

## **“Two Minute Teaching” on the Mass**

**02-14-2016 - Liturgy of the Word- Part 2**

The bible part of the Mass is a dialogue between God and us. It is patterned after the Jewish synagogue service. God speaks to us in the first reading, which is usually from the Old Testament, except during the Easter Season when the reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. Then there is a moment of silence for us to reflect on the reading. Then we respond to God in using his own word by singing one of the psalms.

Then God speaks to us in the second reading from one of the letters of the New Testament, usually St. Paul. Then there is a moment of silence for us to reflect on the reading. Then we stand for the gospel, and make a small cross on our forehead, lips and heart to open our senses to Jesus' message for us.

There is a common theme between the first reading and the gospel because early Christians believed Jesus was the fulfillment of the Old Testament. The second reading usually does not fit the theme, but speaks to us of situations in the early church.