

**DECEMBER 5,  
CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA, PRIEST, C. 210: MASS**

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from the  
Letter of Paul to the Colossians**

May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent. For in him all the fulness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him

to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

*The Reader concludes* The Word of the Lord.

### **Psalm 34: 9–14**

*At Said Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 34, verses 9 through 14, found in the red Prayer Book on page 628.

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

*At Sung Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 34 as found in the service bulletin.

9 Fear the LORD, you that are his saints, \*  
for those who fear him lack nothing.

10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger, \*  
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is  
good.

11 Come, children, and listen to me; \*  
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

12 Who among you loves life \*  
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?

13 Keep your tongue from evil-speaking \*  
and your lips from lying words.

14 Turn from evil and do good; \*  
seek peace and pursue it.

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* Let your light so shine before men and  
women, \*  
that they may see your good works  
and give glory to your Father who is in  
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 John.

*People*

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live because of me. This is the bread which came down from heaven, not such as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live for ever.” This he said in the synagogue, as he taught at Caper'na-um. Many of his disciples, when they heard it, said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples murmured at it, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? Then what if you were to see the Son of man ascending where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no avail; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.”

*The Minister says*

The Gospel of the Lord.