

YEAR 1, EPIPHANY 2, THURSDAY: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues for ever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; he did this once for all when he offered up himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord. For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices;

hence it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law. They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly sanctuary; for when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain.” But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry which is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion for a second.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 40:9–14

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 40, verses 9 through 14, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 640.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning
me: *
‘I love to do your will, O my God;
your law is deep in my heart.’”
- 10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great
congregation; *
behold, I did not restrain my lips;
and that, O LORD, you know.
- 11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your
deliverance; *
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness
from the great congregation.
- 12 You are the LORD;
do not withhold your compassion from me; *
let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe
for ever,
- 13 For innumerable troubles have crowded upon me;
my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see; *
they are more in number than the hairs of my
head,
and my heart fails me.

14 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me; *
O LORD, make haste to help me.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Show me your ways, O Lord; *
lead me in your truth and teach me.

People Alleluia.

The Reader returns to his or her seat.

The Holy Gospel

The Minister says The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Minister ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great multitude from Galilee followed; also from Jude'a and Jerusalem and Idume'a and from beyond the Jordan and from about Tyre and Si'don a great multitude, hearing all that he did, came to him. And he

told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they should crush him; for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed upon him to touch him. And whenever the unclean spirits beheld him, they fell down before him and cried out, “You are the Son of God.” And he strictly ordered them not to make him known.

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.