

HOW A REFERENCE WORKS

- First comes an **abbreviated** form of the title of the book.
- The **first figure** indicates the chapter, and the **second**, separated from the first by a full stop (sometimes a colon), indicates the verse. *Thus Gen. 2:4 denotes Genesis, chapter 2, verse 4.*
- A **hyphen** is used in indicating several chapters or verses. *Gen. 2-5 denotes Genesis, chapters 2 to 5 (inclusive); Gen. 2:4-8 denotes Genesis, chapter 2, verses 4 to 8 (inclusive).*
- A **semi-colon** separates two different references. *Gen. 2;5 denotes Genesis chapters 2 and 5.*
- A **comma** separates different verses in the same chapter. *Gen. 2:4,8,11 denotes verses 4, 8 and 11 of chapter 2.*
- An **f.** added to a figure indicates the following verse (**ff.** indicates an indeterminate number of subsequent verses). *Thus Gen. 2:4f. denotes Genesis chapter 2, verses 4 and 5.*
- Some verses are particularly long. If you want to indicate just part of the verse, you add **letters** to the numbers. *Thus Gen. 2:4a denotes the first part of Genesis chapter 2, verse 4.*

Here is an example: Gen. 2:4-6,8;3:5f.;4:1-6:8 denotes: Genesis, chapter 2, verses 4 to 6(inclusive) and verse 8, then chapter 3, verses 5 and 6; chapter 4, verse 1 to chapter 6, verse 8.

This system may seem very complicated, but it is no more difficult than looking up a number in a telephone directory. You'll soon get used to it.

*(Ref. **Resources** - Newsletter of the Layreaders of the Diocese of Fredericton: June, July, August: 1996 - Vol. 1, Number 62)*

Try these!

Last Sunday after Pentecost: The Reign of Christ, Year C (2000, 2003, etc.)

Jer. 23:1-6

Canticle 19 (Lk. 1:68-79)

Col. 1:11-20

Lk. 23:33-43

Last Sunday after Pentecost: The Reign of Christ, Year A (2001, 2004, etc.)

Ezk.34:11-16,20-24

Ps. 100

Eph. 1:15-23

Mt. 25:31-46

Last Sunday after Pentecost: The Reign of Christ, Year B (2002, 2005, etc.)

2 Sam. 23:1-7

Ps. 132:1-13

Rev. 1:4b-8

Jn. 18:33-37

The Lectionary:

“The Lectionary for Sundays and holy days is arranged in a three-year cycle. Year A always begins on the First Sunday of Advent in those years evenly divisible by three (1986, 1989, etc.). Readings are cited according to the versification of the Revised Standard Version translation.”
(*Ref. The Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of Canada, 1985, pg. 266*)

The Lectionary is the selection of Scriptural readings. The Anglican Church of Canada uses the Revised Common Lectionary, an ecumenical attempt to give the major Christian denominations common readings Sunday by Sunday and on Holy Days. It is heartening to know that the readings we hear on any particular Sunday are also being heard in most United, Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches on that same day.

As a general rule, on the major feast days of the Church’s Year, from Advent to Epiphany and from Lent to Trinity Sunday, the three readings have been carefully selected to bring out the theme of the day. Other days, called “Ordinary Time” (i.e. the Sundays after Epiphany and the Sundays after Pentecost) tend rather to follow “course readings” or blocks of Scripture that follow naturally through sections of the Old Testament, the Epistles or the Gospels.

(*Ref. A Handbook of THE FAITH for Anglicans, 1983, pg. 153*)

Last Sunday after Pentecost: The Reign of Christ, Year C (2000, 2003, etc.):

Jer. 23:1-6 denotes Jeremiah, chapter 23, verses 1 to 6(inclusive).

Canticle 19 (Lk. 1:68-79) denotes Luke, chapter 1, verses 68 to 79(inclusive). This passage of scripture is also known as the canticle, “The song of Zechariah”. In *The Book of Alternative Services*, it is canticle number 19. A canticle, as defined in *The New Lexicon Webster’s Encyclopedic Dictionary of the English language* (1988), is “a short hymn or chant, especially one from the Bible and included in the Roman Catholic and Anglican liturgies, e.g. Te Deum, Magnificat, and Nunc Dimittis”.

Col. 1:11-20 denotes Colossians, chapter 1, verses 11 to 20(inclusive).

Lk. 23:33-43 denotes Luke, chapter 23, verses 33 to 43(inclusive).

Last Sunday after Pentecost: The Reign of Christ, Year A (2001, 2004, etc.):

Ezek.34:11-16,20-24 denotes Ezekiel, chapter 34, verses 11 to 16(inclusive) and verses 20 to 24(inclusive).

Ps. 100 denotes Psalm number 100 (the entire Psalm, verses 1 to 5).

Eph. 1:15-23 denotes Ephesians, chapter 1, verses 15 to 23(inclusive).

Mt. 25:31-46 denotes Mark, chapter 25, verses 31 to 46(inclusive).

Last Sunday after Pentecost: The Reign of Christ, Year B (2002, 2005, etc.):

2 Sam. 23:1-7 denotes Second Samuel, chapter 23, verses 1 to 7(inclusive).

Ps. 132:1-13 denotes Psalm number 132, verses 1 to 13(inclusive).

Rev. 1:4b-8 denotes Revelation, chapter 1, second part of verse 4(begins with the greeting of, “Grace to you”) to 8(inclusive).

Jn. 18:33-37 denotes John, chapter 18, verses 33 to 37(inclusive).

Reference: Compiled by Archdeacon Cathy Laskey Diocese of Fredericton for general use.

The Bible in 50 Words: God made, Adam bit, Noah arked, Abraham split, Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled, Bush talked, Moses balked, Pharaoh plagued, people walked, sea divided, tablets guided, Promise landed, Saul freaked, David peeked, prophets warned, Jesus born, God walked, love talked, anger crucified, hope died, Love rose, Spirit flamed, Word spread, God remained.