

But I say to you, do not swear at all.  
Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.'  
Anything more is from the evil one."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
[Longer: Matthew 5:17-37]



**Sunday, February 22**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A**

**FIRST READING**

*A reading from the Book of Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7*

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground  
and blew into his nostrils the breath of life,  
and so man became a living being.

Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east,  
and placed there the man whom he had formed.  
Out of the ground the LORD God made various trees grow  
that were delightful to look at and good for food,  
with the tree of life in the middle of the garden  
and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals  
that the LORD God had made.

The serpent asked the woman,  
“Did God really tell you not to eat  
from any of the trees in the garden?”

The woman answered the serpent:  
“We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden;  
it is only about the fruit of the tree  
in the middle of the garden that God said,  
‘You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.’”

But the serpent said to the woman:  
“You certainly will not die!

No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it  
your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods  
who know what is good and what is evil.”

The woman saw that the tree was good for food,  
pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom.

So she took some of its fruit and ate it;  
and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her,  
and he ate it.

Then the eyes of both of them were opened,  
and they realized that they were naked;  
so they sewed fig leaves together  
and made loincloths for themselves.

The word of the Lord.