

LIVING FAITH

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 18, 2024



THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

Mark 1:12-15

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'



REFLECTING ON THE GOSPEL

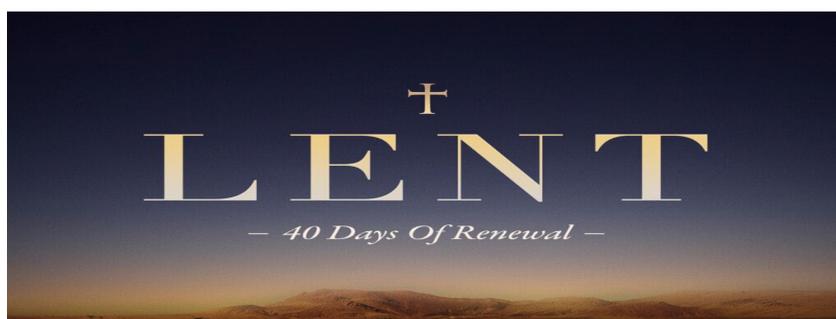
The Gospel tells us that Jesus spent forty days in the desert. There, he was tempted. The Gospel of Mark does not tell us the exact nature of these temptations, although we know from other Gospel accounts what these were. But there is wisdom in the way that Mark tells the story, for in it, we can perhaps see ourselves. All of us experience temptation. Each one of us experiences it somewhat differently. The Gospel today assures us that Jesus has been there, too. Jesus experienced all that we experience, except for sin. To be tempted is not to sin. When we are tempted, we can turn to Jesus and ask for strength, love, guidance and support.

In Lent, we are called to conversion, to turn more and more completely toward God and God's command of love. Today, we can ask for Jesus to accompany us through our personal wilderness.



TALKING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- How do you ask Jesus to accompany you on your journey through the wilderness?
- Who can you look to as a guide or companion?



The Good News

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" Mark 1:14-15 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



D	Q	Ó	U	V	A	G	R	Z	C	O	Ü	N	É	X	S	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Ñ	Ú	Á	Y	H	I	K	L	Í	J	W	B	P	F	E	T	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	

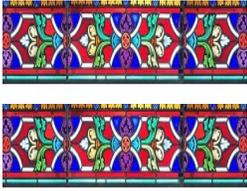
- 27-11-22-13 _____
- 30-8-23-16-11-13 _____
- 27-32-16-4-16 _____
- 7-11-11-1 _____
- 13-32-28-16 _____
- 24-23-13-7-1-11-17 _____
- 8-32-30-32-13-33 _____
- 29-32-25-23-32-5-32 _____

GOOD	KINGDOM	NEWS	BELIEVE
JOHN	PRISON	JESUS	REPENT

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Loving God!

We believe that we are one great human family.
You call us to walk together and to recognize the dignity of every person.

We believe that we share a Common Home.
You call us to care for all of Creation.

We believe in the sanctity of life.
You call us to treat all people with kindness and compassion in the way of Christ.

We believe that you reign in justice, peace and joy.
You call us to put your Word into practice to build a more just, humane and joyful world.

Lord Jesus!

Guide us to be in solidarity with the joys, hopes, sorrows and anxieties of all people, especially those impoverished by unjust socio-economic and political systems.

Help us to follow your footsteps, to be bearers of the Good News.

Holy Spirit!

Inspire us to find new and creative ways of responding to your calls.

Strengthen us in our commitment to Create Hope in our world.

Amen.

Week 1: February 18

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada: a movement of solidarity

Established in 1967, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada is the official international solidarity organization of the Catholic Church in Canada.

We address the root causes of poverty, oppression, and inequality by working with partners in the Global South and by mobilizing Canadians in the common struggle for justice and dignity. We champion women and social movements as key agents of lasting change.

Our transformative work is possible thanks to the generosity and support of our members and Canadians who stand by us.

Join the movement of over 12,000 members and help us bring our campaigns to life in your community. Visit devp.org/membership.

<https://devp.org/en/>

THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

LOOKING AT THE SYNTHESIS REPORT- DELVING INTO PART I

A CHURCH OUT OF EVERY TRIBE, TONGUE, PEOPLE AND NATION

PROPOSALS

“

Dear friends, we need to listen to the message of the God who comes to us; we need to discern the signs of his presence and to accept his Word by walking in his footsteps. Listen, discern, journey: these three verbs can describe our faith journey.

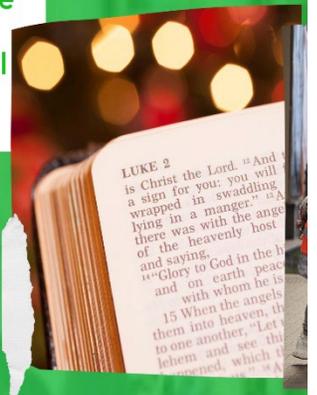
Francis

21-12-2023



ENGAGE PERSONALLY

In this Christmas season, invite a friend or colleague to your celebrations and explain what the liturgical celebration of Christmas means to you.



ENGAGE WITH YOUR FAMILY



Try to create a list of 10 words that should be used and avoided when discussing migrants.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY



Invite those who follow a different religious tradition to your community to discuss one of their holidays or rituals.

