

Facing Temptation First Sunday of Lent (Year A)

What a painful experience for Jesus. If you really think about this, it can be difficult to understand...at least at first.

Jesus, the Son of God, the Messiah, the Creator of the Universe, the great I AM, the second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, is in the desert, suffering for forty days while He is tempted by the devil and living among the wild beasts. Why in the world would He do this and why would God the Father allow it to happen? And what's more, it says that it was actually the Holy Spirit who drove Jesus into the desert to experience this painful 40 days!

Perhaps we rarely reflect upon all that Jesus endured and all that He suffered in His human life. Sure, we think about the Crucifixion at times but even that is often overshadowed by our knowledge that He rose. It's easy to miss the suffering He went through throughout His life. And it's easy to miss the reason He went through all that He did go through in His

So what's it all about? It's about love for us all. It's about God loving us so much that He was willing to endure every form of hardship and human suffering that enters into our lives. It's about God being able to look us square in the face and say, "Yes, I do understand what you're going through...I really do." This is love. It's a love so deep that God Himself was willing to experience our weaknesses and pain so that He would be able to meet us there, console us in the midst of whatever we are going through, and gently lift us out of it to the new life He has in store for us. Again, this is Love!

The Spirit "led" (Matthew's version) and even "drove" (Mark's version) Jesus out into the desert. This was a way of telling us that this experience was the plan and will of God. It wasn't something imposed upon Jesus by some strange happenstance. It wasn't bad luck or an unfortunate and meaningless human suffering. No, it was suffering for a purpose. Suffering with an intention. And the intention was, in part, to experience and embrace all that we experience and must embrace.

Temptation in life is real. It's the result of our fallen human nature. It comes from our weakness but also from the evil one. Temptation can be a heavy burden and cause heavy emotional and psychological pain. And when the temptation is given in to, it causes an even deeper spiritual pain. Jesus never gave in to the temptations in the desert, nor did He give in to temptations at any other time in His life. But He endured them and suffered them

This tells us that He can be our strength and inspiration in the midst of whatever we are tempted with each and every day. Some days we may feel the loneliness and isolation of one who is driven into the desert of our sins. We may feel as though the wild beasts of our disordered passions are getting the best of us. We may feel as though the evil one is having his way with us. Well, Jesus felt this way, also. And He freely allowed Himself to experience this in His humanity. It was the will of the Father and the working of the Holy Spirit that drove Him to this experience.

For these reasons, it is Jesus Himself who is able to meet you in this desert within. He is there, waiting for you, looking for you, calling to you. He is there in the midst of anything and everything you may be going through. And it is He, the One who defeated this desert temptation, who will gently guide you out. He went to the desert to meet you and to bring you back. And just as the angels ministered to Jesus in this desert, so also does He send those angels to minister to you.

So whether your "desert" is only a slight agitation in life right now, or if it's a struggle against complete despair. Jesus wants to meet you and bring you out. He conquered the desert once and for all and He is able to conquer any desert in your life, also.

My precious and crucified Lord, I offer You this Lent with total abandonment and trust. I offer you my prayers, sacrifices and my very life this day. I pray that this Lent will be fruitful. May it be a time through which Your mercy is poured in abundance into my soul, and those of all Your faithful. Dearest Lord, help me to especially see my sin, this Lent. Give me courage and strength to confess my sins, and to turn from them with all my heart. I thank You for holding nothing back, giving Your life to the last drop of blood. I offer You my life as a sacrfice, trusting in Your mercy with every offering. Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me a sinner. Jesus I trust in You. Amen.



Prayer

My temperate and courageous Lord, You confronted all temptation with courage and strength. You fasted throughout the forty days and forty nights so as to teach us how to navigate the ups and downs of life. Please give me the virtues of temperance and courage, and bestow the Holy Spirit upon me so that I may follow You into the desert of my own life.

Jesus, I trust in You.

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Forty Days and Forty Nights in the Desert

"Forty" is a significant number. In Scripture, it is used more than 145 different times. For example, the rain during the Great Flood lasted forty days and forty nights. Each time Moses went up Mount Sinai, he remained there for forty days and nights. The Israelites wandered in the desert for forty years. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples for forty days before ascending into Heaven. And there are many other uses of "forty" throughout the Bible. Interestingly, forty is even significant within human nature, in that we develop within our mother's womb for forty weeks before being born. The "forty" that we commemorate today is the forty days and forty nights that our Lord spent in the desert being tempted by the devil while He fasted and prayed. Forty is used to symbolize a time of testing, purification, trial or probation. For that reason, it should also be seen as a symbol of your entire life here on earth. In Saint Matthew's version of Jesus' temptation in the desert, He specifically uses the wording "forty days and forty nights." Saint Bede, in commenting upon this, points out that this period of time not only symbolizes our entire lives, but the "days" represent the many graces and blessings we receive, while the 'nights" represent the crosses we endure.

Quote of the Week

"The devil tempts that he may ruin; God tests that He may crown"

Gaint (Ambrose .



WELCOME TO SACRED HEART PARISH HINDMARSH-FINDON

Website: www.sacredheartparishhindmarsh.com.au Facebook: www.facebook.com/sacredhearthindmarshparish

> IN THE CHARISM OF THE HEART OF CHRIST 'May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved'





26 February 2023



First Gunday of

Year A

Responsorial Psalm

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Gospel Acclamation

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!

Today's Readings:

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

Ps 50: 3-6, 12-14, 17

Romans 5: 12-19

Matthew 4: 1-11

Mass Intentions

6.00pm Vigil

Parish

9.00am SHC

Guillermina Mujica Morales (1 month)

11:00am OLM

Robert Aloe (1st) Frances Vincent Caruana (anniversary) and Family

Our Churches

Sacred Heart Church (SHC)

252 Port Road, Hindmarsh

Our Lady of the Manger (OLM)

176 Crittenden Road, Findon

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

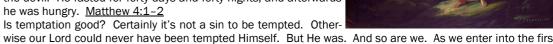
As a people who believe and trust in the love of God for us, revealed in the heart of Jesus, we live out this love in a welcoming and inclusive community that provides life-giving support and service to all people.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR MASS

\Diamond	Tuesday	28 Feb	12:15 pm	Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh
\Diamond	Wednesday	01 Mar	6:00 pm	Stations at Our Lady of the Manger Church (OLM) Findon & Candlelight Mass
\Diamond	Friday	03 Mar	9:15 am	Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church (OLM) Findon
\Diamond	Friday	03 Mar	6:30 pm	Stations at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh & First Friday Mass
\Diamond	Saturday	04 Mar	6:00 pm	Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church (OLM) Findon
\Diamond	Sunday	05 Mar	9:00 am	Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh
\Diamond	Sunday	05 Mar	11:00 am	Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church (OLM) Findon
\Diamond	Sunday	05 Mar	5:00 pm	Latin Mass at Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Hindmarsh

"Be Gone Gatan!" Facing Temptation

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. Matthew 4:1-2



wise our Lord could never have been tempted Himself. But He was. And so are we. As we enter into the first full week of Lent, we are given the opportunity to ponder the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Temptation is never from God. But God does permit us to be tempted. Not so that we fall, but so that we

grow in holiness. Temptation forces us to rise up and make a choice either for God or for the temptation. Though mercy and forgiveness are always offered when we fail, the blessings that await those who overcome temptation are numerous. Jesus' temptation did not increase His holiness, but it did afford Him the opportunity to manifest His perfection within His human nature. It is that perfection we seek and His perfection that we must strive to imitate as we face the temptations of life. There are many "blessings" that can come from enduring the temptations of the evil one. Firstly, enduring a temptation and conquering it helps us see the strength of God in our lives. Secondly, temptation humbles us, stripping away our pride and our struggle of thinking we are self-reliant and self-made. Thirdly, there is great value in completely rejecting the devil. This not only robs him of his ongoing power to deceive us, but it also clarifies our vision of who he is so that we can continue to reject him and his works. Fourthly, overcoming temptation clearly and definitively strengthens us in every virtue. Lastly, the devil would not tempt us if he were not concerned about our holiness. Thus, we should see temptation as a sign that the evil one is losing hold of our lives.

Overcoming temptation is like acing an exam, winning a contest, completing a difficult project or accomplishing some challenging feat. We should take great joy in overcoming temptation in our lives, realising that this strengthens us to the core of our being. As we do so, we must also do so in humility, realising that we have not accomplished this on our own but only by the grace of God in our lives.

The opposite is true also. When we fail a particular temptation over and over again, we get discouraged and tend to lose the little virtue we have. Know that any and every temptation from the evil one can be overcome. Nothing is too great. Nothing is too difficult. Humble yourself in confession, seek the help of a confidant, fall on your knees in prayer, trust in the almighty power of God. Overcoming temptation is not only possible, it is a glorious and transforming experience of grace in your life.

Reflect, today, upon Jesus facing the devil in the desert after spending 40 days of fasting. He faced every temptation of the evil one so as to assure us that if we but unite ourselves completely to Him in His human ! nature, so we also will have His strength to overcome anything and everything the vile devil throws our way.

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Glations of the Cross during Lent will be held on:

Wednesdays at Our Lady of the Manger, 6:00pm | Fridays at Sacred Heart Church, 6:30pm

PARISH OFFICE | PHONE 08 8346 3901

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday | 10:00am-2:00pm Please Note: If the office is unattended, please leave a message and we will return your call ASAP 29 Grange Rd., West Hindmarsh | Mailing address: PO Box 34, Welland 5007

> Email: shparish@shphf.com.au Parish Priest - Father Lancy D'Silva CSC Assistant Priest - Father Santhosh Nazareth CSC



February 2023

1st Sunday of Lent

Commissioning Mass SJSH, 9am Sacred Heart Church

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 6:30pm SHC Hall 28 Feb

March 2023

Liturgy Meeting 6:45pm OLM 01 Mar 05 Mar 2nd Sunday of Lent

Sacramental Presentation Mass 12 Mar 3rd Sunday of Lent

17 Mar Feast of St Patrick, Bishop 19 Mar 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare)

20 Mar Solemnity of St Joseph, Husband of Mary 25 Mar Solemnity of The Annunciation of the Lord

26 Mar 5th Sunday of Lent

April 2023

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion 02 Apr 06 Apr Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper 07 Apr Good Friday of the Lord's Passion 08 Apr **Holy Saturday**

09 Apr Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

10 Apr Monday in the Octave of Easter 16 Apr 2nd Sunday of Easter **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

23 Apr 3rd Sunday of Easter

25 Apr **ANZAC Day** 26 Apr

Feast of St Mark, Evangelist 28 Apr St Peter Chanel, priest and Martyr

29 Apr St Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor of the Church

Mary MacKillop Precinct - 2023 Events Program

There is something for everyone in our 2023 Events program. Please visit https:// adelaide.catholic.org.au/__files/f/148115/4.MMK%20Precinct%20-%202023% 20Events%20Programme.pdf

Retreat Walk - Semaphore

Sunday February 26, 9.30am - 4pm - Organised by Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia, this contemplative walk is along the beaches of Semaphore. This is a (mostly) silent walk beginning with prayer and ending with shared reflection. The 7km walk is graded as 'easy' and is suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Cost is \$25, meet at the carpark near the Semaphore Surf Life Saving Club, Point Malcolm Reserve, 343 Military Road, Semaphore Park. Enquiries: 1300 392 636 or $\underline{info@jisa.org.au} \ Register \ at \ \underline{https://jisa.org.au/retreat/retreat-walk-adelaide-}$ south-australia/

Sacraments of Initiation Date claimer

Workshop Monday February 27, 2023 - 9.30am-2.30pm at CEO Conference Centre, George St, Thebarton. All involved in Sacraments of Initiation of Children are encouraged to attend. For registration please contact Sr Jenny Seal, Family Faith Formation Advisor E: jenny.seal@cesa.catholic.edu.au

On the Journey Together - Western Deanery Gathering For Leaders

Archbishop Patrick O'Regan will share some insights to help us to reflect upon our baptismal mandate to be leaders in our communities so to become a truly 'Synodal Church'. Saturday March 18, 10am - 12 noon in Maximilian Catholic Church Ottoway - 85 Rosewater Terrace, Ottoway. All parish and school leaders (but not exclusively) are encouraged to attend. Contact your parish priest/principal for further information and to register your attendance. Organisation Committee of the Western Deanery - Fr Peter Sheedy, Fr Michael Trainor and Elena Moffa. Phone Elena on 0414 993 429 or E: elena.moffa@bigbond.com.

National Consultation on Sports and Ministry

Tuesday February 28 from 6.30pm to 8.30pm

The Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry (BCELM) invites Catholics to register for an online, national sports consultation, scheduled for Tuesday February 28, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm CST. The consultation will include presentations from Dr Pérez de Camino, head of the Church and Sport Office in the Vatican's Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life as well Australian researchers and practitioners specialising in sports ministry. Participants will engage in group discussion on ways the Church can become a protagonist in the experience and culture of sport in Australia. www.nce.catholic.org.au/sport.

Vincentian Spirituality Conference - Lefevre Catholic Community

Vincentian Spirituality Presentation with Teresa Lynch, Training and Liaison officer supporting Vincentian Conferences across South Australia, will unpack key elements of Vincentian Spirituality through a presentation to be held on Sunday March 19 from 4pm-5pm at the Lefevre Catholic Community Meeting Rooms, 253 Military Road, Semaphore. Enquiries to Fr Roderick O'Brien on P: 8449 6378. A certificate of attendance is available for professional development. Please register with Fr Roderick before the event.

The Spirit of the Liturgy

Get a new understanding of what our Catholic liturgy is all about as you explore it over five weeks with Dr Jenny O'Brien (Office for Worship). 7-9pm, Thursdays, March 2-30, Cathedral Hall, Wakefield St. Cost: \$50. To enrol, CLICK HER contact worship@adelaide.catholic.org.au P: 8210 8130 by Tuesday February 28

St Francis Xavier's' Cathedral on Wednesdays March 1, 8 and 15.

The Archdiocese of Adelaide with the Adelaide Fringe invite you to attend the Lunchtime Organ Recitals at the Cathedral. The recitals are on Wednesdays March 1, 8 and 15 beginning at 1pm. Entry is free. All welcome. Ph:8210 8155.

Parish Fundraising Committee

Are you interested in helping your community? Everyone is invited and welcome to join the Parish Fundraising Committee. If you can spare a couple of hours once a month to help plan and raise funds towards our much needed Community Centre. please contact Sandra Bahlij 0402894613 with your email address or sms. Thank you to those wonderful women who have volunteered already. We need a balance though —If there are any **men** who would like to volunteer, your help would be much appreciated. Please help us to support this worthy cause! We need you!

Are you able to help raise some much needed funds for our Community Centre? If you can spare a couple of hours of your time we would really appreciate your help in ushering cars into the SHC Carpark before Soccer Matches. Please arrive 1 hour before the game begins, no need to stay for the whole match! Some exciting games coming up include the FIFA Women's World Cup! See the table below for times. To help, please contact Sandra Bahlij 0402894613 . Thank you!

	Start Time	Teams					
March							
Fri 3rd	7:15pm	Adelaide United vs Melbourne City					
Fri 17th	4:40pm	Adelaide United vs Newcastle Jets					
Double Hea	der	Adelaide United vs Wellington Phoenix					
April							
Fri 7th	4:30pm	Adelaide United vs Sydney FC					
Sun 16th	4:30pm	Adelaide United vs Western United FC					
Sat 29th	4:30pm	Adelaide United vs Central Coast Mariners					
July							
		FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 Brazil vs Group C					
Mon 24th	8:30pm	Winner					
		FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 Group B Winner vs					
Fri 28th	8:30pm	China PR					
		FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 Morocco vs Korea					
Sun 30th	2:00pm	Republic					
August							
Tue 1st	8:30pm	FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 England vs China PR					
Tue 8th	8:30pm	FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 Round of 16					

Heartfelt thanks go to **Brandon, Henry and Sharee** for the 'lucky money' donated from the Chinese New Year. \$150 was donated towards our Community Centre. The red envelope it was presented in symbolises good luck and wishes for the year ahead!

Also, many thanks to Annette, Brandon, Henry and Tuong

for last week's efforts with the Carpark - we raised \$510 towards our Community Centre. A big thankyou to *Kath* for operating our Visa machine in the heat, it was much appreciated. If anybody is interested in helping at any time, please text Sandra (see notice above).

Lent program

You are invited to a different Lent experience. Based on a contemporary understanding of the Easter story, this program explores the place of the Gospel narratives in the development of faith and a mature spirituality. As an experience of Catholics travelling together on the Way of Jesus, it will deepen your relationship with Him and broaden your spiritual vision. Each session will include prayer, reading, reflection, sharing and discussion. Presenter: Kevin Liston. For further information and to register: E: Kevin.liston1@gmail.com M: 0411 197 829.



Our parish community invites you to join us next Gaturday, 4th March at Our Lady of the Manger, Findon after the 6:00pm Vigil Mass for a light supper. Please feel free to bring a plate to share. We will look at holding this every other month.

Overseas Placement Program Mission: Change their lives and yours.

Communities in Africa. Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. Explore 35 positions, see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know:

P: 02 9560 533 or M: 0422 472 567. Website: www.palms.org.au

Come and celebrate World Day of Prayer, Friday 3rd of World Day March 2023 at 1:30pm at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church Botting Street, Albert Park.

Enquiries to Lorraine on 8268 6864. All Welcome!

Tuesday 28th February 6:30pm In the Parish Hall Sacred Heart Church Hindmarsh

Parish Pastoral Council

Liturgy Meeting Wednesday 1st March 6:45pm In the Sacristy Our Lady of the Manger Findon



"Virtue is nothing without the trial of temptation, for there is no conflict without an enemy, no victory without strife." Pepe Lee the 1st

Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion / Lectors tion Forms for Parishes, Aged Care Facilities, Schools and Colleges

A meeting for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be held on March 21st at 6:30pm - 8pm in SHC Church

and for Lectors on March 28th at 6:30pm - 8pm in SHC Church

Gacramental Programme

Presentation Mass

Sunday March 5th Reconciliation - Confirmation - First Holy Communion

Children will be presented during Mass at 9am Sacred Heart Church

The Sacraments will be celebrated beginning August 12th 2023 with Nazareth Primary (Group 1) at Our Lady of the Manger Church Findon. Please contact the Parish Office on 8346 3901 or Email shparish@shphf.com.au if you still want to be involved but have missed the registration closing date.



Baptism

We welcome into our faith Community Anthony Vincenzo Korbis who celebrates the Sacrament of Baptism at Our Sacred Heart Church Hindmarsh this Sunday 26th February 2023.

Please keep Vincenzo and his family. in your prayers.

International Women's Day 2023 Wed 8th March

Uluru Statement of the Heart & Voice to Parliament Referendum

Leith Mynott, First Nations woman, and Kenise Neill, Sister of St Joseph, will facilitate a conversation on the Uluru

SA.Companions@sosj.org.au or 0417 871 904



PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion has begun. Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and For All Future Generations. We thank you for your generosity and support.

reflected inclusion and integrity and brought hope to others. Mary

MacKillop Precinct 4 High St Kensington at 7pm. Enquiries/registration:



Syria-Turkey Earthquake Disaster - Caritas Australia is supporting our partners to provide urgent humanitarian aid. aritas 🗠

The 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Turkey and Syria, leaving

thousands of people dead. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs

assistance. Your support to help those affected by this catastrophe is invaluable. Your generous donation means our partners in Turkey and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy. Visit: www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.



First Sunday of Lent

"Temptation in the desert"

The Temptation of Jesus

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.



HOLYCTWJQOFDCTD TYCELRZNOFGVILY EEOMWSWEQRVTIYF MVMYCTOSTMDVNMG PAMPVORPFAEAEXP TBABLNLIEDWLNIA ELNGHEDRXLAMHIU DCDDAMBIHSASXGT LUIMNZKTUURLNEH FIAWGZJRBONUQTO WPVBEFEUWYXGRHR GCLELJDCWHZERNI QXIASUTAHXSXGYT PXMFORTYYEEXUQY KINGDOMSDSPENZY

Spirit	devil	days	Jordan	stone	
Holy	live	angels	authority	worship	
desert	temple	command	bread	world	
tempted	forty	kingdoms	Jerusalem	hungry	

Rosary Prayer Group Come along and pray the Rosary with us, each Friday

morning after the 9:15 am Mass at Our Lady of the Manger Church. Weather permitting, we pray outside in the gardens, however during times of inclement weather, the Rosary is prayed inside the Church. All are welcome



Youth And Young Adults

The Catholic Office for Youth and Young Adults (COYYA) is hosting a Youth and Young Adults Ministry Leaders Retreat Day on March 18, 2023, 10am to 4pm at 116 George St, Thebarton (Catholic Education Office). 'New Horizons 2023' is a retreat day for those aged 18 - 35 involved in Catholic ministry for young people in schools, parishes, communities and movements. It's a great opportunity to gain formation, be introduced to resources and to connect with others involved in young people ministry in a relaxed and friendly environment. Coffee and tea, light snacks and lunch are provided. Spaces are limited! To register https://www.trybooking.com/ E: COYYAADL@cesa.catholic.edu.au or M: 0472 577 112.



Come and See Parish Youth Group Nazareth Secondary Campus 1 Hartley Rd, Flinders Park 7:30pm to 9pm Friday nights Run and supervised by the Preca Community.



