JANUARY 25, The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle: Mass

For use with the First Lesson

Adapted from The Vocabulary of the Church (1960):

Ce'phas	SEE-fuhs
Cili'cia	si-LISH-uh
Jude'a	juu-DEE-uh

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Ce'phas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother. (In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!) Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cili'cia. And I was still not known by sight to the churches of Christ in Jude'a; they only heard it said, "He who once persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." And they glorified God because of me. *The Reader concludes* The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 67

At Said Mass the Reader says Please join me in reading Psalm 67, found in the red Prayer Book on page 675. (The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says Please join me in reading Psalm 67 as found in the service bulletin.

- May God be merciful to us and bless us, * show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, * your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, * for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth her increase; * may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
- May God give us his blessing, *
 and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

Please turn the page to lead the Gospel Acclamation.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader le	ads the appointed acclamation.	
Reader	Alleluia.	
People	Alleluia.	
Reader	We praise you, O God;	
	we acknowledge you to be the Lord; *	
	the glorious company of apostles praise	
you.		
People	Alleluia.	

The Reader returns to his or her seat.

The Holy Gospel

J 1	
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.
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People Glory to you, Lord Christ. Jesus said, "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of men; for they will deliver you up to councils, and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear testimony before them and the Gentiles. When they deliver you up, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will deliver up brother to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved."

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.