

YEAR 2, EPIPHANY 4, WEDNESDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

Adapted from *The Vocabulary of the Church* (1960):

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|------------|---------------|
| Beer-sheba | beer-SHEE-buh |
| Arau'nah | uh-RAW-nuh |
| Jeb'usites | JEB-yu-zight |

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Second Book of Samuel

Again the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he incited David against them, saying, “Go, number Israel and Judah. So the king said to Jo'ab and the commanders of the army, who were with him, “Go through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan to Beer-sheba, and number the people, that I may know the number of the people.” And Jo'ab gave the sum of the numbering of the people to the king: in Israel there were eight hundred thousand valiant men who drew the sword, and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand. But David’s heart smote him after he had numbered the people. And David said to the LORD, “I have sinned greatly in what I have done. But now, O

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2 SAMUEL 24:1–2, 9–17*; PSALM 32:1–8; MARK 6:1–6

WE INCLUDE 2 SAMUEL 24:1, THE CANONICAL INTRODUCTION TO THE NARRATIVE.

LORD, I pray thee, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.” And when David arose in the morning, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Gad, David’s seer, saying, “Go and say to David, “Thus says the LORD, Three things I offer you; choose one of them, that I may do it to you.’ ” So Gad came to David and told him, and said to him, “Shall three years of famine come to you in your land? Or will you flee three months before your foes while they pursue you? Or shall there be three days’ pestilence in your land? Now consider, and decide what answer I shall return to him who sent me.” Then David said to Gad, “I am in great distress; let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is great; but let me not fall into the hand of man.” So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning until the appointed time; and there died of the people from Dan to Beer-sheba seventy thousand men. And when the angel stretched forth his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented of the evil, and said to the angel who was working destruction among the people, “It is enough; now stay your hand.” And the angel of the LORD was by the threshing floor of Arau'nah the Jeb'usite. Then David spoke to the LORD when he saw the angel who was smiting the

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people, and said, “Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly; but these sheep, what have they done? Let thy hand, I pray thee, be against me and against my father’s house.”

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 32:1–8

At Said Mass the Reader says:

Please join me in reading Psalm 32, verses 1 through 8, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 624.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says:

Please join me in reading Psalm 32 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are
forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!

- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no
guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!

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- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered
away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and
night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of
summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the
LORD.” *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to
you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not
reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

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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.

Jesus went away from there and came to his own country; and his disciples followed him. And on the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue; and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get all this? What is the wisdom given to him? What mighty works are wrought by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of

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James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.” And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands upon a few sick people and healed them. And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.