



*Serving Carlsbad Since 1943*

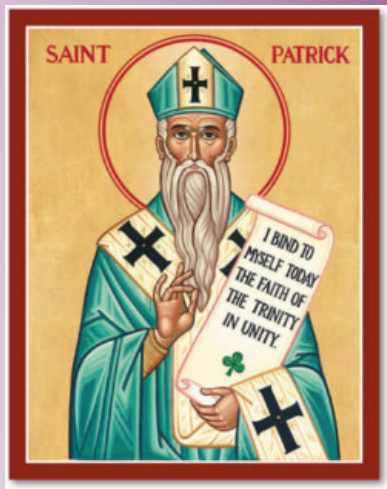
**3821 ADAMS STREET  
CARLSBAD, CA 92008  
(760) 729-2866**

**WWW.STPATRICKCARLSBAD.COM**



**3820 PIO PICO DRIVE  
CARLSBAD, CA 92008  
(760) 729-1333**

**WWW.STPADDYS.ORG**



**FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS /  
SERVICIOS FÚNEBRES:**

Please call the Funeral Ministry Office at  
760-729-6366.

*Favor de llamar al 760-729-6366 para hacer  
arreglos fúnebres.*

**BAPTISM AND MARRIAGE /  
BAUTISMO Y MATRIMONIO:**

Please call the parish office for information.

*Favor de llamar a la oficina parroquial para  
más informes.*

## March 12, 2023 Third Sunday of Lent

**Rev. Ronald Bagley, CJM, Pastor**

**Rev. Azam Mansha CJM, Associate Pastor**

**Rev. William Rowland, CJM, In Residence**

**Rev. Ben Drapeau, CJM, In Residence**

**Miguel Enriquez, Deacon**

**Michael Frazee, Deacon**

**Richard Pomphrey, Deacon**

**Msgr. Frank Pugliese, Ministry**

**Rev. Gerard Lecomte CJM, Ministry**

**MASSES / MISAS:**

**Saturday / Sábado**

4:30 pm (English)

7:00 pm (Español)

**Sunday / Domingo**

7:30 am (English)

9:00 am (English)

11:00 am (English)

1:00 pm (Español)

5:00 pm (English)

**Monday - 7:00 am & 8:00 am (English)**

**Tuesday - 7:00 am & 8:00 am (English)**

**Wednesday - 7:00 am & 8:00 am (English)**

**Thursday - 7:00 am & 8:00 am (English)**

**Friday - 7:00 am & 8:00 am (English)**

**Saturday - 8:00 am (English)**

**Individual confession/ confesiones**

Wednesdays/miércoles at/a las, 8:30 am and/y 6:00 pm. **In the body  
of the church./en la Iglesia.**

**Rosary:**

Weekdays after 8:00am Mass & Saturdays at 4:00pm

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoracion del Santisimo  
Sacramento**

Tuesdays/Martes from/de 2:00pm - 6:00 pm.

First Friday/primer viernes del mes - 8:30am - 10:00am & 6:00pm -  
10:00pm.



**Monday - March 13**

7:00 am - Carol Sullivan (d)  
 8:00 am - Norma Pfannenstiel (d)  
 5:30pm - Maria Cabrera (d)

**TUESDAY - March 14**

7:00 am - E. Grace & Family (int)  
 8:00 am - Carl Dillon (d)  
 5:30pm - Angel y Miguel Garcia (d)

**WEDNESDAY - March 15**

7:00 am - Raul Leon (d)  
 8:00 am - Thomas Lillis (d)  
 5:30pm - Marc Duarte (d)

**THURSDAY - March 16**

7:00 am - John Borquist (d)  
 8:00 am - Don Hadley (d)  
 5:30pm - Familia Alvarez Torres (int)

**FRIDAY -**

7:00 am - Anna Schmidt (d)  
 8:00 am - Michael Trotta (d)  
 5:30 pm - Maria Isabel Capriski (int)

**SATURDAY - March 18**

8:00 am - Dianne Meyer (d)  
 4:30 pm - Logan Hofrichter (int)  
 7:00 pm - Norma y Jose Luis Valdivia (int)  
 Familia Ramirez Ramos (int)

**SUNDAY - March 19**

7:30am - Ofie Escobedo (d)  
 9:00am - Matthew Alvarez (int)  
 11:00am - Bart Christian (d)  
 1:00pm - Lamberto Ramirez Nuñez (d)  
 Pascuala Tolentino Angeles (d)  
 5:00pm - Ricardo & Betty Leon (d)

**A WORD FROM THE PASTOR**

If I were sitting across the table from you right now, and we were each sipping a cup of hot coffee, I would ask you: “How’s Lent going for you so far?” And if I were to ask that question, how would you answer?

Even though we are not actually sitting at the same table, and so we can’t dive into the conversation, it’s a question worth considering. But it’s kind of a trick question. To ask someone how their Lent is going assumes, at least implicitly, that Lent is mainly about their own plans and goals. But in fact, Lent is not something that we *do*. Rather, it’s something that we **enter into and live through**. It is a liturgical season that we didn’t invent (the Holy Spirit did) and that we can’t simply manipulate in accordance with some preconceived, self-help priorities.

A better way to think about Lent then could be summed up in *this* question: “**What’s the Lord doing in your life this Lent? And how are you responding?**” Now *that* would really be a great conversation starter!

Lent has a spiritual purpose. It is a time of discipline and prayer designed to help us tune into the message of love and grace that the Church celebrates each year through the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter. Through our Lenten *disciplines*, we cut away things that may be hindering us from hearing and heeding God’s Word in our lives – the Word that brings us his love and grace. Through prayer, we listen to and savor whatever the Lord may be saying. That’s the essence of Lent.

So, I invite you as we enter into the second half of Lent to contemplate that important question: what *is* the Lord doing in your life this Lent? It is my hope and prayer that he is doing a lot! If you can recognize the Spirit’s action in your life, **give thanks!**

And if you feel like you need some help detecting the answer to that question, never fear! Lent has plenty of time left. Try to listen a bit more attentively. Clear away some of the clutter. Think about your priorities. Restart that conversation with the Lord. Look at the needs of those who are within your circle of influence. Be receptive to the promptings of the Spirit. Keep the spirit of Lent going!

Lent is summed up in the words of one of our prefaces for Mass during Lent: [Loving God,] *each year you give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed. You give us a spirit of loving reverence for you, our Father, and of willing service to our neighbor. As we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ, you bring the image of your Son to perfection within us.*

In one Heart,

Fr. Ron



### Un saludo del Diácono Miguel

Jesús le contestó: “El que bebe de esta agua vuelve a tener sed. Pero el que beba del agua que yo le daré, nunca más tendrá sed; el agua que yo le daré se convertirá dentro de él en un manantial capaz de dar la vida eterna”. (*Juan 4:13-14*). En este Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma, el evangelista Juan nos habla de la historia de Jesús y la mujer samaritana que conversaban a un lado del pozo de Jacob. Este dialogo de Jesús y la mujer samaritana es algo que no debe suceder por varias razones. 1) Los hombres judíos no les hablaban a las mujeres. 2) La mujer era una samaritana, vista “impura” para los judíos. 3) Una mujer casada 5 veces. Para Jesús, nada esto es importante, lo único que Él puede ver es una mujer con un corazón pesado, una mujer que deseaba sentirse amada, necesitada, y con dignidad. Jesús le ofrece agua viva, el agua que se convertirá dentro de ella en un manantial capaz de dar la vida eterna. ¡Esa agua viva es Jesús! Esta tarde Jesús se encuentra contigo y conmigo, y también nos ofrece de esa agua viva. Nosotros también luchamos con saciar nuestra sed. También nosotros tenemos grandes deseos de sentirnos amados e importantes. Trabajamos mucho para poder comprar esas cosas que, “creemos que necesitamos” para sentirnos según “bien”. La realidad es que no hay nada que podemos comprar o ponernos, para sentirnos bien. Sólo Jesús puede satisfacer nuestra sed. La mujer samaritana reconoce su sed y quien era Jesús, le responde, “Señor, dame de esa agua para que no vuelva a tener sed ni tenga que venir hasta aquí a sacarla”. No perdamos esta oportunidad de responder como ella.

- Diácono Miguel Enríquez



### EL GRUPO DE ORACIÓN

Les invita a las noches de alabanza, en el cual tenemos oración para llevar y aprender a tener una vida de oración diaria con Dios. Hay testimonios, se dan temas y se comparte la palabra de Dios—(Lectura de la Biblia). Los miércoles de 7:00pm a 8:30pm en la iglesia.

### Grupo de Mujeres del Corazón de María

Te invitamos a ti, mujer soltera, casada, viuda o divorciada, para orar, alabar, cantar, sanar, liberar, y compartir la palabra de Dios. Somos mujeres “luz del mundo y sal de la tierra” (Mateo 5,13).



Nos reunimos todos los **viernes de 6:00 a 7:30 PM** en el salón Fr. Mullen localizado en la escuela St. Patricio Las esperamos.



### Oficina de Educación Religiosa y Ministerio Familiar

Comuníquese al

760-434-9099

[lr Ramirez@stpatrickcarlsbad.com](mailto:lr Ramirez@stpatrickcarlsbad.com)

#### HORARIO DE OFICINA

Lunes, martes, jueves y Viernes: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Miércoles: 2:00pm - 6:00pm

Sábado y Domingo: *Por cita*

### Orden de la Iniciación Cristiana

#### Los Escrutinios

El 3er, 4to y 5to Domingo de Cuaresma, la Iglesia celebra los Escrutinios con los elegidos, aquellos que van a ser bautizados en la Vigilia de Pascua. Pedimos oraciones especialmente por:

Gabriel Estrada  
Scarlet Granados  
Marissa Granados  
Nathalie Hernandez  
Layla Martinez  
Javier Ramirez

[Los escrutinios son ritos para el autoexamen y para mover al arrepentimiento y tienen una finalidad espiritual. Los escrutinios tienen por objetos descubrir y sanar todo aquello que es debil, defectuoso o pecaminoso en los corazones de los elegidos; y resaltar y fortalecer todo lo recto, fuerte y bueno...]

Rito de la Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos, Pag 74. Liturgy Training Publication, Chicago, 1993.



### Actividades en tu parroquia, San Patricio:

#### Misa diaria en español.

de lunes a viernes, a las 5:30pm en la Iglesia.

**Vía Crucis todos los viernes,** a las 6:30pm en la Iglesia - español e inglés.

**Retiro de Cuaresma: ¡Ultimo día!**

**“Conocer el Modo de Orar del Papa Francisco”**

*Usando los métodos de San Ignacio de Loyola.*

**jueves, 16, de marzo a las 6:00pm - 7:15pm en la Iglesia.**

#### Servicio bilingüe de Oración, Taizé -

Martes, 28 de marzo a las 7pm en la Iglesia.

**Servicio Penitencial de Cuaresma** - Miércoles 5 de abril a las 7pm en la iglesia



## Lent

### COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

#### Penance Services this week:

**Tuesday, March 14 - 7:00pm at  
St. Thomas More Church,  
Oceanside**

**Wednesday, March 15 - 5:00pm at  
St. Margaret Church, Oceanside**

**St. Patrick's Parish  
Celebrates 80 year**



*Anniversary*



*Celebrate by ordering a  
St. Patrick's Hoodie!*

VISIT:

<https://www.customink.com/fundraising/discover>

AND SEARCH : *"Celebrate St. Patrick's Catholic  
Community's 80th Anniversary!"*

Proceeds will benefit St. Patrick's youth attending  
World Youth Day!



### Last Week's Collection

Each week we will include the total for the Weekly Offerings of our parishioners. Envelope Collection indicates the amount received in our envelopes that are mailed to parishioners' homes. Plate Collection indicates the amount put in the basket at Mass (not in envelopes). Online Giving refers to the amount given as regular offerings online (not including special funds, etc.).

Envelope Collection: \$9,904.00

Plate Collection: \$10,478.00

Online Giving: \$18,434.73

Total 2/27-3/3/23: \$38,816.73

**We are grateful for the generosity of all of our parishioners and visitors.**



### Praying for Our Holy Father

March 13 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Election of Jose Mario Bergoglio who became Pope Francis. As he appeared on the balcony that night, he asked the whole world to pray for him. In these last 10 years, he consistently asks for the prayers of all the faithful.

As we mark this milestone in the pontificate of our Holy Father, let us once again pledge our prayerful support as we give thanks for the one God chose to lead the Church in our times.



**St. Patrick's Bingo** is planning a special nite for St. Patrick's Day **Friday March 17**. We will play some extra games and some prizes will increase for the nite. Come enjoy the

fun and maybe make some extra money all while supporting our parish school.

Every Friday there is a prize pool of more than \$8000! Doors open at 4pm, early birds start playing at 6pm and regular games start at 6:30pm.



### Soup Suppers Are Delicious!

*To all our parishioners & their friends:* come join us for delicious homemade soup & dessert in the parish hall from **4:30 – 6 PM every Thursday**.

Our chefs continue to cook truly gourmet soups. This week, **Thursday March 16**, will feature delicious Corned Beef and Cabbage soup with , bread and dessert.

There is no Cost to enjoy Come join us for good food, conversation & music!



## Religious Education & Family Ministry (PreK – 8<sup>th</sup> grade)

### Weekly Classes

Sunday Classes: March 12, 19, 26

Monday Classes: March 13, 20, 27

Wednesday classes: March 15, 22, 29

### Stations of the Cross for Families

On Friday, March 17, we will offer Stations of the Cross for families at 6:30pm in church.

We will have bilingual station booklets. Please come and pray together with other families.

*Reflection:* Third Sunday of Lent

This Sunday we hear the story about Jesus and the Woman at the Well. Jesus tired from his journey sits down at a well. There he approaches a woman for some water. The story

takes place in Samaria where Jesus is a foreigner. The Samaritan woman is hesitant at first, but soon engages with Jesus in a faith conversation. As Jesus reveals himself more and more to her, the woman begins to see Jesus differently, understands him to be the Messiah and finally tells her whole village about Jesus. In the end, she is so convincing that many Samaritans come to believe in Jesus

*Adults:* When has your faith in Jesus helped you become stronger?

*Children:* For what do you need to ask Jesus?

*Prayer:* Lord Jesus, reveal yourself to us as the living water.

Office for Religious Education & Family Ministry  
Margit Dornisch at 760-729-8442 or  
[MDornisch@stpatrickcarlsbad.com](mailto:MDornisch@stpatrickcarlsbad.com)

## Theology on Tap: Common Good, Common Home

Theology on Tap is a program for young adults and the current series looks at the theme of *Common Good, Common Home*. It will focus on various dimensions of what Catholic Social Teaching looks like around our Diocese of San Diego. This series will showcase different areas in which the Catholic Church promotes the culture of life and dignity for all people.

**Location:** Saint Elizabeth Seton Parish, 6628 Santa Isabel St., Carlsbad 92009

**Time:** 7-9 p.m.

**Dates and speakers as follows:**

**March 16:** Dr. Victor Carmona

**March 23:** Pro-Life Panel: Norman Saucedo, Carlos Salazar, Mariana Marin and Ayla Grazier. *This panel will focus on prison ministry, mental health, care for the unborn and care for people with disabilities.*

**March 30:** Deacon Jim Vargas

Cost is \$15 and includes entry, food, and beverage. For ages 18 to 39. Please register at

<https://sdcatholic.org/event/theology-on-tap/>

## Lenten Bible Study with Fr Azam Mansha

The study is designed to journey through sacred scripture with the writings of Church Fathers. It will aid participants to prepare themselves for the glorious Solemnity of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Week 3: Growing in Devout Christian Life

Week 4: Continuous Discernment

Fr Azam will give the presentations after which participants will break in small sharing groups.

There are 3 more times to attend the study:

**Monday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30pm** on March 13, & 20. Venue: Parish Center

**Tuesday mornings from 10:00 – 11:30am** on March 14, & 21. Venue: Parish Center

For more information call Carole King at (760)434-5688 or email at, [stpatbiblestudy40@gmail.com](mailto:stpatbiblestudy40@gmail.com)



## Taizé Prayer around the Cross Tuesday evening, March 28, in the Church

We will begin at 7pm in our quiet candle lit church. The cross will be our focus as we

listen to readings from Scripture, meditate in silence, and chant songs in the style of the ecumenical monastic community of Taizé in France. Gather with us for an hour of prayer witnessing the sufferings of Jesus and our world.

## Stations of the Cross

During Lent communal praying of the Stations of the Cross will be held in the church **every Friday at 3:00pm** and again at **6:30pm**.

The stations of the cross at 3pm will be led by one of the Deacons.

The evening stations will be hosted by parish ministry groups and prayed either in English, Spanish, or with bilingual material.

March 17: Stations of the Cross for Families (bilingual)

March 24: Viacrucis (Inmediatamente ai terminar la Misa de 5:30pm)

March 31: Stations of the Cross for Youth (Bilingual)

All parishioners are encouraged to make time on Fridays to pray the Stations in community.

The outdoor stations of the cross are also available any time.

The church is open during the day for private praying of the Stations.





**STEVEN A. BEULIGMANN, D.D.S. INC.**

*Cosmetic & Family Dentistry* Parishioner Since 1989

1299 CARLSBAD VILLAGE DR., CARLSBAD, CA 92008 • 760-729-5964

**PREMIER ASSISTED LIVING  
& MEMORY CARE**

Santianna is a luxury senior living community in Carlsbad offering assisted living and memory care services in a resort-style setting.



**SANTIANNA**

Oakmont Signature Living

SANTIANNA.COM

**Call Today! (442) 222-2953**

*Now Accepting Reservations*

RCFE #374604532 Pending

**NEVER MISS  
OUR BULLETIN!**

**SUBSCRIBE**

Have our bulletin emailed to you every week.



Visit [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)



**SUPPORT  
OUR PARISH**



**LIC: 939850**

**NEW CONSTRUCTION & REMODEL**

**Daniel Montijo**

President • Parishioner

**(760) 644-0714**

[www.dmbuildinginc.com](http://www.dmbuildinginc.com)

**SHORT STAFFED?**

Place an ad here to find new local talent for your business.



**CALL 800-950-9952**

**catholicmatch<sup>®</sup>  
California**



[CatholicMatch.com/myCA](http://CatholicMatch.com/myCA)



**FREE  
AD DESIGN**

with purchase  
of this space

**CALL  
800-950-9952**

**AC Howard Law** Anna Howard  
Securing Your Family's Future Attorney & Counselor at Law  
Local parishioner at 9am mass

Wills, Trusts, Probate and Family Law Questions  
2725 Jefferson Street, Ste. 2A  
Carlsbad, CA 92008  
858-800-2532 [www.achowardlaw.com](http://www.achowardlaw.com)



*Protecting Seniors  
Nationwide*

**Medical Alert System**



**\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly**

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation

**Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608**

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • [www.4lpi.com](http://www.4lpi.com)

St. Patrick, Carlsbad, CA

B 4C 05-4242

 **Bergmann's**  
Fine Jewelry & Watches  
**630 Grand Ave.**  
**760-729-1895**  
Parishioner

*We're just a phone call away when you need us.*

Your Choice of Burial or Cremation Options  
Traditional, Graveside, or Memorial Services  
Shipping In or Out of the Area  
Preneed Planning & Arrangements  
Veterans Benefits & Social Security Assistance  
*A Family Tradition of Caring Since 1964*

*Allen Brothers Mortuary, Inc.*  
[www.allenbrothersmortuary.com](http://www.allenbrothersmortuary.com)

**Vista Chapel**  
FD-1120  
760-726-2555



**San Marcos Chapel**  
FD-1378  
760-744-4522

**Morgan Stanley**

© 2018 Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC.  
Member SIPC. csc 201812



**Mark A. Lucia**

Senior Vice President

Financial Advisor

5796 Armada Drive, Suite 200

Carlsbad, CA 92008

**760-602-3516**

[mark.a.lucia@morganstanley.com](mailto:mark.a.lucia@morganstanley.com)

[fa.morganstanley.com/mark.a.lucia](http://fa.morganstanley.com/mark.a.lucia)

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**

**Curtis E. McRae, D.D.S., Inc.**



*General/Cosmetic/Implant Dentistry*

3601 Vista Way, Suite 205 **(760) 757-5057**

Oceanside, CA 92056

[www.drmcrae.net](http://www.drmcrae.net)

**SABADO DENTAL**

**SERVICIOS DENTALES**

• **UNICAMENTE LOS SABADOS 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.**

ESQUINA DE LEUCADIA BLVD. y HWY. 101, ENCINITAS  
ATRAS DE KOTIJA TACO SHOP

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC  
CEMETERY & MAUSOLEUM**

45th & Hilltop Drive, San Diego, CA 92102

Pre-Need Arrangement is an act of love



No Interest Budget Plan allows up to five years to pay.

Call 264-3127

Se Habla Español

**WE APPRECIATE OUR  
ADVERTISERS!**



**Mexican food**

**Carlsbad**

**Oceanside**

3055 Harding St.

125 Old Grove Rd. #8

Carlsbad, CA 92008

Oceanside, CA 92057

Phone (760) 729-4858

Phone (760) 435-9071

**Elder Law, Trusts and Estates**

**JOHN ZARCARO**

**Protecting the People and Values you Cherish**

**Home appointments available**

**Free consultation**

**760.918.0929 • Local Parishioner**

**30 Years Experience | [www.zarcaro.com](http://www.zarcaro.com)**



*Catholic Cruises and Tours*

*Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America*

**Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.** Catholic Cruises/Tours to Worldwide Destinations

Holy Land Discovery • Fatima, Lourdes and Shrines of Spain • Grand Catholic Italy

Footsteps of Apostle Paul • Shrines of Alpine Europe • Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Scottish Highlands • Camino, A walking journey for the soul

(CST 2117990-70)

**[www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com](http://www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com)**

Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email [eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com](mailto:eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com)



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • [www.4lpi.com](http://www.4lpi.com)

St. Patrick, Carlsbad, CA

A 4C 05-4242



## Third Sunday of Lent – Year A

### First Reading

*Exodus 17:3-7*

God tells Moses to bring forth water from the rock.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 95:1-2,6-9*

Sing joyfully in the presence of the Lord.

### Second Reading

*Romans 5:1-2,5-8*

Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

### Gospel Reading

*John 4:5-42*

Jesus reveals himself to the Samaritan woman at the well. (shorter form: John 4:5-15,19b-26,39a,40-42)



### Background on the Gospel Reading

On this Sunday and the next two Sundays, we break from reading the Gospel of Matthew to read from John's Gospel. The Gospel of John is the only Gospel not assigned to a particular liturgical year. Instead, readings from John's Gospel are interspersed throughout our three-year liturgical cycle.

In today's Gospel, the dialogue between Jesus and a woman from Samaria is among the most lengthy and most theological found in Scripture. The most startling aspect of the conversation is that it happens at all. Jesus, an observant Jew of that time, was expected to avoid conversation with women in public. The animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans should have prevented the conversation as well. The woman herself alludes to the break from tradition: "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" Yet Jesus not only converses with the woman, he also asks to share her drinking vessel, an action that makes him unclean according to Jewish law.

The initial conversation between Jesus and the woman is better understood if we consider the importance of water, especially in the climate of Israel. At first, the woman understands Jesus' promise of "living water" in a literal sense: "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." With no running water, the daily trip to the well by the women of the community was of paramount importance. The women of the town would have traveled to the well in the early morning, but this woman came to the well at noon, the hottest time of the day. The timing of her visit is a clear sign that she is an outcast within the Samaritan community. We learn in her conversation with Jesus that she is an outcast because of her "many husbands."

Behind the conversation lies the animosity and rivalry between the Jews and the Samaritans. Samaritans shared Jewish ancestry, but Samaritans had intermarried with foreigners when they lived under the rule of the Assyrians. Samaritan religion included worship of Yahweh, but was also influenced by the worship of other gods. When the Jews refused Samaritan help in the building of the Temple at Jerusalem, the Samaritans eventually built a temple for themselves at Mt. Gerizim (the same mountain mentioned by the woman at the well). Like the Jews, the Samaritans believed that a Messiah would come.

The high point of the conversation is when Jesus reveals himself to her as the Messiah. His answer to the Samaritan woman's questions about worship is meant to predict a time when worshiping in truth and spirit will become the way to worship.

After the conversation, the Samaritan woman becomes a disciple. Even though she is an outcast and not a Jew, she returns to her town to lead others to Jesus and to wonder whether she has found the Messiah. The Samaritan townspeople return with her to meet Jesus for themselves, and many are said to come to believe in him.

The significance of the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman has many levels. The first is personal: The woman is herself converted to belief in Jesus as Messiah because he knows her sin but speaks with her just the same. The second is social: Having come to know Jesus as the Messiah, the Samaritan woman becomes an evangelist to her own people.

The third level of the story is educational: Jesus uses his encounter with the Samaritan woman to teach his disciples that God's mercy is without limit. The disciples return from their shopping quite confused to find Jesus talking with a Samaritan, and a woman at that! But the conversion of the Samaritan townspeople is a foretaste of the kind of open community that will be created among those who believe that Jesus is the Messiah.