

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES
March 6, 2022
First Sunday of Lent
Deuteronomy 26:4-10 † Romans 10:8-13 † Luke 4:1-13



Reflection by: Anne Whalen Cerchio, OPA

In the first reading we see that even though the Aramean people were in a newly settled land; they took the fruit of their first harvest and offered it to the Lord. What a beautiful gesture—a thank you, an “I love you.”

We now, thousands of years later, offer the “fruits of the harvest,” bread and wine to Jesus at Mass. In the giving, we receive a gift beyond measure, the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. This is the beautiful cycle of offering, giving and receiving.

The Gospel is one that I can relate to very easily. I am often tempted and often go with it. Simple everyday things, the need to be right even if my words hurt someone else. I often choose to be lazy and set myself up to be stressed and short-tempered with others. I could go on and on.

Jesus knew enormous temptation in the desert. Satan had no mercy and wanted to break Jesus’ will to remain in the desert. He failed. Jesus remained steadfast. We know how His journey ends. He will be crucified. His purpose of living among us and dying for us was to gain our salvation. He surrendered everything to the Father for us.

Through our offering of bread and wine during the Eucharist, together with Jesus, it is transformed into the Bread of Life. What a gift!

Let the journey begin.