

**MARCH 24,
OSCAR ROMERO, ARCHBISHOP AND MARTYR, 1980:
MASS**

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from First Book of the Kings

Now Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel, beside the palace of Ahab king of Sama'ria. And after this Ahab said to Naboth, "Give me your vineyard, that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near my house; and I will give you a better vineyard for it; or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its value in money." But Naboth said to Ahab, "The LORD forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my fathers." And Ahab went into his house vexed and sullen because of what Naboth the Jezreelite had said to him; for he had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers." And he lay down on his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no food. But Jez'ebel his wife came to him, and said to him, "Why is your spirit so vexed that you eat no food?" And he said to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite, and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if it please you, I will give you another vineyard for it'; and he answered, 'I will not give you

my vineyard.” And Jez'ebel his wife said to him, “Do you now govern Israel? Arise, and eat bread, and let your heart be cheerful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.” So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal, and she sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who dwelt with Naboth in his city. And she wrote in the letters, “Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people; and set two base fellows opposite him, and let them bring a charge against him, saying, ‘You have cursed God and the king.’ Then take him out, and stone him to death.” And the men of his city, the elders and the nobles who dwelt in his city, did as Jez'ebel had sent word to them. As it was written in the letters which she had sent to them, they proclaimed a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people. And the two base fellows came in and sat opposite him; and the base fellows brought a charge against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, “Naboth cursed God and the king.” So they took him outside the city, and stoned him to death with stones. Then they sent to Jez'ebel, saying, “Naboth has been stoned; he is dead.” As soon as Jez'ebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead, Jez'ebel said to Ahab, “Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for

money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead.” And as soon as Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab arose to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it. Then the word of the LORD came to Eli’jah the Tishbite, saying, “Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who is in Sama’ria; behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone to take possession. And you shall say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Have you killed, and also taken possession?’” And you shall say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD: “In the place where dogs licked up the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick your own blood.’””

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Please turn the page to lead the appointed psalm.

Psalm 31:15-24

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 31, verses 15 through 24, as found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 623.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 31 as found in the service bulletin.

- 15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.”
- 17 LORD, let me not be ashamed for having called
upon you; *
rather, let the wicked be put to shame;
let them be silent in the grave.
- 18 Let the lying lips be silenced which speak against
the righteous, *
haughtily, disdainfully, and with contempt.

- 19 How great is your goodness, O LORD!
which you have laid up for those who fear you; *
which you have done in the sight of all
for those who put their trust in you.
- 20 You hide them in the covert of your presence
from those who slander them; *
you keep them in your shelter from the strife of
tongues.
- 21 Blessed be the LORD! *
for he has shown me the wonders of his love in a
besieged city.
- 22 Yet I said in my alarm,
“I have been cut off from the sight of your eyes.”*
Nevertheless, you heard the sound of my
entreaty when I cried out to you.
- 23 Love the LORD, all you who worship him; *
the LORD protects the faithful,
but repays to the full those who act haughtily.
- 24 Be strong and let your heart take courage, *
all you who wait for the LORD.

After the Season of Lent:

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Blessed are those who are persecuted for
righteousness' sake, *
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

People Alleluia.

In Lent:

There is no verse before the Gospel.

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 John.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Beth-sa'ida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew went with Philip and they told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If any one serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if any one serves me, the Father will honor him.

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.