

FR.TK. REFLECTIONS FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A 2023.

THE TEMPTATION EXPERIENCE:

All our readings this weekend talks about the **great temptations**. Our first reading takes us back to the **fall of our first parents Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden**. This is what is classified as the **original sin**. In this Garden of Eden **paradise they had everything they needed as human beings**. Above all, they enjoyed the **presence of God**. It here in this paradise that the devil took opportunity to mislead them and they became victims of the temptation which let them to be *driven away from the paradise*, **their eyes were opened and they realised they were naked!**

We all have experienced the same like Adam/Eve, we have moments of **Clear conscience innocence, then Temptations (to taste the forbidden fruit in our life'** the experience, **we end up in falling, like our first parents**. we want to be godlike and control everything under the illusion that **we know all**. This is where we loose track in life trying to be **like God without God**. we loose the **paradise, we feel naked, we hide ourselves from God and from one another**. This is what **sin does to us**, we throw away **the paradise** and our souls are filled **with, darkness, guilty and regrets**. we loose that **connection and contact with our creator**.

The only remedy due to mercy of God, is Jesus Christ who came to undo and rectify what was done by the first parents.

After Baptism he was **led to the desert and wilderness of Judea by the Spirit** there he faced the **devil in temptations**. what a way of preparing for the mission he was about to undertake! Mission of **teaching, healing and driving away the devil**, no wonder after 40 days he faced the devil. The devil tempted him in three sensitive field, **personal integrity with power (changing stones to bread), tempting God (throw yourself down)** and then the last temptation **materialism (the devil showed him all the kingdoms)**

In all these moments Jesus **equipped himself with supportive document the scripture.*How are you using your scripture to defend your faith especially in the current storms of the society.*** This is a very powerful tool in our faith not only during lent but always.

We all face these temptations like our lord in one way or another as human beings and the devil will always strike at us in our human weakness in **power,greedy money material properties,pride and even in the talents God has given us.** we have all these temptations following us on daily basis wherever we are and in whatever we are doing.*we must be very careful not to be blinded by what we have but use it for our well being and for others.This is the call for lent in **Almsgiving.***

We have no **short-cut,freeway,Eastern by pass,(Thika super highway or supper express(Kenya).**we don't have any quick **fix,quick grace,instant results or microwave spirituality.**We don't have **express lane to redemption except through our Lord and he has given to us** the **pattern and solution to defeat the devil this lent.**

The solution and the tools are so simple **PRAYER,FASTING AND ALMSGIVING.**These are our **EXPRESS LANE CAR POOL!**