

TABLE I

Order for Gospel Reading for Sundays in Ordinary Time

Year A: Year of Matthew

In order to do justice to the intention of the Lectionary, the five great 'sermons' in Matthew's Gospel will of necessity be the focal points of preaching and instruction. The narrative sections, which are placed in between the sermons, are composed in such a way that there is a unity and coherence in the whole work.

Discourse and narrative stand side by side, so that the narrative chapters prepare the way for what follows in the discourses. Recognising the way in which the Lectionary has reflected the structure of Matthew's Gospel will enable preachers and readers to see the context of the readings from one week to the next.

Unit I	The figure of Jesus the Messiah	Sundays 1-2
SUNDAY 1	The Baptism of Jesus	Mt 3:13-17
SUNDAY 2	The witness of John the Baptist	Jn 1:29-34
Unit II	Christ's design for life in God's Kingdom	Sundays 3-9
	<i>Narrative:</i>	
SUNDAY 3	The call of the first disciples	Mt 4:12-23
	<i>Discourse:</i>	
SUNDAY 4	The Sermon on the Mount (1)	Mt 5:1-12
SUNDAY 5	The Sermon on the Mount (2)	Mt 5:13-16
SUNDAY 6	The Sermon on the Mount (3)	Mt 5:17-37
SUNDAY 7	The Sermon on the Mount (4)	Mt 5:38-48
SUNDAY 8	The Sermon on the Mount (5)	Mt 6:24-34
SUNDAY 9	The Sermon on the Mount (6)	Mt 7:21-27
Unit III	The spread of God's Kingdom	Sundays 10-13
	<i>Narrative:</i>	
SUNDAY 10	The call of Levi	Mt 9:9-13
	<i>Discourse:</i>	
SUNDAY 11	The mission sermon (1)	Mt 9:36-10:8
SUNDAY 12	The mission sermon (2)	Mt 10:26-33
SUNDAY 13	The mission sermon (3)	Mt 10:37-42
Unit IV	The mystery of God's Kingdom	Sundays 14-17
	<i>Narrative:</i>	
SUNDAY 14	The revelation to the simple	Mt 11:25-30
	<i>Discourse:</i>	
SUNDAY 15	The parable sermon (1)	Mt 13:1-23
SUNDAY 16	The parable sermon (2)	Mt 13:24-43
SUNDAY 17	The parable sermon (3)	Mt 13:44-52

Unit V	God's kingdom on earth - The Church of Christ	Sundays 18-24
	<i>Narrative:</i>	
SUNDAY 18	The feeding of five thousand	Mt 14:31-21
SUNDAY 19	Jesus walks on the waters	Mt 14:22-33
SUNDAY 20	The Canaanite woman	Mt 15:21-28
SUNDAY 21	Peter's confession: the primacy conferred	Mt 16:13-20
SUNDAY 22	The Passion prophesied: discipleship	Mt 16:21-27
	<i>Discourse:</i>	
SUNDAY 23	The community sermon (1)	Mt 18:15-20
SUNDAY 24	The community sermon (2)	Mt 18:21-35
Unit VI	Authority and invitation - the ministry ends	Sundays 25-33
	<i>Narrative:</i>	
SUNDAY 25	The parable of the labourers	Mt 20:1-16
SUNDAY 26	The parable of the two sons	Mt 21:28-32
SUNDAY 27	The parable of the wicked vinedressers	Mt 21:33-43
SUNDAY 28	The parable of the marriage feast	Mt 22:1-14
SUNDAY 29	Paying tribute to Caesar	Mt 22:15-21
SUNDAY 30	The greatest commandment	Mt 22:34-40
SUNDAY 31	Hypocrisy and ambition	Mt 23:1-12
	<i>Discourse:</i>	
SUNDAY 32	The final sermon (1)	Mt 25:1-13
SUNDAY 33	The final sermon (2)	Mt 25:14-30
Unit VII	God's Kingdom fulfilled	Sunday 34
SUNDAY 34	Christ the King	Mt 25:31-46

TABLE II

Order for Gospel Reading for Sundays in Ordinary Time

Year B: Year of Mark

Mark's main interest is the person of Jesus himself. He follows Jesus through his public ministry in Galilee, outside Galilee, and finally in Jerusalem itself immediately before the Passion. The crisis is reached when the fundamental question is posed to the disciples: 'Who do you say I am?' Peter's confession of faith is, therefore, at the heart of Mark's Gospel. In the year of Mark the Lectionary observes faithfully the structure and message of the Gospel itself. One important peculiarity is that the Lectionary includes a major insert from the Gospel of John (Sundays 17-21: John 6—the sermon on the 'Bread of Life'). This fits well into this part of Mark's Gospel, which is concerned with Jesus' revelation of himself.

Unit I	The figure of Jesus the Messiah	Sundays 1–2
SUNDAY 1	The Baptism of Jesus	Mk 1:6b–11
SUNDAY 2	The call of the first disciples	Jn 1:35–42
Unit II	The Mystery progressively revealed	Sundays 3–23
<i>Stage I</i>	<i>Jesus with the Jewish crowds</i>	<i>Sundays 3–9</i>
SUNDAY 3	The call of the first Apostles	Mk 1:14–20
SUNDAY 4	A day in Capernaum (1)	Mk 1:21–28
SUNDAY 5	A day in Capernaum (2)	Mk 1:29–39
SUNDAY 6	The cure of a leper	Mk 1:40–45
SUNDAY 7	The cure of a paralytic	Mk 2:1–12
SUNDAY 8	The question of fasting	Mk 2:18–22
SUNDAY 9	Violation of the Sabbath	Mk 2:23–3:6
<i>Stage II</i>	<i>Jesus with his disciples</i>	<i>Sundays 10–14</i>
SUNDAY 10	Serious criticism of Jesus	Mk 3:20–35
SUNDAY 11	The parables of the Kingdom	Mk 4:26–34
SUNDAY 12	The calming of the storm	Mk 4:35–41
SUNDAY 13	Jairus' daughter; the woman in the crowd	Mk 5:21–43
SUNDAY 14	Jesus rejected at Nazareth	Mk 6:1–6
<i>Stage III</i>	<i>Jesus manifests himself</i>	<i>Sundays 15–23</i>
SUNDAY 15	The mission of the twelve	Mk 6:7–13
SUNDAY 16	Compassion for the crowds	Mk 6:30–34
SUNDAY 17	The feeding of five thousand	Jn 6:1–15
SUNDAY 18	The Bread of life (1)	Jn 6:24–35
SUNDAY 19	The Bread of life (2)	Jn 6:41–52
SUNDAY 20	The Eucharist	Jn 6:51–58
SUNDAY 21	Incredulity and faith	Jn 6:61–70
SUNDAY 22	Jewish customs	Mk 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23
SUNDAY 23	The cure of a deaf–mute	Mk 7:31–37

Unit III	The Mystery of the Son of Man	Sundays 24–34
<i>Stage I</i>	<i>The ‘Way’ of the Son of Man</i>	<i>Sundays 24–30</i>
SUNDAY 24	Peter’s confession of faith	Mk 8:27–35
SUNDAY 25	Passion and Resurrection prophesied	Mk 9:30–36
SUNDAY 26	Instructions for disciples	Mk 9:38–43, 45, 47–48
SUNDAY 27	Marriage and divorce	Mk 10:2–16
SUNDAY 28	The problem of wealth	Mk 10:17–30
SUNDAY 29	The sons of Zebedee	Mk 10:35–45
SUNDAY 30	The cure of Bartimaeus	Mk 10:46–52
<i>Stage II</i>	<i>Final revelation in Jerusalem</i>	<i>Sundays 31–33</i>
SUNDAY 31	The first commandment	Mk 12:28–34
SUNDAY 32	The widow’s mite	Mk 12:38–44
SUNDAY 33	The last things	Mk 13:24–32
<i>Stage III</i>	<i>The fulfilment of the mystery</i>	<i>Sunday 34</i>
SUNDAY 34	The Solemnity of Christ the King	Jn 18:33–37

TABLE III

Order for Gospel Reading for Sundays in Ordinary Time

Year C: Year of Luke

Luke's Gospel represents Jesus' journey from Galilee to Jerusalem — a journey which is completed in the Acts of the Apostles by the journey of the Church from Jerusalem 'to the ends of the earth'. The Lectionary in the year of Luke represents faithfully his 'Travel Narrative' (chapters 9-19) — Jesus' journey to Death, to Resurrection and his return to the Father (see Sundays 13-31). Luke's vision of the journey is not geographical or chronological. Rather it is seen as a journey for the whole Church and for the individual Christian, a journey towards suffering and glory. Each Gospel passage should mean a great deal more to preacher and reader when it is seen in the context of the whole programme of readings for Year C.

Unit I	The figure of Jesus the Messiah	Sundays 1-2
SUNDAY 1	The Baptism of Jesus	Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
SUNDAY 2	The marriage feast at Cana	Jn 2:1-12
Unit II	Luke's programme for Jesus' ministry	Sundays 3-4
SUNDAY 3	Prologue. The visit to Nazareth (1)	Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21
SUNDAY 4	The visit to Nazareth (2)	Lk 4:21-30
Unit III	The Galilean Ministry	Sundays 5-12
SUNDAY 5	The call of the first Apostles	Lk 5:1-11
SUNDAY 6	The sermon on the plain (1)	Lk 6:17, 20-26
SUNDAY 7	The sermon on the plain (2)	Lk 6:27-38
SUNDAY 8	The sermon on the plain (3)	Lk 6:39-45
SUNDAY 9	The cure of the centurion's servant	Lk 7:1-10
SUNDAY 10	The Widow of Nain	Lk 7:11-17
SUNDAY 11	Jesus' feet anointed: the sinful woman	Lk 7:36-8:3
SUNDAY 12	Peter's confession of faith	Lk 9:18-24
Unit IV	The first part of the 'Travel Narrative': The qualities Jesus demands of those who follow him	Sundays 13-23
SUNDAY 13	The journey to Jerusalem begins	Lk 9:51-62
SUNDAY 14	The mission of the seventy-two	Lk 10:1-12, 17-20
SUNDAY 15	The Good Samaritan	Lk 10:25-37
SUNDAY 16	Martha and Mary	Lk 10:38-42
SUNDAY 17	The importunate friend	Lk 11:1-13
SUNDAY 18	The parable of the rich fool	Lk 12:13-21
SUNDAY 19	The need for vigilance	Lk 12:32-48
SUNDAY 20	'Not peace but division'	Lk 12:49-53
SUNDAY 21	Few will be saved	Lk 13:22-30
SUNDAY 22	True humility	Lk 14:1, 7-14
SUNDAY 23	The cost of discipleship	Lk 14:25-33

Unit V	The ‘Gospel within the Gospel’: the message of pardon and reconciliation — the parables of God’s mercy	Sunday 24
SUNDAY 24	The lost coin, the lost sheep, and the prodigal son	Lk 15:1-32
Unit VI	The second part of the ‘Travel Narrative’: the obstacles facing those who follow Jesus	Sundays 25-31
SUNDAY 25	The dishonest manager	Lk 16:1-13
SUNDAY 26	The rich man and Lazarus	Lk 16:19-31
SUNDAY 27	A lesson on faith and dedication	Lk 17:5-10
SUNDAY 28	The ten lepers	Lk 17:11-19
SUNDAY 29	The unjust judge	Lk 18:1-8
SUNDAY 30	The Pharisee and the tax collector	Lk 18:9-14
SUNDAY 31	Zacchaeus	Lk 19:1-10
Unit VII	The ministry in Jerusalem	Sundays 32-33
SUNDAY 32	The resurrection debated	Lk 20:27-38
SUNDAY 33	The signs announcing the end	Lk 21:5-19
Unit VIII	Christ the King: reconciliation	Sunday 34
SUNDAY 34	The repentant thief	Lk 23:35-43