

YEAR 2, EPIPHANY 5, WEDNESDAY: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the First Book of the Kings

When the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions. She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices, and very much gold, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king which he could not explain to her. And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, their clothing, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings which he offered at the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit in her. And she said to the king, “The report was true which I heard in my own land of your affairs and of your wisdom, but I did not believe the reports until I came and my own eyes had seen it; and, behold, the half was not told me; your wisdom and prosperity surpass the report which I heard. Happy are your wives! Happy are these your servants, who continually

stand before you and hear your wisdom! Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and set you on the throne of Israel! Because the LORD loved Israel for ever, he has made you king, that you may execute justice and righteousness.” Then she gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, and a very great quantity of spices, and precious stones; never again came such an abundance of spices as these which the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 37:1-7

At Said Mass the Reader says:

Please join me in reading Psalm 37, verses 1 through 7, found in the red Prayer Book on page 633.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says:

Please join me in reading Psalm 37 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust
in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the
light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.

The Reader says

Please stand for the Gospel.

Verse Before the Gospel

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.

Jesus called the people to him again, and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a man which by going into him can defile him; but the things which come out of a man are what defile him." And when he had entered the house, and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever

goes into a man from outside cannot defile him, since it enters, not his heart but his stomach, and so passes on?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.) And he said, “What comes out of a man is what defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, fornication, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a man.”

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.