Journey through Lent
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Lower Elementary

Materials
- Handout A: Gospel Reading for February 21, 2021
- *Christ in the Desert*
- Teacher Resource: *Christ in the Desert* Discussion Guide
- Handout B: Christ in the Desert Coloring Page

Learning Goals
In the Gospel for this first Sunday in Lent, Jesus spends forty days in the desert preparing for His public ministry. In many ways, Lent is our time in the desert in which the Church encourages us to prepare to receive the salvation Christ won for us on the Cross. In this lesson, students will reflect on prayer using sacred art.

Gospel Reflection
A. Have students read the Gospel passage, or read it aloud to your students, and then answer the focus questions. You may have students answer them on their own or you may discuss them together as a class.
B. Review and discuss the correct answers when finished.

Activity
Lead your students in a reflection on the sacred art image *Christ in the Desert* by Ivan Kramskoi. Use Teacher Resource: *Christ in the Desert* Discussion Guide to help guide the activity. Then, have students color Handout B: *Christ in the Desert* Coloring Page. On each of the blank lines provided, have your students write one thing that they want to pray to Jesus for during Lent.
Handout A: Gospel Reading for February 21, 2021

1. The desert. For forty days. He was tempted by Satan.

2. John (the Baptist) was arrested.

3. The Gospel: “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel.”