



First Sunday of Lent

March 1, 2020

STRENGTH AGAINST TEMPTATION

The first Sunday of the season of Lent always includes a Gospel account of the temptation of the Lord Jesus in the desert by the devil. This year, the story is set against the backdrop of the first reading from Genesis, which recounts the very first temptation by the devil. That story is set in a garden of delight. The Gospel story is set in the desert. As believers, we know that temptation comes our way in our own gardens of delight as well as the deserts of our lives. As Lent begins, our attention is drawn to that temptation within each of us to become like God—we want control, power, and answers to all of life's difficult questions. As communities of faith, we are given this season of repentance so that we can join our hearts with others on the difficult journey of conversion. We look to God and to one another for strength against temptation.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In a few weeks' time, at the Chrism Mass of the diocese, fresh sacramental oils will be blessed and chrism consecrated for use in every parish. Olive oil is the main ingredient of chrism, but olive oil with some exotic additives that change its character and purpose. Rich balsam and perfumes separate chrism from the pantry. Food no longer, neither is this oil for grooming or toning muscles. It has a breathtaking aroma that is both alluring and enduring.

The prayer of consecration is a good meditation for the coming Lenten season since it focuses us on the goal of our journey, linking it with the olive-bearing dove at the end of Noah's stormy voyage of forty days. The dove signaled the birth of a new world, a society reborn from the wreckage of the old, drowned world of sin. At the end of our Lenten journey, the oil of chrism will be poured down in abundance on the brows of catechumens and infants, as well as on those to be confirmed or ordained. Lent puts us in touch with the hard edges of life in need of salvation, and the chrism of Easter joy redeems and restores.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TEMPTATION

Every conquered temptation represents a new fund of moral energy. Every trial endured and weathered in the right spirit makes a soul nobler and stronger than it was before.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The man and the woman ate the fruit of the one tree that God had told them to avoid, and their shame overtook them (Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7).

Psalm — Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned (Psalm 51).

Second Reading — Death reigned from Adam to Moses, but now grace and life abound in Christ Jesus (Romans 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]).

Gospel — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and there he fasted for forty days and forty nights

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15;
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8;
Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8;

Last weekend was our Parish Commitment Weekend for the 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal. If you have not completed your card, please prayerfully make your pledge and return it to the church office. Our goal is to have 100% participation in our church family that is the Diocese of Memphis

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent

Monday: Julian Calendar Lent begins

Tuesday: St. Katharine Drexel

Wednesday: St. Casimir

Friday: World Day of Prayer;
Abstinence; First Friday

Saturday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity; First Saturday



Set your clock ahead one hour on Saturday night March 8th before you go to bed.

Station of the Cross will be at 4:30 every Friday of Lent

Father will be here on Feb 28th, March 13, 27, and April 10th

The gift to Heifer International made by the P.R.E. students in their honor is already creating smiles and changing lives across the world. The children received a thank you card for their generosity. The card is on the bulletin board out front.

	March 8th
Lector	Maurisio
E/M	Florencia/ Geraraldo
Usher	Michael/ Diane
Server	Francisco

Offertory 2/23/2020
BUDGET \$1351.00
ACTUAL \$ 596.00
-\$755.00

Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,
Emanuel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,
Louis Humble Sr. , Joy Williams,
Martha Jo Neuenschwander , Darlene Rotgers,
Mary Taylor, Tracey Johnson