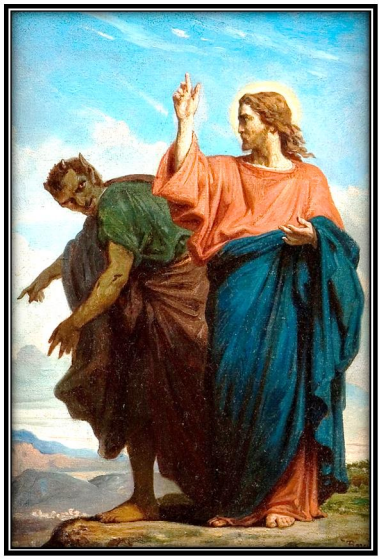
# JESUS HAD HIS TEMPTATIONS LAST WEEK, WE MIGHT HAVE OUR TEMPTATIONS *THIS* WEEK



Whether we use them during our participation at Mass or as part of our morning, daytime, evening, and/or night prayers, *lead us not into temptation* are words that most of us use every day when talking to God. And while most of us may pray for this (as Jesus taught us to), how many of us (without being led by God) actually walk right into temptation ourselves; even though many of us promise in that same conversation with God (with the words of The Act of Contrition) *to avoid the near occasion of sin*.

It would seem that no matter how many times we ask the Father to "lead us not into temptation", and no matter how many times we promise Him that we will "avoid the near occasion of sin", we always seem to find ourselves tempted; not only when we are alone "in the desert" but also when we are with others "in the world" in the very places we live, work, study, and play. And so the question emerges: "Once tempted, how can we resist the temptation?"

- How can we resist the temptation to think that it's okay to take the Lord's Name in vain, miss Mass on Sunday, worship false gods, or to sit idly by while others do these things?
- How can we resist the temptation to think that it's okay to accept an invitation to "celebrate" same-sex unions?
- How can we resist the temptation to think that it's okay in the name of "acting" to assassinate someone's character, blaspheme, curse, commit adultery and engage in fornication?
- How can we resist the temptation to think that it's okay to support the exploitation of women by shopping at *Victoria's Secret* or by subscribing to *Sports Illustrated* and those "other" magazines? (Mark my words: it won't be just non-Christians who canonize Hugh Hefner when it comes time for him to stand before His Maker.)
- How can we resist the temptation to think that it's okay to take the life of an unborn child?
- How can we resist the temptation to think that it's okay to help someone kill themself?
- How can we resist the temptation to judge people based on their skin-colour, sex, or immigration status?

The Way to "resist the temptation" is to deepen our relationship with our Father, Who art in Heaven! This is what Jesus did for forty days and nights in the desert before He was tempted, and this is what the Holy Season of Lent offers us the opportunity to do. Return to God with your whole heart! Come to daily Mass! Spend time in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel before or after work. Read the Bible daily! Join a parish prayer group like the Legion of Mary or the Nocturnal Adoration Society! Or "simply" go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father Who sees in secret will repay you! (Saint Matthew VI:6).

*Front Cover Art: The Transfiguration of Christ by Iconographer Luke Dingman*