

## YEAR 1, EPIPHANY 4, FRIDAY: MASS

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews**

Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them; and those who are ill-treated, since you also are in the body. Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled; for God will judge the immoral and adulterous. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never fail you nor forsake you." Hence we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid; what can man do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

## Psalm 27:1–6

*The Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 27, verses 1 through 6, found in the red Prayer Book on page 617.

*(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)*

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear? \*  
the LORD is the strength of my life;  
of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my  
flesh, \*  
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who  
stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me, \*  
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 And though war should rise up against me, \*  
yet will I put my trust in him.
- 5 One thing have I asked of the LORD;  
one thing I seek; \*  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the  
days of my life;

6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD \*  
and to seek him in his temple.

## **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \*  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim  
your faithfulness.

*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.

King Herod heard of Jesus casting out many demons and healing many that were sick; for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers

are at work in him.” But others said, “It is Eli’jah.” And others said, “It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” But when Herod heard of it he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.” For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Hero'di-as, his brother Philip’s wife; because he had married her. For John said to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” And Hero'di-as had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and the leading men of Galilee. For when Hero'di-as’ daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will grant it.” And he vowed to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.” And she went out, and said to her mother, “What shall I ask?” And she said, “The head of John the baptizer.” And she came in immediately with haste to the king, and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his

oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

*The Minister says*            The Gospel of the Lord.