



2323 Montgomery Drive  
 Santa Rosa, CA 95405  
 (707) 542-6984



### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank Epperson, Rector  
 Fr. Gabriel Sanchez, Parochial Vicar  
 Rev. Bala Putchakayala, Parochial Vicar  
 Rev. Jeffrey Keyes, In Residence  
 Deacon Mike Heinzelman  
 Deacon Gary Moore  
 Deacon Russ Bowden

### WEBSITES

Parish: [www.steugenes.com](http://www.steugenes.com)  
 School: [www.steugenesch.org](http://www.steugenesch.org)  
 Email Comments/Suggestions to:  
[Office@steugenes.com](mailto:Office@steugenes.com)

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office Phone	542-6984
Parish Office Fax	542-1621
Religious Education	326-3408
Finance Council – Marty McCormick	526-1700
Choir Directress – Pam Zieminski	578-8848
School Office	545-7252
Preschool Office – Sharry Caesare	528-9133
Homeschool Academy– Jessica Warner	206-5579

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Entrance is located at SW corner of Rectory

### REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH

Our warmest welcome to all who worship in our community. If you are not registered in the parish, please complete a registration card. Cards are available at church entrances or at the parish office.

### MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS

Please contact the office at least 12 months in advance for weddings and 3 months in advance for baptisms. Check the parish website for more information.

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office when a parishioner is home bound or hospitalized to arrange for Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick.

### MASS TIMES

Daily Mass: 6:45 and 8:00 a.m.  
 Saturday: 8:00a.m; 4:30 p.m. & Sp.6:30 p. m.  
 Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
 12:00 noon and 5:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday Latin Mass: 5:30 p.m.  
 Sunday Latin Mass: 1:30 p.m.

### CONFESSIONS

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Saturday or by appointment

### PERPETUAL ADORATION

**Perpetual Adoration** is in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. To sign up for your hour with our Lord, call Annette (English) at: 542-3635 or Maria Vega (Spanish) at: 710-5094

**Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament** is held in the chapel every First Friday following 8:00 a.m. Mass. *During this time of Covid-19, Benediction is not being held.*

### DEVOTIONS

**Recitation of the Rosary** is Monday – Saturday at 7:25 a.m. in the Cathedral

**Chaplet of Divine Mercy** is Saturday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Cathedral

### CATHEDRAL SHOPS

**Cathedral Thrift Shop** Hours: Tues & Wed. 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

**Cathedral Books & Gifts** Hours: Wed-Sat 8:30-4:30 & Sun 8:30-1:30, Closed Mon/Tues - Phone: 542-0250

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – FEBRUARY 26, 2023

### PARISH CALENDAR

#### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26

Masses – Cathedral – 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00,  
1:30 pm (Latin) & 5:30 pm  
RCIA – PLC – 10:30 am  
Coffee Social – PLC – 8:00 am – 12:00 Noon

#### MONDAY FEBRUARY 27

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am  
Respect Life – PLC – 3:30 pm

#### TUESDAY FEBRUARY 28

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am  
Women of the Word – PLC – 9:00 am  
PSR – School – 3:45 pm  
Latin Mass – Cathedral – 5:30 pm

#### WEDNESDAY MARCH 1

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am; Outdoor  
Rosary – Fatima Grotto – 6:00 pm  
Bible Study – PLC – 7:00 pm

#### THURSDAY MARCH 2

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am

#### FRIDAY MARCH 3

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am  
**Stations of the Cross – Cathedral – 2:00 & 6:00 pm;**  
**Spanish – 7:30 pm**  
Meager Meal – Parish Life Center – 6:30 pm

#### SATURDAY MARCH 4

Morning Mass – Cathedral – 8:00 am  
**Mini-Retreat – Cathedral – 9:00 am**  
Confession – Cathedral 3:30 – 4:30 pm  
Sunday Vigil Masses – Cathedral – 4:30 pm & 6:30 pm  
(Spanish)  
Singles Potluck – Parish Life Center – 6:00 pm

#### ~ANNUAL DIOCESAN MINISTRY APPEAL~

The Annual Diocesan Ministry Appeal will be conducted at St. Eugene's on March 4 & 5. Our parish target this year is \$51,994.00. St. Eugene's receives 100% of funds raised over that amount. With your help, we can assure the continued support of many important programs that help individuals and parishes throughout our diocese. Last week, we looked at two ministries that are helped by this appeal, the offices of Vocations and Seminarians. This week, we will look at another ministry that benefits: the Marian Sisters of Santa Rosa. Founded for the service of our Diocese, this rapidly growing community of consecrated women serves in our Chancery, parishes and Catholic Schools. They provide a valuable witness in their service to Christ and His Church.

### Hearing Aid Users, Switch to T-Coil

#### ADMINISTRATION

#### For the Week of 02/12/23

Sunday Donations Received:	\$13,466.
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Second Collection: Religious Education	\$2,715.
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#### ~ CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS ~

Our Specials of the Month for March are our Over-Stock items comprised of brand new items which were ordered in larger quantities than usual. Our Over-Stock table will have all items marked at 25% off, so take advantage of great deals for the upcoming Communion, Confirmation and RCIA gifts you'll be buying. Please stop by and see what we have to offer! The shop hours are: Wed-Sat from 8:30 am-4:30 pm & Sun 8:30 am-1:30 pm. We are closed Mon./Tues. Call us at: 542-0250.

### PETER BESSONE ALZHEIMER'S FUND

#### ~ALZHEIMER'S FUND~

The Peter F. Bessone Alzheimer's Fund was established at St. Eugene's in honor of Mr. Bessone, a former parishioner who suffered from this debilitating disease. Upon his death, the Bessone family set up the Fund to provide financial assistance to parishioners who also suffer from Alzheimer's or who provide care for family members who have been afflicted. This monetary assistance is to help cover respite care expenses that are not already covered by private or public insurance. *If you find yourself in this position, please contact the parish office (707-542-6984) to inquire about any assistance the Fund may be able to provide to you.*

### SECOND COLLECTION INFORMATION

#### ~ NO SECOND COLLECTION ~

This weekend, February 25 & 26, there will be no Second Collection. Next weekend, March 4 & 5, the Second Collection will be for our Tuition Assistance Program. As always, thank you for your generosity!

#### ~NEW ROOF FUND UPDATE~

We would like to thank all of you who have donated to our fund which will enable us to have a new roof put on the Cathedral. To date, we have collected \$80,000 of our \$100,000 goal! Your generosity and prayers are most appreciated as we continue to move toward our goal.

The bulletin submission deadline is Thursday @ 3:00pm for the Sunday after next bulletin. We reserve the right to edit or omit items. E-mail items to: [office@steugenes.com](mailto:office@steugenes.com).

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>February 25</b>
8:00 am	Ramon Gomez, deceased
4:30 pm	Timothy Cagwin, deceased
6:30 pm (Sp)	Gamaliel Rizo, deceased
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 26</b>
7:30 am	Mario E. Ordonez, deceased
9:00 am	Rosemarie Cook, living
10:30 am	Edward & Edie Urteaga & Julia Virgen, living
12:00 pm	People of St. Eugene's
1:30 pm (EF)	Boyko family, living & deceased
5:30 pm	Fijian Catholic Community, living & deceased
6:00pm Newman Ctr.	Fr. Alan Acevedo, living
<b>Monday</b>	<b>February 27</b>
6:45 am	Helen I. Groth, deceased
8:00 am	Fr. Gabriel Barrera, living
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>February 28</b>
6:45 am	Kathleen Ann Haberkorn, deceased
8:00 am	Mariposa Derrick, living
5:30 pm (EF)	Paula Epperson, deceased
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 1</b>
6:45 am	Jesus Olvera, deceased
8:00 am	Linda Silvagni, deceased
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 2</b>
6:45 am	Paul Wallace, living
8:00 am	Julian Villarreal, deceased
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 3</b>
6:45 am	Mykola Skrypka, deceased
8:00 am	Teresa Mayes, deceased
9:20 am (School)	Linda Pisenti, living
12:00 pm (Hosp)	Dai Duong, living
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 4</b>
8:00 am	In honor of and in reparation for the offenses against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus and for the living and deceased members of the Russell and Rinaldi families.
4:30 pm	Suzanne Nelson, deceased
6:30 (Sp)	Santos Pulido Sanchez, deceased

### ~ON-LINE NFP CLASS~

All engaged and married couples are welcome to come to English Class #1 of Natural Family Planning (NFP). This is the first of three classes and will be held on Saturday, March 4, and last from 1-3pm. To sign up for this live class, please visit <http://www.ccli.org>. Any questions? Call (707) 542-3635.

## SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY

### ~FRIDAY "MEAGER MEALS"~

Each Friday during Lent, various parish groups will be providing a meager meal of soup, bread and water at 6:30 pm in the Parish Life Center so that those leaving Stations of the Cross can gather together afterwards (and those coming to the 7:30 pm Spanish Stations, too!). A different group will host the meal each Friday. The second Friday of Lent, our hosts will be our Fijian Catholic Community.

### ~LENTEN MINI-RETREATS~

Lent is a time for us to pause and to make extra time for prayer, penance and reflection. To assist us on this journey, we will be offering 3 mini-retreats on 3 consecutive Saturdays during Lent: March 4, 11 & 18. Our priest-presenters will offer the 8:00 am Mass and then begin the talks approximately 15 after Mass/prayers/devotions have ended. Refreshments will be available in the Parish Life Center during this break time. The talks will last approximately one hour. Our first presentation on March 4th will be given by **Fr. Robert Torczynski on "How to Pray Well."** Fr. Robert spent 28 years practicing the secluded life of a Carthusian monk in France. Discover with him the depths to where the Holy Spirit is leading our souls and how to experience God more intimately in your prayer life! **All talks will be given in the Cathedral.**

## SOCIAL ACTIVITY

### ~SINGLES POTLUCK~

Please join us for our Singles Potluck on Saturday, March 4. We start gathering at 5:30 pm and start our meeting at 6:00 pm in the Parish Life Center. Join us for prayer, conversation and good food! *Call Deborah at: 310-600-2359 & let her know what dish you will bring!*

## IN MEMORIAM

### †Anne T. Byrne†

Please remember Anne T. Byrne and her family and friends in your prayers. She passed away on 2-5-23. "Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her." *May she rest in peace.*

### †Kathleen M. Pike†

Please remember Kathleen M/ Pike and her family and friends in your prayers. She passed away on 2-11-23. "Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her." *May she rest in peace.*

### ~PLEASE PRAY FOR~

Those who are ill need your support and prayers: Tristan Humble, Samuel Agius, Marjorie Miles, Amelia Lansangan, Gail Brown, Leo Del Santo, Emeline Jane Smith, Rosalind Britto, Ken Davis, Rita Wyatt, Karen Mills, Eileen Carol, Nancy Amador, Patrick Welter, Cristeta Marentes, Jesus Navarro, Michael Boland, Stephen Warner, Aida Catapang, Bob Goldman, Pat Davenport, Paulita Castro, Jean L. Alfano, Theresa Pham, Rainey Olson, Michele Otten, Pauline Goslovich, Mary Gonzales, Nick Sidjakov, Sandi Picconi, Margaret Keifer, Joan Cosgrove, Denise Ealy and Becky Harber.

# MY CATHOLIC FAITH

## WHAT IS LENT?

### ~FROM THE PASTOR~

Today we are going to start our reading with a bit of a refresher course on Lent. Often times, the things we learned in Catechism class many years ago fade a bit, so let's refresh our memories with some interesting facts about this holy, penitential season. Next we will read about Adam whose act of disobedience ushered sin and death into the world and Jesus, the new Adam, who redeemed us from sin and death. Finally, we will read a selection about the temptation of Christ in the desert in which we learn from the great Doctors and Fathers of the Church, (as quoted by St. Thomas Aquinas) about the deeper meaning of this temptation and the defeat of Satan.

### Q: What is Lent?

A: Lent is the forty day period before Easter, excluding Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter Sunday). [This traditional enumeration (*time frame*) does not precisely coincide with the calendar according to the liturgical reform. In order to give special prominence to the Sacred Triduum (Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday, Easter Vigil) the current calendar counts Lent as only from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday, up to the Mass of the Lord's Supper. Even so, Lenten practices are properly maintained up to the Easter Vigil, excluding Sundays, as before.]

### Q: Why are Sundays excluded from the reckoning of the forty days?

A: Because Sunday is the day on which Christ arose, making it an inappropriate day to fast and mourn our sins. On Sunday we must celebrate Christ's resurrection for our salvation. It is Friday on which we commemorate his death for our sins. The Sundays of the year are days of celebration and the Fridays of the year are days of penance.

### Q: Why is Lent forty days long?

A: Because 40 days is a traditional number of discipline, devotion, and preparation in the Bible. Thus Moses stayed on the Mountain of God 40 days (Exodus 24:18 and 34:28), the spies were in the land

for 40 days (Numbers 13:25), Elijah traveled 40 days before he reached the cave where he had his vision (1 Kings 19:8), Nineveh was given 40 days to repent (Jonah 3:4), and most importantly, prior to undertaking his ministry, Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness praying and fasting (Matthew 4:2). Since Lent is a period of prayer and fasting, it's fitting for Christians to imitate their Lord with a 40 day period. Christ used a 40 day period of prayer and fasting to prepare for his ministry, which culminated in his death and resurrection, and thus it is fitting for Christians to imitate him with a 40 day period of prayer and fasting to prepare for the celebration of his ministry's climax, Good Friday (the day of the crucifixion) and Easter Sunday (the day of the resurrection). By: James Akin, "All About Lent", for more, go to <http://www.ewtn.com/library/ANSWERS/LENT.htm>

## ADAM AND THE NEW ADAM

### ~ADAM~

Our two readings today talk about Adam and his fall from grace and Jesus, who restored us to grace. Let's take a look at the parallels between the two: "In Genesis 1, we learn that Adam was formed out of the dust of the earth by God. God breathed the breath of life into Adam. The perfect and sin-free Adam eventually fell in Genesis 3 by disobeying God, accepting the lies of the devil (about not dying and being like God), and eating the forbidden fruit from a tree, which allowed sin and damnation to enter the world. God then told Adam that he would have to till the earth to obtain his daily bread. He would do this with sweat on his brow, and the ground would be full of thorns. Adam was ejected from Paradise by God, so that he would not eat the fruit of another tree in the Garden of Eden, known as the Tree of Life, which would give him eternal life. An angel with a sword was then stationed at the gate of Paradise to guard it so as to prevent Adam from re-entering.

### ~THE NEW ADAM~

The perfect and sin-free Jesus, who said that he is the bridegroom of man in Matthew 9:15, also declared Himself to be The Bread of Life in John 6. He said that we must eat His flesh and drink His blood to have eternal life. This reference to eating, of

course, is the antidote to overcome what Adam did. Jesus, who died on the tree of life known as the cross, commands us to eat the fruit from that tree (his flesh and blood), so as to give us eternal life and to overcome the two lies of the devil to Adam. The devil said that if you eat the forbidden fruit, "You shall not die." (Lie) By eating the fruit of the cross, the flesh and blood of Christ, "You shall live forever," said Jesus (Truth). The devil also told Adam that if he ate the forbidden fruit, he would be like God (Lie). Jesus said that if we eat His flesh and drink his blood, He would abide in us, and we in Him (Truth).

**~MORE PARALLELS~**

The bookend parallels between Adam and Jesus don't end there, though. Just as Adam was ejected from Paradise so that he could eventually be saved from his disobedient sin, Jesus came down from Paradise to the dwelling place of Adam (this world) to save us all from Adam's original sin. Just as Adam's disobedience to God allowed sin and damnation to enter the world, the obedience of Jesus, the new Adam, to God, his loving Father, allowed salvation to enter the world. Just as Adam threw away his sinless status through disobedience, Jesus kept his sinless status through obedience. Jesus said that the devil is the ruler of this world, in John 14:30. Jesus is the ruler of the everlasting world, in Heaven. Just as the devil once conquered man in Paradise, the dwelling place of God, now, Jesus, a man who is not only like God, but who IS God, conquers the devil in his dwelling place, this world. Taken from: "Christ, the New Adam. For complete article go to: <http://www.catholicbible101.com/christ-the-new-adam>

**THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS**

**~ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SPEAKS~**



St. Thomas considers the place where Christ was tempted, the desert. He explains that Christ, by His own free will, allowed himself to be tempted by the devil, otherwise there is no way the devil would have ever come near Him. He continues to explain that the "devil prefers to assail a man who is alone, for, as it is written (Ecclesiastes 4:12),"if a man prevail against one, two shall withstand him." And so it was that Christ went out into the desert, as to a field of battle, to be tempted there by the devil." Here we can

clearly see, surmise and meditate on the fact that it was the will of the Father that Christ be tempted. He set up the right conditions so that for our own salvation we might have the perfect model to imitate.

**~ST. AMBROSE SPEAKS~**

To illuminate the meaning of Christ's purposeful actions, Aquinas quotes St. Ambrose who is commenting on Luke 4:1 where it is written that "Christ was led into the desert for the purpose of provoking the devil." If Christ himself had not done spiritual combat with Satan, we would not have our model for victory. Ambrose continues that "Christ in doing this, set forth the mystery of Adam's delivery from exile," who had been expelled from paradise into the desert, and "set an example to us, by showing that the devil envies those who strive for better things." Aquinas, with support from St. Ambrose and sacred scriptures, lends credence to the real fact that Christ did in fact endure the temptation in the desert.

**~ST. GREGORY THE GREAT SPEAKS~**

Aquinas said the devil's temptations take the form of suggestions and these suggestions from Satan are not made to all people in the same way, they "must arise from those things towards which each one has an inclination. Consequently the devil does not straight away tempt the spiritual man to grave sins, but he begins with lighter sins, so as gradually to lead him to those of greater magnitude." As Gregory the Great said, "vices begin by insinuating themselves into the mind under some specious pretext." And it is noted here that by this form, Satan tempted our first parents.

**~POPE ST. LEO SPEAKS~**

Christ's temptation in the desert illustrates for us the general character of all of Satan's temptations towards all men for all time from Adam and Eve to the present as the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and to the pride of life. Aquinas explains using Pope Leo's words that Christ resisted these "temptations by quoting the authority of the law, not by enforcing His power, so as to give more honor to His human nature and a greater punishment to His adversary, since the foe of the human race was vanquished, not as by God, but as by man." [www.catholicexchange.com/st-thomas-aquinas-on-christs-temptation](http://www.catholicexchange.com/st-thomas-aquinas-on-christs-temptation)

# MI FE CATOLICA

## ¿QUÉ ES LA CUARESMA?

~DEL PÁRROCO~

Hoy vamos a empezar nuestra lectura con un pequeño curso de repaso sobre la Cuaresma. A menudo, las cosas que aprendimos en la clase de Catecismo hace muchos años se desvanecen un poco, así que vamos a refrescar nuestra memoria con algunos datos interesantes sobre este tiempo santo y penitencial. A continuación leeremos sobre Adán, cuyo acto de desobediencia introdujo el pecado y la muerte en el mundo, y sobre Jesús, el nuevo Adán, que nos redimió del pecado y de la muerte. Por último, leeremos una selección sobre la tentación de Cristo en el desierto, en la que aprenderemos de los grandes Doctores y Padres de la Iglesia (citados por Santo Tomás de Aquino) sobre el significado más profundo de esta tentación y la derrota de Satanás.

P: ¿Qué es la Cuaresma?

R: La Cuaresma es el período de cuarenta días antes de la Pascua, excluyendo los domingos, que comienza el Miércoles de Ceniza y termina el Sábado Santo (víspera del Domingo de Resurrección). [Esta enumeración tradicional (*periodo de tiempo*) no coincide exactamente con el calendario según la reforma litúrgica. Para dar especial relieve al Santo Triduo (Misa de la Cena del Señor, Viernes Santo, Vigilia Pascual) el calendario actual cuenta la Cuaresma sólo desde el Miércoles de Ceniza hasta el Jueves Santo, hasta la Misa de la Cena del Señor. Aun así, las prácticas cuaresmales se mantienen correctamente hasta la Vigilia Pascual, excluyendo los domingos, como antes].

P: ¿Por qué se excluyen los domingos del cómputo de los cuarenta días?

R: Porque el domingo es el día en que Cristo resucitó, por lo que es un día inapropiado para ayunar y llorar nuestros pecados. El domingo debemos celebrar la resurrección de Cristo para nuestra salvación. Es el viernes cuando conmemoramos su muerte por nuestros pecados. Los domingos del año son días de celebración y los viernes del año son días de penitencia.

P: ¿Por qué la Cuaresma dura cuarenta días?

R: Porque 40 días es un número tradicional de disciplina, devoción y preparación en la Biblia. Así, Moisés permaneció en la Montaña de Dios 40 días (Éxodo 24:18 y 34:28), los espías estuvieron en la tierra

durante 40 días (Números 13:25), Elías viajó 40 días antes de llegar a la cueva donde tuvo su visión (1 Reyes 19:8), a Nínive se le dieron 40 días para arrepentirse (Jonás 3:4), y lo más importante, antes de emprender su ministerio, Jesús pasó 40 días en el desierto orando y ayunando (Mateo 4:2). Puesto que la Cuaresma es un período de oración y ayuno, es apropiado que los cristianos imiten a su Señor con un período de 40 días. Cristo utilizó un periodo de 40 días de oración y ayuno para preparar su ministerio, que culminó con su muerte y resurrección, y por ello es conveniente que los cristianos le imiten con un periodo de 40 días de oración y ayuno para preparar la celebración del punto culminante de su ministerio, el Viernes Santo (el día de la crucifixión) y el Domingo de Resurrección (el día de la resurrección). Por: James Akin, "Todo sobre la Cuaresma"

## ADÁN Y EL NUEVO ADÁN

~ADÁN~

Nuestras dos lecturas de hoy hablan de Adán y su caída en desgracia y de Jesús, que nos devolvió la gracia. Veamos los paralelismos entre ambos: "En Génesis 1, aprendemos que Adán fue formado del polvo de la tierra por Dios. Dios soplo aliento de vida en Adán. El Adán perfecto y libre de pecado finalmente cayó en Génesis 3 al desobedecer a Dios, aceptar las mentiras del diablo (sobre no morir y ser como Dios), y comer el fruto prohibido de un árbol, lo que permitió que el pecado y la condenación entraran en el mundo. Dios dijo entonces a Adán que tendría que labrar la tierra para obtener el pan de cada día. Lo haría con el sudor de su frente, y la tierra estaría llena de espinas. Adán fue expulsado del Paraíso por Dios, para que no comiera el fruto de otro árbol del Jardín del Edén, conocido como el Árbol de la Vida, que le daría la vida eterna. Un ángel con una espada fue colocado en la puerta del Paraíso para guardarla y evitar que Adán volviera a entrar.

~EL NUEVO ADÁN~

El perfecto y libre de pecado Jesús, quien dijo ser el amigo del novio Mateo 9:15, también declaró ser el Pan de Vida en Juan 6. Él dijo que debemos comer Su carne. Él dijo que debemos comer Su carne y beber Su sangre para tener vida eterna. Esta referencia a comer, de por supuesto, es el antídoto para superar lo que hizo Adán. Jesús, que murió en el árbol de la vida conocido como la cruz, nos manda comer →

el fruto de ese árbol (su carne y su sangre), para darnos la vida eterna y superar las dos mentiras del diablo a Adán. El diablo dijo que si comías del fruto prohibido, "no morirías". (Mentira) Al comer el fruto de la cruz, la carne y la sangre de Cristo, "Vivirás para siempre", dijo Jesús (Verdad). El diablo también le dijo a Adán que si comía del fruto prohibido, sería como Dios (Mentira). Jesús dijo que si comíamos su carne y bebíamos su sangre, Él permanecería en nosotros, y nosotros en Él (Verdad).

### ~MÁS PARALELISMOS~

Pero los paralelismos entre Adán y Jesús no acaban aquí. Así como Adán fue expulsado del Paraíso para que eventualmente pudiera ser salvado de su pecado desobediente, Jesús descendió del Paraíso a la morada de Adán (este mundo) para salvarnos a todos del pecado original de Adán. Así como la desobediencia de Adán a Dios permitió que el pecado y la condenación entraran en el mundo, la obediencia de Jesús, el nuevo Adán, a Dios, su Padre amoroso, permitió que la salvación entrara en el mundo. Así como Adán tiró por la borda su estado impecable por la desobediencia, Jesús conservó su estado impecable por la obediencia. Jesús dijo que el diablo es el gobernante de este mundo, en Juan 14:30. Jesús es el gobernante del mundo eterno, en el Cielo. Así como el diablo una vez conquistó al hombre en el Paraíso, la morada de Dios, ahora, Jesús, un hombre que no sólo es como Dios, sino que ES Dios, conquista al diablo en su morada, este mundo. Tomado de: "Cristo, el Nuevo Adán.

## LA TENTACIÓN DE JESÚS

### ~SANTO TOMÁS DE AQUINO HABLA~



Santo Tomás considera el lugar donde Cristo fue tentado, el desierto. Explica que Cristo, por su propia voluntad, se dejó tentar por el diablo, de lo contrario no habría habido forma de que el diablo se le hubiera acercado. Continúa explicando que el "diablo prefiere asaltar a un hombre que está solo, porque, como está escrito (Eclesiastés 4:12), "si un hombre prevalece contra uno, dos le resistirán". Y así fue como Cristo salió al desierto, como a un campo de batalla, para ser tentado allí por el diablo". Aquí podemos ver claramente, suponer y meditar sobre el hecho de que fue voluntad del Padre que Cristo fuera tentado.

Puso las condiciones adecuadas para que, por nuestra propia salvación, tuviéramos el modelo perfecto al que imitar.

### ~HABLA SAN AMBROSIO~

Para iluminar el significado de las acciones intencionadas de Cristo, San Aquino cita a San Ambrosio que está comentando Lucas 4:1 donde está escrito que "Cristo fue llevado al desierto con el propósito de provocar al diablo." Si Cristo mismo no hubiera hecho el combate espiritual con Satanás, no tendríamos nuestro modelo para la victoria. San Ambrosio continúa diciendo que "Cristo, al hacer esto, expuso el misterio de la liberación de Adán del exilio", que había sido expulsado del paraíso al desierto, y "nos dio ejemplo, mostrando que el diablo envidia a los que se esfuerzan por conseguir cosas mejores." Santo Tomás de Aquino, con el apoyo de San Ambrosio y las Sagradas Escrituras, da crédito al hecho real de que Cristo, de hecho, soportó la tentación en el desierto.

### ~SAN GREGORIO EL GRANDE HABLA~

Santo Tomás de Aquino dijo que las tentaciones del diablo toman la forma de sugerencias y estas sugerencias de Satanás no se hacen a todas las personas de la misma manera, "deben surgir de aquellas cosas hacia las que cada uno tiene inclinación". Por consiguiente, el demonio no tienta de inmediato al hombre espiritual a cometer pecados graves, sino que comienza con pecados más leves, para conducirlo gradualmente a los de mayor magnitud." Como dijo San Gregorio Magno, "los vicios comienzan por insinuarse en la mente bajo algún pretexto engañoso". Y se señala aquí que, mediante esta forma, Satanás tentó a nuestros primeros padres.

### ~EL PAPA SAN LEO HABLA~

La tentación de Cristo en el desierto nos ilustra el carácter general de todas las tentaciones de Satanás hacia todos los hombres de todos los tiempos desde Adán y Eva hasta el presente como la concupiscencia de la carne, la concupiscencia de los ojos y a la soberbia de la vida. Santo Tomás de Aquino explica usando las palabras del Papa Leo que Cristo resistió estas "tentaciones citando la autoridad de la ley, no haciendo valer su poder, para dar más honor a su naturaleza humana y un mayor castigo a su adversario, ya que el enemigo de la raza humana fue vencido, no como por Dios, sino como por el hombre."



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