

21 SEPTEMBER:

SAINT MATTHEW APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Book of Proverbs

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare will they give you. Let not loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them about your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

The Reader concludes **The Word of the Lord.**

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Psalm 119:33-40

The Said Mass Reader says:

Please join me in reading Psalm 119, verses 33 through 40, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 766.

The Reader repeats the above information several times.

33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, *
and I shall keep it to the end.

34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your
law; *
I shall keep it with all my heart.

35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
for that is my desire.

36 Incline my heart to your decrees *
and not to unjust gain.

37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.

38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.

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³⁹ Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰ Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Timothy

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned

it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have been

acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training

in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

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Verse before the Gospel

All stand as the reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader We praise you, O God, we acclaim you; *
the glorious company of apostles praise
you.

People Alleluia.

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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 Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office; and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.¹⁰ And as he sat at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and his disciples.¹¹ And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”¹² But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.¹³ Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.