

Holy Family Little Church

Pray these words taken from today's psalm.

**Today is
the 3rd SUNDAY
of LENT**



Jesus meets the WOMAN from SAMARIA

Fill in the missing letters and colour in the picture.

GIVE ME
A D _ I _ K

ANYONE WHO
DRINKS THE WATER
I GIVE WILL
N _ V _ R BE
TH _ R _ T _ AGAIN

YOU WANT ME
TO GIVE YOU
W _ T _ R ?!

SIR,
GIVE ME
S _ M _
OF THAT
WATER.

Fr. Peter

Covenant Books phone & fax 01772 735993
Opening hours: Thursday 10am-4pm; Friday 10am-4pm; Saturday 10am-12noon

Holy Family Church

Whitby Ave, Ingol Preston PR2 3YP

Tel: 01772 725193 E-mail: parish.priest2@btinternet.com

Website: <http://holyfamilyparish.weebly.com/>

Priest: Fr. Peter Draper (Tel: 725193)

Primary school: 727471 Covenant Books: 735993

Sunday Mass: 11.00 am.

Weekday Mass: Mon & Thur: 9.15am. (Other weekdays: 9.15am at St. Anthony's)

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If we knew the gift of God

We all start with what we think we want and we rush out to get it, trying to fill an empty hole inside us. It's been said that the joy of buying something new lasts until we take it home and open the box! All the fun is in the buying of it but we then ask ourselves, "Am I any happier, am I any *more* now that I have this new thing?" But still we continue to rush out to buy more and more, and each time always thinking, "This will do it, this will fill the emptiness, this will take away my inner thirst."

The work of mature religion is to lead us beyond what we think we want to what we really need. The woman in the gospel has come to the well because she needs water.

Jesus tries to lead her, step by step, beyond what she thinks she wants and to help her see that water is just the symbol of what she really needs. He's not talking about water. He's talking about spirit. He makes her aware of her own thirst, her own hunger, her own need. Then he leads to a rather profound theological reflection on the universality and availability of God. He refers to the conflict between the Jews and the Samaritans, both groups claiming to have the truth. Jesus tells her that the time is coming when both will realise that they missed the point. If we don't get the spirit, if we don't find the living water, then it doesn't matter which group we belong to: nothing can ever substitute for inner experience. And he uses the most wonderful metaphor for this inner experience: 'a fountain within you bubbling up unto eternal life.'

Spiritual knowing, spiritual cognition is always really re-cognition. It's the realisation that "I already knew this. At some deep level I had a premonition, a suspicion, an intuition that this might be true: that I might just be the son/daughter of the holy one, a beloved child of God." But then we'll say, "O but that's too good to be true."

Jesus said to the woman very directly, "If you but knew the gift of God." Many of us don't. We're still trying 'to get it.' We already have the gift of God. From our very beginning every one of us is a child of God. **That** is the water bubbling up from within us but we don't dare to believe it. We shout out, "Lord I am not worthy." The good news is that worthiness is not even the issue. Who is worthy? When we stop seeking our own worthiness, that's when the fountain begins to bubble and we begin to know the gift of God, that it's all gift, and it's all free and all we can do is learn to enjoy it.

Richard Rohr.

Third Sunday of Lent Year A

19th March 2017 Eucharistic Prayer: 3

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 18th March 2017

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Anthony</i>	Patrick Paul Nelson	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Anthony</i> <i>Holy Family</i>	Tom Hooper For our parish	Third Sunday of Lent
Mon 9.15am	<i>Holy Family</i>	A sick person	<i>Feast of St. Joseph</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Anthony</i>	Marie Garlington	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Anthony</i>	In thanksgiving (PN)	
Thur 9.15am	<i>Holy Family</i>	Wilfrid Yates	
Fri 9.15am 6.00pm 6.30-7.30pm	<i>St Anthony</i> <i>St Anthony</i>	Tom & Daisy Walmsley	Stations of the Cross Exposition & Holy Communion
Sat: 6.00pm	<i>St. Anthony</i>	Dick & Ida Salisbury	<i>Feast of the Annunciation</i>
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Anthony</i> <i>Holy Family</i>	John Phillips Agnes Ainsworth	Fourth Sunday of Lent

Last Weekend: Attendance: 92. Offertory: £290.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week:

Ronald Bond, John, Lucy & Ellen Swarbrick, William Devereux, Agnes Ainsworth, Irene & Frank Atherton (Int), Mel & Jean Evans.

Monday Surgery

Fr. Peter will be in Holy Family Church on Monday evening from 5.30-6.30pm for anyone who wants a word about baptisms, weddings, Sacrament of Reconciliation etc.

CLOCKS GO FORWARD one hour next Saturday night (25th) for British Summer Time.

Please remember in your prayers

those who are sick. Bill O'Shaughnessy, Margaret Johnson, Eveline Eccles, Malaya, Ray Mannion, John Miller, Claire, Bill York;

those who have died recently, John Hanlon, Philip Davenport;

and those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Eleanor Hodges, Florrie Barnes, Peggy Monk, William Ashton, Ethel Baxendale, Philip Corbishley, Peter Brown, Annie MacHale, Edward Holland, John Anderton, Dorothy Barrett, Margaret Vandome, Agnes Ainsworth.

LENT

'Lent in the Minster'- This annual ecumenical series continues in 2017 with talks each Monday in Lent; the theme is 'MISSION'. Five Mondays through Lent from 6th March to 3rd April (inc.) mainly at Preston Minster, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Stations of the Cross. Every Friday in St. Anthony's at 6pm.

'The Road to Jerusalem'

Lenten series of Prayer & Bible Study, each Thursday, 2nd March -6th April, 7:30pm, St Wilfrid's. See poster or www.metanoiaproject.co.uk

Mass in school - the parish Mass on the Thursdays of Lent is in school.

Service of Reconciliation

There will be a Service of Reconciliation at St. Anthony's on Thursday 6th April at 7pm.

THE FRIENDSHIP GROUP

will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday 21 March at 2pm in the St. Anthony's Presbytery. We are a small group who meet for a chat over a cuppa and would welcome new members. If you want to know more you could telephone 733222.

Our Lady and St. Edward's Ladies Group

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 23rd and will be a talk given by Canon Robert Brunswick entitled "Trees and why we need Them." The meeting in the Parish Centre starts at 8.00 pm." Admission £2.00

Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Michael will be coming to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 9th June at 6.30pm. We will be inviting applications soon.

'A Life Worth Knowing' - A Passion Play for Preston

On Fri 14th April (Good Friday), starting in Winckley Square at 11.30am. Graham Hickey invites people from the Preston Churches for the singing of mostly well-known songs. To take part phone Graham 07469 963837 or e-mail gghickey9087@gmail.com

Share-It Food Bank (at Holy Family)

These items are the most needed at the moment:

* * NOODLES	* jams	* brown & red sauces (small)
* coffee sachets (2 in 1)	* instant desserts	* drinking chocolate sachets
* biscuits		* juices for lunch boxes

Thank you for your continued generous giving.

NEXT SUNDAY: Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sam 16:1-7ff	David is anointed king of Israel
Eph 5:8-14	Rise from the dead and Christ will shine on you.
John 9:1-41	The blind man went off washed himself, and came back with his sight restored.