

FIRST READING

Genesis 3:9–15

A reading from the book of Genesis

The LORD called out to Adam and asked, “Where are you?”

Adam answered, “I was naked,”
and when I heard you walking through the garden,
I was afraid and hid!”

“How did you know you were naked?” God asked.
“Did you eat from the tree I told you not to?”

Adam said, “It was that woman you put here with me!
She gave me some of the fruit, and I ate it.”

The LORD God then asked her, “What have you done?”

The woman answered,
“The snake tricked me into eating some of that fruit.”

The LORD God said to the snake:
“Because of what you have done,
you will suffer a great curse than the cattle and the wild animals.
For as long as you live,
you will crawl on your stomach and eat dirt from the ground.
You and this woman will hate each other.
Your descendants and hers will always be enemies.
One of them will crush your head,
and you will bite him on the heel!”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalm 130:1–2, 3–4, 5 and
6d–7a*

All: *With the Lord there is mercy.*

*From a sea of troubles
I call out to you, LORD.
Won't you please listen
as I beg for mercy?*

All: *With the Lord there is mercy.*

*If you kept a record of our sins,
no one could last long.
But you forgive us,
and so we will worship you.*

All: *With the Lord there is mercy.*

*With all my heart,
I am waiting, LORD, for you!
I trust your promises.
Yes, I wait more eagerly
than a soldier on guard duty
waits for the dawn.
Israel, trust the LORD!*

All: *With the Lord there is mercy.*

The Lectionary for Masses with Children uses the following: Readings from the Old Testament, Book of Psalms, and a select number of the refrains for the responsorial psalms are taken from the *Contemporary English Version* ©1991 by the American Bible Society. Readings from the New Testament are taken from the *Contemporary English Version, Bible for Today's Family: New Testament* ©1991 by the American Bible Society. Used with permission.

SECOND READING
2 Corinthians 4:16–5:1

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:
We never give up.
Our bodies are gradually dying,
but we ourselves are being made stronger every day.
These little troubles are getting us ready for an eternal glory
that will make all our troubles seem like nothing.

Things that are seen don't last forever.
But things that are not seen are eternal.
That's why we keep our minds on the things that cannot be seen.

Our bodies are like tents that we live in here on earth.
But when these tents are destroyed,
We know that God will give each of us a place to live.
These homes will not be buildings that someone has made
but they are in heaven and will last forever.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL

(A Long Form)

Mark 3:20–26, 31–35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus went back home,
and once again such a large crowd gathered
that there was no chance even to eat.
When Jesus' family heard what he was doing,
they thought he was crazy and went to get him under control.

Some teachers of the Law of Moses came from Jerusalem and said,
"This man is under the power of Beelzebul, the ruler of demons!
He is even forcing out demons with the help of Beelzebul."

Jesus told the people to gather around him.
Then he spoke to them in riddles and said:
"How can Satan force himself out?
A nation whose people fight each other won't last very long.
And a family that fights won't last long either.
So if Satan fights against himself,
that will be the end of him."

Jesus' mother and brothers came and stood outside.
Then they sent someone with a message for him to come out to them.
The crowd that was sitting around Jesus told him, "Your mother and
your brothers and sisters are outside and want to see you."

Jesus asked, "Who is my mother and who are my brothers?"
Then he looked at the people sitting around him and said,
"Here are my mother and my brothers.
Anyone who obeys God is my brother or sister or mother."

The Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL

(B Short Form)

Mark 3:20–21, 31–35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus went back home,
and once again such a large crowd gathered
that there was no chance even to eat.
When Jesus' family heard what he was doing,
they thought he was crazy and went to get him under control.

Jesus' mother and brothers came and stood outside.
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Anyone who obeys God is my brother or sister or mother."

The Gospel of the Lord.