



## 22 February 2026 First Sunday in Lent - A

### Introduction:

On this First Sunday of Lent, we remember how sin entered through Adam's disobedience, yet grace overflows through Christ's obedience. Tempted in the desert, Jesus chose the Father's will. In this Eucharist, we approach the new Tree of Life, receiving strength to resist temptation and live in faithful surrender to God.

### Readings:

<b>First Reading:</b>	Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
<b>Psalm:</b>	Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 12-13, 14 & 17
<b>Second Reading:</b>	Romans 5:12-19
<b>Gospel:</b>	Matthew 4:1-11

### Prayers of the Faithful

**Celebrant:** As we begin Lent, trusting in Christ who conquered temptation and restored grace, let us humbly present our prayers to the Father. Our response is:

**Merciful father, hear our prayer**

- For the Holy Father, Bishops, Clergy, Religious and the Lay Faithful, that during Lent they may lead all people from sin to grace, proclaiming Christ's victory over temptation and death, we pray to the Lord.
- For world leaders, that they may resist selfish ambition and choose justice, truth, and peace, guiding nations toward unity and respect for human dignity, we pray to the Lord.
- For our parish community, that this Lenten season may renew our hearts through prayer, fasting, and charity, strengthening us against temptation, we pray to the Lord.
- For our children and youth, that they may resist harmful influences, grow in obedience to God's Word, and choose life-giving paths, we pray to the Lord.
- For those burdened by illness, addiction, or temptation, that Christ's grace may strengthen them in weakness and restore hope and freedom, we pray to the Lord.
- For our personal prayers we offer with faith, that God may bless us and strengthen us (silent pause .....), we pray to the Lord.

### Celebrant:

Father of mercy, strengthen us during this Lenten journey; may Christ's obedience guide us from sin to grace and lead us to Easter joy. Amen.

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