



“Never Thirst again”

We continue to travel through the season of Lent on our way to celebrate the Easter Vigil. It is a road that we have travelled together within the parish community and again as witnesses to catechumens they prepare to become fully initiated members of the Church at the Easter Vigil.

Jesus never did what folks expected. People called him "rabbi" but He didn't teach with theological treatises - He told strange stories – He never allowed the Law, or tradition, or the "proper thing to do" to take precedence over ministering to His people.

Witness the scene with the Samaritan woman. By all standards, she had no

right to even speak with The Lord. After all, she was part of the outcast group, and a woman, no less! But that didn't stop Jesus from striking up a conversation with her. The disciples were aghast, and no doubt His enemies had more fuel for the fire.

The Samaritans were not evil people. They bore no arms against the people of Galilee, they didn't try to politically undermine society or government; they were not thieves or criminals - they were ordinary people trying to eke out a living just as everyone else. They even worshipped the same God - but they expressed that faith a little differently.

On our Lenten Journey, we try to reach out and freely embrace the Cross. In small ways, we test our willingness to die, to obey, to give up something precious, to pay the price of discipleship.

But we can only do this if we have first experienced the desert. Through our faith, we have a foretaste of the glory of Risen Lord, and we must know that it is that same glory that is waiting for us. Then we can embrace the Life He has promised us - knowing that God is near, God understands our pain, God will sustain us and carry us through, beyond our Gethsemane, beyond our Calvary, to the triumph of our Easter – never to thirst again.



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