

YEAR 1, PROPER 28, TUESDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

Elea'zar

el-ee-AY-zur

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the

Second Book of the Maccabees

Elea'zar, one of the scribes in high position, a man now advanced in age and of noble presence, was being forced to open his mouth to eat swine's flesh. But he, welcoming death with honor rather than life with pollution, went up to the rack of his own accord, spitting out the flesh, as men ought to go who have the courage to refuse things that it is not right to taste, even for the natural love of life. Those who were in charge of that unlawful sacrifice took the man aside, because of their long acquaintance with him, and privately urged him to bring meat of his own providing, proper for him to use, and pretend that he was eating the flesh of the sacrificial meal which had been commanded by the king, so that by doing this he might be saved from death, and be treated kindly on

account of his old friendship with them. But making a high resolve, worthy of his years and the dignity of his old age and the gray hairs which he had reached with distinction and his excellent life even from childhood, and moreover according to the holy God-given law, he declared himself quickly, telling them to send him to Hades. “Such pretense is not worthy of our time of life,” he said, “lest many of the young should suppose that Elea'zar in his ninetieth year has gone over to an alien religion, and through my pretense, for the sake of living a brief moment longer, they should be led astray because of me, while I defile and disgrace my old age. For even if for the present I should avoid the punishment of men, yet whether I live or die I shall not escape the hands of the Almighty. Therefore, by manfully giving up my life now, I will show myself worthy of my old age and leave to the young a noble example of how to die a good death willingly and nobly for the revered and holy laws.” When he had said this, he went at once to the rack.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 3

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 3, found in the red Prayer Book on page 587.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 1 LORD, how many adversaries I have! *
how many there are who rise up against me!
- 2 How many there are who say of me, *
“There is no help for him in his God.”
- 3 But you, O LORD, are a shield about me; *
you are my glory, the one who lifts up my head.
- 4 I call aloud upon the LORD, *
and he answers me from his holy hill;
- 5 I lie down and go to sleep; *
I wake again, because the LORD sustains me.
- 6 I do not fear the multitudes of people *
who set themselves against me all around.

Please turn the page to continue the psalm.

7 Rise up, O LORD; set me free, O my God; *
surely, you will strike all my enemies across the
face,
you will break the teeth of the wicked.

8 Deliverance belongs to the LORD. *
Your blessing be upon your people!

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Be faithful unto death, says the Lord, *
and I will give you the crown of life.

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 Luke.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchae'us; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchae'us, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchae'us stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.