

MASS PROPER WITH READINGS

FOR SAINT  
JOSEPH SEBASTIAN PELCZAR

January 19

**ST. JOSEPH SEBASTIAN PELCZAR, BISHOP**

For the Congregation of the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus –  
Solemnity

Joseph Sebastian Pelczar was born on January 17, 1842 in Korczyna in the diocese of Przemyśl, Poland. Raised in a religious atmosphere, he entered the seminary and in 1864 was ordained to the holy priesthood. After his studies in Rome, he became prefect and professor at the seminary in Przemyśl, and in the years 1877-1899 was a professor at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. As priest and professor he was known for his zeal and special devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament, to the Divine Heart, and to the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, which he expressed in his homiletic works and writing. Out of concern for the care of the morality of girls as well as for the sick and the poor, in 1894 he founded the Congregation of the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus in Cracow. In 1899 he was named auxiliary bishop and in 1900 local ordinary of the diocese of Przemyśl. After twenty-five years of zealous service as a bishop, he died in the odor of sanctity on March 28, 1924. In 1991, Pope John Paul II named him among the blessed and on May 18, 2003 in Rome he proclaimed him a saint of the universal Church.

**Introductory Rites** I will raise up for myself a faithful priest; he will do what is in my heart and in my mind, says the Lord.  
*1 Sam 2:35*

**OPENING PRAYER** Almighty and eternal God,  
through your inspiration  
your bishop, Saint Joseph Sebastian,  
taught the ways of justice by his word, pen and example;  
through his intercession grant that we may grow continually  
in the knowledge and love of you.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever.

1<sup>st</sup>

Love the Lord your God with all your heart.

**READING**

*Deuteronomy*  
*3:6-9*

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: “Hear, Israel, and be careful to observe these commandments, that you may grow and prosper the more, in keeping with the promise of the LORD the God of your fathers, to give you a land flowing with milk and honey. “Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone!

Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. Take to heart these words which I enjoin on you today. Drill them into your children. Speak of them at home and abroad, whether you are busy or at rest. Bind them at your wrist as a sign and let them be as a pendant on your forehead. Write them on the doorposts of your houses and on your gates.”

The word of the Lord.

**RESPONS.**

**PSALM**

*Psalm 40:2,*  
*and 4, 7-8a,*  
*8b-9, 10*

**R/ (8a and 9a)** Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

I have waited, waited for the Lord,  
and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.

And he put a new song into my mouth,  
a hymn to our God.

**R/** Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

Sacrifice or offering you wished not,  
but ears open to obedience you gave me.  
Burnt offerings or sin-offerings you sought not;  
then said I, “Behold I come.”

**R/** Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

“In the written scroll it is prescribed for me,  
To do your will, O my God, is my delight,  
and your law is within my heart!”

**R/** Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

I announced your justice in the vast assembly;  
I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD, know.

**R/** Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

**SECOND  
READING**

*Ephesians  
4:1-7, 11-13*

In the work of ministry, in building up the Body of Christ.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters,

I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one Body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. And he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the Body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the extent of the full stature of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL**

**ACCL.**  
*John 15:15b*

I call you my friends, says the Lord,  
for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

**HOLY  
GOSPEL***John 15:9-17*

+ A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said disciples: "As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**PROFESSION  
OF FAITH**

When observed as a solemnity, the Profession of Faith is said.

**PRAYER OVER  
THE GIFTS**

Pray, brethren...  
All powerful God,  
Accept the gifts your people offer you in honor of the bishop,  
Saint Joseph Sebastian  
and trusting that you will grant us your help.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**PREFACE**

Preface of Pastors

**COMMUNION  
RITE***Luke 12:49*

I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!

**PRAYER**

Let us pray.

**AFTER**

**COMMUNION**

Pause for silent prayer, if this has not preceded.

Lord,

you have strengthened us with the Most Holy Sacrament.

Grant that we may follow the example of the bishop,

Saint Joseph Sebastian,

who honored you zealously

and served your people with sacrificial love.

Through Christ our Lord.