

YEAR 1, PROPER 4, THURSDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

To'bit	TOE-bit
Tobi'as	TOH-bigh-uhs
Ecbat'ana	ek-BAT-uh-nuh
Azari'as	az-uh-RIGH-us
Ragu'el	ra-GYUU-el
Naph'tali	NAF-tuh-ligh

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from Tobit

When the angel Raphael and Tobi'as approached Ecbat'ana, the angel, disguised as Azari'as, said to the young man, “Brother, today we shall stay with Ragu'el. He is your relative, and he has an only daughter named Sarah. I will suggest that she be given to you in marriage, because you are entitled to her and to her inheritance, for you are her only eligible kinsman. When they reached Ecbat'ana and arrived at the house of Ragu'el, Sarah met them and greeted them. They returned her greeting, and she brought them into the

house. Then Ragu'el said to his wife Edna, "How much the young man resembles my cousin To'bit!" And Ragu'el asked them, "Where are you from, brethren?" They answered him, "We belong to the sons of Naph'tali, who are captives in Nin'evah." So he said to them, "Do you know our brother To'bit?" And they said, "Yes, we do." And he asked them, "Is he in good health?" They replied, "He is alive and in good health." And Tobi'as said, "He is my father." Then Ragu'el sprang up and kissed him and wept. And he blessed him and exclaimed, "Son of that good and noble man!" When he heard that To'bit had lost his sight, he was stricken with grief and wept. And his wife Edna and his daughter Sarah wept. They received them very warmly; and they killed a ram from the flock and set large servings of food before them. Then Tobi'as said to Raphael, "Brother Azari'as, speak of those things which you talked about on the journey, and let the matter be settled." So he communicated the proposal to Ragu'el. And Ragu'el said to Tobi'as, "Eat, drink, and be merry; for it is your right to take my child. But let me explain the true situation to you. I have given my daughter to seven husbands, and when each came to her he died in the night. But for the present be merry." And Tobi'as said, "I will eat nothing here until you make a binding agreement with

me.” So Ragu'el said, “Take her right now, in accordance with the law. You are her relative, and she is yours. The merciful God will guide you both for the best.” Then he called his daughter Sarah, and taking her by the hand he gave her to Tobi'as to be his wife, saying, “Here she is; take her according to the law of Moses, and take her with you to your father.” And he blessed them. Next he called his wife Edna, and took a scroll and wrote out the contract; and they set their seals to it. Then they began to eat.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 128

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 128, found in the red Prayer Book on page 783.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 1 Happy are they all who fear the LORD, *
and who follow in his ways!
2. You shall eat the fruit of your labor; *
happiness and prosperity shall be yours.

- 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your
house, *
your children like olive shoots round about your
table.
- 4 The man who fears the LORD *
shall thus indeed be blessed.
- 5 The LORD bless you from Zion, *
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all
the days of your life.
- 6 May you live to see your children's children; *
may peace be upon Israel.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation
from day to day.

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.

And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” And the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that he is one, and there is no other but he; and to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And after that no one dared to ask him any question.

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.