

## **FR.TK.REFLECTIONS FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR-C-2025:**

### **THE DESERT EXPERIENCE-TIME OF TESTING:**

Time and again as human being we need to look back into our life's and see **where we are coming from, where we are and this will give us direction on where we are going.** The church provides us with such moment during the period of 40 Days commonly known as **Lent** which began last Wednesday **Ash Wednesday.**

*Jesus himself had such moment* in these forty days, immediately after Baptism, with **strength, power and full of** the spirit having being proclaimed by his father he was well pleased, certainly the scene dramatically changed and the same spirit led him to the desert and it is here where he was tempted by the devil. Don't we all feel sometimes we are very close to God and that we are able to accomplish anything and other times we feel his absence and we wonder where God is when we are undergoing challenges of life? We feel God is angry with us! It is during these moments of challenges, ups and down that we have desert moment and they are good they help us grow spiritually. If we don't give up.

The desert moment makes us **vulnerable to temptation.** The devil came to Jesus after 40 Days when he was vulnerable to physical hunger. He suggested to Jesus to turn **stones into bread, he too offered Jesus power and control over the earthly kingdom finally the devil told him to come floating down from the peak of the temple.** Basically Jesus temptation are to compromise his divine power with earthly powers of wealthy and authority. Don't we all face these temptation especially in our society these days. Temptation of **pride, power, faithfulnesses, marital infidelity, shrewd business**

**dealings, vocational dishonesty abusive relationship and political corruptions,** where do we stand as Christians in all these? The fact is that temptations regardless of whatever magnitude, are always with us and will always be with us.

Our Lord through his temptations has given us ways and means by standing firm with the scriptures and he overcoming his temptation through **prayer, fasting and ALMSGIVING.** The church has given us the corrective and **therapeutic season of lent with those three powerful tools and pillars** to counteract the temptations. How are we using these tools of prayer fasting and availability to those who are in need. These tools are like **spiritual antibiotic or vaccination to counteract the temptations and virus of evil.**

The season of Lent calls us to **repentance and change of heart thus changing our life. it is a call to conversion, rekindle our faith, accept and overcome our selves with inner transformation,** the Ashes given shouldn't be only external manifestation but must be sign of repentance and humility. **Let us submit ourselves to God to renew us this period of Lent this year.**

**HAPPY REFLECTIVE LENT SEASON.**