



Saint Joseph's, Saint Anne's & Holy Family And Saint Patrick's
Catholic Sunday Readings for 9th March 2025, First Sunday of Lent, Year C
 Served By The Discalced Carmelites
 Parish Priest: Fr. Louis Aroon OCD email: louisaroon2015@gmail.com
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Ligor Alexander OCD email: ligorialex@gmail.com
 Tel: 0191 534 2346
 Sr. Alphonsus (Parish Sister at St. Patrick's, Ryhope)
 Tel: 0191 521 0340
 Rev. Bernard Finan SDS (Retired and resident priest at St. Patrick's)

Sunday Mass Readings for 9 th March 2025, First Sunday of Lent, Year C	
1 st Reading	Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15
2 nd Reading	Romans 10:8-13
Verse Before the Gospel	Matthew 4:4B
Gospel	Luke 4:1-13

1st Reading - Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Moses spoke to the people, saying:

4 "The priest shall receive the basket from you and shall set it in front of the altar of the LORD, your God.

5 Then you shall declare before the Lord, your God, 'My father was a wandering Aramean who went down to Egypt with a small household and lived there as an alien. But there he became a nation great, strong, and numerous.

6 When the Egyptians maltreated and oppressed us, imposing hard labour upon us,

7 we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and he heard our cry and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

8 He brought us out of Egypt with his strong hand and outstretched arm, with terrifying power, with signs and wonders;

9 and bringing us into this country, he gave us this land flowing with milk and honey.

10 Therefore, I have now brought you the firstfruits of the products of the soil which you, O LORD, have given me.' And having set them before the Lord, your God, you shall bow down in his presence."

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15.

R. (cf. 15b) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

2 say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress, my God in whom I trust."

R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

10 No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near your tent,

11 For to his angels he has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways.

R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

12 Upon their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13 You shall tread upon the asp and the viper; you shall trample down the lion and the dragon.

R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

14 Because he clings to me, I will deliver him; I will set him on high because he acknowledges my name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in distress; I will deliver him and glorify him.

R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

2nd Reading - Romans 10:8-13

Brothers and sisters:

8 What does Scripture say? The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart - that is, the word of faith that we preach -,

9 for, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

11 For the Scripture says, No one who believes in him will be put to shame.

12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, enriching all who call upon him.

13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Verse Before The Gospel - Matthew 4:4B

4B One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Gospel - Luke 4:1-13

1 Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert
2 for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days and when they were over he was hungry.
3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."
4 Jesus answered him, "It is written, One does not live on bread alone."
5 Then he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a single instant.
6 The devil said to him, "I shall give to you all this power and glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I may give it to whomever I wish.
7 All this will be yours, if you worship me."
8 Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve."
9 Then he led him to Jerusalem, made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here,
10 for it is written: He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,
11 and: With their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone."
12 Jesus said to him in reply, "It also says, You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test."
13 When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.

Saint(s) Of The Day

St Frances of Rome was the founder of a religious community of Benedictine Oblates. She was born in 1384 AD in Rome, Italy, and died on 9th March 1440 in Rome.

We celebrate her feast day on 9th March every year in the Catholic Church.



St Frances of Rome Biography	
Date of Birth	1384 AD
Place of Birth	Rome, Italy
Profession	Patroness of Benedictine Oblates
Place of Work	Rome, Italy
Date of Death	9 th March 1440
Place of Death	Rome, Italy
Feast Day	9 th March 9
Canonization	By Pope Paul V in 1608 in Rome, Papal States

Patron Saint of

- Benedictine oblates
- Automobile drivers
- Widows

St Frances of Rome Life History

St. Frances of Rome was born into a wealthy and noble family in Rome in 1384. Her parents were Paolo Bussa and Iacobella dei Roffredeschi. She inherited a strong will from her father and a quiet and pious devotion to God from her mother. At the age of eleven, St. Frances of Rome desired to become a nun. However, when she turned twelve, her parents obliged her to marry Lorenzo Ponziani, a member of a wealthy family and the commander of the papal troops in Rome. Despite her initial desire to become a nun, she married Lorenzo and remained married to him for forty years. Shortly after her marriage, St. Frances of Rome became seriously ill. Her husband called in a man who practised magic, but Frances rebuked him and commanded him to leave, recognizing him as a servant of Satan. She refused to allow him back into her home again. Eventually, she received a vision from St. Alexis, which led to her miraculous healing. St. Frances of Rome, together with her sister-in-law Vannoza, dedicated themselves to visiting the poor and caring for the sick. Their actions served as an inspiration to other wealthy women in the city, who followed their example and also began to offer assistance to those in need. Following the death of her mother-in-law, St. Frances of Rome assumed the role of mistress of the household. During a period of flooding and famine, she converted a portion of the family's country estate into a hospital and provided aid to the poor by distributing food and clothing to them. At the start of the 15th century, St. Frances of Rome gave birth to her first child, a son named Battista, after John the Baptist. Later on, she had two more children: a boy named Giovanni Evangelista and a girl named Agnes. There is an account that during a flood in Rome, disease and famine plagued the city. St. Frances of Rome responded by instructing that no one asking for alms be turned away. She and her sister-in-law Vannoza distributed corn, wine, oil, and clothing to the poor. Frances' father-in-law was so outraged by her actions that he confiscated the keys to the supply rooms. However, upon seeing that the corn bin and wine barrel had miraculously been replenished after Frances had finished praying, he returned the keys to her. During the Western Schism of the Catholic Church, when there were wars between the pope in Rome and various anti-popes, a story is told that St. Frances of Rome's son Battista was to be

handed over as a hostage to the commander of the Neapolitan troops. This happened after an antipope sent a cruel governor, Count Troja, to conquer Rome and her husband Lorenzo was seriously wounded and his brother was arrested in one of the battles. Troja demanded that Battista, who was Frances's son and the heir of the family, be handed over to him as ransom. Under the guidance of her spiritual director, Frances obeyed this order and took her son to the troops. Along the way, she stopped at the Church of the Aracoeli and entrusted her son's life to the Blessed Mother. When they arrived at the designated location, the soldiers tried to put Battista on a horse to take him into captivity.

However, the horse refused to move despite being whipped heavily. The soldiers saw this as the hand of God and returned the boy to his mother. During a time of forced exile, Lorenzo was wounded so severely that he never fully recovered and his property and possessions were destroyed. His son Battista was taken hostage in Naples. Around that time of exile, a plague broke out in Rome that took the lives of many people, including Frances's nine-year-old son, Evangelista. In the aftermath of destruction and ruin in Rome, wolves were known to roam the streets. Despite this, Frances opened up her home once again to serve as a hospital. She also collected wood for fire and herbs for medicine by driving her wagon through the countryside. According to legend, an angel would light the road before her with a lantern, keeping her safe from any dangers along the way. The wars eventually ended, and Battista and Frances's husband were able to return home.

However, while Battista came back as a charming young man, Frances's husband returned broken in both mind and body. Despite this, Battista went on to marry a young woman named Mabilia who was known for her beauty. Frances remained in her own home, nursing her husband for the last seven years of his life from wounds he had received in battle until he died in 1436. His final words to her were, "I feel as if my whole life has been one beautiful dream of purest happiness. God has given me so much in your love." After Lorenzo's passing, Frances moved into the house with the other Oblates and was appointed as the superior. At 52 years old, she was finally living the life she had dreamed of since she was eleven. She had correctly discerned her original vocation. On 15th August, 1425, the feast of the Assumption of Mary, she established the Olivetan Oblates of Mary, a group of devout women who were not bound by formal vows and were not cloistered, under the authority of the Olivetan monks of the Abbey of Santa Maria Nova in Rome. This allowed them to follow Frances' example of combining a life of prayer with meeting the needs of their society. In March 1433, Frances founded a monastery at Tor de' Specchi for the members of the confraternity who felt called to a common life. This monastery became the only house of the Institute, and on July 4 1433, they received the approval of Pope Eugene IV as a religious congregation of oblates with private religious vows. The

Community later became known as the Oblates of St Frances of Rome. St. Frances of Rome died in 1440 and was interred at the Church of Santa Maria. Pope Paul V Canonized her on 9th May, 1608. Her remains were exhumed in 1869 and have been displayed in a glass casket for veneration by the devoted ever since. The Church of Santa Maria Nova is now commonly known as the Church of St. Frances.

Patronage


In 1925, Pope Pius XI declared her the patron saint of automobile drivers because of a legend that an angel used to light the road before her with a lantern when she travelled, keeping her safe from hazards.

She is also the patron saint of

- Benedictine oblates
- Widow

Sunday Mass Readings Homily - 9th March 2025, First Sunday of Lent, Year C
 9th March 2025 Catholic Sunday Readings Homily Theme: Jesus is Tempted By The Devil in the Desert - Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-15, Luke 4:1-13

Sick People:



Please pray for all the Sick in our three Parishes "My Payers and Good Wishes to All."

Saint Josephs 5:30pm

Saint Joseph's	9:30am
Saint Anne's & Holy Family	11:00 am
Saint Patrick's Ryhope	9:30 am

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