

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! / No one lives on bread alone, / but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. / Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Mt 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands, in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these,' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



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Breaking Open the Word

SELF-CENTRED SEDUCTIONS

As is traditional on the First Sunday of Lent, the Gospel passage is about Jesus' temptation, an appropriate theme as we begin our own journey in Lent and begin to explore our own seductive temptations. We are all prone to these, and Matthew presents us with a Jesus similarly tested: an egoism exclusive of others especially God, the attraction to power and the seduction of wealth. These temptations are crafted in Old Testament terminology and imagery, particularly present in the Book of Deuteronomy, and ones that Israel experienced in the wilderness.

In today's story, Satan enters the scene, originally a member of the heavenly court (see Job) but, by the time of Matthew, God's adversary who tests the intention and fidelity of those who belong to God. Jesus is his target in three temptations. The first is about food and the temptation to break covenantal fidelity to God due to hunger. The second seeks to question Jesus' conviction of God's care of him. From the parapet of the temple, Jesus is told to throw himself from it, and test God's protection of him. In the third, with a vision of all the earth's kingdoms and seduction of wealth, Jesus is tempted to change his allegiance from God to Satan.

Matthew's point is quite clear writing to a Jewish audience most familiar with Israel's desert failures: Jesus is an authentic Jew who belongs to the Israelite people, knows and experiences their temptations, but resists the seduction of egoism, power and wealth in fidelity to God and his covenantal relationship. In this first week of Lent, today's Gospel invites us to reflect on those self-centred seductions that may compromise our true relationship to God.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT / A

22 FEBRUARY 2026

FIRST READING

Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17. R. v. 3

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. / In your compassion blot out my offence. / O wash me more and more from my guilt / and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**
2. My offences truly I know them; / my sin is always before me. / Against you, you alone



have I sinned; / what is evil in your sight I have done. **R.**

3. A pure heart create for me, O God, / put a steadfast spirit within me. / Do not cast me away from your presence, / nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**
4. Give me again the joy of your help: / with a spirit of fervour sustain me. / O Lord, open my lips / and my mouth shall declare your praise. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 5:12, 17-19.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned.

It is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

Longer form 5:12-19



ST PETER CHANEL CATHOLIC PARISH

Under the Pastoral Care of the Claretian Missionaries

848 Ballarat Road, Deer Park 3023

Parish Priest: Fr. Felimon Libot, CMF

Asst. Priests: Fr. John Pham, CMF; Fr. Luis F. Rey, CMF

Parish Secretary - Rosemarie Mendoza

Bookkeeper - Rosa Millan

Tel: 93633132 Email: deerpark@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam.org.au/deerpark

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm



ADORATION CHAPEL

"The Master is here and wants to see you" *John 11:28*

Adorers are needed for these hours:

Tuesday: 3am, 4am, 11pm

Wednesday: 4pm

Saturday: 4pm

Contact: Lucy Sgro 0424056823

DEATH REMEMBRANCE: Emmanuel Attard, Zenaïda Tagala, Michael Grima, Dalila Magdayo, Gemma, Lily Teresa, Alex & Tony Cordina, Neil Goerama, Gulia & Ludganda Zammit, Lolita Bravo, Vella, Gauci, Cin & Burg Families, Nene Del Mar, Joe Muscat, Mary Camilleri, Carmen Caruana, Sessarego family, Florentina & Igmidio Reyes, Iris & Roy, Joseph Grima, All Souls in Purgatory

RECENT DEATH: Anthony Besternwitch, Stephen Stolik, Roko & Anica Koprivanac, Mark Gocotano, Benii Noriega, Vincent Paul Onuoha, Heather Magdalene Fernandes, Tony Farrugia

SPECIAL INTENTION: DeZusa Family, Jamie Rene & Family, Rick & Olga Hughes

HEALING: Kathleen, Ian Ing Sin, Nuni Sim, Jaïden Lay, Wendy Lay, I Peng Lay, Domingas Correia Martins, Reynaldo Salvador, Jack Berro, Namalee, Rizalina Dayrit, Frankie Cilia, Dune, Fatima

THANKSGIVING: Angelo Snell, Rolly & Marilyn Abella, Errol & Jovita Daniels

THIS WEEK: 22 February 2026 - First Sunday of Lent - A

	7:00pm	7:00am	8:30am	10:00am	12:00pm	6:00pm
Commentator 1st Reader 2nd Reader	Della J Antonietta C AJ	Richelle C Telmo E RJ Baculo	Mario N Rukmal M Lorraine B	Nelissa D Teresa Tan Sheila D	Flora S Evelyn N Gloria T	Youth Group
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Nick S L Grace S L Marie E Ernesto Co	Richelle C Allister R	Roland D Dulce T Ferdinand T Thi Pham	Nonie G Anna C Don C Cathryn D	Jacqueline R Emman C Candida D S Kirk D G R	Teo C Joe C Diana T Vernon A
Altar Servers	George E Light of Jesus (LJ)	Tony Cilia AHFI	Adrian D A Mt Horeb	Henry Fawaz CFCA	Raphael P Rey S Anielle Mary Ann Exemmoz	Jejicho, Jude Jherzielie MWF with UHM Sisters
Choirs						

NEXT WEEK: 1 March 2026 - Second Sunday of Lent - A

	7:00pm	7:00am	8:30am	10:00am	12:00pm	6:00pm
Commentator 1st Reader	Grace S L Colleen D B Gregg S	Allister R Richelle C Telmo E	Dulce T Kumudu M Hilda D S	Eva O Mariam Julie Ann M	Diana T Kirk D G R Tami M	Youth Group
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Royson D Royson R Joan S Nick S L	Stefan P Allister R	Ferdinand T Roland D Cedric B Ronald D	Lidia L Joe M Eva O Froilan M	Rafael V Gloria T Oliver T Jacqueline R	Michael D Vernon A Joe C Ric M
Altar Servers	George E	Tony Cilia	Adrian D A Mt Horeb	Henry Fawaz Emmaus	Raphael P Rey S Anielle Mary Ann CFCA	Jejicho, Jude Jherzielie Samoan DVM
Choirs	Harmonico Filipino	Butch Eleazar				

A VOCATION VIEW

Jesus said: "Come after me and I will make you fishers of men." Today he could say: "I will make was you mechanics of souls; doctors of wounded hearts, counsellors of broken families; clowns in a joyless society." But regardless, Come.

New to our Parish? We welcome you and your family to St Peter Chanel Parish - Deer Park. If you wish to be a member of our Parish please come to the Parish office during office hours to register.

SPC Sunday School. Sundays at 11am to 12pm Marian House. For Grade 6 (six) and below. Contact: Sr Catherine 0425157651

"Animo" SPC Youth Group.

Tuesdays, 6:30pm - 8:00pm, Karmel Hall SPC Parish Hall) For Grade 7 (seven) and up. Contact: Sr Lawrence 0405190286

Reminder . A friendly reminder to

our Commentators, Readers, Extra Ordinary Ministers of H.C., Altar Servers. If you are in the weekend roster please Come **20 minutes** before mass and please sign in the log book. If you have other concern please contact George Etienne 0404813957 (Lectors/ Commentators, EO Ministers of HC Coordinator)

IMPORTANT REMINDER.

A gentle reminder to all, to please **DO NOT LEAVE** any valuables in your car and ensure your car doors are locked. Thank you.