

Gospel Enquiry The Temptation of Jesus



Gospel Reading – Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.

He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. The devil said to him, *“If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.”* Jesus answered, *“It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’”* The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, *“I will give you all their authority and splendour; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. If you worship me, it will all be yours.”* Jesus answered, *“It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”* The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. *“If you are the Son of God,”* he said, *“throw yourself down from here. For it is written:*

“He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”

Jesus answered, *“It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”* When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

SEE:

- Can someone describe what the “wilderness” in the story might be like?
- Why do you think Jesus was led out into the wilderness to face temptation? Describe how He might have been tempted?
- Can you think of a situation where you have been tempted to do wrong?

JUDGE:

- What do you think it means to be “full of the Holy Spirit”? Why do you think this led Jesus into the wilderness?
- What do you think Jesus means by *“Man shall not live on bread alone”*? What difference is Jesus making between the physical and the spiritual?
- How easy is it to keep our faith alive and strong? What makes it more difficult?

ACT:

- How can we avoid temptation?
- How can we stay true to what God wants from us in today’s world? Who else can help us to do this? What can we do to support each other to do this?
- What can we promise to do during Lent in response to the example of Jesus?