

The woman at the well

LENT
3rd Sunday
Year A



Sign of the Cross.

What could you have said "no" to, this week? (Pause)
Let's sing. (See p. 43)



quietly by yourselves

Have you ever been to a cafe and noticed who is talking to who? People sometimes keep themselves to themselves, other times they soon get talking to each other.

Does your mum always start talking to someone or does someone always seem to start talking to her? Do you join in or are you too shy?



when each child has had time to think

Share experiences of meeting people, being shy, breaking the ice. Once people have begun to talk they soon find out a great deal about each other. Have you ever met anyone interesting?



Today we hear about a lady Jesus once met at a well. She was very surprised that Jesus spoke to her. Where Jesus came from the people didn't talk to people from the place this lady came from!

welcome the Gospel with a song. (Gospel acclamations p. 220)



all stand (adapted from John 4:4-5, 19-26, 39-42)

Jesus was on a journey when he became tired and thirsty so he stopped at a well called "Jacob's Well".

A woman came to the well with her bucket to collect some water. Jesus asked her for a drink.

She was very surprised!

They soon began to talk to each other.

They quickly found out a lot about each other too.

When the woman realised that she was talking to Jesus, the great King!
she ran to tell her friends.

Her friends believed her.

Jesus stayed in their town for a while
and they all met him for themselves.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.



all sit (some suggestions)

How do you think the woman felt when she realised who she was talking to?

One of the wonderful things about Jesus is that he talks to anyone, anywhere, anytime. You can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

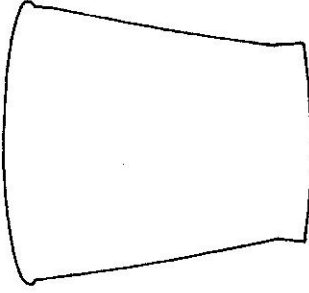
I WILL GIVE YOU LIVING WATER

VISUAL AIDS

- > Pictures of rivers, springs, waterfalls, wells, etc.
- > Bucket shape cut-outs.

SHARING

Talk about how life depends on water. Encourage the children to give examples, e.g. plants in the garden, for pets, crops and animals on farms. Remind the children of the new life they received in baptism when water was poured over them. Talk about the life of Jesus: has this life grown in them? how? Through love, kindness, prayer ...



WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing together:

**Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour.
Lord, give us living water.
Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour.**

A reading from the Good News given to us by John.
Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus was hot, tired and thirsty after his long journey when he arrived at the Samaritan town of Sychar. He sat down beside the well. While he was sitting there a Samaritan woman came along with her bucket to draw water from the well. Jesus said to her,

'Give me a drink.'
'What' said the woman - she was surprised because Jews and Samaritans do not usually mix together. Jesus replied,

'If only you knew what God is offering and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would be the one asking him for a drink, and he would give you living water.'
Anyone who drinks the water from this well will be thirsty again, but

anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

DISCUSSION

- What did Jesus ask the woman for?
- Why was the woman surprised?
- explain, as necessary, about Jews and Samaritans.
- What did Jesus offer the woman?
- living water.

What does this living water bring?

- new life, eternal life.

ACTIVITIES

- > Have the children mime the Gospel.
- > Have the children mime ways of being living water: e.g. being patient; helping at home; looking after younger brothers and sisters.
- > Give out the cut-outs.
- > On them, have the children write or draw: either, ways in which their lives can be full of living water in the week ahead; or, ways in which they can share living water with others; or, ways in which the living water can become eternal life.