

Newman Institute
The Gospel of Mark and the Lectionary
 (1)
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Welcome

- Lent in the lectionary
- Before Vatican II
- The “new” Lectionary
- Mark in Year B (2024)
- Conversation

Lent in the Lectionary

- Third Sunday of Lent, year B
- Exodus 20:1-17 The Ten Commandments
- Ps (19) 18 The Law of the Lord is perfect
- 1 Cor 1:22-25 The paradox of the cross
- John 2:13-25 The destruction of the Temple

Lent 1	Genesis 9:8-15	Noah	Ps 25 (24)	1 Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:12-15
Lent 2	Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 14-18	Abraham	Ps (116) 115	Rom 8:31-34	Mark 9:2-10
Lent 3	Exodus 20:1-17	Moses	Ps (19) 18	1 Cor 1:22-25	John 2:13-25
Lent 4	2 Chron 36:14-16, 19-23	Exile	Ps 137 (136)	Eph 2:4-10	John 3:14-21
Lent 5	Jeremiah 31:31-34	New Covenant	Ps 51 (50)	Heb 5:7-9	John 12:20-33

Before Vatican II

- The use of the Bible before Vatican II
- The “rediscovery” of the Word
- The use of the Bible after Vatican II

<i>After Pentecost</i>	<i>Epistle</i>	<i>Gospel</i>
Fourteenth	Gal 5:16-24	Mt 6:24-33
Fifteenth	Gal 6:1-10	Lk 7:11-16
Sixteenth	Eph 3:13-21	Lk 14:1-12

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Sundays	21	3	18	12
Feasts	5	1	3	8
Total	26	4	21	20

	Verses total in the Bible	Verses used in the Missal	% used in the Missal
NT Gospels	3997	848 (1962)	22.4% (1962)
		2181	57.8% (1969)
NT Epistles	4178	461	11%
		1061	25.4%
OT Readings	25,044	255	1.02%
		932	3.7% (= 1.2% p.a.)

Vatican II

- Gustave Fontaine
 - Annibale Bugnini
 - 31 Bible scholars
 - 800 “Others” for review and comment
 - Several experimental lectionaries
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- Continuous readings?
 - Thematic readings?
 - How many “cycles”?
 - Retention of the old Lectionary?

The “new” Lectionary

- The Gospel sets the theme (semi-continuous reading)
 - In preparation, the First Reading (usually OT)
 - In response, the psalm “voices” our reception
 - The Second Reading is (semi-)continuous reading from the Acts or a letter (thematically unconnected)
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- What about John?
 - What about Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter?
 - In the year of Mark: John 6 (summer)

Mark

- Shortest Gospel
- First Gospel
- Context: the Jewish War (66-73)
- Traditionally: written in Rome
- More likely: written in Syria

70 years				45 years				
Jesus 6 BC — AD 30		Paul 6 BC — AD 64		Mark 70		Matthew 85-90	John 95–100	Luke 110–115
Galilee, Judea		Syria, Asia Minor, Greece, Italy		Syria? Rome?		Syria	Syria, Asia Minor	Rome?
Augustus	Tiberius	Caligula Claudius	Nero	Vespasian	Titus	Domitian	Nerva, Trajan	Trajan
31-14	14-37	37-41 41-54	54-68	69-79	79-81	81-96	96-98	98-117

- Crisis 1: a mixed community (Jews and Gentiles)
- Crisis 2: the break with Judaism
- Crisis 3: how to be a faithful disciples

- A mixed church
- Internal tensions
- External challenges
- Time of tremendous upheaval
- Question of faith, practice and identity
- Not so unlike our own time?

- Greek: relatively unpolished
- Narrative skill: full of energy
- Lay-out: immensely significant and skillful
- NB: a one-year ministry

Prologue	Galilee	The Way	Jerusalem	Epilogue
1:1-15	1:16-8:21	8:22-10:52	11:1-15:47	16:1-8
	Calling, Sending		No calling, no sending	
	Miracles Exorcisms		No miracles, no exorcisms	
	Discourse Kingdom parables		Discourse Apocalyptic	
	Symbols bread, sea, boat		Symbols cup, way, cross	

Conversation

- What would you like to do next?
- Proposal: read Mark 1:1-15?