

## Third Sunday of Lent | Year A

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (Ex 17:3-7 | Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 | John 4:5-42)

Facing shortage of water, the Israelites complained to Moses about them dying of thirst. Because of their little faith, they forgot God in their challenges. Let us ask God to hear us.

1/ God is the rock of our salvation, so let us not harden our hearts. For God-fearing peoples. We pray that, with Pope Francis being the leader, they may never lose their worship of God, but hear the sound of his voice. Let us pray.

2/ The Roman Christians were justified before God because of their faith in Jesus Christ. For people who have lost their faith in God and Jesus. We pray that the challenges of this world may be turned into moments of God's grace, so that people can return to God. Let us pray.

3/ The encounter between Jesus and the Woman from Samaria is regarded as the opportunity of God's grace for her and the villagers. They learn that God's salvation to Gentiles is fulfilled through the Jews. For those who deny salvation. We pray that, through faith in Jesus by Christians and belief in God by Jewish people, more people will turn to God. Let us pray.

4/ At the end of the story of Jesus's encounter with the Woman of Samaria, the villagers have come to believe that Jesus is truly the Savior of the world. For our sisters and brothers who believed in Jesus and have gone before us. We pray that, through Jesus's intercession, God raise our deceased sisters and brothers to eternal life. Today we remember [**at 4:30 Mass**] Sonny and Betty Hardesty, and Charles Thompson; [**at 10:00 Mass**] Frank Argabright, James and Virginia Wilkins, and Charles Thompson. Let us pray.

God of all compassion and Father of all goodness, to heal the wounds of our sins and to cast out the selfishness that brings upon us, you bid us turn to fasting, prayer, and sharing with others. In your kindness, let your compassion fill us with hope and grant us salvation. We pray this in the name of Jesus our Lord.