

Striking the Rock: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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Exodus 17:3-7; Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8;
John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42



The Israelites' hearts were hardened by their hardships in the desert.

Though they saw His mighty deeds, in their thirst they grumble and put God to the test in today's First Reading—a crisis point recalled also in today's Psalm.

Jesus is thirsty too in today's Gospel. He thirsts for souls (see John 19:28). He longs to give the Samaritan woman the living waters that well up to eternal life.

These waters couldn't be drawn from the well of Jacob, father of the Israelites and the Samaritans. But Jesus was something greater than Jacob (see Luke 11:31-32).

The Samaritans were Israelites who escaped exile when Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom eight centuries before Christ (see 2 Kings 17:6, 24-41). They were despised for intermarrying with non-Israelites and worshipping at Mount Gerazim, not Jerusalem.

But Jesus tells the woman that the "hour" of true worship is coming, when all will worship God in Spirit and truth.

Jesus' "hour" is the "appointed time" that Paul speaks of in today's Epistle. It is the hour when the Rock of our salvation was struck on the Cross. Struck by the soldier's lance, living waters flowed out from our Rock (see John 19:34-37).

These waters are the Holy Spirit (see John 7:38-39), the gift of God (see Hebrews 6:4).

By the living waters the ancient enmities of Samaritans and Jews have been washed away, the dividing wall between Israel and the nations is broken down (see Ephesians 2:12-14, 18). Since His hour, all may drink of the Spirit in Baptism (see 1 Corinthians 12:13).

In this Eucharist, the Lord now is in our midst—as He was at the Rock of Horeb and at the well of Jacob.

In the "today" of our Liturgy, He calls us to believe: "I am He," come to pour out the love of God into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. How can we continue to worship as if we don't understand? How can our hearts remain hardened?

ANNOUNCED MASSES
March 18th – March 26th, 2017

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Mar. 18th	Sunday Mass of Anticipation Adam Depa – RIP – by the Depa family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Mar. 19th	Third Sunday of Lent Fructouso and Zenona Lanzaderas – RIP – by Tommy and Emma Bruna Alesi – RIP – by the family
Monday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 20th	SAINT JOSEPH Deceased Members of the Hebert and McCartney families
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Mar. 21st	Weekday Tai Trong Naomie – RIP – by Marguerite Kinh
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 22nd	Weekday Louis Ottoni – RIP – by Pina Agnessi
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 23rd	Saint Turibius of Mongrovejo Deceased and Living Members of the Noronha and Sequeira families
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 24th	Weekday Santiago O. Buguis – RIP – by Elena
Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Mar. 25th	ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD <i>(Mass intention available)</i>
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Mar. 25th	Sunday Mass of Anticipation Adrian de Souza – RIP – by the family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Mar. 26th	Fourth Sunday of Lent In Thanksgiving for all the blessings – by the Kramer family Zigmunt Dewinski – RIP – by the Depa family

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

Collection:

March 12, 2017 - **\$2,463.85**

...Thank you for your generosity.

SPECIAL MASSES SCHEDULED



On **Monday, March 20th**, at **9:00 am** there will be a mass to celebrate the solemnity of Saint Joseph.

Then on **Saturday, March 25th**, at **10:00 am** a mass to celebrate the solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord will be said.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE: POVERTY DINNER



Development and Peace is sponsoring a Poverty dinner, to be held Saturday, March 25th, at 5:30 P.M. We will be asking for a voluntary contribution to this year campaign, Women at the Heart of change. All are most welcome.

Anyone wishing to help with is excellent cause is asked to contact Betty Machny at 514-748-9294, or drop me a line at bmachny@bell.net.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE: WEEK 3



Women are breaking the chains of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This week, we meet with Cécile Kazadi, a woman from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who explains why community radio is an essential tool for women denouncing sexual violence. "Thanks to RCK radio, our lives have changed a lot. We are now aware of our rights."

This year, why not share year-round by joining Development and Peace – Caritas Canada's monthly donor program? More information can be found online at devp.org/shareyearround.

HOLY HOUR



Every Friday, following the 9am mass, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for one hour of Holy Adoration, Rosary, silent prayer, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, concluding with Divine Praises and Benediction. Come and spend some time with the Lord.

WAY OF THE CROSS



Everyone is invited to the Way of the Cross every Friday at 7:00 P.M. during this Lenten season.

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS



To our dear parishioners who used the envelope system for the weekly donation to the Parish in 2016, your income tax receipts are ready at the **Sacristy**. Please pick up your receipt either on the weekend after Mass or during the week, Monday to Friday, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. Thank you.