

YEAR C, LENT 4, SUNDAY: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Book of Joshua

The LORD said to Joshua, “This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.” And so the name of that place is called Gilgal to this day.¹⁰ While the people of Israel were encamped in Gilgal they kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at evening in the plains of Jericho.¹¹ And on the morrow after the passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain.¹² And the manna ceased on the morrow, when they ate of the produce of the land; and the people of Israel had manna no more, but ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 32

The Said Mass Reader says:

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

The Reader repeats the above information several times.

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- 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!
- 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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⁹ “I will instruct you and teach you in the way that
you should go; *

I will guide you with my eye.

¹⁰ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no
understanding; *

who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you.”

¹¹ Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *

but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

¹² Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once regarded Christ from a human point of view, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was

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reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We beseech you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Verse before the Gospel

All stand as the reader says

Please stand for the Gospel.

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 Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.² And the Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”³ So he told them this parable: ...^{11b}

“There was a man who had two sons;¹² and the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.’ And he divided his living between them.¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living.¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want.¹⁵ So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine.¹⁶ And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything.¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger!’¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your

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son; treat me as one of your hired servants.’”²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet;²³ and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry;²⁴ for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to make merry.²⁵ Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant.²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.’²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him,²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I

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might make merry with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!’ ³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.