


**First Sunday  
of Lent**  
February 22, 2026

**One does not live  
by bread alone!**

*Acabamos de pedirle a Dios (ORACION COLECTA) que nos ilumine para progresar constantemente en el conocimiento del misterio de Cristo, porque la liturgia de hoy nos introduce en ese misterio al presentarnos a Jesús como el nuevo Adán, la cabeza de la humanidad restaurada en la amistad con Dios (SEGUNDA LECTURA). La primera pareja humana cedió ante la tentación e introdujo el pecado en el mundo (PRIMERA LECTURA); pero Jesús venció al tentador (EVANGELIO), ofreciendo su vida y salvando al hombre del pecado y de la muerte al brindarle la vida eterna.*

 **Masses For The Week**

**sab 21 Vigilia del I Domingo de Cuaresma**  
04:30 pm Missa Pro Populo

**Sun 22 I Sunday of Lent**  
11:30 am +Sara Romero (Her Daughter)  
+Gilbert Vidaurri (His Mother)  
+Candido Lopez, Jr. (His Children)  
+Josefina & Ramon Lopez (Herminia Torres)  
+Natalia Villarreal (Herminia Torres)  
Emily Meza – Her Birthday (Collazo Family)

**Mon 23 NO MASS**

**Tue 24 Lenten Weekday**  
08:00 am +Juanita Garcia (Herminia Torres)

**Wed 25 Lenten Weekday**  
08:00 am +Esperanza Cortez (Herminia Torres)

**Thu 26 Lenten Weekday**  
08:00 am +Ramiro & Concepcion Torres (Herminia Torres)

**Fri 27 Lenten Weekday**  
08:00 am For the Health of Lucio Garcia, Jr. (Fr. Nolasco Hinojosa)

**Sat 28 Lenten Weekday**  
08:00 am +Ricardo Torres (Herminia Torres)

**The Sanctuary Candle**



**This Week will be Burning in for  
Emily Meza in Thanksgiving (Collazo Family)**

**Good News!**  
February 22, 2026  
*First Sunday of Lent (A)*  
Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 /  
Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 / Matthew 4:1-11  
MIGUEL DULICK

**The account of the temptations could be presented as a comical play.** Pope Francis insisted, “Don’t talk to the devil!” Indeed, Jesus does not engage in dialogue with Satan, much less any negotiation or any business. Stones become bread? Jesus may have fasted for forty days, but he’s had plenty to eat—“every word that comes forth from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). Nor will Jesus “test” his Father by jumping off the “parapet of the temple” (like the bell tower of a gothic church). (See Matthew 5-7.) You don’t play God, and you don’t play with God. Satan really beclowns himself with the last temptation—promising the whole world if Jesus would just take a knee? No one would fall for that, would they?

Except—most of us. We’d do the bread; we’d do the jump; we’d definitely do the world! Look at the first reading, from Genesis. Adam and Eve give up paradise for a piece of fruit! It’s a sad story because Eve does chat with the serpent, answering questions, allowing for a different point of view. But, as they say on Facebook, Satan “destroys” her! And Adam, too. If they didn’t sew fig leaves for each other, the whole story would be unbearable. Even as they realize their sin, there is a little tenderness.

Saint Paul explains it clearly. Sin entered the world, but with Jesus Christ, there is an “overflow” of grace for the many. (See Romans 5:15.) And that’s what Lent is about—a flood of grace. ●

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**Dear Padre**  
February 22, 2026


*I was taught that it is a requirement to fast at least one hour before receiving Communion. However, I’ve seen donuts out before Mass begins and hear candy wrappers being crumpled around me. This seems disrespectful to me.*

It is important to use the correct words when describing a particular action. In this case, “requirement” does not really capture the full meaning and understanding of what the Church teaches. A better understanding is that it is a discipline and a practice of the Church to ordinarily observe the eucharistic fast for one hour before receiving holy Communion. If you are of a certain age, you may remember that there have been changes regarding the eucharistic fast. A “requirement” might suggest that the fast is integral to the sacrament itself. It is not.

The second part of your question seems to be a matter of perception. Based on your perception, you judge something to be not quite right. But, consider that there are many reasons why hospitality may be set up before Mass. The crumpling of wrappers could be something other than what you identify. Regardless, you are not required to assume the burden of policing what is taking place at Mass. It is much better to participate, celebrate, and be grateful for the sacrament that we gather to experience as a community of faith. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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**THE WAY OF THE CROSS**  
During Lent, as has been our custom in the past, we pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 6:00pm. **however, Stations will be suspended if attendees are less than 3.**

**El Via Crucis**  
*Durante la Cuaresma, como ha sido nuestra costumbre en el pasado, rezaremos el Via Crucis los viernes a las 6:00 de la tarde sin embargo, las estaciones se suspenderán si los asistentes son menos de 3.*

**Catholic Regulations for Lent**

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of **fasting and abstinence**, and all Fridays of Lent are days of **abstinence**. **Abstinence**—requires all Catholics who have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and on all Fridays during Lent (Code of Canon Law §1252). Meat is considered to be the flesh and organs of mammals and fowl. Salt and freshwater fish as well as shellfish are permitted; as well as products derived from animals such as dairy products and eggs.

**Fasting**—requires that a Catholic from the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday to the beginning of their 60<sup>th</sup> birthday reduce the amount of food eaten normally. The Church defines this as one meatless meal a day, and two smaller meatless meals which if added together would not exceed the main meal in quantity. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed.

**Dispensations**—Besides those outside the age limits, those of unsound mind, the sick, the frail, pregnant or nursing women according to the need for meat or nourishment, manual laborers according to need, guests at a meal who cannot excuse themselves without giving great offense or causing enmity and other situations of moral or physical impossibility to observe the penitential discipline.



**WE WALK THE ROAD TO EASTER**

Colecta de la Semana Pasada  
Envelopes: \$ 1,674.00  
Loose: \$ 101.00  
Children’s Envelopes: \$ 10.50  
Total Sunday Collection: \$ 1,785.50  
Total Expenses Last Week: \$ 5,752.18

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**REPENT AND  
PREPARE  
YOURSELVES**

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**LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH**  
Oscar Noriega, Justin Pecina, Irma Santos, Gerardo Castro, Guadalupe Ortiz, María E. Maldonado, Alicia Guardiola, Delia Hinojosa, Rebecca Quintero, and Herminia Torres.

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We have been marked with the sign of repentance  
May the Lord create in us clean hearts and a strong spirit

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