

St. Peter's Hamilton

Third Sunday of Lent (A)

8th March 2026

Our Parish Mission

All are welcome in this place

Behold Love's amazing grace

All are welcome

Bring your hopes, bring your dreams

Mercy flows and love redeems

It's 625am

It has been a week where we have seen another conflict beginning in our world. We have Russia & Ukraine, Israel & Gaza and now Iran & USA, Israel.

We need to pray for peace. Our world is crying out for it. In my lifetime I have never felt that we needed as much as just now. Our Lady Queen of Peace Pray for Us. St. Francis of Assisi Pray for Us.

Praying for Peace

Pope Leo is encouraging us to open our parish

Churches to pray for peace in the Middle East.

I have decided to open the Church this Tuesday from

7am, there will be Masses at 8.15am & 10am.

We will have Exposition from 10.30 to 4pm.

During the day we will have the rosary, Stations of the Cross. A Full programme will be given out this weekend.

Live Stream

Hopefully the Lives Stream will be up and running again by this weekend, If not sooner

Defibrillator

A Defibrillator will be installed in our front car park. The Scottish Ambulance service is planning to do training in how to use it. If you are interested in getting training contact Fr. Frank. It will open to be used by the whole community.

This Sunday's Readings

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)**

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.

Next Weeks Mass Programme

Monday 8.15am & 10am Funeral Mass

Tuesday : 8.15am & 10am Masses

Wednesday 10am & 7pm Stations of the Cross

Thursday 8.15am & 10am Masses

Friday: 10am Mass & Short Stations of the Cross

Saturday 10am Mass

Sunday Masses: 4pm Vigil, 9.30am & 11am Masses

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tues-Fri 9.30am - 9.55am

Sunday Rota
This Weekend
Readers

4pm Vigil: B. Cornes

9.30am: P. Davies

11am: L. McIntosh

**We are looking for new readers for all the
Sunday Masses. If you wish to volunteer please
see Fr. Frank.**

Eucharistic Ministers:

4pm Vigil: J. McCluskey, S. Boyle & M. Kilpatrick

9.30am: C, Bonnar, T. Kennedy & K. O'Neill

11am: S. Russell, D. Lee & S. Cunningham

Weekday 10am Mass Readers Rota

Tuesday: P. Davies

Wednesday: B. Cornes

Thursday: P. McKeown

Friday: J. McCluskey

Saturday: A. Devlin

Please pray for the following:

Sick:

Margaret Callaghan Doreen Cleary, Neil Boyle,
John Rielly Molly Strang, James Clark,

Fr. Michael McLaughlin, Patricia Henderson,
Joanna Maier (Connecticut USA), Therese Gilgunn Tressy
Callaghan, Suzanne McMurray,
Mary Coyle, Lesley Watson (Spain) Maureen McHugh,
Margaret Burke, Marie White, Kathleen Daly,
John McGuire, Jill Brown, Karen Pritchatt,
Louise Newton, Faith Lyndsey, Jill Brown,
Marie McGuire, James Morton, Paul Kearney,
Thomas Daly, Andrew McCluskey,
Premature Baby Vincent McDowell,
Bill Allan, Gudren Berk (Germany),
Jaqueline McReynolds, Mary Morrison, Helen Howarth
(Easterhouse), Margaret Loan, Avril McCluskey, Elizabeth
Miller, Carol Corr and all our sick.

Recently Dead: Owen McVey. Martin Walsh, Michael
McFarlane, George Fallon, Marie Ross,

Month Minds & Anniversaries: Elizabeth Kerrigan,
Ella Coccozza Gilmour, Alice McGovern, Bob Burnside, Eva De
Marco, Bernadette Campbell,

Please if you could make sure all month minds and
anniversaries are handed in no later than Wednesday Night.
If they come in after that they will be read out at Mass on
Sunday. If the recently dead come in after the Wednesday
deadline they too will be read out at Mass on the Sunday.

Funeral Arrangements

Owen McVey

Monday 9th March 10am Funeral Mass

**Next Sunday is Mother's Day and SCIAF Sunday.
The Second Collection next Sunday will be for SCIAF.**

Powerpoint Remote Control:

I am also looking for Volunteers to move the power-points on during the Sunday Masses,
Vigil 4pm, 9.30am & 11am.

It is very easy to operate, if we get enough volunteers for each Mass we would put a wee rota together. It would take a wee bit of pressure off me.

The Food Bank are running short of the following items:

**UHT Milk, Cereal, Tinned Tuna, Tinned Meat,
Tinned Fruit, Tinned Rice Pudding, Tinned Custard,
Pasta Sauce, Jam, Diluting Juice,
Toilet Roll, Toiletries
Easter Eggs for the children.**

Gift Aid

If you wish to sign up for Gift Aid. It is a great way to

help the parish financially, costing you absolutely nothing. If you wish to sign up contact myself or Doreen Lee and we will give you the form and hand it back as you can and we can get it organised. As I said it costs you nothing, but helps the parish so much.

**Baptism/Wedding Meetings: THURSDAY 6pm & 7pm. JUST
TURN UP**

The Bulletin is available by email

I can't thank you enough for your generosity to the Parish. I really appreciate it. Please keep it up, Once again Thank You.

Fr. Frank

