

LENT 3, WEDNESDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

Ba'al-pe'or

BAY-uhl-PEE-or

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from Deuteronomy

Moses said, “And now, O Israel, give heed to the statutes and the ordinances which I teach you, and do them; that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, gives you. You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it; that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you. Your eyes have seen what the LORD did at Ba'al-pe'or; for the LORD your God destroyed from among you all the men who followed the Ba'al of Pe'or; but you who held fast to the LORD your God are all alive this day. Behold, I have taught you statutes and ordinances, as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land which you are

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DEUTERONOMY 4:1–9*; PSALM 78:1–6; JOHN 6:63; MATTHEW 5:17–19

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entering to take possession of it. Keep them and do them; for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? And what great nation is there, that has statutes and ordinances so righteous as all this law which I set before you this day? Only take heed, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things which your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children."

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

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Psalm 78:1–6

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 78, verses 1 through 6, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 694.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 78 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the
LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

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- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their
children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their
children.

Verse before the Gospel

The Reader reads the appointed verse.

It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no
avail; *
the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and
and life.

The Reader then 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
Matthew.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, “Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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