

us while we were still sinners.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Cf John 4: 42. 15  
**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;  
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**GOSPEL:** John 4: 5-42  
**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of  
eternal life.**

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' - Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her. 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come - in fact it is here already - when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship

must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'



At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, 'What do you want from her?' or, 'Why are you talking to her?' The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people, 'Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?' This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him.

Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat'; but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?' But Jesus said:

'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying: Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest! Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

**For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.**

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:**

1 Sam 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13; Eph 5: 8-14; Jn 9: 1-41.



# PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

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## MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6:00 pm.  
SUNDAY: 8:00 am and 10.00 am.  
MONDAY: 9.15am Communion Service.  
TUESDAY through to SATURDAY: 9.00 am Mass.  
FRIDAY: 9.00 am Mass.  
Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.  
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.  
Baptism: Every Sunday at 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.  
Marriage: By appointment.  
Anointing of the sick: Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A) 11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### 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.**

**FIRST READING: Exodus 17: 3-7**

**A reading from the book of Exodus  
Give us water to drink.**

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 94: 1-2. 6-9**

**RESPONSE: If today you hear his voice,  
harden not your hearts.**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;

hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord.

**Response.**

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand.

**Response.**

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

**Response.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 5: 1-2. 5-8**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us.**

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for

**11 / 12 MARCH 2023 – 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10.00AM
Acolyte	R MORFUNI	D ELLIS	A STANTON
Reader	B CLARK	P TREACY	C LAYOUN
Offertory	DABBAH FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY
Projection	T MORFUNI		
Altar Servers	GRP 2: ZAC O'DONOGHUE & EL-AZZI FAMILY	GRP 10: JOSH MULROE	GRP 6: ADAM CALLAGHAN
Welcomers	A CHAN & P ONG		VOLUNTEER WANTED
Counters	GROUP 9: C DABBAH T DABBAH A STANTON		
Altar Flowers	NO ALTAR FLOWERS DURING LENT - N HAHN	MARCH ALTAR LINEN: JOSEFINA DELAVEGA	

**18 / 19 MARCH 2023 – 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10.00AM
Acolyte	T DABBAH	D D'MELLO	G MOODLEY
Reader	L SAMONTE	S JAYAMANNE	H VAZ
Offertory	DABBAH FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY
Projection	A PLEADIN		
Altar Servers	GRP 3: SOPHIA BERNLEITNER & AMARA LOIACONO, NIARA PAREKELEM & FREDERICK LI		GRP 7: VINCENT & ALYSSA WIDJAYA
Welcomers	A CHAN & P ONG		VOLUNTEER WANTED
Counters	GROUP 10: V MAMO	C MAMO	
Altar Flowers	A NAGANATHAN	MARCH ALTAR LINEN: JOSEFINA DELAVEGA	



**PALM SUNDAY – 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Saturday Vigil: 6pm, Sunday 8am and 10am.

**WEEKDAY MASSES DURING HOLY WEEK**

Monday to Wednesday - 9am Mass followed by Reconciliations from 9.30am.

**HOLY THURSDAY – 6<sup>th</sup> April**

Mass of The Lord's Supper at 7pm with prayers and adoration till 10pm.

**GOOD FRIDAY – 7<sup>th</sup> April**

Stations of the Cross at 10am. (Reconciliations will be available after the Stations.)

The Passion of Our Lord at 3pm.

**EASTER MASSES – 8<sup>th</sup> / 9<sup>th</sup> April**

Easter Vigil at 7pm – followed by Supper in the School Hall

Sunday Masses at 8am and 10am.

**Reconciliation for Easter in the Ryde Deanery.**

Reconciliation will be available at:

Eastwood – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 6pm

**Lenten programmes.**

Our sessions continue on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the St Therese School Hall and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm in the presbytery.

**PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:**

**Request for Mass and Prayers.**

We pray for those who have recently died. Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries.



**Project Compassion 2023.**

Please donate using the envelopes or money boxes available in the church, as we help vulnerable communities face their challenges and build a secure future.

With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops to support her family during the current food crisis. Priscilla was able to produce a bumper harvest in her first year of practising conservation farming. Priscilla used the funds from her harvest to start poultry farming, which enabled her to sell eggs to pay for her grandchildren's school fees, books and stationery. The poultry farming provides a safety net for Priscilla and her family during times of hardship, like the current drought.



**Baptism this Sunday.**

This Sunday we will welcome into our faith community

**Isabelle Christine Francis.**

We congratulate her parents and their families.



**Stations of the Cross.**

This Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

**Parish Council Meeting UPDATE.**

Our March and April meetings have been re-scheduled to just ONE meeting on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** at 7pm in the presbytery.

**Altar Servers training.**

Fr Roberto and Thomas Dabbah will lead another training session for NEW Altar Servers on:

**Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> March at 4pm - 5pm in the church.**

Parents, please note that you must stay with your child for the whole session.

**Palm branches are needed.**

This year we request you bring your own piece of palm or olive twig when you attend Mass for Palm Sunday on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> April. We will have a small supply of palms for those who forget to bring their own.



**Working bee.**

Our next working bee will be held on Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> April at 9.30am. Bring your rakes and gloves as we prepare the church for Easter.

**Easter Vigil Supper Celebration.**

Our community will celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord with a lovely supper at the school hall after the Vigil on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April.



To make this a success we need **VOLUNTEERS** to help organise the supper with setting up tables, heating up food and the clean-up. **Please write your name on the appropriate clipboard at the front of the church if you can help out.**

Also if you and your family are coming to share in this supper please bring some appropriate food to share with people. It would be helpful if you could write your name and what you will bring on the night – savoury or sweet dishes.

**Presbytery Solar Panels.**

The new solar panels and battery were installed on Tuesday and are already saving the parish money. This is a great bonus as the installation money for the complete project will be received soon through a Community Building Partnership Program from our local member for parliament Victor Dominello. The chosen company was Solarmatic and they were very professional with their communication during the quoting process and their installation workmanship. We are grateful for this grant money.



**Volunteers for Holy Week Roster.**

Our Holy Week volunteer roster sheets for all our Easter Services are in the foyer. Please add your name if you able to help at any of the Masses.



**Anointing of the Sick.**

Fr Roberto will anoint the sick/elderly parishioners after each Mass on the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup> March. But please remember that this sacrament is not for everybody. The sacrament is for:



*"those who are dangerously ill through sickness or old age" or "a sick person...before surgery whenever the surgery is necessitated by a dangerous illness" or "elderly people...if they are weak, though not dangerously ill" or "sick children...sufficiently mature to be comforted by the sacrament."*