

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Q634rbsypE>



Our theme this week is:



Peace be with you
And with your spirit



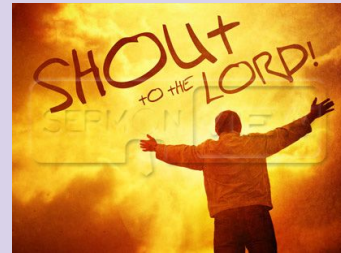
We light our candle to remind us of Christ's
presence with us as we gather
+In the name of the Father ...

My Jesus, My Saviour,
Lord there is no one like you,
All of my days, I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love.



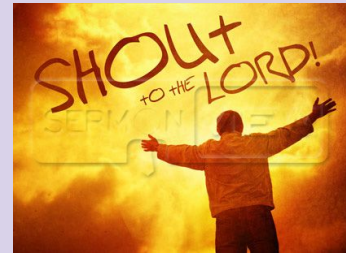
My comfort, my shelter,
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You.

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing,
Power and majesty, praise to the King!
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar,
At the sound of your name!
I sing for joy at the work of your hands,
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in
You.**

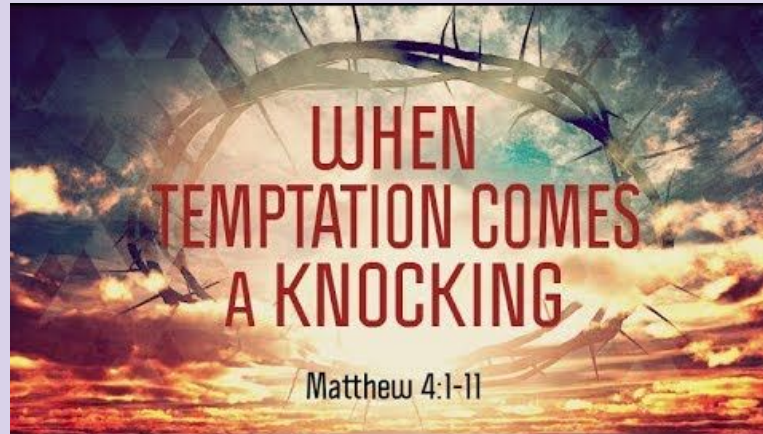


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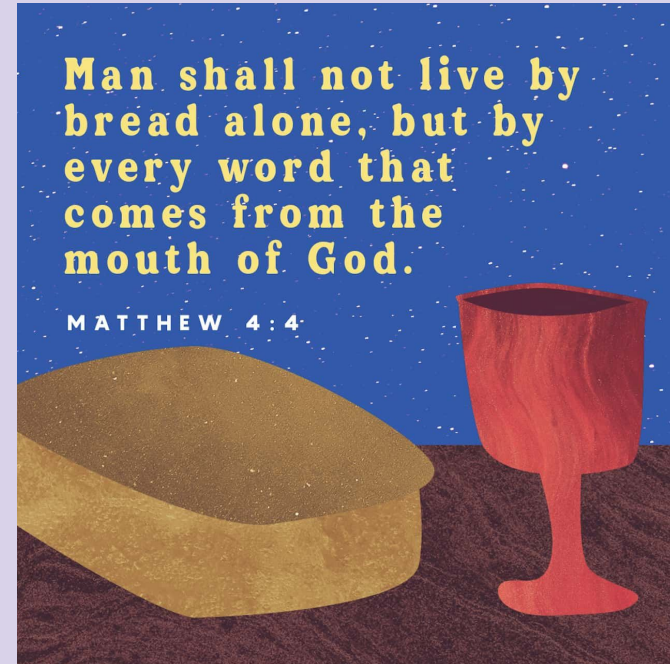
Today we are going to hear about how Jesus spent 40 days in the desert. At the end of this time when he was tired and hungry, he was tempted with offers of bread, power and glory. What do you think Jesus did? Let's find out...



Opening Prayer

God of love, you gave your son Jesus strength in the desert. May we also have the strength to do what is right and to stand up for what we believe in. Amen.

Amen.



Lord Jesus, for the times we have hurt others.

Lord, have mercy.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Christ Jesus, for the times we have not forgiven others when they have hurt us.

Christ, have mercy.

CHRIST HAVE MERCY

Lord Jesus, for the times we have stood by when we have seen something we know is wrong.

Lord, have mercy.

LORD HAVE MERCY



Please stand while we listen to the Gospel

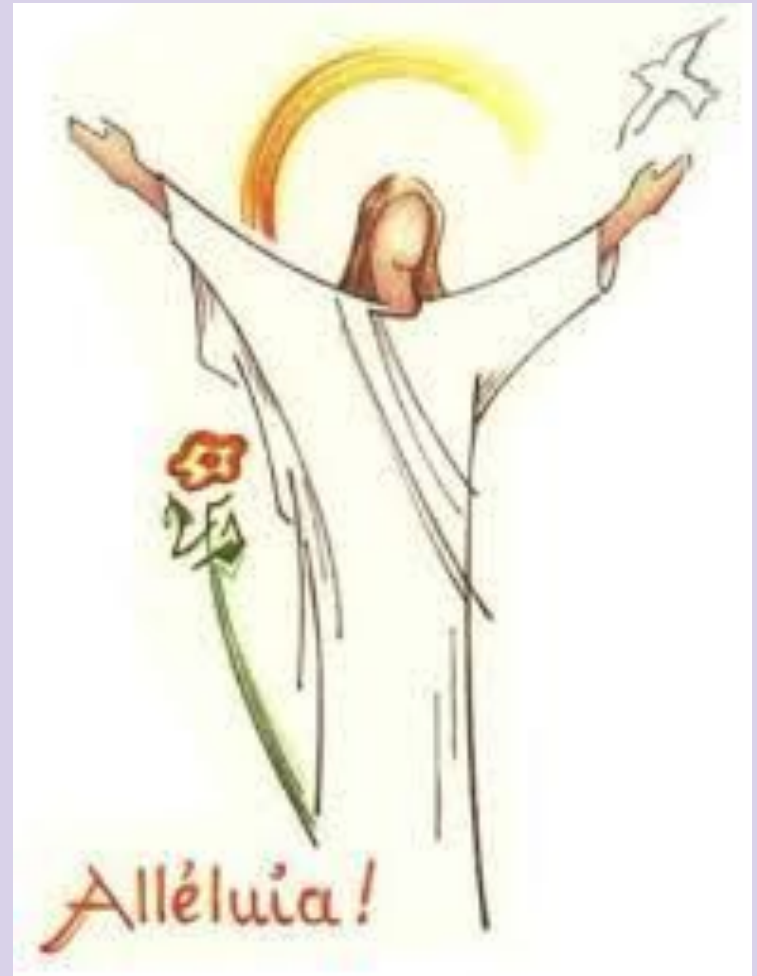
OH ALLE...ALLE



ALLE...ALLE...

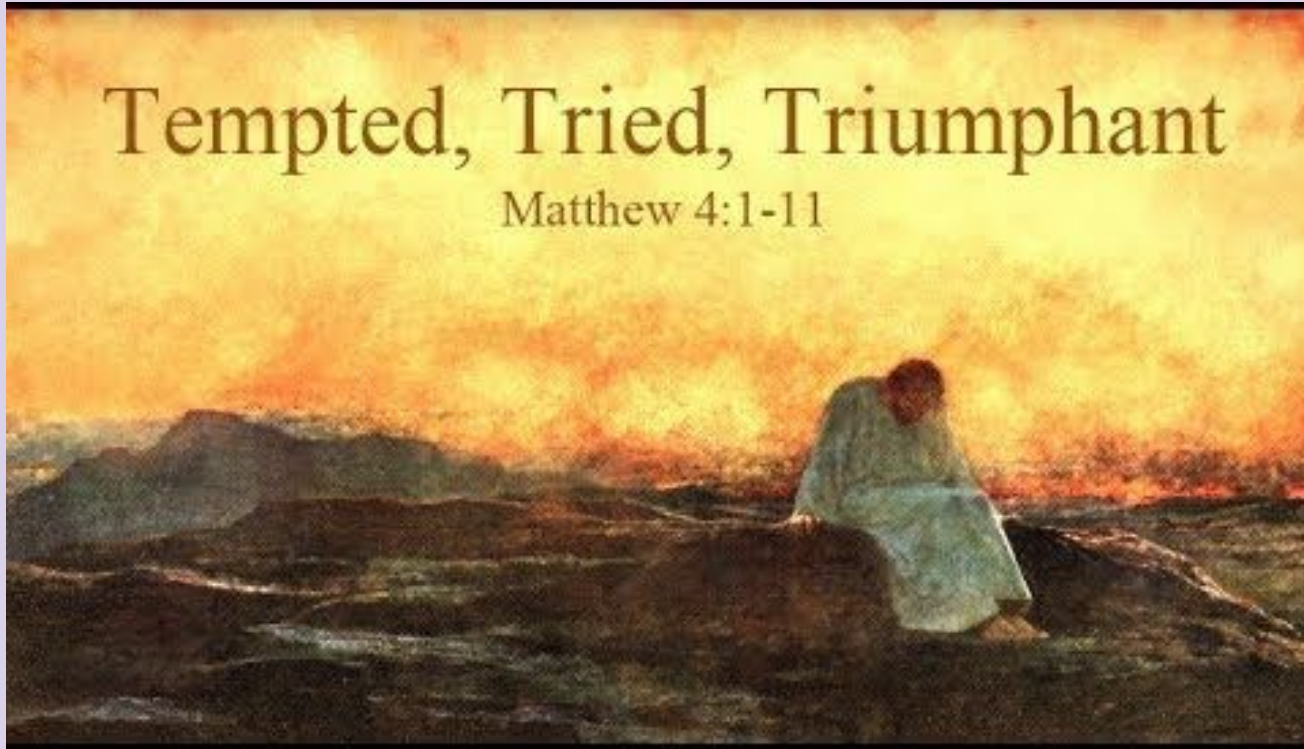


LUIA



A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew:

Glory to you O Lord



Then the Spirit led Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the Devil. After spending forty days and nights without food, Jesus was hungry. Then the Devil came to him and said, “If you are God's Son, order these stones to turn into bread.”

But Jesus answered, “The scripture says, ‘Human beings cannot live on bread alone, but need every word that God speaks.’”

Then the Devil took Jesus to Jerusalem, the Holy City, set him on the highest point of the Temple, and said to him, “If you are God's Son, throw yourself down, for the scripture says,

‘God will give orders to his angels about you; they will hold you up with their hands, so that not even your feet will be hurt on the stones.’”

Jesus answered, “But the scripture also says, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Then the Devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in all their greatness. “All this I will give you,” the Devil said, “if you kneel down and worship me.”

Then Jesus answered, “Go away, Satan! The scripture says, ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!’”

Then the Devil left Jesus; and angels came and helped him.

The Gospel of the Lord

PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

Time to reflect on God's words for us
today.



Jesus spent a long time in the desert.

Do you know what a desert is?



It is a place with very little rain, where there is no water to drink and where plants cannot grow.

After Jesus spent time in the desert, he was hungry.

Have you ever been hungry? What did it feel like?

Then Jesus had to make some choices. First, he had the choice to either rely on God or turn stones into bread. Even though he was very hungry, Jesus chose to trust in God.

Jesus was also offered all the kingdoms of the world if he turned away from God. It must have been very tempting to choose all the riches of all the kingdoms and to have power over them. But Jesus chose not to turn away from God.

Why do you think Jesus said no when he was tempted?

Jesus is God's son. He knows that riches and power can never be as important as God's love.

Can you think of a time when you have been tempted to do something even though you knew it wasn't right? What happened next?

Sometimes we can make really good choices, like Jesus did. We can choose to do what is right even when it's hard. Like standing up for someone in the playground, or pointing out when others are being mean. Or sharing when we'd really like to keep things to ourselves.

We can also choose not to do something we know is wrong, even if we really want to. It takes a lot of strength to make the right choices.

What or who gives you strength?

We can find strength in God's love for us, in the love of our friends and family who care for us and help us, and in the food we eat to keep our bodies strong and healthy.

Lent is a time when we try to turn back to God. We say sorry for the things that we have done wrong and we try to make a change to live as God wants us to.

This is not always easy, but God's love is there to give us strength to make better choices. And the people who love us are there to support us too.

This Lent, let's think about how we can make good choices – just like Jesus did in the desert – even when we find it hard.

As we do this, let's also think if there's anything that we can do to help our sisters and brothers around the world to stay strong in difficult times.

What good choices will you try to make this week? And how will you help to give others strength when they need it?

Bidding Prayers

We pray together to God whose love gives us strength:

We pray for world leaders: that they may lead their people fairly and make wise decisions so that all people may have enough food to eat. Lord, in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our brothers and sisters around the world: that they may feel supported by us as they work to build a hopeful future. Lord, in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our parish, families and friends: that, rooted in God's love for us, we may offer support to others who are facing difficult times. Lord, in your mercy... **Hear our prayer**

In the quiet of our hearts let's say our own prayer to God.



We ask you Mother Mary to pray with us as we say:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,

blessed art thou among women and
blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us
sinners now and at the hour of our
death. Amen

Closing Prayer

Christ Jesus, give us strength as we try to make the right choices and live as you ask us to. Guide us so that we may also offer support to those who are finding things tough. Amen.

Amen.

Our Faith in Action



This week let us show the Gospel Value of **Justice**
and the Virtue of **Charity**.

We can show **justice** by:

- Treating everyone fairly and respectfully
- Following the rules and understanding why we have the rules

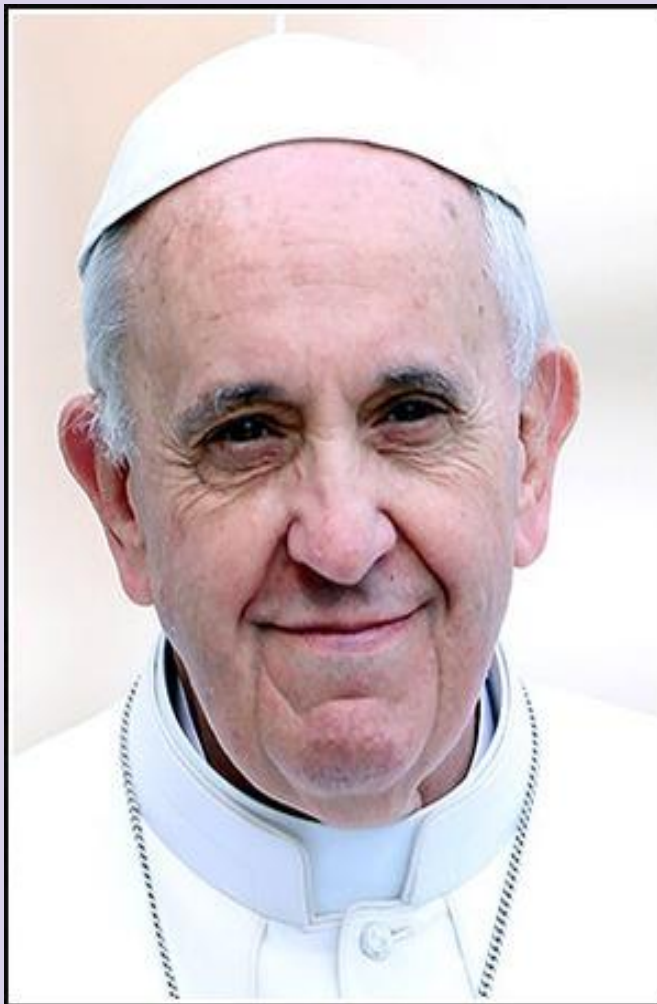
We can show **charity** by:

- Considering how we can give to others in need
- Giving the time to help someone who needs it

May God bless us with
his mercy, strengthen
us with his love, and
enable us to walk with
courage, hope and
faith in ourselves and
you.

THANKS BE TO GOD





"Let us ask the Lord, who always when we are tempted, tells us: 'Stop, don't worry. Remember what I did with you at that moment, at that time: remember. Lift up your eyes, look at the horizon, do not close in on yourself, go forward.' And this Word will save us from falling into sin in the moment of temptation."

Pope Francis - February 18 - 2014

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