woman of Samaria have quite a conversation. Have a family conversation about how the living water, Jesus, brings life and refreshment to your household.

We Believe

The Scrutiny prepares the elect for the waters of Baptism and helps us all to see sin and to desire Salvation more deeply. When it is time for the Easter celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism, the cleansing water will wash away all sin and make of each of the elect a new creation. Those same baptismal waters remind the baptized that, in Christ, we are all new creations.

We Live As Disciples

By the power of the Holy Spirit, the celebration of the Scrutiny helps to heal what is weak or sinful and strengthen what is good. Invite each family member to name one of her or his strengths. Talk about how each family member uses his or her strengths to do good for others. Name one thing you will do as a family this week to help someone in need.

We Pray

During this third week of Lent, pray this prayer as a family. *Dear Jesus, like the woman of Samaria, help us to believe in you and in your gift of living water. May we always worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.*"