

**DECEMBER 12,  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION  
OF THE CHURCH: MASS II**

**For use with the First Lesson**

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

Beer-sheba

beer-SHEE-buh

Har'an

HAIR-uhn

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from Genesis**

Jacob left Beer-sheba, and went toward Har'an. And he came to a certain place, and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your descendants; and your descendants shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the

west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and by you and your descendants shall all the families of the earth bless themselves. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done that of which I have spoken to you.” Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place; and I did not know it.” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

## **Psalm 84:1–6**

*At Said Mass the Reader says:*

Please join me in reading Psalm 84, verses 1 through 6, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 707.

*(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)*

*At Sung Mass the Reader says:*

Please join me in reading Psalm 84 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
  
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
my King and my God.
  
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.

- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find  
it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of  
water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* Lord, I love the house in which you  
dwell; \*  
and the place where your glory abides.

*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  
Matthew.

*People*

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

And Jesus entered the temple of God and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer’; but you make it a den of robbers.” And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant; and they said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read, ‘Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast brought perfect praise?’”

*The Minister says*

The Gospel of the Lord.