

1st Sunday in Lent - March 9, 2025
Homily by Bp. Romie- Jun Peñalosa

Ang dami ng kuwaresma na dumaaan sa buhay ko.
But sometimes at the end of Lent, sometimes we feel na parang kulang, you know?
The things that I hoped and I prayed that I would be able to do,
minsang matatapos na yung kuwaresma, hindi ko nagawa.
But it's a good thing that year after year, the Lord gives us a second chance,
panibago.
I remember when it was Lent 2005, I wanted to read the book of St. Augustine.
The Confessions of St. Augustine.
That book is very difficult to decipher. Ang hirap pasahin.
Kaya sabi ko, this Lenten season 2005, babasahin ko yung The Confession of St.
Augustine.
And I started reading chapter 1, chapter 2, pero natapos yung Lent, hindi nga
ako umabot kalahati ng libro.
So I was not able to finish it.
So it's probably because sometimes we lack the preparation for Lent.
But I pray that this season of Lent, the things that you have decided upon in
your life,
like I've said, may mga bagay na alam natin dapat baguhin na natin sa buhay
natin.
And somehow, one way or the other, hindi talaga natin kayang baguhin.
Alam natin na minsang talaga suplado tayo.
But minsang kahit ano mong gawin mo, hindi talaga nagbabago.
Sometimes we know we are selfish.
But inasmuch as we would like to change, we cannot change.
That's why the season of Lent is given to us by the Church,
whereby we can focus on God.
God who is able to change our hearts.
And God who is able to change our lives.
So I pray that this Lent 2025 will be a glorious Lent for all of us,
a fruitful Lent that will bring about so much transformation and so much fruit
in our lives.
In the mission that we have as a Church,
we need to become the people that God wants us to be.
We go out in the mission, but we have to be the people that God wants us to be.
You cannot go into mission and proclaim Christ by living a different life from
that which God planned for you.
So we have to become the people that God wants us to be.
Become the person that God wants me to be.
Yan ang goal natin.
It's not just going to people, going to the world, telling the world about
Jesus,
and expect Jesus to transform their lives.
It's about our lives being transformed as well.
Minsang, ang hirap puntahan yung mga tao sa mission and tell them that God loves
them
kung tayo nga hanggang ngayon hindi naniniwalang mahal tayo ng Diyos.
Amen.
Amen.
How do I know na hanggang ngayon nagdududa tayo kung mahal tayo ng Diyos?
Tingnan nyo pag may problema kayo.
Feeling nyo iwanan kayo ng Diyos, hindi po ganyan ng Diyos.
And a person who has now finally understood in his life that God loves him,
he becomes a conqueror.
He overcomes all the circumstances in life.
Kahit anong iba to ng buhay sayo, you're able to overcome because you know that
God loves you.
You know that God is for you and if God is for you, nothing can be against you.
But the reason why we are shaken, the reason why we are nayayanig tayo pag may
problema tayo,
kasi hanggang ngayon hindi pa natin tanggap talaga na mahal na mahal tayo ng
Diyos.

Maybe nasa isip mo.
Maybe nasa bibig mo lang.
Pero hindi pa yan pumasok sa puso natin.
Because God loves us so much, God has prepared a path for us to walk on and follow
that would bring us to a place where we become what we are meant to be.
To become the person that God wants you to be, God has carved a path for you.
Remember what Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one goes to the Father except through me.
You can never go and be one with God unless you walk the path which the Lord has prepared for you.
Amen.
I have my own path.
You have your own path.
Not all of us will become bishops.
Not all of us will become priests.
But bawat isa sa atin, bilang anak ng Diyos, merong linagay ang Diyos na daan.
There is a path that God Himself carved just for you.
Where, when you tread and when you walk that path, you would truly become the person that God wants you to be.
You would be able to live out the best version of yourself.
Amen.
Amen.
I remember many years ago, may namit akong bata na masyadong magalang talaga siya.
Nagbe-bless sa akin.
And when he talks to me, he talks, may po palagi.
You know, he's so respectful, this child.
Pero nung lumaki na siya, nag-college, he went to college, matagal kami hindi nakita.
Nung nakita kami ulit, iba na siya.
Iba ng ugali niya.
Minsan nakikita ko at napapansin ko, medyo bastos na pag nagsalita.
Then I talked to him, sabi ko, hindi ka naman ganyan.
You are not that person.
I know you when you were a child, I know this is who you are.
And I know what you are meant to be.
But somewhere along the way, you've changed.
Napabarkada siya, napasama siya sa masamang grupo, and suddenly he changed.
He started to identify himself with his friends.
Then I reminded him, I told him, no, you are not that kind of person.
Look deep into your heart, look at yourself in the mirror every day, and you pray and ask God, who am I?
And God will show that to you.
A few years later, nakita kami ulit, he is back to himself again.
He found his true self.
You see, that's what God wants us to be.
Sometimes we live our lives malayo dun.
It's not the best version of who we are.
Minsan ang sungit natin.
Minsan talagang ang dami mga ugali, hindi naman ikaw yan.
Bakit ganyan ka na ngayon?
Saan ka ba nakatingin?
What are you absorbing in your mind?
There is a path that God wants you to take.
And if you take that path, you walk on that path, you follow Christ on that path,
you follow Jesus in the way that he wants you to go,
you will truly become the person that God wants you to be.
You will live out the best version of yourself.
Amen? This is important.
Now, to walk in that path that God has prepared for you, for us,
we need to focus and come to terms with the big questions in life.
Kung tatahakin natin yung daan na yan na pinili ng Diyos para sa'yo,

if you walk in that path, you will truly become the person that God wants you to be.
You will enjoy so many blessings in your life.
But then, in order for you to walk in that path,
you have to focus on that path.
Diyan ka nakatingin sa daan na yan.
Hindi ka nakatingin sa ibang daan pa.
You know?
I know that this is now my life as a servant of God.
And to live my life as a servant of God,
I could not allow myself to look at other things where I am being served by God.
I cannot allow myself.
Natitingnan ko yung mga bagay na akong pinagsisilbihan.
Because if I do that, I will veer away from the path that God has given me.
God has chosen this path for me.
I am a bishop and a bishop is the servant of all.
Amen?
The bishop is not a king.
The bishop is a shepherd who comes to tend and feed the flock.
Yan ang trabaho ng bishop.
Now, if I'm going to be walking in the path that was meant for me,
I should not look at the other things.
Maraming nasasabi sa akin,
Bishop, dapat meron kang ganito.
Bishop, dapat ganito.
Dapat, Bishop, ganito.
Alam mo, Bishop, dapat lima yung kotse mo.
Dapat, Bishop, meron kang mansiyon.
I don't look at those things.
Why? That is not my path.
Sabi nga ni Jesus Christ,
I did not come here to be served, but to serve.
Birds have nests.
Foxes have holes.
But the Son of Man has no place to lay down His head.
You know, I look at the life of Jesus.
Hindi nga siya nakapagpatayo ng bahay.
Alam nyo ba yan?
Jesus did not build a home.
Because He knows that He's just passing through this world.
His home is where His Father is.
Do you understand what I'm saying?
To walk in the path that God has prepared for you,
you have to focus and you have to come to terms
with the big questions of life.
What are the big questions of life?
Bigyan natin ang oras to,
natanong natin sa sarili natin,
bakit ako nandi dito sa mundo?
Why am I here?
I could be in Saudi Arabia,
working.
I can be in the U.S., working.
I can be any place I want to be,
but why am I here?
Have you ever asked that question?
Because if you can ask that question,
the next question will lead to another question.
What is the purpose of my life?
If God placed me here,
if God has placed me in this place,
then anong purpose yan?
Ba't nandito ako?
May maraming mga tao na muntik nang mamatay.

They almost died.
I have a friend who,
before he got sick, bago siya nagkasakit,
we talk of so many things.
We talk of movies,
we talk of parties,
we talk of wine,
we talk of so many things in the world,
but we never talk about life.
Then when he had a heart attack,
nuna heart attack siya,
he almost died.
Nag-zero na yung heartbeat niya sa operating room.
Nuna zero na yung heartbeat niya,
the doctors,
sabi ng doctor,
hindi na ito mabubuhay.
But last minute,
tumibok pa rin yung puso niya,
and he was revived,
nabuhay siya ulit.
And every time we see each other,
iba na yung pinag-uusapan namin.
You know what he asked me?
Why am I still here?
Pwede na akong namatay noon,
bakit buhay pa ako?
Yun na yung mga tanong niya.
And you see, those questions,
you have to come to terms with these questions.
Minsan, ayaw natin itanong yan,
kasi minsan takot tayo sa sagot.
We're afraid of the answer to that question.
Why am I here?
Maybe God wants you to be a missionary.
Oh, in Jesus' name,
ayaw ko, ayaw ko.
We don't want to be missionaries.
So we don't ask those questions.
Anong madalas nating tanong sa buhay natin?
Anong ulam?
Yan, araw-araw, ganyan ang tanong lang natin.
Anong ulam?
Abang kumakain ng lunch,
ang tatanungin,
anong dinner?
We go to the shallow questions in life.
That's why we never walk in the path
that Christ has prepared for you.
And we never change.
We never convert.
We never transform.
Because we veer away from that path
where Jesus wants you to walk in.
Amen?
What is the purpose and the meaning of life?
Itong isang tanong na mabigat,
and sometimes we don't ask this question,
If I die,
if I die today,
where will I go?
Have you asked that question?
Kasi hindi na natin tinatanong yan.
Sabi ni Bishop noon,

pag kilala mo si Jesus, punta ka ng langit.
Oo nga, sabi nga ni Bishop yan,
sabi ko rin yan.
Pero ang tanong ko sa iyo ngayon,
kilala mo pa ba si Lord?
Do you still know Christ?
Because to know Jesus is ongoing.
Hindi yan, nakilala ko siya 1986 pa.
Yung pagkakilala ko sa kanya noong 1986,
hanggang ngayon, ganyan pa rin.
Your knowledge of Christ should be increasing.
Yung pag kakakilala mo sa Diyos,
dapat that continues to grow.
It doesn't stop.
That is why if you continue to grow
to know Jesus in your life,
then that is salvation for you.
We don't ask that question.
Marami dito, alam ko, hindi nagtatanong bakit,
may mga kaaway
at may galit sa puso.
That's why they don't ask this question.
Ang iko-quote nila sa Bible lang,
You must be born again.
Born again lang.
Basta born again ka, punta ka langit.
Sige.
Paano yung mga hindi mo pinatawad?
Paano yung sinasabi ni Cristo na
if you do not forgive
men of their sins,
those who offended you,
if you don't forgive them,
neither will God forgive you.
Paano yan?
If I die today,
where will I go?
I'll give you a hint.
There are only two places where you can go.
Smoking or non-smoking.
Kailan ka pipili?
Pag namatay ka na,
hindi po pwedeng pumili
pag namatay na.
You choose where you are going to spend eternity now
in this place.
You decide.
Amen?
Ngayon ka nagdi-decision.
If you want to go to the non-smoking area,
then you have to follow Christ.
You have to walk in the path that He prepared for you.
Now, kung ayaw mo naman doon,
siguro nalalamigan ka doon,
gusto mo medyo mainit-init,
pwede rin.
There is a way that seems right for a man,
but in the end, it leads to hell.
It leads to death.
Now you choose.
Amen?
But you have to come to terms with the big questions in life.
Tanungin mo ang sarili mo.
Every day when you wake up,

when I pray,
every morning I ask God,
if this is my last day,
do not make me miss any opportunity
to be a blessing today.
I want to spend my life being a blessing to others.
Do you understand what I'm saying?
A famous philosopher by the name of Blaise Pascal, a mathematician.
Sabi niya, we spend our lives diverting ourselves.
We spend our lives every day diverting ourselves.
Why do we divert ourselves?
Because we don't want to face and come to terms with these questions.
Kaya we divert ourselves with fun, with games, with people.
Mahilig tayo palaging kasamang barkada,
maingay palagi, palaging may kasama.
Gusto natin palagi, nasa trabaho tayo.
We just go to work and work and work and work.
No time for anything else, puro trabaho.
May mga tao naman, puro punta ng simba, simba, simba, simba.
Minsan tinatanong ko, o nandito ka na naman?
May pamilya ka ba? Oo, meron po.
Kaya nga ako nandito sa church eh.
Okay?
Hindi nakoha yung joke.
Some people avoid the responsibilities of the home they come to church.
Ayaw nila yung responsibilidad sa bahay,
punta sila sa simbahan, dito magtatago.
Patka nandito, yung anak ko nang hahanap sa akin, nang hihingi ng baon,
tago muna ako dito.
Amen?
We spend our lives diverting ourselves.
Now, what is your diversion?
Kanya-kanya tayong diversion.
Music, makinig sa music, magpunta sa dagat.
We try to divert our mind from the most essential questions of life.
Sabi nga ni Blaise Pascal, sabi niya,
all you need to do is sit down and be quiet.
Kaya yung napansin ko, hindi na tayo talaga quiet, maingay tayo.
Palagi tayo nag-uusap.
Just before we worship God, hindi talaga natin mapigilan yung bibig natin,
magkukwentuhan talaga tayo.
That's why this coming April, may retreat ang mga pare and decons.
I want them to be silent.
There will be no talking in our retreat.
Walang mag-uusap.
They will stay in their own rooms.
Walang dalawang pare sa isang kwarto.
Iisa silang kwarto so that they can be quiet.
Bakit ang ingay natin and noise, talking and spending time with people,
sometimes it becomes a diversion that our mind would not ask the questions.
Okay?
Kagaya ng kakilala ko.
Nagpa-check up daw siya sa doktor.
Sabi ng doktor sa kanya, may tama na yung atay niya.
May tama yung atay niya.
But he doesn't want to give up drinking.
So what does he do?
He talks to his friends.
You know?
Ay, ano lang yan?
Uminom ka lang ng suka.
Gagaling yan.
Ay, doon ka. Sige.
Inuman ang inuman, inuman.

He doesn't want to ask the big question.
Lord, what do you want with my life?
Tapos biglang matumba na lang.
Hindi na makalakad.
Dalhin na lang sa ospital at doon malala na.
Because you don't want to confront yourself.
You divert yourself from answering and looking at these questions.
We don't go into ourselves.
Ayaw na nating nag-iisa tayo at tahimik tayo.
Kasi pag tahimik tayo, anong sabi ni Jesus?
Anong sabi ni Saint Paul sa second reading natin?
Yung salitan ng Diyos ay nasa bibig mo at nasa puso mo.
Because we don't want to listen to God.
Amen?
Satan would like to divert us from the path God has prepared for us.
Do you know that?
Ayaw talaga ng demonyo na tahakin mo yung daan na inilaan ng Diyos para sa'yo.
Pwede mong gayahin yung daan ng iba.
Okay lang sa demonyo yan.
Satan, he doesn't want you to walk in that path where Christ has prepared for you.
And so he divert you.
He diverts the path in your life.
Our Old Testament reading today, anong sinasabi sa Old Testament reading natin?
God said, you know, you enter the promised land.
I will lead you, I will bring you to the promised land.
But when you get there, you do this.
You focus. Ito yung gagawin niyo.
God was teaching them to worship. God was teaching them to obey the law.
So that when you are in the promised land already,
you will now enjoy the life that God has prepared for you.
And so do not forget the Lord.
Do not be diverted.
Continue on in that path.
Yes.
When you enter the promised land, you know, obey the law, worship God.
Why? So you will remain focused on God.
You will not forget God.
Because the promised land was designed by God to be a blessing to His people.
But you know, we know what happened to Israel.
When they entered the promised land, they forgot about God.
They were diverted. They were distracted.
And so instead na magiging blessing sa kanila yung lugar na yan,
din naghirap sila dun sa lugar na yan.
In our gospel today,
God declared Jesus to be His Son after He was baptized.
God was preparing His path for Him.
Si Jesus, anak ng Diyos, pero anak din siya ng tao.
He is a man.
And so He needs to find His way also.
And God has prepared a way for Him.
And so when God said,
You are my Son, my beloved Son.
With you I am well pleased.
Right after that, pagkatapos nyan,
the gospel said the Holy Spirit led Him into the wilderness, into the desert.
Wow.
Grabe no?
Sino sa inyo nagpe-pray na walang temptation sa buhay?
Okay.
Whether we like it or not,
we will face temptations and trials every day.
Hindi nga immune si Jesus sa temptations and trials.
Tao siya.

And this is what life is.
Life is a big trial.
It has its temptations.
Hindi mo pwedeng sabihin,
Porket, bishop ka na,
talo ng demonyo,
hindi ka na matitempt.
Nako.
Kalokohan yan.
Huwag mong sabihin na,
mature Christian na ako.
Matagal na akong Christiano.
Memorize ko na ang Bible.
Wala na akong temptation.
Kaya ko na.
Huwag mong sabihin yan.
Maya-maya, nandyan ang demonyo sa'yo.
Don't say that.
Because right after God said,
You are my son,
God carved the path for him already.
You are going to live your life
according to my plans and purpose for you.
So siguro iniisip ni Jesus,
Wow, galing.
San ako dadalhin ng Diyos?
Anak pala ako ng Diyos.
Baka sa Boracay ako dadalhin.
O dun sa Amanpulo,
sa Palawan, you know,
para mag-happenings,
mag-good time,
o sa Siargao.
Okay?
Maraming nag-i-invite sa akin ngayon,
punta ng Siargao.
Punta daw.
Bishop, masarap ang Siargao.
Masarap ang Siargao.
Masarap na masarap.
You know.
All these temptations,
they come to your mind.
Jesus, ganun din.
Si Jesus was declared
Son of God
and there was a path ready for Him.
Then the Holy Spirit led Him where?
Ha?
The Holy Spirit led Him
in a place where He doesn't want to go.
Galing, no?
Diba?
Galing.
Kasi kung ikaw lang
ang masusunod palagi,
ay naku,
baka sa Boracay ka lang palagi.
O nasa mall ka palagi.
O nasa SM Mega Mall,
o saan ka palagi.
That's why the Holy Spirit,
He brings you to a place
where you do not want to be

because those are the places
where you can truly grow
and truly know Christ.
Ayaw natin pumunta doon.
That's why the Scripture says,
the Holy Spirit,
sa Gospel ni Mark,
binasa natin yung look eh,
yung Gospel account ni Mark,
sabi niya,
and He was thrown into the desert.
Mas matindi yung kay Mark,
tinapon si Jesus sa deserto.
You know?
Human tendency,
human nature,
we want to stay comfortable.
Nature natin yan.
You know?
Ayaw natin umalis
sa isang lugar
at sa isang bahagi ng buhay natin
na comfortable na tayo.
That's why
Saint,
Pope Benedict,
etong sabi niya,
we were not,
we are not created
and we are not designed
to be comfortable.
God designed us to be great,
not comfortable.
Yan ang disenyo ng Diyos sa iyo.
You are designed by God
to be great,
not to be comfortable.
Pero ang daming Krisyanong ngayon,
ang pinaglalaban nila,
is not about greatness
and serving.
They fight for their comfort.
Pinaglalaban nila
yung comforts nila.
You know?
And so Jesus was thrown
into the desert
where He can be alone
and there are no diversions.
This season of Lent,
it is time to enter
the desert of your heart.
The heart is like a desert.
Kaya mas gusto natin
mag-party-party lang
sa labas lang tayo,
kwentuhan,
punta saan,
mag-travel,
magpunta kung saan saan.
Ayaw niyong pumasok
sa puso nyo.
Kasi ang puso natin
minsan parang desierto eh.

It's a desert.
It's so silent.
It's so deafening.
Ayaw natin pumasok.
This season of Lent
is a time to enter
the desert of your heart.
Where you come to terms
with the big questions of life.
Nasa puso mo yan palagi.
Hindi tayo pumapasok
sa puso natin.
Palagi tayo nasa tiyan natin.
Kaya ano ulam?
Ano rung kakainin natin doon ah?
Oh, yun ang iniisip mo.
Yung otak mo kasi
nasa tiyan lang.
Pakiatin mo sa puso mo.
Because your heart
has so many questions.
You have to enter your heart.
Amen?
Amen.
Parang tahimik nyo.
Parang gusto nyo na itong umuwi.
Sandali na lang.
Okay?
So when he was there,
he was focused on his calling.
He was focused on the path
that God gave him.
Then the enemy came
to divert him.
Amen?
Huwag na kayong magulat.
Minsan dinidimonyo talaga tayo.
May araw talaga.
Because Satan doesn't want you
to walk in the path
prepared by God for you.
Amen?
Because he knows
that when you walk that path,
you will change.
You will become
the person that God
meant you to be.
You will live out
the best version of your life
if you follow Christ.
Kaya ayaw ng demonyo.
And so he came to Jesus Christ.
Anong sabi niya kay Jesus Christ?
Alam niyang gutom na gutom na si Jesus.
You know what he said?
Let me tell you what he said.
He said,
Alam niyang gutom na gutom na si Jesus.
You know what he said?
The temptation.
Okay, turn.
Gutom ka na.
Anak ka ng Diyos, diba?

Oh.
Bakit ka nagpapagutom dito?
Turn this stone to become bread.
Wow.
The first diversion
or temptation
to divert from the path of God.
What is that?
The first diversion
of the enemy.
First temptation
was the temptation
of comfort,
ease,
and convenience.
Yan ang unang temptasyon natin.
Why are you suffering?
Bakit ka nagpapakahirap?
May karapatan ka maging
komportable sa buhay.
Mayaman ka, diba?
Ganyan mga kwento ng demonyo.
You are the son of God.
Why are you here
hungering when you can turn
these stones to become bread?
Kumain ka.
You see, that's the problem.
Because there are three
sins that we are
easily drawn into.
The lust of the eyes.
Alam nyo yan, diba?
Charismatic 101.
The lust of the eyes,
the lust of the flesh,
and the pride of life.
Satan's temptation
coincides with the three of that.
So ang first niya sinabi kay Jesus,
turn the stone to become bread.
Alam niya, gutom na yung Panginoon natin.
The lust of the flesh.
Our desire.
You know?
Our desire.
For food.
For sex.
And many other desires.
Are they bad?
Hindi po.
They're not bad.
They're part of our life.
The only problem is
when those things
becomes the primary
goal of your life
and not God anymore.
Yan ang problema dyan.
Sex was created by God
for couples,
husband and wife.
It was created by God.
It was a beautiful thing

that could help bond the husband and the wife together.
If you live by the purposes of God, then that need will cause you to be bonded with your spouse.
But then, Satan comes and say, you know, pwede namang kahit hindi sa asawa mo eh. Ganun pa rin yung pakiramdam. Okay?
Find someone else.
Pareho lang yan.
Masarap din yan.
But you see, that is not God's purpose. When you begin to do that, you now use that for your own purpose. Food is not bad. We need food to grow. Amen?
We need food to grow. But this is what Jesus said when Satan said, you know, turn this stone to become bread. You know what Jesus said? But not just bread alone. I need God as well. I need God more than my bread. Yes, kailangan ng pagkain. Pero mas kailangan ko ang Diyos. Yan ang sinasabi ni Jesus. You know, the last of the flesh. The second temptation, the second temptation was Satan brought Jesus to a high mountain at pinakita niya yung kingdoms. All the kingdoms of the world, he showed it to Jesus. And this is what he said to Jesus. You know, I will give you these kingdoms. It will be yours. You don't need to go to the cross anymore. It will be yours. All you need to do is bow down to me. One time lang. Di ba ganyan naman yung temptation? Hindi naman sinasabi ng gawin mo araw-araw, ha? Hindi. Sabi niya, one time lang. Samahan mo lang yan. One time lang. Pagbigyan mo lang. One time lang. Yan lang sinasabi ni Satan. Just one time, you kneel down to me. Okay?
What is that temptation? What is that diversion? Okay?
The diversion is appealing to the last of the flesh. Our desire for power. Our desire for

dominance.
That's why he showed him the kingdoms of this world. You will dominate.
You will be in power.
And that is the many temptations of many people now. They want to be in power.
Some people desire to be part of leadership. They want to be leaders, not because they want to serve and help people. They want to be leaders because they are hungry for power.
Marapit na yung eleksyon.
Marapit ng eleksyon.
Makinig ka sa mga sinasabi ng tumatakbo.
Gusto ko magsilbi sa bayan.
Ganda pakinggan, ano?
Butohin niyo ako.
Pagsisilbihan ko kayo. Kayo ang boss ko.
Galing. Ganda mga pick-up lines ba?
Pag-eleksyon, bilib na bilib naman tayo.
Meron nun sa amin. Sabi niya, basta ako, serbisyo.
Galing ng mga pick-up lines nila.
They want us to believe that they want to be leaders so they can serve us.
Pero huwag kayo.
Pag yan ay naupo.
Pag yan ay naupo.
They will not serve us.
They will use you to serve them.
That is what power is. Amen?
That is what the devil wanted Jesus, to be diverted in his mind. Now, tingnan nyo ha?
Na-tempt ba si Jesus dito?
Of course, tao siya.
He was a man.
Hindi ito temptation kung hindi nag-a-appeal sa puso ni Jesus yan.
It-appeal to him.
It-attempt kang kumain kung hindi ka gutom?
Gutom siya.
Now, power and influence.
Is it good to have power?
Is it good to have influence?
Yes.
Mother Teresa had power.
Saint Mother Teresa had power.
She used her power for God's purposes.
Ginapit niya talaga.

Yung nag-feeding siya
one time, walang pagkain
yung mga bata.
She just went out at kinausap niya
yung mga businessmen. Sabi niya,
hindi ba kayo nahiya? Kain kayo ng kain dito.
Yung mga bata, walang pagkain.
Lahat ng businessmen
tumayo at naghanap ng pagkain
para dun sa mga bata.
That is power. That is influence.
Is it okay to have
power and influence? Yes.
If you use it for God's
purposes and plans.
Not for your selfish gain.
Yan ang sinasabi dito.
That's why anong sabi ni
Jesus sa demonyo,
I'm not going to worship you. I'm going to worship
the Lord my God.
And God only will I worship.
Not going to bow down to you.
The third temptation.
The third temptation
is about
ego.
Selfish
ego.
The pride of life.
Yan ang weakness.
Dinala ng demonyo si
Jesus doon sa top ng pinakol
of the temple and there are
people there and sabi ng demonyo
sa kanya, bakit ka pang magpipreach
preach? Bakit ka pa
magdidisciple disciple?
Tumalun ka lang dito.
When you jump from this tower,
when you jump, the angels will come.
They will protect you and everyone
will see you.
Susunod na lahat yan sa'yo.
In other words,
what the devil wanted Jesus to do was
magpasikat ka.
Because that appeals to your ego
and your pride.
And we have to be very careful there.
Amen?
The sin of ego
and pride
is very dangerous.
Because once your mind
is centered on yourself,
once your mind is centered
on yourself, not on Christ,
you will
only try to use
God for your
purposes.
And there are many Christians
who sin against

Jesus. May gusto sila.
Sasabihin nila sa Diyos. Diba sabi mo
ask?
Sabi mo
Lord, ask and it shall be given.
Therefore, I ask you
without
even bothering
to know what God's will
is. That's why Jesus
Christ on the cross,
when He was on the cross,
pwede nyo naman hingiin sa Diyos.
Lord, okay, tama na.
Pakita mo na sa kanila. Ako yung
Diyos. Ako yung anak mo.
You know, He endured the suffering of the cross.
He did not
ask
that God take Him out
of the cross. No.
Why? Because He knew
the will of God.
And this is where
many Christians fail. We use
God for our own selfish
desires and ambitions.
Okay?
Lord, please, please, please,
please, please, please. Lord, please,
please, please, please. Gawin mo akong
governor. Please, please, please,
please, Lord. Gawin mo akong mayor.
You know?
You even want to use
God.
Gagamitin at gagamitin mo ang Diyos
para makuha mo lang yung
gusto mo sa sarili mo.
We don't
even bother to go before God.
Lord,
tell me
what You want
from me. What
do You will for me?
And I will do it
for You. We don't make
those prayers.
Palagi ang gusto natin.
Ego and pride
would cause us
to use God
for our own selfishness.
So, how do we do this?
How do we
counter this temptations
and this diversions that
enemies will do in our lives?
Anong papano natin?
Well, on Ash Wednesday,
tinuruan tayo ni Jesus, diba?
You fast,
you pray,

and you give.
Tatlo lang yan.
Three.
These are actions. These are not feelings.
These are not things in your mind.
When you fast, talagang totoo yan.
Ginahongod aron.
Ay, wala tayong pagkain?
Ay, sige. Fasting ako. Hindi yan.
Walang ulam? Ay, fasting ako.
Hindi. Ginahongod
animo ron. Hinaga. Hindi ako magkaon.
Hay, gapangamoyo ako. That's what
fasting is. You do it
intentionally.
Now, how can we, how can these things help?
Prayer, fasting, and giving. How can this
help you in Satan's
advances in your life?
To divert you from the path where God wants
you to take? Well, let's take fasting.
Fasting confronts
the lust of the flesh.
Our lust for food.
Our lust for, you know, the appetites
of the body. Yung mga gusto
ng katawan natin. Our sensual
desires. You know, everything
that we desire for our body
and everything. You fast,
you come against it.
Masama bang pagkain?
Hindi po.
But many of us are controlled
by the food we eat.
Amen?
Amen? Hindi o?
Ako mataroon, may control ka ron.
Sige, subukan mo.
Subukan mo wag kumain.
Sige, hindi ako
kakain. Alas dos
hindi ako kakain. Pero mamayang
alas tres, kain ako.
You see? Nag-postpone ka lang.
When you begin to fast
and come against those appetites,
then, that's
where the problem is.
But we have to
practice fasting.
Jesus himself practiced
fasting. The early
apostles practiced fasting.
The early church
practiced fasting. The church
throughout the ages
practiced fasting.
How can you say
that I don't need it?
Paano masabi na
ikaw hindi mo kailangan?
If everyone has to go through fasting,
bakit ikaw hindi

kailangan?
What's so unique about you?
Okay?
When I say fasting, ang iniisip natin palagi
puro pagkain naman eh.
Sometimes we fast on food.
Sometimes
we fast on certain foods.
Ingatan mo.
Sometimes
we fast on things
na talagang nakakasira
sa buhay natin.
Itong length na to,
make a commitment.
Put your phone
on the drawer
for one day.
Hindi mo
gagalawin yung cellphone.
Ang iba sa inyo,
alam ko, manginginginig eh.
Ganyan-ganyan yung kamay nyo.
Pag wala ng cellphone.
Matutulog kayo walang cellphone, gaganyan-ganyan yung
daliri mo habang tulog ka.
Okay? Yan ang withdrawal symptom
yan. Nagwi-withdrawal
symptom ka na.
Bishop, kailan ba i-break yung fast?
Ano?
Cellphone lang.
Oh! Napakaliit na bagay.
Parang cellphone lang naman.
Subukan nyo.
Ilagay
ang cellphone sa drawer.
Sa isang linggo,
isang araw
ang cellphone hindi tinit,
hindi ginagalaw. You just try it.
Pag nanginginig ka na at gusto mo na
tingnan yung cellphone mo,
diyan mo malaman na
akala mo ikaw may control,
yung cellphone mo may control sa'yo.
Amen?
Ganon din sa pagkain.
Okay?
Nag-fasting ako
sa coffee many length ago.
Kasi pumunta
ako sa doktor, hyper acidity.
Grabe nang hyper acidity ko.
So sabi ng doktor sa akin,
Father,
how many cups a day ka?
Sabi ko mga sampo.
Ten cups a day
ang coffee ko.
So meron akong sweet blend,
meron akong bitter blend,
meron akong, yung common is
americano, kafe americano.

So sa sampong kape yan.
So sabi ko, bago matulog,
bago matulog, last cup, bago matulog.
Ang tanong ng doktor sa akin,
nakakatulog ka ba
pag nagkakape? Sabi ko, oo, masarap
ang tulog ko pag nagkape.
So sabi niya sa akin, adik ka na.
Sabi ko, ha?
May naka-adik ba sa kape?
Sabi niya, oo, meron, ikaw.
Adik ka na.
Sabi ko, that's not true.
It's not true. Hindi ako
adik sa kape. Pwede akong
tumangi sa kape. Anytime I want
to give up coffee, I can do it.
It's not true.
Yan ang denial.
You deny that you have a problem with caffeine.
So ayaw ko, hindi.
Sabi niya, sige, subukan mo.
Itong length na to, magfasting ka
sa coffee. So I did.
Pagpasok ng length, sabi ko, Lord!
Lord!
I am going to fast
from coffee.
Ang galing, ano?
So kinabukasan, hindi ako
nagkape.
A few hours later,
medyo nagdadry na yung throat ko.
Sabi ko, sarap magkape. Pero hindi.
Fasting ako eh.
And I did not drink coffee.
For the whole day.
After three days,
after three days,
ang utak ko hindi na umaandar.
Para na akong
zombie. Naglalakad.
Walang malay.
Kasi wala na yung kape.
Ang katawan ko
naghahanap na.
I wanted to give up the fast.
So sabi ko, hindi ko
kaya. Kape.
Kape. Diba?
Pagising sa umaga.
Pagising sa umaga. Diba yung iba? Ganito.
In the name of the Father, Son, the Holy Spirit.
Ako pagising sa umaga. Kape.
Kape. Kape.
Doon ko nalaman, addict ako
sa kape.
When I fasted from coffee.
After the Lenten season
without coffee,
I regained
my senses back again.
Now,
kung may kape, okay.

Kung wala, wala naman.
So itong
Lent na to,
I'm not totally fasting from it.
Nililimit ko lang siya.
One cup a day.
Once a day.
You understand what I'm saying?
The last of the ice.
Finally, the last of the ice.
Paano i-counter yung last of the ice?
Yung power.
I want power. I want dominance
over people.
Start giving.
Giving will cause you to think
of others more than you think of yourself.
Magbigay ka.
Kasi iniisip mo palaging sarili mo.
Kaya sinasabi dito sa
Lent, magbigay ka talaga.
Kung dagit aron,
magbigay ka talaga.
You start giving.
A portion money everyday.
Magdala ng pera. Itong palagi sinasabi natin.
Pag may pulubi,
magsita kayo. Diba?
Ganyan-ganyan ka. Anong sinasabi mo?
Ha?
Uwa.
What's inside you?
Itong Lent na ito, magdala kayo.
Magdala kayo.
Ginahongod tarot.
Kung gapanaw ka mo,
magpangayokin niyo,
ay wakat rason
na hindi magtao,
ay may daya ikaw.
Ginhongod mo ron
magigit. Amen?
Because that will cause you to think
of others more than yourself.
Okay?
The lust of the eyes,
the need for power, the need for
You know, we should love
people,
not use people.
Sabi nga, the problem with many
Christians today is they love things
and they use
people.
They love things and they use people
to get those things.
But Christ said,
love
people
and use things.
Okay? Love people
and start
using things. Give.
Expressing your love

for them. And finally, the
pride of life. Yung
yabang natin, yung arrogance, yung ego
natin. How can you
counter that? You counter
pride and ego by
humility. And how do you get
that? By prayer.

Pray. Pray.

This season of Lent,
give extra time
to pray. If you have been
praying for 10 minutes, gawin mong
20 etong Lent natin.
If you have been praying for 30 minutes
a day, gawin mong 1 hour.

You know?

Keep on praying because
prayer and spending
time in the presence of God
will keep your heart
in its proper place always.

Hindi yan aangat.

It will remain
humble before God.

But the moment you
forsake prayer
and you don't pray anymore,
you don't spend time in prayer anymore,
yayabang
yan.

Amen? And the
pride of life. Now, you become
entitled. Bakit ako wala?
Bakit hindi ako pinansin?
Bakit hindi ako tinignan? Bakit
ako hindi binigyan? Yan na yung
entitlement. It's now your pride and your
ego. Amen?

So those are the three things
that we need to do.

Number one, you fast.

You give.

Particularly for the poor.
And number three, you pray.