

**MAY 2, ATHANASIUS,  
BISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA, 373: MASS**

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from the First Letter of John**

Every one who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God, and every one who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

*The Reader concludes*    The Word of the Lord.

## **Psalm 71: 1–8**

*At Said Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 71, verses 1 through 8, found in the red Prayer Book on page 683.

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

*At Sung Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 71 found in the bulletin.

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; \*  
let me never be ashamed.
- 2 In your righteousness, deliver me and set me  
free; \*  
incline your ear to me and save me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; \*  
you are my crag and my stronghold.
- 4 Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the  
wicked, \*  
from the clutches of the evildoer and the  
oppressor.

- 5 For you are my hope, O LORD God, \*  
my confidence since I was young.
- 6 I have been sustained by you ever since I was  
born;  
from my mother's womb you have been my  
strength; \*  
my praise shall be always of you.
- 7 I have become a portent to many; \*  
but you are my refuge and my strength.
- 8 Let my mouth be full of your praise \*  
and your glory all the day long.

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* Blessed are those who are persecuted for  
righteousness' sake, \*  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

*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.

Jesus said to the twelve, “And you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel, before the Son of man comes. A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master; it is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Be-el’zebul, how much more will they malign those of his household. So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, utter in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim upon the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground without your Father’s will. But even

the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not,  
therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.  
So every one who acknowledges me before men, I also  
will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven.”  
*The Minister says*            The Gospel of the Lord.