Liturgical and Music Planning Overview

For March 4, 2018
Which is the 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year B

Lectionary # 29

Readings: 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year B
I: Exodus 20:1-17 or Exodus 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17
II: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25
G: John 2:13-25

For reflection

“He did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well.”

Lent is often a season of difficulty. The difficulty in fasting, in truly preparing our hearts, and the
difficulty in comprehending the cross. It is a season of thinking about the death and resurrection of
Jesus Christ, which we remember every Sunday but still cannot fully comprehend. While we cannot
comprehend the mystery of the Passion, Christ can and does fully understand us. Fully human and fully
divine, Christ’s love is a love that understands us as we are, in all our human weakness.

How can we reflect on the mystery of Christ this Lent? When have we fallen victim to my own human
weakness? How can we feel the overwhelming love of Christ in our own lives?

Lord, draw us ever near to you, knowing that our redemption is in you alone.

Planning your Music

Mass Setting: _______________________

Opening Song Suggestions:
Our Father, We Have Wandered #474
Where Charity and Love Prevail #650
Set Your Heart on the Higher Gifts #647
God of Day and God of Darkness #401

Gloria? No, not on the Sundays of Lent.

Psalm: The psalm for this week is Ps. 19. See arrangements at #181-184 in the Newman Hymnal.

During Lent you may always use Psalm 51. See arrangements for Psalm 51 at #239-242 in the Newman
Hymnal. You will find that #240 and 241 are easily learned. However, another familiar option can also
be found in the Gather Hymnal, #53.
Gospel Acclamation (from your chosen Mass setting – remember that the Alleluia is never sung during Lent!)

Verse before the Gospel:
God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.

Preparation of the Altar and Gifts Song Suggestions:
Deep Within #462
Come to Me #662
Be Still, and Know that I am God #661
Transform Us #477

Holy, Holy; Memorial Acclamation; Amen (from your chosen Mass setting)

Lord’s Prayer (spoken or sung)

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) (from your chosen Mass setting)

Communion Song Suggestions:
I Am the Bread of Life #144
Now We Remain #702
Tree of Life #479
Not on Bread Alone #164

Closing Song Suggestions:
Tree of Life #478
Take up Your Cross #697
Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days #468
There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy #676

For more ideas, consider the songs under the topic headings “Lent,” “Covenant,” and “God’s Law” in the Liturgical and Topical Index of the Newman Hymnal.