

04 SEPTEMBER, PAUL JONES,

BISHOP AND PEACE ADVOCATE: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Book of Malachi

You have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet you say, “How have we wearied him?” By saying, “Every one who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and he delights in them.” Or by asking, “Where is the God of justice?”

^{3:1} Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the LORD. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. ⁵ Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside

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the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 76

The Said Mass Reader says:

Please join me in reading Psalm 76, found in the Prayer Book beginning on page 692.

The Reader repeats the above information several times.

- ¹ In Judah is God known; *
his Name is great in Israel.
- ² At Salem is his tabernacle, *
and his dwelling is in Zion.
- ³ There he broke the flashing arrows, *
the shield, the sword, and the weapons of battle.
- ⁴ How glorious you are! *
more splendid than the everlasting mountains!
- ⁵ The strong of heart have been despoiled;
they sink into sleep; *
none of the warriors can lift a hand.

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⁶ At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, *
both horse and rider lie stunned.

⁷ What terror you inspire! *
who can stand before you when you are angry?

⁸ From heaven you pronounced judgment; *
the earth was afraid and was still;

⁹ When God rose up to judgment *
and to save all the oppressed of the earth.

¹⁰ Truly, wrathful Edom will give you thanks, *
and the remnant of Hamath will keep your feasts.

¹¹ Make a vow to the Lord your God and keep it; *
let all around him bring gifts to him who is
worthy to be feared.

¹² He breaks the spirit of princes, *
and strikes terror in the kings of the earth.

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The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind. ⁹

Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing. ¹⁰ For “He that would love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking guile; ¹¹ let him turn away from evil and do right; let him seek peace and pursue it. ¹² For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those that do evil.” ¹³

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is right? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed.

The Reader concludes *The Word of the Lord.*

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The Holy Gospel

The Minister says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Minister ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus then said to the Jews who had believed in him,
“If you continue in my word, you are truly my
disciples,³² and you will know the truth, and the truth
will make you free.”

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.