

YEARS A & B, EASTER 3, FRIDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

Adapted from *The Vocabulary of the Church* (1960):

Anani'as

an-uh-NIGH-uhs

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he journeyed he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed about him. And he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting; but rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul arose from the ground; and when his eyes were opened, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into

Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Anani'as. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Anani'as." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for a man of Tarsus named Saul; for behold, he is praying, and he has seen a man named Anani'as come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Anani'as answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to thy saints at Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call upon thy name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; for I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Anani'as departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came, has sent me that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized, and took food and was strengthened. For several days he was with the disciples at Damascus.

And in the synagogues immediately he proclaimed Jesus, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 117

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 117, found in the Prayer Book on page 760.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 1 Praise the LORD, all you nations; *
laud him, all you peoples.

- 2 For his loving-kindness toward us is great, *
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.
Hallelujah!

Please turn the page to lead the Gospel Acclamation.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader He who eats my flesh and drinks my
blood abides in me, *
and I in him, says the Lord.

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.

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying,
“How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus
said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat
the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you
have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks
my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the
last day. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is
drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my

blood abides in me, and I in him. 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.

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.