



PARISH BULLETIN 524

Sunday, March 8, 2026.

3rd Sunday of Lent

Gospel: Jn 4, 5–15. 19b-26. 39a. 40-42.

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

A woman of Samaria 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, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" —For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.— Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

The woman said to him, "Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." "Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth."*

Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me everything I have done." When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world."

Commentary by the Pastor:

The example of the Samaritan woman is an encouragement to all believers, especially to those Christians who long for a change in their lives but cannot find the right path to a solution. They are tormented by an immense thirst but do not go to the true source of "pure" water. The Samaritan woman was a sinful woman who came to the well around noon when no one was there, wanting to avoid unpleasant encounters with her neighbors. She was ashamed of her life, actions, and existence. And it was precisely Jesus who met her to reveal Himself and to help not only her but the entire town. She, who avoided society, became a messenger of the true Messiah. People even believed her until they themselves met Jesus. This is a great work of God's mercy and love and a confirmation of what Jesus can do with a person who truly encounters Him.

Lent encourages such encounters so that true conversion can happen in each of us. It therefore involves meeting God and then maintaining continuous contact with Him, an honest review of one's behavior, sharing one's saving experience with God with others, rejecting fear for "one's own fate," and the invitation for God to permanently dwell in our homes, communities, and hearts. Let us pray and try to make this happen from this Sunday! Step by step, stair by stair... may the "mustard seed" grow!

Holy Masses
MONDAY – SATURDAY
(9.3. - 14.3.)

7:00 PETRIČEVIĆ
8:00 KNEŽEVIĆ
9:00 NAGY
12:00 VLAH
19:00 ŠESTAK

Confessions (6.2.)
MONDAY – SATURDAY
(9.3. - 14.3.)

6:30 – 9:30
11:00 – 12:30
18:30 – 20:00

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday, March 15th

4th Sunday of Lent, Year "A"

SOLIDARITY WITH BiH: Today we conclude the Week of Solidarity and Unity with the Church and People in Bosnia and Herzegovina. You can leave your donation in the special box. Thank you!

PARISH ADORATION: On Tuesday, March 10, we have our annual parish adoration. In the morning from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM and in the afternoon from 12:30 PM to 6:30 PM. The entire parish and all believers are invited, especially members of various communities, associations, foundations, catechism groups, spiritual retreat groups, etc. Please check with your representatives about coming together, and individual believers can sign up in the sacristy to ensure coverage for all time slots.

BLESSED IVAN MERZ DAY: The same date is also Blessed Ivan Merz Day, when we especially pray for his canonization and reflect on his life and messages. Here are some fitting quotes:

"Providence has placed a lighthouse on the mountain – the papacy – which for centuries shines over its land and helps distinguish truth from error, good from evil."

"Every Christian politics must aim to have as many Christian families as possible, where spouses live in inseparable fidelity until death."

"If the Lord wills that you suffer and not be healed, then you must surrender into His hands – for not even the smallest germ moves without the presence and action of the Lord."

PARISH CARITAS: We kindly ask believers willing to get involved and help in the parish Caritas to contact the sacristy or parish office. Thanks to the three people who have already volunteered; we ask for at least two more. We are waiting for you!

MAYBE AN JESUIT?: A meeting for young men who want to discern their vocation and get to know the Jesuits will be held on Sljeme from March 13 to 15 with Fr. Skelin.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2 CONCERTS

BASILICA: A On the sixth anniversary of the earthquake, Sunday, March 22, the Basilica and the Academic Choir Palma will organize a solemn concert in the Basilica at 8:15 PM. Admission is free.

LISINSKI: On the same occasion, Tuesday, March 31, there will be a charity concert "Heart in the Heart of Zagreb." Mozart's Requiem will be performed by the HRT Symphony Orchestra and HRT Choir, without fee. Tickets, as support for the completion of the restoration, can be obtained in the sacristy, at Lisinski, and online.

FATHER'S DAY: Next Sunday, March 15, on the eve of St. Joseph, we will celebrate Father's Day during the 9:30 AM Mass, with a children's program and a surprise for fathers. Welcome!

MEETING OF CROATIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH: will take place in Požega on May 2 and 3. Registration information is available on the poster on the green bulletin board in the hallway.

MARY'S MEALS: Today the humanitarian organization Marijini obroci will present itself. For only 22 euros, they provide meals for one child during the school year in poor countries. Please participate according to your means.

ROSARY AT KAMENITA VRATA: Mondays at 8:00 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday, 9:30–10:30 a.m. and 5:00–6:00 p.m.

"LESS IS MORE" – LAY COLUMN No. 474 – *written by: Iva Smolčić*

Dear parishioners, inspired by today's Gospel and the first reading, I realized that I am often thirsty—not literally for water, but a deeper, inner thirst. I often try to quench it with coffee, outings, or future plans. Sometimes it works, but a certain emptiness remains. Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman begins simply with, "Give me a drink," and turns into a profound spiritual dialogue. She thought she was going to quench her physical thirst but discovered the source of living water, satisfying her spiritual thirst. Jesus chooses her—a promiscuous woman marginalized and despised by the Jews—as a witness of faith. Isn't that the greatest beauty? Jesus does not choose the perfect, but ordinary, wounded, and confused people like all of us. This is very encouraging because each of us has our own "well" we visit daily, our routines, and attempts to quench our thirst. Perhaps it is there, in the midst of an ordinary day, that an encounter with God can happen—an encounter that doesn't erase all problems immediately but begins to create a source within us that slowly changes how we see ourselves, others, and God. Maybe then we realize that the greatest thirst in our lives is to be truly seen and loved unconditionally.