

4. The Expulsion

*(with: The Earthly Paradise, Saint Peter
in Prison, Saint Peter Released; Genesis 3:22-24, Acts 12:6-10)*

So whether you read from left
to right (sent howling
from the garden where
the stories all begin) or simply
wander as gaps in the crowd
permit, the pillars of the
chapel will have told you
how to navigate. On one side
the pair of them driven like
cattle, her face with its
sockets of grief. And on
the other side the promise still
unspoilt. Or is it promise? Where
the sword and angel
haven't yet obscured
the sky. You're thinking it's all
been lost on me, you've smiled
to find me sleeping while
the prisoner goes free.
But some must rest while others

— |

watch, I've sorted the whole thing
out. Four panels, yes?

A child could do the
algebra: made free, in chains, in

chains, made free. Remorse, which
you call history, set

in motion by the paradox.
How many people contribute as

much? My sword, unlike the angel's,
sheathed, my charge an open

door. The saint required to
suffer where you see him, extramurally.