**Note: Please leave this on the ambo, thanks.**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT.**

**Introduction**

Good Morning / Evening and welcome to the parish of Mary Immaculate Quakers Hill – Schofields.

In order in maintain a prayerful atmosphere; we request that all mobile phones be turn off or placed on silent.

Sin and temptation are the dominant themes of the readings for this first week of Lent. Indeed, they are regular themes in the season of Lent. However, the scripture passages throughout this season allow us the opportunity to think again about these themes and perhaps reconsider some traditional understandings of them.

Our Mass with be celebrate today by

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

#### FIRST Sunday OF LENT - Year A

#### MASS READINGS

#### FIRST READING (Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7)

*A reading from the book of Genesis*

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.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see 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 5:12-19)

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

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. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of ‘law-breaking’, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man’s fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man’s sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If 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.*

**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!

**GOSPEL (Mt 4:1-11)**

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

#### 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.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A**

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Priest: Let us pray that we may follow the example of Jesus who**

**emptied himself that he might render homage and obedience**

**to the Father.**

**Reader:** That Christians may make Lent an acceptable sign of salvation by turning away from sin and celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation

*We pray.*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That we may master ourselves and resist the temptations of possessions, prestige or pride, and power.

*We pray.*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That our parish community will find courage to confess our sins and repent in the Lord.

*We pray.*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That our sick brothers and sisters may experience the Lord’s strength and healing in our tender, loving care for them.

*We pray.*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our beloved dead, especially those mentioned in our parish bulletin: may they receive the light, happiness, and peace in the. Lord, and rejoice in his glory forever.

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** **Together we now pray our Parish Community prayer for Lent.**

**All:** Loving God, During the sacred season of Lent, bring us closer to you.

Prepare a place in our homes and hearts for silence and solitude, so that we may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.

Help us to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul, remind us of the grace of simplicity.

Enlarge our hearts so that we give to those in need and, in doing so,

re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.

May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle our love and faith in you.

**Priest: Loving Father, you shower us with mercy and compassion. Hear our prayers and help us to resist temptation and enter into your forgiveness and mercy during this Lenten season.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

**All: Amen.**