

## **FR.TK.REFLECTIONS FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 2026:**

### **THE TESTING:**

The readings of today are a study in contrast. The main one is between Adam who was **deceived and Jesus** the new Adam **who chases the deceiver from his presence**. First reading takes us back to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. It tells us of the very first sin, **the original sin, this is story of every sin about every person loss of innocence**. We have all experienced this, we had time of clear conscience, then comes temptation and the urge to taste the forbidden fruit, to experience the unknown, perhaps your first drink, smoke theft, or infidelity. The promise like Adam and Eve is that we will become like God it promises one thing **but delivers something else hence we experience the fall. an attempt to be like God without God.**

The temptation of Jesus as it is commonly called is a **testing of his faith to God, his personal integrity, a testing of his suitability for his mission**. The first temptation to **turn stones to bread**, this is a lure in a society driven by consumption Jesus tells the devil through the scripture which the devil was very familiar with **man does not live on bread alone**. There is more to us than what we **eat, drink, wear or drive**. Giving up something for Lent is not self punishment but about freedom that liberates the soul thus making space for God.

The second temptation is to **jump from the temple this is like compelling Gods do something for us**. Going for a quick fix, cheap Grace, instant result just microwave spirituality Jesus tells the devil through scripture, *\*you shall not tempt the Lord your God\*. Must*

*understand one fact there is no **express lane to redemption without repentance, no bypass** we simple must go full blast and the tools are very well stipulated during this period of Lent of **prayer, fasting and ALMSGIVING.***

*The third temptation is a lure to seek **power and control** which is an illusion of fulfillment. The fulfillment comes only from serving God through other people. Jesus survived all these temptation thus qualifying for the mission ahead of him of saving the humanity. In term of our humanity, we are tested or tempted Satan will always strike through our weakness and the scripture tells us that we are weak. He tempts us through **greed, power, money, fame and talents.** Talents can easily make us feel we are **better than others, know it all, it can make us raise above others. Talents are great moral responsibility given to us** that we may serve others but it is easy to misuse them selfishly. Jesus says\* much will be required if the person entrusted with much and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more\* (Lk. 12:48). How are you using the talents entrusted to you?*

Lent is a period when we face the temptations of **consumption (stones to bread), instant spirituality, (tempting God) and temptation of power and control** (the kingdom of the world). we can always fall like Adam and Eve or **know victory in Jesus.** Let's enter to this period with confidence and trust that we are not alone, Christ wa tempted and managed we can manage through **his Grace. FRUITFUL LENT TO ALL:**