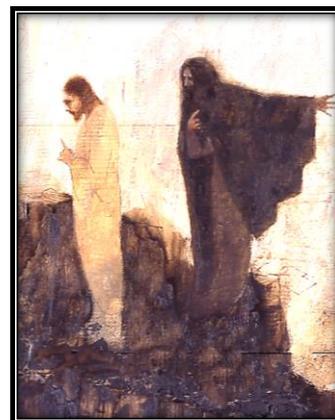




GET READY: IT WAS NOT JUST YOUR IMAGINATION

After taking a look at the front cover of today's Sunday bulletin, some people might be thinking to themselves that "*it was just my imagination*". That really wasn't The Temptations I saw." If you can be counted amongst those who thought you were seeing things, you can put your mind at rest: it *wasn't* just your imagination. The Temptations really are on the front cover! And while they may (unfortunately) not be *coming home* to Our Holy Redeemer to give us some Soul Town music from Motown, the temptations are *coming home* so: "**Get ready!**"

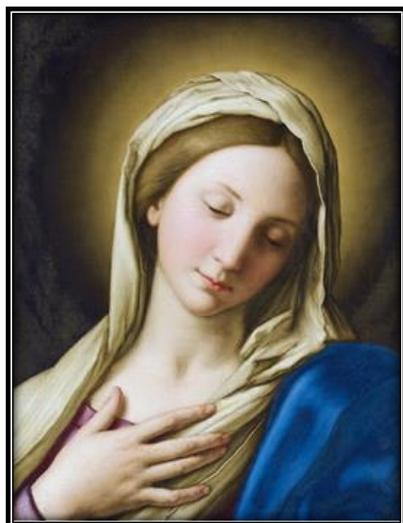


Yes, *get ready* for the temptation to **miss Mass** on Sunday when the weather outside is cold and damp and the bed inside is warm and dry. Yes, *get ready* for the temptation to **take the Lord's Name in vain** when you are trying to leave the Our Holy Redeemer parking lot after Mass and a car on South Ocean Avenue is blocking the exit. Yes, *get ready* for the temptation to **lie** when your mother asks you: "Where are you?" Yes, *get ready* for the temptation to **kill** when you find out that you have unexpectedly conceived a child. Yes, *get ready* for the temptation to **covet** your neighbour's wife after subscribing to Sports Illustrated magazine. Yes, *get ready*: the temptations are coming!

None of us are exempt from the temptations to break the Commandments/the temptations to sin; none of us. Whether you are the successor of Saint Peter (Pope Francis), the President of the United States of America (President Trump), the Superintendent of Freeport Public Schools (Dr. Kishore Kuncham), the Manager of the New York Mets (Mickey Callaway), the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court (John Roberts), the Chief of the Village of Freeport Police Department (Miguel Bermudez), the President of Freeport Little League (Mike Aviles), your Priests, your doctors, the girl next door, your bus driver, ... none of us are exempt from the temptations; not even Christ Jesus was given an exemption! (cf. Saint Mark 1:12-15)

Christ Jesus resisted the temptations of Satan by the Power of the Spirit that led Him into the desert. Our forty day journey will not lead us into the desert to be tempted by Satan, it will lead us into work, into school, and into our very homes. Like Jesus though, if we strengthen the Spirit within us through **prayer** that is more fervent, **fasting** that is more sacrificial, and **almsgiving** that is more generous, we can courageously go out and meet the temptations.

Before you set out on that journey to meet the temptations, why not follow the direction of *The Temptations* and *get ready* by taking Mary who crushed the head of the ancient serpent with you. Of course I'm talking about *My Girl*.



*I've got sunshine on a cloudy day.
When it's cold outside I've got the month of May
Well I guess you'd say, What can make me feel this way?
My girl (my girl, my girl), Talkin' 'bout my girl (my girl)
I've got so much honey the bees envy me
I've got a sweeter song than the birds in the trees
Well I guess you'd say, What can make me feel this way?
My girl (my girl, my girl), Talkin' 'bout my girl (my girl ooh)
Hey hey hey, Hey hey hey, Ooh yeah
I don't need no money, fortune, or fame (ooh hey hey hey)
I've got all the riches baby one man can claim (oh yes I do)
I guess you'd say, What can make me feel this way?
My girl (my girl, my girl), Talkin' 'bout...*