

## First Sunday of Lent, Week of March 13

**Reading I:** Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7

**Reading II:** Romans 5: 12-19

**Gospel:** Matthew 4: 1-11

Dear Friends in Christ:

At Ash Wednesday evening Mass I quoted a saying I've had on my wall for over thirty years, *Save a Space for Silence in Your Day*. The season of Lent calls us to make a space for God in our lives, the space necessary for us to be able to see and hear and feel God's personal presence and care. I have also had the following poem, *The Difference* by Grace L. Naessens on my wall for over twenty five years, and I recommend it for your Lenten reflection as well. *I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day; I had so much to accomplish that I didn't take time to pray.*

*Problems just tumbled about me, and heavier came each task, "Why doesn't God help me," I wondered. He answered, "You didn't ask." I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, gray and bleak I wondered why God didn't show me, He said, "But you didn't seek." I tried to come into God's presence; I used all my keys at the lock. God gently and lovingly chided, "My child, you didn't knock." I woke up early this morning and paused before entering the day. I had so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray.*

Fr. Dan