

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C

SUNDAY 23 MARCH 2025

REFLECTION By Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

A woman of Samaria comes to draw water from the well of Jacob, Israel's great ancestor in faith. This Samaritan woman, known as Photina in the Eastern Churches, is a water bearer. She belongs in a long line of women whose lot as women is to undertake the burdensome, often dangerous daily toil of carrying water that their families might simply survive. Jesus asks the woman for a drink and elicits a bewildered response. Her response, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?", provides the opportunity for Jesus to move into an extended and constantly deepening exchange in which the woman proves herself a knowledgeable and worthy dialogue partner. The pursuit of water, a key baptismal symbol in the gospel tradition, provides the catalyst for Photina's journey to faith in Jesus as the Messiah or Christ and her engagement in the mission of proclaiming the good news to her people.

Commentators tend to focus on the woman's marital status, usually in negative terms. Because she has had five husbands, many presume that she is a sinner although there is nothing in the text to support this position. Successive husbands may have died. Financial, religious or societal constraints may have functioned in her decision to remarry. The "husbands" may refer to the strange gods that claimed the allegiance of the Samaritans. There is no consensus among scholars on this question.

At the outset, the woman views Jesus simply as a Jew who breaks with established custom by asking her for water. She comes to accept him as the provider of living water. Jesus understands her life story and opens up the way for her to accept him as a prophet. She risks sharing her own convictions about the locus of worship and is gifted with new understanding and Jesus' further self-disclosure. She leaves her water jar behind and brings others to faith in Jesus as Messiah and saviour of the world.

As we work together to address issues relating to water in our times, we might bring the implied words of Jesus at the well I thirst, his spoken words from the cross I thirst and the implied thirst of Photina, the woman of Samaria, into dialogue with the thirst of the billion people on our planet and the animals that yearn for drinking water. Reflection on their plight reminds us that water is God's gift to the whole Earth community. As gift, it is to be received graciously and respectfully. It is indeed the water of life since there is no life on Earth without water. Let us take the water of life, but let us not take more than our share, for that would be to forget that it is gift. Let us take it, but let us not take it for granted.



TODAY'S LITURGY - YEAR C

Entrance Antiphon

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Entrance Hymn (cathedral music) CWB II 290

God of mercy and compassion, Show your tenderness anew; Father, let me call you Father, 'tis your child returns to you.

Refrain Jesus, Lord, we ask for mercy; let us not implore in vain; all our sins we now detest them, may we never sin again

By my sins I have offended God Almighty in heaven above, where the saints rejoice for ever in the Father's boundless love.

Refrain

See our Saviour, bleeding, dying, on the cross of Calvary, through his wounds we can find healing,

Through his love we can be free.

Refrain

Text: Edmund Vaughan CSsR., 1827-1908, Paul Bird CSsR, b.1949 Tune: AU SANG QU'UN DIEU 87.87D; Trad. French melody adapt. G.B. Pergolesi, 1710-1736

First Reading

Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15

This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11

R

R

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

- 1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.
- 2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

3. The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons.

R

R

4. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Luke 13:1-9

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell; on the third day
He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

CATHEDRAL READERS ROSTER

Weekend Masses 22 & 23 March 2025

Saturday 6:00pm TBC

Sunday 8:00am Roselyn Coquet & Robert Muldeary 9:30am Carmen Burnett & Jacqueline Lewis

> 11:00am Liliane Rusek & Alex Ushakoff 6:00pm Mark Gyimesi & Debra McCarthy

ST AUGUSTINE READERS ROSTER

Weekend Masses 23 March 2025

Sunday 10:30am Peter, Roman

Music: Cressa, Antony, Jenilee MOC: Isabel

Altar Server: Kevin, Cannaya, Patrick

8.00PM John

Music: Be Kind Choir Altar server: Trevor

Surplus Furniture: The Cathedral presbytery currently has several circular coffee tables (76cm diameter), 2,3 & 4 draw filing cabinets, an assortment of armchairs and office chairs, and outdoor wooden furniture. All items are in good too very good condition. If you are interested in some of these items, please contact the Cathedral presbytery.

HOLY HOUR

In the Cathedral held every Thursday night from 6.30pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Each Friday at the conclusion of the 1.00pm Mass, in the Sacred Heart Chapel. Exposition until 2.15pm.

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL YOUNG **ADULT MINISTRY (SPCYAM)** (age 18 to 40 yrs old)

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday at Cathedral Room, CKC Centre, 383 Albert St, East Melbourne

Last Saturday of each month; 6pm mass, followed by meal. Contact Fr. Jaycee Napoles (Jaycee.Napoles@cam.org.au) or info.spcyam@gmail.com

HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY

At St Augustine's every 1st & 3rd week Saturday of the month. Contact Robin:

ktm.melbourne@gmail.com

INDONESIAN YOUTH

At St Augustine's every 2nd & 4th week Saturday night from 5.00pm in Indonesian

Contact Diptya:

pdkkimelbourne@gmail.com

JESUS YOUTH

At St Augustine's every Friday from 7pm Contact Theophil: 0430 823 347 for access

BONDS OF MARIAN LOVE (BOML)

At St Augustine's every Wednesday from 7.00pm in Spanish Contact office: 9412 8426

Mary Glowrey Museum Open Day

Visit the Mary Glowrey Museum in Fitzroy to learn more about the life and legacy of Australian-born medical missionary in India and Servant of God Dr Sr Mary Glowrey JMJ.

Mary Glowrey is one of two Australians currently being officially considered for sainthood. She was the first president of the Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga

(cwlvicww.org.au), which was founded in 1916 in Cathedral Hall.

For more information about Mary Glowrey, visit the new website documenting her life and cause for canonisation at maryglowrey.org.au, email the Mary Glowrey Museum at info@maryglowreymuseum.info or visit maryglowreymuseum.info.

Event Date

Wednesday 16 April 2025 9.00am-3.00pm

Venue

Mary Glowrey Museum Level 2, Cathedral Hall 20 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy

Please note: currently stair access only

Cost: Free entry

Group presentations, available weekdays, can be booked at the museum at \$10 per head (minimum 5 people).

Wedding **Congratulations**



We welcome with joy through the sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

Aston Jared Callan Vera Dennis Sofie Dennis **Edward Robert Wallace** Romeo Artemis Barbante

Clare Mokdissi & Jack Martoccia

St Augustine's City Church Stewardship:

Donations to assist in St Augustine's maintenance and outreach ministry can be made through direct debit banking details are St Augustine's Catholic Church

BSB: 083 347 ACC. NO: 68 321 8227 or by using the QR Code



St Patrick's Cathedral Thanksgiving Online donations can be made by visiting CDF Pay - Online Payments & Donations for Parishioners,

select Archdiocese of Melbourne, search St Patrick's Melbourne Cathedral or visit the https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=129.

Alternatively, EPTPOS terminals are located at each Cathedral entrance.

The first display gives you 4 choices or visit the next page and enter the amount you desire to donate.

Thank you for your generosity.



Third Sunday of Lent

22nd and 23rd of March 2025

Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income.

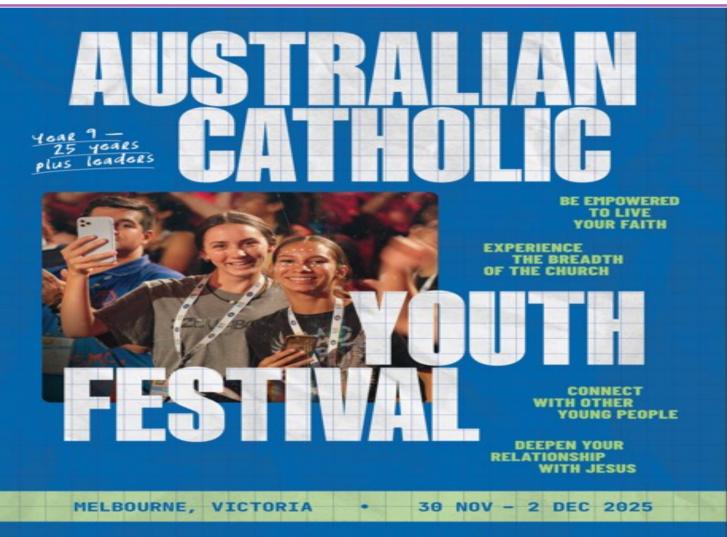


Please donate today.



Photo credit: Caritas Australia

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. Boxes and envelopes are available at the Cathedral entrances. **Or online at:** caritas.org.au/project-compassion **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413



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INTERCESSORY PRAYER

We pray for the sick and for all who have asked for our prayers.

St Patrick's Cathedral

We pray for all those who have died recently, especially Mark Moran & Jesus Alviz and we pray for those whose anniversaries we remember at this time, especially Gregory Buhagair, Muisy & Lasy Damin Pham and **Constantine & Mary Borg.**

St Augustine's Church

We pray for all those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries we remember at this time, especially Percy Perejo.

CATHEDRAL MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday: 7.00am and 1.00pm (1.00pm live streamed - Link: www.voutube.com/user/archmelb) Saturday 8.00am and 6.00pm. (Vigil) Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am and 6.00pm. (11.00am televised on C31. and live streamed on CAM) Link: www.youtube.com/user/archmelb Reconciliation will be held Tuesday to Friday at 12pm - 12.45pm and on Saturday mornings at 8.30am.

ST AUGUSTINE MASS TIMES

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 1.05pm Sunday 10.30am and 8.00pm Reconciliation will be held only on Wednesday at 12.30pm - 12.50pm

Archbishop

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

Dean of

St Patrick's Cathedral

Monsignor Stuart Hall

Chief Master of Ceremonies for

the Archbishop

Rev. Michael Buck

Cathedral Master of Ceremonies/

Assistant Priest

Rev. Jaycee Napoles

Priest in Residence

Rev. Philip Mathew

Chaplain: St Vincent's Hospital

Director of Music

Dr. Philip Matthias

Cathedral Organist

Dion Henman

St Patrick's Cathedral Choir

in partnership with

St Kevin's College, Toorak

Cathedral Singers

Christopher Mason

Director

Thomas Grubb

Organist

Cathedral Parish

Office Coordinator

Iulie Allan

Cathedral Office

T: 9662 2233

E: Cathedral@cam.org.au www.stpatrickscathedral.org.au

Cathedral Administration Assistant

Huong Nguyen

SAFEGUARDING.

Child Protection Officer:

Rev Jaycee Napoles

Please refer to the two new posters 'Rights and Responsibilities' and 'Feel safe and be Safe at Our Church' at the entrances of the Cathedral https: https://

melbournecatholic.org/

safeguarding.

St Augustine's Church Melbourne

Parish Priest

Monsignor Stuart Hall

Assisting Priests

Rev. Michael Buck

Rev. Jaycee Napoles

Parish Office Coordinator

Christine Mcquillan

St Augustine's Office

T: 9412 8426

E: melbournebourkest@cam.org.au www.melbcatholic.org/s/ melbournebourke