



“To attain spiritual enlightenment and become a person of recollected interior life, you should take one or the other of holy Scripture and, for as long a period as possible, concentrate on that alone all your power of attention and meditation; then the light of understanding will be revealed to you.” The Way of a Pilgrim, Billy, pg. 150

Statement of Intention for Centering Prayer

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier,
alive at the center of our being, we
wish to surrender in love to You.
May our sacred word,

which we will gently pray
when we engage with our thoughts,
be a sign and symbol of our intention to
consent to Your Divine Presence
And Action within.

Readings for Sunday, February 10, 2008

Reading 1 (Gn 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.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17)

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.

Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.

For I acknowledge my offense, and my sin is before me always: “Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight.”

A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.





Reading II (Rom 5:12, 17-19)

Brothers and sisters:
Through one man sin entered the world,
and through sin, death,
and thus death came to all men, inasmuch as all
sinned.

For if, by the transgression of the one,
death came to reign through that one,
how much more will those who receive the
abundance of grace
and of the gift of justification
come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.
In conclusion, just as through one transgression
condemnation came upon all,
so, through one righteous act,
acquittal and life came to all.
For just as through the disobedience of the one man
the many were made sinners,
so, through the obedience of the one,
the many will be made righteous.

Gospel (Mt 4:1-11)

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert
to be tempted by the devil.
He fasted for forty days and forty nights,
and afterwards he was hungry.
The tempter approached and said to him,
“If you are the Son of God,

command that these stones become loaves of bread.”

He said in reply,

“It is written:

*One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes forth
from the mouth of God.”*

Then the devil took him to the holy city,
and made him stand on the parapet of the temple,
and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw
yourself down.

For it is written:

*He will command his angels concerning you
and with their hands they will support you,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.”*

Jesus answered him,

“Again it is written,

You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.”

Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain,
and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in
their magnificence,

and he said to him, “All these I shall give to you,
if you will prostrate yourself and worship me.”

At this, Jesus said to him,

“Get away, Satan!

It is written:

*The Lord, your God, shall you worship
and him alone shall you serve.”*

Then the devil left him and, behold,
angels came and ministered to him.

In thanksgiving for the holy space provided to our centering prayer groups, let our intentions include the needs of each pastor of each worshipping community: Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving, St. Joseph Catholic Church in Richardson, and Our Lady of the Lake Church in Rockwall

