



From the Desk of Father Peter

A Dialog between God and Us

Once the Opening Prayer is said by the celebrant, the First Reading is read.

After the First Reading, like on this Sunday which is the Fourth Sunday of Lent, we pause for a moment to reflect on the WORD we have just heard proclaimed.

The First Reading is generally from the Old Testament. It gives us an insight into the history of our salvation and points us to Christ our Savior through the law and the prophets. Our Mass is full of the ancient history and traditions that presents our salvation history from the creation story of Adam to

Jesus who is revealed to us as the New Adam in the New Testament readings, as well as meditate on them. After the First Reading, we sing or recite a psalm. We call it a “responsorial psalm” because the congregation (people) sing a refrain, while the cantor or choir sings the verses of the psalm. Our responsorial psalm for the fourth Sunday of Lent is: “Let my tongue be silenced if ever I forget you.” PSALM 137.



In listening to the Scriptures and having them touch our hearts, along with breaking and sharing bread together, Jesus is truly and wonderfully experienced.

We are to listen attentively to rediscover the work of God in

ourselves. This listening involves a dialog between God and us. Our response to listening to God is singing a refrain in a short and simple invocation: "Let my tongue be silenced if ever I forget you."

The responsorial psalm, as well as helping us to remember God is in our midst, also gives us space to reflect on the work of God that involves us, His people.

The psalms that are picked, like in today's psalm, relate to other readings. Sometimes they are selected for the season of the year or for different groups of Saints that are being celebrated in the liturgy of the day.

At the end of the responsorial psalm, we pause again to reflect and ready ourselves to listen again to more of God's Word.



Peace and love to all.

Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu