1st SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A – 26th of February 2023

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7;

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. Now the serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 50(51):3-6,12-14,17;

R. Be merciful O Lord for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me God in your kindness, in your compassion blot out my offence, O wash me more and more from my guilt, and cleanse me from my sin. R.

My offences truly I know them, my sin is always before me, against you, you alone have I sinned, what is evil in your sight I have done.

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A pure heart create for me O God, put a steadfast spirit within me, do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your Holy Spirit. R.

Give me again the joy of your help, with a spirit of fervour sustain me, O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. R.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19;

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11;

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: *Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: *He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.*' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: *You must not put the Lord your God to the test.*' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: *You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.*' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.



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PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

Forty Days and forty nights Thou wast fasting in the wild; Forty Days and forty nights Tempted, and yet undefiled.

Shall not we thy sorrow share, And from earthly joys abstain, Fasting with unceasing prayer, Glad with thee to suffer pain?

And if Satan, vexing sore, Flesh or spirit should assail, Thou, his Vanquisher before, Grant we may not faint nor fail.

So shall we have peace divine: Holier gladness ours shall be; Round us, too, shall angels shine, Such as ministered to thee.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear, Ever constant by thy side; That with thee we may appear At the eternal Eastertide.

OFFERTORY HYMN:

The Lord will overshadow you with his pinions, and you will find refuge under his wings. His faithfulness will encompass you with a shield.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, and abides in the shade of the Almighty, says to the Lord, "My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!"

You will not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day, Nor the plague that prowls in the darkness, Nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.

A thousand may fall at your side,

Ten thousand fall at your right:
You it will never approach.

Your eyes have only to look To see how the wicked are repaid. For you, O Lord, are my refuge. You have made the Most High your dwelling.

God of Mercy and Compassion, Look with pity upon me, Father let me call Thee Father, 'Tis thy child returns to Thee.

Jesus Lord, I ask for mercy; let me not implore in vain; All my sins, I now detest them, never will I sin again.

See our Saviour, bleeding, dying, on the cross of Calvary; To that cross my sins have nail'd Him, yet bleeds and dies for me.

COMMUNION HYMN:

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray, teach us with thee to mourn our sins and close by thee to stay.

As thou with Satan didst contend and didst the vict'ry win, O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to conquer sin.

As thou didst hunger bear and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord, to die to self, and chiefly live by thy most holy word.

And through these days of penitence, and through thy Passiontide, yea, evermore, in life and death, Jesus! with us abide.

Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering over past, an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last!

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise; in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways!

O loving wisdom of our God! When all was sin and shame, a second Adam to the fight and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood, which did in Adam fail, should strive afresh against the foe, should strive, and should prevail.

And that the highest gift of grace should flesh and blood refine: God's presence and his very self, and essence all divine.

O generous love! that he who smote in man for man the foe, the double agony in Man for man should undergo.

And in the garden secretly, and on the cross on high, should teach his brethren, and inspire to suffer and to die.



NEXT SUNDAY: 5th March 2023

2nd **Sunday of Lent (Yr A)** Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9;

LITURGY ROSTER

Readers: M. D'Souza, R. Lopez Prayers of the Faithful: B. Molloy Offertory: P. Tagillima Family Special Ministers: F. Ulugia

CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

24hr Adoration next weekend

SUNDAY CUP OF TEA ROSTER

Culas/Beshay Families

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

26 Feb: Catherine McCarthy, Susanna Te Tai, Alice Barry

28 Feb: Robert Keenan

29 Feb: Annie Francis, Patrick Doyle **1 Mar:** Samuel Endemann, Anthony Botica

3 Mar: Vera Sadgrove, Myra Woodcock Ben Stanley

4 Mar: Betty Dyer

PARISH FINANCES

 Parish
 \$2,448.40

 Priests
 \$1,224.20

 Total Cash and AP's
 \$3,672.60

HOLY FAMILY PARISH NOTICES

Catechism Classes – start again today after the 9:30am Mass.

Sacramental Programme - 1st

Reconciliation –Classes start Saturday 4th March 2023, 4pm to 5pm. Please register with Ellen in the Parish Office on 8346677 or hfparish@xtra.co.nz A reminder: to register for Confirmation and 1st Holy Communion later in the year, your child or children would need to have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation first

1st Friday and Saturday (24 Hour Adoration) Friday 3rd March after Stations of the Cross till Saturday 4th March at 6pm. If you would like to join the roster, please let Ellen know in the Office.

Go Forward in Hope International Pro-Life & Family Conference – Thursday 23 to Sunday 26 March, Auckland.

Featuring thirteen international and local speakers passionate about their areas of expertise in pro-life and family issues - For more information and to register visit fli.org.nz/conference2023 or Michelle Kaufman 027 526 1199.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent 7pm