#### Archdiocese of Toronto

# Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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Rev. Constantin Siarapis



### DO YOU THIRST?

"But the one who drinks of the water that I will give will never be thirsty." Do you thirst to know where God is leading you? Could you be thirsty for an understanding of your purpose? If God is calling you to server him, contact:

> Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997, email vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

#### ON STEWARDSHIP ...

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as

well. We, too, must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives!

# Live the Gospel by helping our vulnerable brothers and sisters

ShareLife Sunday is March 26 and we once again ask you to give generously to support Catholic agencies, who in turn care for the most vulnerable in our communities. As a parish, this is our opportunity to live the Gospel!

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

# **PSALM 95**

If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

- all by appointment only

# SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND HOLY COMMUNION

Have your health care team page a Catholic priest if you have a family member in hospital needing anointing of the sick.

Communion to those homebound is suspended at this time.

For information on Catholic education in our community or to reach your local school board trustee, contact the Toronto Catholic District School Board at 416-222-8282 or www.tcdsb.org.

#### Schools in the area:

| St. Anselm              | 416-393-5243 |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Holy Cross              | 416-393-5242 |
| <b>Canadian Martyrs</b> | 416-393-5251 |
| St. John XXIII          | 416-429-4000 |

#### Third Sunday of Lent

Volume XXIV, Issue No. 16



"Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"

## Repent and Receive the Gifts of God

The praying assembly is invited this Sunday to learn the truth and challenge of God's word through two men and a rather unusual woman. Moses, in today's 1st reading from the book of Exodus (17:3-7) is represented as frustrated with the incessant and ungrateful grumbling of the Israelites. His annoyance is clearly evident as he relays their complaint to God, yet God responds with patience, providing a supply of water from the rock to the thirsty wanderers. **The gift of water in an otherwise waterless desert became a sign of God's perpetual presence in their midst.** 

Paul, in his Roman correspondence (Rom 5:1-2,5-8), will speak not specifically of water but of the love of God being poured out to quench the needs and the thirsts of sinners. Paul understood that sinners who accept to be washed in the baptismal bath risina of Jesus' dying and could appropriate all accomplished Jesus through his saving death.

In today's Gospel (Jn 4:5-42) Jesus gives us a Samaritan woman with a auestionable Through her past as our teacher. encounter with Jesus, she will be given to drink the water of life; through her, Jesus will teach each of us to similarly satisfy all our thirsts in him. The woman, unnamed by John the evangelist, belonged to an ethnic and religious group rejected by the larger and more powerful religious establishment. Jesus regarded Samaritans as little more than gentiles. It is interesting to note that Jesus chose someone whom the rest of society held to be of no account to teach his disciples how to be disciples.

With Jesus, she looked at her life and she allowed him to point out those places in her heart that needed to be filled with God's gift of living water. Thirsty for the gifts he offered, she welcomed him into her life. Then with the grateful elatedness that comes to those who know themselves to be fully forgiven, she ran to tell others of her experiences. In this, she stands out as our teacher and Lenten guide. With her, we are called to repent of our sins and selfishness so as to be thirsty for the gifts of God that come to us in Jesus. With her, we are to allow those gifts to change us from within so as to be more authentic witnesses to the presence of God in our lives, in our world.