

MARCH 19, SAINT JOSEPH: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Second Book of Samuel

The word of the LORD came to Nathan, “Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son. When he commits

iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men; but I will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 89: 1–8

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 89, verses 1 through 8, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 713.
(The Reader repeats the above information as needed times.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 89, as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your
faithfulness.

- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established
for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the
heavens.
- 3 “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 ‘I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”
- 5 The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O
LORD, *
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the
holy ones;
- 6 For who in the skies can be compared to the
LORD? *
who is like the LORD among the gods?
- 7 God is much to be feared in the council of the
holy ones, *
great and terrible to all those round about him.

8 Who is like you, LORD God of hosts? *
O mighty LORD, your faithfulness is all around
you.

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

The promise to Abraham and his descendants, that they should inherit the world, did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants—not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, for he is the father of us all, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations; as he had been told, “So shall your descendants be.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

In Lent:

There is no verse before the Gospel. The Reader says
Please stand for 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 Luke.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw

him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously.” And he said to them, “How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.