

**MARCH 17,
PATRICK,
BISHOP AND MISSIONARY OF IRELAND, 461: MASS**

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the

First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

We had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the face of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from error or uncleanness, nor is it made with guile; but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please men, but to please God who tests our hearts. For we never used either words of flattery, as you know, or a cloak for greed, as God is witness; nor did we seek glory from men, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse taking care of her children. So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us. For you remember our labor and toil, brethren; we worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you, while we preached to you the gospel of God.

You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our behavior to you believers; for you know how, like a father with his children, we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 97: 1–7

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 97, verses 1 through 7, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 726.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 97 found in the bulletin.

- 1 The LORD is King;
let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of
his throne.

- 3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of
the LORD, *
at the presence of the LORD of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.

Verse before the Gospel

The Reader reads the appointed verse.

Jesus said to them, “Follow me, *
and I will make you become fishers of
men and women.”.

The Reader then 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.

Now after the resurrection, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.