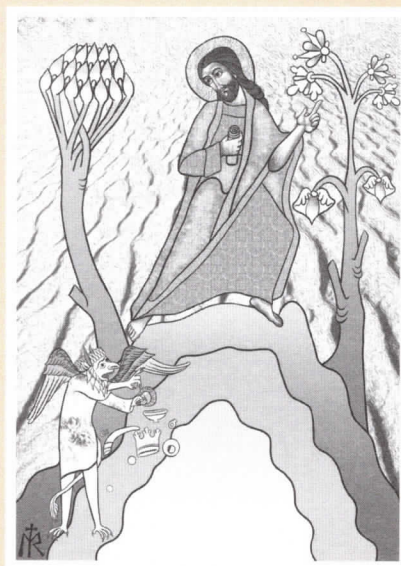


# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 6, 2022

## Gospel Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, *One does not live on bread alone.*" Then he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a single instant. The devil said to him, "I shall give to you all this power and glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I may give it to whomever I wish. All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: *You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve.*" Then he led him to Jerusalem, made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written:



*He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you, and: With their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.*" Jesus said to him in reply, "It also says, *You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.*" When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.

## Readings for the week:

### 1st Sunday of Lent

Deut 26:4-10  
Ps 91:1-2, 10-11,  
12-13, 14-15  
Rom 10:8-13  
Luke 4:1-13

### Monday

Lev 19:1-2, 11-18  
Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15  
Matt 25:31-46

### Tuesday

Isa 55:10-11  
Ps 34:4-5, 6-7,  
16-17, 18-19  
Matt 6:7-15

### Wednesday

Jonah 3:1-10  
Ps 51:3-4, 12-13,  
18-19  
Luke 11:29-32

### Thursday

Esth C:12, 14-16,  
23-25  
Ps 138:1-2ab,  
2cde-3, 7c-8  
Matt 7:7-12

### Friday

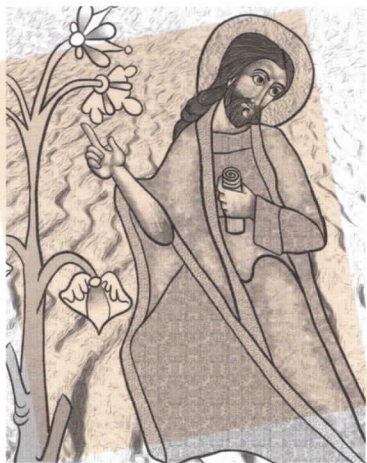
Ezek 18:21-28  
Ps 130:1-2, 3-4,  
5-7a, 7bc-8  
Matt 5:20-26

### Saturday

Deut 26:16-19  
Ps 119:1-2, 4-5,  
7-8  
Matt 5:43-48

### 2nd Sunday of Lent

Gen 15:5-12, 17-18  
Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9,  
13-14  
Phil 3:17-4:1 or  
Phil 3:20-4:1  
Luke 9:28b-36



## Opening Prayer

Grant, almighty God,  
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,  
that we may grow in understanding  
of the riches hidden in Christ  
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Reflecting on Living the Gospel

Jesus is alone, hungry. With perfect timing, the tempter arrives with three attractive propositions.

If Jesus would turn stones into bread, it would bring great personal and social advantages: neither he nor the poor of the land need be hungry anymore, the tempter implies. But Jesus answers that it is not bread alone, but the word of God that is life-giving food. Today we often neglect the word of God and allow ourselves to be seduced by so many other words: texts, emails, mass media, the flood of digital information. The word of God feeds our deepest hungers.

If Jesus seizes power and glory, suggests the devil in his second temptation, he could do so much for the people of first-century Palestine who were living under Roman oppression! But Jesus knows what this would mean: power and authority handed to him by the tempter would also bring oppression and violence (Luke 4:1-14). We are only too familiar with scenarios of unjust wars and political compromise that accompany the lust for power. We certainly need to take a stand against these, but perhaps we are less conscious of the compromises we make ourselves: that bargaining for a little more status and authority at the expense of others.

The third temptation is for Jesus to launch his messianic career with a spectacular stunt—throwing himself from the high point of the Jerusalem temple. The tempter assures Jesus that, since he is a privileged Son, God will certainly deliver him from any human and airborne limitations by sending angels to catch him. Often we would like God to treat us as “different,” “special” people who deserve miraculous intervention and deliverance from the limitations of our humanity. This will be offered to us, but only in the same way it was offered to Jesus: through suffering, dying, and rising with him.

## Closing Prayer

Loving God, thank you for the gift of this day and the opportunity to grow in relationship with you. In you alone do we find the riches we seek and the joy for which we long. Be with us as we face temptation, that we may remain faithful to your Gospel and the way of life to which we are called. **Amen.**



### For Reflection:

- How do you respond to the temptations that you encounter each day?

### Suggestions for group and individual use:

1. Pray aloud the “Opening Prayer” (in *The Roman Missal* called the “collect”).
2. One person read aloud the gospel.
3. Each read prayerfully “Reflecting on Living the Gospel” and spend some time in personal prayer.
4. Share together responses to “For Reflection.”
5. Pray the “Closing Prayer.”

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**Announcements**  
**03/05/22 to 03/06/22**

**Financials: 02/21/22 – 02/27/22**

<b>Weekly Collection Goal \$2400</b>	<b>Total \$3822.00 Over 1422.00</b>		
<b>In Church</b>		<b>\$ 2172.00</b>	
<b>Mail In</b>		<b>\$ 100.00</b>	
<b>On Line Giving</b>		<b>\$ 1550.00</b>	

**Today, 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection is for TONGA. Hawaii is blessed to have a significant Tongan community who are often very active in our parishes. Mahalo for your generosity in reaching out to our fellow brothers and sisters.**

**Bread Day is Tuesday, March 15. Volunteers always needed. Kitchen help will start at 3:30 pm on Monday afternoon, March 14<sup>th</sup>- others to follow at 4:30 pm. Bread pickup is following day, March 15<sup>th</sup> between 8:00 am. – Noon. The order form is at the church entry. Mahalo for your continued support.**

**Birthday celebrants for the Month of March please come forward for a blessing.**

*Have a Blessed Week!*