

YEAR 1, PROPER 8, WEDNESDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

Ha'gar

HAY-gar

Beer-sheba

beer-SHEE-buh

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from Genesis

Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. And the child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Ha'gar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not be heir with my son Isaac." And the thing was very displeasing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Be not displeased because of the lad and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for through Isaac shall your descendants be named. And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring." So

Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Ha'gar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went, and sat down over against him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Let me not look upon the death of the child." And as she sat over against him, the child lifted up his voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Ha'gar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Ha'gar? Fear not; for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is. Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him fast with your hand; for I will make him a great nation." Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the lad a drink. And God was with the lad, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 34:1–8

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 34, verses 1 through 8, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 627.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 34 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 I will bless the LORD at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the LORD; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; *
let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.

6 I called in my affliction and the LORD heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.

7 The angel of the LORD encompasses those who
fear him, *
and he will deliver them.

8 Taste and see that the LORD is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Your word is a lantern to my feet *
and a light upon my path.

People Alleluia.

The Reader returns to his or her seat.

Please turn the page for the Gospel Lesson.

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.

And when Jesus came to the country of the Gad'arenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood.

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.