

Mass Intentions (March 11-17, 2023)

Sat. Mar 11/4:30 p.m.	Ann Dalton	- Norma Hayes
Sun. Mar 12/10:00 a.m.	Nick Baird	- Teresa Baird
	Coco Iacopelli	- Fundaro family
	Eileen Shanahan	- Shanahan & Scott families
	Clinton & Hamiltus Seneviratne	- Kahawita family
	Erlinda & Mary Joyce Sanidad	- Family
Wed. Mar 15/10:00 a.m.	Special Intentions for Kristina Shanahan	- Teresa Baird
Thu. Mar 16/10:00 a.m.	Nick Baird	- Teresa Baird
Fri. Mar 17/10:00 a.m.	Living & Deceased members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott, Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner Families	- Teresa Baird

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A)

“The water that I shall give will turn into a spring... welling up to eternal life.”

First Reading (Exodus 17:3-7)

The Israelites, dying of thirst in the desert, begin to doubt God’s love for them. At God’s command, Moses strikes the rock with his staff. Out gushes water.

Second Reading (Romans 5:1-2. 5-8)

God’s love is overflowing: that is why Christ came to save us, and not because we deserved it. Trusting in God’s love, we face the future with hope.

Gospel (John 4:5-42)

The conversion of Samaria begins when Jesus stops by a well, where he meets a woman coming to draw water. She gives him a drink; he, in turn, offers her the living water of God’s Spirit.

Reflection:

The woman’s request of Jesus, “give me some of that water”, can be our prayer too. Many are still thirsting for an experience of God that makes them feel truly loved and known, like the Samaritan woman in her encounter with Jesus. It is easy to be seduced by worldly attractions. Just as the woman kept having to go back to the well, some people find the happiness the world promises illusory and short-lived. You don’t have to keep coming back for more, Jesus assures us. God, through Jesus and other believers, has offered us the gift of faith. God is the initiator of faith. Just as the promise of living water was made to the woman at the well, faith is a divine gift that is made accessible to us. We can choose to accept the gift or reject it. It is our free will that allows us to do what we want with the gift of faith.

Jesus offers us himself as the true source of life and joy. Drink of God’s Spirit, he says, and you will never be thirsty again.

How refreshing a message this is for Lent. Whatever our past story, God longs to win us back.

May you continue to grow in your faith with the GOD Who desires to be in an ever deepening relationship with you.



What Lent means to me

Lent is a time for penance and repentance, for almsgiving and prayer, for working to change attitudes that are not pleasing to God.

The Gospel is God’s “love letter” to the world, written on a cross, sealed in blood and opened in the resurrection. It is a letter to be read to the entire world:

Exposition and Holy Hour Every Friday - 9:00 to 10:00 am

Meditations on the Stations of the Cross Every Friday after the 10:00 am mass.

Lenten Reflection

If we wish to change the outer aspects of our lives we must first change the inner attitudes of our minds. The miracle of inner change is possible.

Change requires the substituting of new habits for old ones. It calls for self-discipline. You have to command yourself and make yourself do what needs to be done.

The change of heart to which Lent calls us can be accomplished most of all through the power of prayer.

Our Father

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us for the times when we take more than our share of the bread that belongs to all. Let us help You fill the starving with good things, not with scraps from our table. Teach us how to share what is not ours to keep. Clothe us with Your love that we may complete each good work you created us to do. Place in our hearts Your compassion for each starving child and use our little acts of love so that they starve no more.

Amen.

Lord, as the Spirit led you into the desert to face temptation, so may that same spirit guide us this Lent as we seek to follow your way more faithfully.

Tax Receipt for 2022 is available for pickup at the back arranged in alphabetical order.



Share Lent is an annual highlight for our organization. It is when the bishops of Canada encourage the faithful to give to Development and Peace, especially through the collection on Solidarity Sunday, the fifth Sunday of Lent. Saturday & Sunday March 25 & 26 a Second collection will be taken after Communion.

An envelope for this contribution is in your box.

This Lent, let us walk in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the Global South. “So many people even today hope to have enough to eat. The planet has food for all, but the will to share with everyone seems to be lacking. To prepare the table for all, and to ask that there be one table for all. Doing whatever we can so that everyone has food, but also reminding that world’s powerful that God will call them to be judged one day, and it will be demonstrated whether they truly tried to provide food for Him in each person and whether they acted in order that the environment would not be destroyed but would be able to produce food.”

Thank You for your ongoing support for this humble cause.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in memory of Giuseppe Joe Giancola.

By- Felicia Venanzi.

OPPORTUNITY TO DONATE YOUR USED COMPUTER FOR THE NEEDY CHILDREN!

Children belonging to refugee and asylum seeker families need computer or laptop to do their homework. If you no longer use your old one, please bring it to the Church office. One of our volunteer engineer will repair them before giving it to the families.

Thank you for helping.

Churches today have continued the mission, but many still face difficulties in developing their churches, and St. Richards Parish is no different. As generations pass on, people have less interest in the traditional ways. The reality is churches must grow to survive and spread the Gospel. The benefits of growing a church come with reaching more people, sharing God’s message, and making a difference in people’s lives.

Fr. George wishes with every parishioner’s help to build a vibrant parish community for St. Richards Parish. He humbly request we all make an effort to invite and bring family and friends to Sunday mass. We can only succeed with your help.

Thank you for making an effort.