

CHRIST THE REDEEMER CHURCH

SUNDAY MASSES:

07:30 (in English) 09:30 (in Vernacular)
(CONFESSION - before each Mass)

WEEKDAY MASSES:

TUESDAY - FRIDAY: 17:00hrs
SATURDAY: MASS: 08:30 (+ catechism classes)
FRIDAY : Adoration/Benediction: 16:00-17:00
(CONFESSION)

USHERING - JANUARY (2025)—CATHOLIC ACTION GROUP (SENIOR & JUNIOR).

PRAYERS BEFORE SUNDAY MASSES (JANUARY) 2025 :

07:30HRS—ST. VINCENT DE PAUL. 09:30 HRS—ST. ANNA & ST. JOACHIM ORGANISATIONS.

TUESDAY 28TH JANUARY : ST. AUGUSTINE SCC

17:00HRS : MASS

WEDNESDAY 29TH JANUARY : ST. FRANCIS SCC

17:00HRS : MASS

THURSDAY 30TH JANUARY : ST. JOSEPH SCC

17:00HRS : MASS

FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY : ST. ANTHONY SCC

16:00HRS : ADORATION & BENEDICTION LED BY

ST. ANTHONY SCC

17:00HRS : MASS

SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

DUTY : CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ORGANISATION

08:30HRS : MASS

SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

DUTY : ST. ANTHONY SCC

07:30HRS : MASS

CHOIR : YOUTH

READERS: MISS CAROLINE NKOWANE

MRS. ELIZABETH MVULA

(STANDBY—MR. HUMPHREY LUMBWE)

09:30HRS : MASS

CHOIR : ST. JOSEPH SCC

READERS: MS. FRANCESCA NYANJA (BE)

MR. LAWRENCE BWALYA (BE)

(STANDBY—MRS. MERVIS ZIWA BANDA)

(OFFERTORY : ST. ANTHONY SCC & CATHOLIC
WOMEN'S ORGANISATION)

TUESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY : ST. KIZITO SCC

17:00HRS : MASS

WEDNESDAY 4TH FEBRUARY : ST. MARTIN SCC

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES

16:00HRS : ADORATION & BENEDICTION LED BY

LEGION OF MARY

17:00HRS : MASS

THURSDAY 5TH FEBRUARY : ST. MONICA SCC

PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS

16:00HRS : ADORATION & BENEDICTION LED BY

NAZARETH GROUP

17:00HRS : MASS

FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY : ST. AUGUSTINE SCC

PLEA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

16:00HRS : ADORATION & BENEDICTION LED BY

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

17:00HRS : MASS

SATURDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

DUTY : CATECHISERS & CANDIDATES

08:30HRS : MASS

SUNDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DUTY : ST. AUGUSTINE SCC

07:30HRS : MASS

CHOIR : ENGLISH MAIN

POPE FRANCIS' FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION:

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

Lord, Hear Us!

THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER, STAYS TOGETHER

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2.00 Kwacha

PARISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER. Sunday 26th January, 2025.

READINGS : 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR 'C').

1ST READING : NEHEMIAH 8:2-4. 5-6. 8-10. THEY READ FROM THE BOOK, FROM THE LAW OF GOD, AND THEY GAVE THE SENSE.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 19 : YOUR WORDS, O LORD, ARE SPIRIT AND LIFE.

2ND READING : I CORINTHIANS 12:12-30. YOU ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST AND INDIVIDUALLY MEMBERS OF IT.

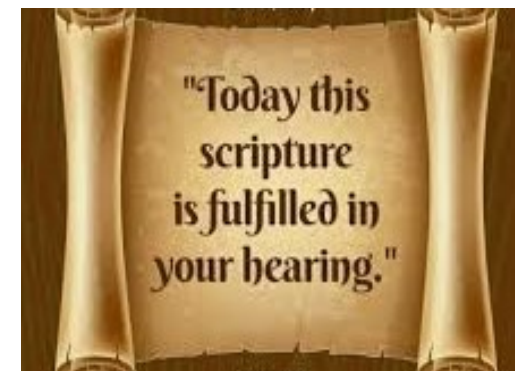
GOSPEL : LUKE 1:1-4; 4:14-21. TODAY THIS SCRIPTURE HAS BEEN FULFILLED.

TODAY'S REFLECTION / INSPIRATION

Today's Gospel reading combines two separate passages taken from the Gospel of Luke. First we hear the opening verses where Luke establishes the purpose of his Gospel. His style is typical of polished Greek and Roman literature. In this passage, we learn that Luke may have written to a specific person, Theophilus; but the word Theophilus may also be a general reference, functioning as the phrase "Dear Reader" might in contemporary writing. In Greek, the word Theophilus translates as "lover of God."

Today's Gospel reading then skips several chapters in which one would find the Infancy Narratives, Jesus' baptism by John, the temptations Jesus faced in the desert, and the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In chapter four of Luke's Gospel, we hear that Jesus is in his hometown of Nazareth, attending the synagogue on the Sabbath, which is said to be his custom. In this account, we find another important clue that Jesus lived as a faithful, observant Jew. We will continue to read from Luke's Gospel in sequence for the next two Sundays.

As Jesus stands in the synagogue, he reads from the scroll handed to him; it contains the words of the prophet Isaiah. At this early moment in his ministry, Jesus announces his mission in continuity with Israel's prophetic tradition. This reading from Isaiah defines Jesus' ministry. We will find more evidence of this as we continue to read from Luke's Gospel throughout the year. Jesus' ministry will include bringing glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, freedom to the oppressed, and proclaiming a year acceptable to the Lord. *(Continued on Page 2...)*



Next Sunday : MALACHI 3:1-4. HEBREWS 2:14-18. LUKE 2:22-40.

POPE'S INTENTION (FEBRUARY 2025) - FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE.

Through this text from Isaiah, Jesus announces God's salvation. The "year acceptable to the Lord" is a reference to the Jewish tradition of Sabbath years and jubilee. The Sabbath year was observed every seventh year. It was a year of rest when land was left fallow and food stores were to be shared equally with all. A year of Jubilee was celebrated every fiftieth year, the conclusion of seven cycles of Sabbath years. It was a year of renewal in which debts were forgiven and slaves were freed.

This tradition of Jubilee is the framework for God's promise of salvation. And yet in Jesus, something new begins. Jesus not only announces God's salvation, he brings this salvation about in his person. Jesus is Yahweh's Anointed One, filled with the Spirit of God. The Kingdom of God is now at hand. It is made present in Jesus, in his life, death, and Resurrection. Jesus will send the Holy Spirit so that the Kingdom of God can be fulfilled.

The Holy Spirit is Jesus' gift to the Church. The Holy Spirit enables the Church to continue the mission of Jesus. When we do what Jesus did—bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed—we serve the Kingdom of God.

FAMILY CONNECTION!!!

Jesus was the one sent by God to bring salvation to the world. Jesus announced that mission using the framework we hear in today's Gospel from the prophet Isaiah: glad tidings will be brought to the poor, liberty to captives, recovery of sight for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God in his person—through his life, death, and Resurrection. We are charged with the task of continuing the mission

that Jesus began. Jesus set the framework for all of us when he announced his ministry in today's Gospel. Jesus also gave us the helper we would need to enable us to participate in his mission. The Holy Spirit has been given to us so that we, the Church, might serve the Kingdom of God.

Gather with your family and suggest that they try to picture the vision that Jesus describes using the words of the prophet Isaiah as you read today's Gospel, Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21. Think about your neighborhood, your community. What are the situations and who are the people who most need to see this vision fulfilled? What steps would be necessary to make the vision a reality for them? Make a family commitment to pray for the Kingdom of God and to take a particular action that will address a need you see in your community. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you by praying the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

TEMPTATION AND TESTING



God designed this test to give Adam and Eve the opportunity to demonstrate their gratitude, love, and trust in Him by obeying one simple command. However, tests hold the possibility of failure. And failure is the goal of the devil, who rages against God and His people with an implacable hatred. He will tempt those who are being tested to disobey God. What God means for good, the devil will try to exploit for evil. *(Continued on Page 3...)*

The following account of what happened in the garden demonstrates this fact and also gives us good lessons for resisting his schemes:

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. (Gen. 3:1-6)

An important point to note as we start is that when the devil tempts us, he doesn't appear in hoofs and horns. He appears in an appealing guise. As Shakespeare said, "The devil hath power to assume a pleasing shape." The serpent is described as crafty; very likely he was also beautiful, like a beautiful emerald viper, not like a hissing cobra or rattlesnake. The tempter's seemingly innocent initial approach was actually a deceptive ploy to ensnare Eve. He quickly moved to directly contradict God's word about the consequences of eating the fruit, saying, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Gen. 3:4-5). In this deft move, he undermined Eve's trust in God's goodness by contending that God was withholding something good from her: "to be like God." By introducing unbelief, followed by an appeal to pride, he cleverly placed a powerful temptation before her. Eve could have passed the test by simply obeying God's command, for the tempter could not have forced her to eat the fruit. Instead, she considered the apparent benefits of eating: it was good for food, a delight to the eyes, and desirable to make one wise. She freely chose to disobey God, and she ate the fruit. She gave it to her husband, and he too ate from it. That one tragic choice brought

disastrous consequences upon them, their family, and every other person who has ever lived: it alienated them from God, brought Eve pain in childbearing and Adam futility in work, fratricide in their family, and all manner of other suffering, and led to eventual physical death. It also plunged the world into a catastrophic rebellion against God that has produced untold pain, suffering, and misery to the present day.

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this story? An obvious one is the devil's subtlety in lying and deception, which are his major tactics throughout the Bible. Another is his malevolent war against God and His word. His hatred of human beings is very clear, along with his cunning schemes to deceive, seduce, and tempt us in order to thwart God's kingdom purposes, alienate us from God, and bring suffering and judgment upon us. On full display as well is our great vulnerability to temptation and our need to be alert to the sinful things that appeal to our desires. The folly of allowing sinful attractions to linger in our minds and looking only at the appealing features of sin and not the high and painful price we will have to pay for it is another very important lesson. Implicit in the story is our great need to quickly turn to God when tempted and to reject evil thoughts and not allow them to linger in our minds. We also see here the root problems of unbelief and pride, such powerful avenues of temptation, and the tragic consequences of failing a test God has set before us.

(To read more, visit www.cslewisinstitute.org)

SCC MEETINGS' VENUES

Christ the King SCC: Mrs. Bernadette Mundia
St Anthony SCC: Church
St Augustine SCC: Church
St Francis SCC: Church
St Joseph SCC: Nyawa's
St Kizito SCC: Mrs. Judith Nkowane
St Martin SCC: Church
St Monica SCC: Church
St Paul SCC: Bayuni School

* Meetings should not exceed ONE (1) hour.*

COVID/CHOLERA Preventive measures MUST be followed.

PARISH PRIEST'S OFFICE

Wed. : 14.00-16.00;
Thurs. : 09.00-12.00 & 14.00-16.00; Fri.: 14.00-16.00

Parish House/Office: (+26) 0 211 273 048
Parish Priest: (+26) 0 960 554 410

PASTORAL SISTER'S OFFICE

Tues. & Wed. : 08.30-12.30;
14.00-16.00

Sundays. : After 1st Mass till-12.00
Sr. Sole Saenz Rico: (+26) 0 776 614 651