

YEAR 2, PROPER 20, SATURDAY: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from Ecclesiastes

Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; walk in the ways of your heart and the sight of your eyes. But know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment. Remove vexation from your mind, and put away pain from your body; for youth and the dawn of life are vanity. Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come, and the years draw nigh, when you will say, “I have no pleasure in them”; before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return after the rain; in the day when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the grinders cease

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ECCLESIASTES 11:9–12:14*; PSALM 90:13–17*; LUKE 9:43B–45

Note to the Celebrant: If you are not familiar with Ecclesiastes, please read the introductory note in the *The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha: Revised Standard Version, Expanded Edition*, (1977), 815. We include today Ecclesiastes 12:9–14, the orthodox conclusion of the book that enables the book’s inclusion in the Hebrew Scriptures. This is the annotation for 12:13–14, “**Cautionary footnote** by an orthodox editor: when *all has been heard* do no let yourself be turned away from belief and obedience” (page 814). See also *Fully Revised Fourth Edition The New Oxford Annotated Bible New Revised Standard Version With The Apocrypha* (2010), 948–49.

because they are few, and those that look through the windows are dimmed, and the doors on the street are shut; when the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the voice of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low; they are afraid also of what is high, and terrors are in the way; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along and desire fails; because man goes to his eternal home, and the mourners go about the streets; before the silver cord is snapped, or the golden bowl is broken, or the pitcher is broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern, and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher; all is vanity. Besides being wise, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging proverbs with great care. The Preacher sought to find pleasing words, and uprightly he wrote words of truth. The

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sayings of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings which are given by one Shepherd. My son, beware of anything beyond these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh. The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Please turn the page to lead the appointed psalm.

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Psalm 90:13–17

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 90, verses 13 through 17, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 718.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

13 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the
morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our
life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you
afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

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16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the LORD our God be
upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Open my eyes, O Lord, *
that I may see the wonders of your law.

People Alleluia.

The Reader returns to his or her seat.

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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.

But while they were all marveling at everything Jesus did, he said to his disciples, “Let these words sink into your ears; for the Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men.” But they did not understand this saying, and it was concealed from them, that they should not perceive it; and they were afraid to ask him about this saying.

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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