

**DECEMBER 12,  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION  
OF THE CHURCH: MASS I**

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

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

Put away all malice and all guile and insincerity and envy and all slander. Like newborn babes, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation; for you have tasted the kindness of the Lord. Come to him, to that living stone, rejected by men but in God's sight chosen and precious; and like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were no people but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy but now you have received mercy.

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

## **Psalm 84:1–6**

*At Said Mass the Reader says:*

Please join me in reading Psalm 84, verses 1 through 6, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 707.

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

*At Sung Mass the Reader says:*

Please join me in reading Psalm 84 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
  
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
my King and my God.
  
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.

- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find  
it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of  
water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* Lord, I love the house in which you  
dwell; \*  
and the place where your glory abides.

*People* Alleluia.

*The Reader returns to his or her seat.*

***Please turn the page for the Gospel Lesson.***

## 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 entered the temple of God and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer’; but you make it a den of robbers.” And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant; and they said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read, ‘Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast brought perfect praise?’”

*The Minister says*

The Gospel of the Lord.