

## **Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty 3/15/2020**

There is so much about thirst, water and satisfying of thirst in our readings today. From the first reading, we see the episode of the Israelites during their forty years of sojourn in the desert. At several occasions they faced dire needs including thirst for water. This made them grow so frustrated and angry that they threatened to stone Moses for bringing them out of slavery. God instructed Moses to strike the rock with his rod and give them water to drink.

We see another quenching of thirst in the gospel reading. We read about the woman at the well episode. She had come to draw water from Jacob's well at the noon hour and met Jesus. After coming to know who Jesus truly was, she was ready to drink deeply from the abundance of his grace and mercy. This Samaritan woman asked Jesus to give her the living water of which Jesus spoke of so that she may not be thirsty again. She ran to the village to invite the people to come and see a man who has told her all that she has done.

Even in the desert place of dryness and lifelessness, God is able to meet the needs of his people. They drank from the rock which St. Paul tells us was Christ himself (1 Cor 10:4). Jesus is the rock of ages; the rock of our salvation. Jesus calls out to all who are thirsty to come to him and drink from the font that never runs dry, the font of the spirit (John 7:37). This woman had a spiritual thirst. She was thirsting for the gift only Jesus could give; the gift of faith, grace, forgiveness and hope. It's the kind St. Augustine talks about in his confessions, that God made us for himself and we are restless until we rest in him. This woman who could not name her husband, saw in Jesus not only the font of mercy for her forgiveness but also the font of love and peace for a new life. Jesus is the true satisfaction of our soul.

In our own lives, we sojourn through the wilderness of life with many thirsts to quench, many desires competing for our attention. Currently, confronted with a new pandemic with all the anxiety and restrictions, let us turn to Jesus who is with us at every step of the way. Let us allow our hearts to drink of the saving water he brings that we may never be thirsty again for sin, thirsty again for vanities, thirsty again disunity, thirsty again for pride. Let us seek to draw near to him that we may find in him our true spiritual and material fulfillment.

Praise be Jesus Christ!