

MARCH 12, 2023  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Our greatest longing is for union with God.

In both the first reading and the Gospel, we hear about people who are thirsty. The people in the desert cry out to Moses for water. Jesus asks the woman at the well for a drink. While thirst is a natural part of our daily lives, in the Scriptures it is sometimes used to speak to the longing in our spirits for union with God. Our bodies naturally hunger and thirst, but so do our souls.

It makes perfect sense if we really think about it. The Church teaches that the very reason we were created is to know, love, and serve God. If we are not striving to fulfill that purpose, then there will be a lack, or emptiness, in our hearts. Throughout history, as we have considered the human experience, we have learned that full bellies and mugs full of drink are not enough to make a person truly happy. While we have physical needs that occupy much of our attention, we also seem to have a common longing for something beyond our appetites that can only be satisfied with something larger than ourselves. As followers of Jesus, we understand that union with God – in fellowship and communion with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – is the only way for us to be who we were created to be.

Jesus uses his encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well to reveal to her that he is the only one who can satisfy the thirst that drives her. However she ended up in this place, she has clearly not found peace and fulfillment in her life. Jesus draws upon the image of thirsting to share with her that he is the Messiah; if she becomes his disciple, she will never thirst again. All her life she had been longing for someone who would bring actual love and joy to her. Jesus reveals to her, and to us, that he is the only one who can quench that consuming thirst deep within our spirit.

Our Gospel today calls us to drink from the well of Jesus' love. It is only in his love that we can quench our thirst and find our lives fulfilled.



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM      10:00 AM
HOLY DAY MASSES	9:00 AM      7:00 PM
CONFESSIONS	4:00-4:30 PM, SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT

**ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 11</b>
8:30 AM	Men's Coffee & Gospel
9:30—11 AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Fr. Joseph Henry (RIP)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 12</b>
8:00 AM	Mass: Living & Deceased Parishioners
9:00-9:50 AM	Second Sunday Family Catechism Class
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Henry & Anna Cipriano (RIP)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 13</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Margaret J. Forrest (RIP)
6:30 PM	Knight s of Columbus Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 14</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Living & Deceased Members of Nadeau, Jarbeau & Forrest Families
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 15</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Grandchildren of Mary O'Reilly
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 16</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Fr. Joseph Henry (RIP)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 17</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
9:30 AM	Stations of the Cross

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING  
 A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

## Lent at St. Paul's

Take advantage of these ways in which we can meet God's mercy this Lent at our parish:

### Daily Mass & Rosary

Monday — Friday 8:35 / 9:00 AM

### Stations of the Cross

Friday 9:30 AM

### Lenten Confessions

Palm Sunday, April 2 ~ 11AM-12PM

### Lenten Reflection on Our Website

Check out a YouTube video Lenten reflection by Fr. Casey Cole. Scan QR code or visit [stpaulsfoster.org/lent](http://stpaulsfoster.org/lent)



### Fasting During Lent

As a sign of regret for sin and rededication to God, Catholics observe two simple obligations about fasting during Lent: First, if we are 14 years or older, we don't eat meat on Fridays of Lent. Second, those ages of 18 and 59 have the special obligation to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday: we eat only one full meal that day and take no solid foods between meals. That means our other regular meals are of much smaller portions, with no snacking in between. (health issues excuse a person from these obligations.)

### May 2023 Calendar Raffle

Thank you to the generous parishioners who donated gift cards to our Calendar Raffle! We are waiting on only 5 more to be returned.

### Little Sisters of the Poor

Please join us in welcoming the Little Sisters of the Poor to our parish next weekend, March 18/19. At Jeanne Jugan Residence the Little Sisters offer hospitality and care for 100 needy elderly men and women. They depend greatly on charity to carry on their mission to the aged and infirm. Any assistance you can give will help them provide for the needs of the elderly entrusted to their care. To learn more about their mission. Visit.. [littlesistersofthepoorpawtucket.org](http://littlesistersofthepoorpawtucket.org).

## Saints Patrick & Joseph Pot Luck Brunch

Sunday March 19 after the  
8:00 & 10:00 AM Masses

This is pot-luck, so everyone should bring their favorite brunch item to share. A sign-up sheet will be available. We'll also need a few people to help in the kitchen before & after each Mass, and especially clean-up.

### Knights of Columbus Italian Dinner

Saturday, March 25

6:00 PM at S. Foster Fire Station

Enjoy an authentic Homemade Italian Dinner prepared by the Master Italian Chefs of St. Paul's Knights Columbus. Menu includes a Fresh Salad, Homemade Italian Soup, Pasta, Sausage, Meat Balls (handmade from fresh ground beef and pork), Chicken Parm, Anthony's Gravy, Italian Bread, Coffee, Soda and Desserts. (BYOB!) All proceeds from the dinner will be given to the parish to fund the handicap access/ elevator project.

#### Tickets on Sale now!

Adults \$20 / Under 12 \$10 / Under 5 Free

### Upcoming Catechism Classes

Families— Sun. Mar 12 @ 9AM

Confirmation—Sun. Mar 26 @ 9AM

First Communion -Sun Mar 26 @9AM

### 2023 Catholic Charity Appeal

The CCA is underway in our parish. To date, we have **\$9,280**. Please prayerfully consider making a gift to support the 2023 Appeal. Thank you.

**Our 2023 Goal at St. Paul's is \$15,813**

### Second Collection—March 18/19

Next weekend's second collection will be for the **Little Sisters of the Poor**.

### Easter Flower Collection- Mar 18/19

Easter Flower envelopes can be put in with the First Collection next week

### GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection – March 4/5  
**\$2,885.00**

Monthly 2nd Collection – Mar 4/5  
**\$2,002.00**

Lenten Mission – March 4-8  
**\$ 722.00**

**Thank you for your support!**

## The Wonders of The Mass *The Wonders of Holy Mass*

The Angel and the Roses

A poor farmer was wont to attend daily Mass for many years of his life.

He was crossing the snow-covered fields one cold morning on his way to church. He thought that he heard footsteps behind him, and turning, he saw his Angel Guardian bearing a basket full of beautiful roses, which exhaled a delicious perfume. "See," said the Angel, "these roses represent each step you have taken on the way to Mass, and each rose represents, too, a glorious reward which awaits you in Heaven. But far, far greater are the merits you have gotten from the Mass itself."

How to Make One's Business Prosper

Two businessmen resided in the same French town. Both were engaged in the same line of commerce, but while one was prosperous, the other found it very hard to gain a sufficiency, notwithstanding that he worked harder and rose earlier than his friend.

Reduced to extremities, he resolved to seek advice from his prosperous colleague, hoping to learn the secret of his success.

"My good friend," replied the wealthy merchant, "I have no secrets, I work just as you work. If there is any difference in our methods, it is this: I go to Mass daily. You do not. Follow my sincere advice, hear Mass every morning, and I feel sure that God will bless your work."

The poorer man did as he was advised, and soon, in some unaccountable way, his difficulties ceased and his business prospered beyond all his expectations.

~Father Paul O'Sullivan, O.P.



### Memorial Mass for Veterans

Sunday, May 28 at  
10:00 AM

Beginning this year, every Memorial Day weekend at the Sunday, 10AM Mass will

be offered for all fallen soldiers. Parishioners are invited to submit the names of deceased family members who served our country.

Please submit names by Sun, May 7