

YEAR 1, PROPER 28, WEDNESDAY: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the

Second Book of the Maccabees

It happened also that seven brothers and their mother were arrested and were being compelled by the king, under torture with whips and cords, to partake of unlawful swine's flesh. The mother was especially admirable and worthy of honorable memory. Though she saw her seven sons perish within a single day, she bore it with good courage because of her hope in the Lord. She encouraged each of them in the language of their fathers. Filled with a noble spirit, she fired her woman's reasoning with a man's courage, and said to them, "I do not know how you came into being in my womb. It was not I who gave you life and breath, nor I who set in order the elements within each of you. Therefore the Creator of the world, who shaped the beginning of man and devised the origin of all things, will in his mercy give life and breath back to you again,

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2 MACCABEES 7:1, 20–23*; PSALM 17:1–8; LUKE 19:11–28

WE OMIT 2 MACCABEES 7:24–30 BECAUSE THE APPOINTED PROPER SIMPLY OMITTS TOO MUCH OF THE STORY OF THE MARTYRDOM OF SEVEN BROTHERS AND THEIR MOTHER AND THE TERRIBLE CRUELITIES INFLICTED ON THE FAITHFUL HEBREWS. THE CELEBRANT MAY WANT TO REVIEW THE STORY OF 2 MACCABEES 7:1–42.

since you now forget yourselves for the sake of his laws.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 17:1–8

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 17, verses 1 through 8, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 600.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 17 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 Hear my plea of innocence, O LORD;
 give heed to my cry; *
 listen to my prayer, which does not come from
 lying lips.
- 2 Let my vindication come forth from your
 presence; *
 let your eyes be fixed on justice.

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- 3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night, *
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- 4 I give no offense with my mouth as others do; *
I have heeded the words of your lips.
- 5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; *
in your paths my feet shall not stumble.
- 6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; *
incline your ear to me and hear my words.
- 7 Show me your marvelous loving-kindness, *
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right
hand
from those who rise up against them.
- 8 Keep me as the apple of your eye; *
hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Please turn the page for the Gospel Acclamation.

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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.

As the disciples heard these things, Jesus proceeded to tell a parable, because he was near to Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. He said therefore, “A nobleman went into a far country to receive a kingdom and then return. Calling ten of his servants,

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he gave them ten pounds, and said to them, ‘Trade with these till I come.’ But his citizens hated him and sent an embassy after him, saying, ‘We do not want this man to reign over us.’ When he returned, having received the kingdom, he commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by trading. The first came before him, saying, ‘Lord, your pound has made ten pounds more.’ And he said to him, ‘Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities.’ And the second came, saying, ‘Lord, your pound has made five pounds.’ And he said to him, ‘And you are to be over five cities.’ Then another came, saying, ‘Lord, here is your pound, which I kept laid away in a napkin; for I was afraid of you, because you are a severe man; you take up what you did not lay down, and reap what you did not sow.’ He said to him, ‘I will condemn you out of your own mouth, you wicked servant! You knew that I was a severe man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money into the bank, and at my coming I should have collected it with

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interest?’ And he said to those who stood by, ‘Take the pound from him, and give it to him who has the ten pounds.’ (And they said to him, ‘Lord, he has ten pounds!’) ‘I tell you, that to every one who has will more be given; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them before me.’ ” And when he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.

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