

AUGUST 20,

BERNARD, ABBOT OF CLAIRVAUX, 1153: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from Ecclesiasticus

On the other hand he who devotes himself to the study of the law of the Most High will seek out the wisdom of all the ancients, and will be concerned with prophecies; he will preserve the discourse of notable men and penetrate the subtleties of parables; he will seek out the hidden meanings of proverbs and be at home with the obscurities of parables. He will serve among great men and appear before rulers; he will travel through the lands of foreign nations, for he tests the good and the evil among men. He will set his heart to rise early to seek the Lord who made him, and will make supplication before the Most High; he will open his mouth in prayer and make supplication for his sins. If the great Lord is willing, he will be filled with the spirit of understanding; he will pour forth words of wisdom and give thanks to the Lord in prayer. He will direct his counsel and knowledge aright, and meditate on his secrets. He will reveal instruction in his teaching, and will glory in the law of the Lord's covenant. Many will praise his understanding, and it

will never be blotted out; his memory will not disappear, and his name will live through all generations. Nations will declare his wisdom, and the congregation will proclaim his praise.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 139: 1–9

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 139, verses 1 through 9, found in the red Prayer Book on page 794.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 139 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me;*
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

- 4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.

The Reader says

Please stand for the Gospel.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader “I am the good shepherd,” says the
Lord, *
“I know my own and my own know
me.”

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 John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples at the supper before the
Passover, “If you abide in me, and my words abide in
you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for
you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much
fruit, and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father
has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If
you keep my commandments, you will abide in my

love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.