

Readings at Mass for the First Sunday of Lent (Year A)

FIRST READING

GENESIS 2.7-9; 3.1-7

A reading from the Book, Genesis

The Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, *'Did God actually say, "You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?"'* And the woman said to the serpent, *'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die."'* But the serpent said to the woman, *'You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.'* So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 51 (50). 3-4, 5-6B, 12-13, 14, 17; R. CF. V. 3A

**R. Have mercy on us, O Lord,
for we have sinned.**

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your merciful love; / according to your
great compassion, blot out my transgressions.

Wash me completely from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

My transgressions, 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.**

Create a pure heart for me, O God;
renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence;
take not your holy spirit from me. **R.**

Restore in me the joy of your salvation;
sustain in me a willing spirit.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. **R.**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 5.12-19

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned - for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for many.

And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**R. Praise to you, O Christ, King of
eternal glory!**

**Drop, drop, slow tears and bathe those
beauteous feet, Which brought from
heav'n the news and prince of peace. R.**

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 4.1-11

Jesus fasts for forty days, and is tempted

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

**Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

*The numbers of this evening's Entrance and Offertory
hymns are displayed on the boards on the pillars.*

This evening's incense is Desert Flower