**1011.1   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**1**

**He acted in an excellent and noble way as he had the resurrection of the dead in view.**

**A reading from the second Book of Maccabees          12:43-46**

Judas, the ruler of Israel,

     took up a collection among all his soldiers,

     amounting to two thousand silver drachmas,

     which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.

In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way,

     inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view;

     for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again,

     it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death.

But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward

     that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness,

     it was a holy and pious thought.

Thus he made atonement for the dead

     that they might be freed from this sin.

**The word of the Lord.**

**1011.2   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**2**

## I know that my Vindicator lives.

**A reading from the Book of Job          19:1, 23-27a**

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:

Oh, would that my words were written down!

     Would that they were inscribed in a record:

That with an iron chisel and with lead

     they were cut in the rock forever!

But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,

     and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;

Whom I myself shall see:

     my own eyes, not another’s, shall behold him;

And from my flesh I shall see God;

     my inmost being is consumed with longing.

**The word of the Lord.**

**1011.3   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT** **(Long Form)**

**3**

## As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

**A reading from the Book of Wisdom          3:1-9**

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,

     and no torment shall touch them.

They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;

     and their passing away was thought an affliction

     and their going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are in peace.

For if before men, indeed they be punished,

     yet is their hope full of immortality;

Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,

     because God tried them

     and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them,

     and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

In the time of their visitation they shall shine,

     and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;

They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,

     and the Lord shall be their King forever.

Those who trust in him shall understand truth,

     and the faithful shall abide with him in love:

Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,

     and his care is with his elect.

**The word of the Lord.**

**1011.3   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT** **(Short Form)**

**3**

## As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

**A reading from the Book of Wisdom          3:1-6, 9**

The souls of the just are in the hand of God

     and no torment shall touch them.

They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;

     and their passing away was thought an affliction

     and their going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are in peace.

For if in the eyes of men, indeed they be punished,

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     because God tried them,

     and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them,

     and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

Those who trust in him shall understand truth,

     and the faithful shall abide with him in love:

Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,

     and his care is with his elect.

**The word of the Lord.**

**1011.4   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**4**

## An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

**A reading from the Book of Wisdom          4:7-15**

The just man, though he die early,

     shall be at rest.

For the age that is honorable comes not

     with the passing of time,

     nor can it be measured in terms of years.

Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men,

     and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

He who pleased God was loved;

     he who lived among sinners was transported–

Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind

     or deceit beguile his soul;

For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right

     and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.

Having become perfect in a short while,

     he reached the fullness of a long career;

     for his soul was pleasing to the Lord,

     therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.

But the people saw and did not understand,

     nor did they take this into account.

**The word of the Lord.**

**1011.5   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**5**

## He will destroy death forever.

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah          25:6a, 7-9**

On this mountain the Lord of hosts

     will provide for all peoples.

On this mountain he will destroy

     the veil that veils all peoples,

The web that is woven over all nations;

     he will destroy death forever.

The Lord God will wipe away

     the tears from all faces;

The reproach of his people he will remove

     from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

     On that day it will be said:

“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!

     This is the Lord for whom we looked;

     let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

**The word of the Lord.**

**1011.6   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**6**

## It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

**A reading from the Book of Lamentations          3:17-26**

My soul is deprived of peace,

     I have forgotten what happiness is;

I tell myself my future is lost,

     all that I hoped for from the Lord.

The thought of my homeless poverty

     is wormwood and gall;

Remembering it over and over

     leaves my soul downcast within me.

But I will call this to mind,

     as my reason to have hope:

The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,

     his mercies are not spent;

They are renewed each morning,

     so great is his faithfulness.

My portion is the Lord, says my soul;

     therefore will I hope in him.

Good is the Lord to one who waits for him,

     to the soul that seeks him;

It is good to hope in silence

     for the saving help of the Lord.

**The word of the Lord.**

**1011.7   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**7**

## Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake.

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel          12:1-3**

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned

     and heard this word of the Lord:

At that time there shall arise

     Michael, the great prince,

     guardian of your people;

It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress

     since nations began until that time.

At that time your people shall escape,

     everyone who is found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake;

Some shall live forever,

     others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.

But the wise shall shine brightly

     like the splendor of the firmament,

And those who lead the many to justice

     shall be like the stars forever.

**The word of the Lord.**

**827.2   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**8**

## As a shepherd tends his flock, so will I tend my sheep.

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel          34:11-16**

Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will look after and tend my sheep.

As a shepherd tends his flock

when he finds himself among his scattered sheep,

so will I tend my sheep.

I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered

when it was cloudy and dark.

I will lead them out from among the peoples

and gather them from the foreign lands;

I will bring them back to their own country

and pasture them upon the mountains of Israel

in the land’s ravines and all its inhabited places.

In good pastures will I pasture them,

and on the mountain heights of Israel

shall be their grazing ground.

There they shall lie down on good grazing ground,

and in rich pastures shall they be pastured

on the mountains of Israel.

I myself will pasture my sheep;

I myself will give them rest, says the Lord God.

The lost I will seek out,

the strayed I will bring back,

the injured I will bind up,

the sick I will heal

but the sleek and the strong I will destroy,

shepherding them rightly.

**The word of the Lord**.

**801.6   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**9**

## The woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

**A reading from the Book of the Proverbs          31:10-13, 9-20, 30-31**

When one finds a worthy wife,

     her value is far beyond pearls.

Her husband, entrusting his heart to her,

     has an unfailing prize.

She brings him good, and not evil,

     all the days of her life.

She obtains wool and flax

     and makes cloth with skillful hands.

She puts her hands to the distaff,

     and her fingers ply the spindle.

She reaches out her hands to the poor,

     and extends her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;

     the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Give her a reward of her labors,

     and let her works praise her at the city gates.

**The word of the Lord**.

**453   READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**10**

## There is a time for everything under the heavens.

**A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes          3:1-11**

There is an appointed time for everything,

          and a time for everything under the heavens.

A time to be born, and a time to die;

          a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.

A time to kill, and a time to heal;

          a time to tear down, and a time to build.

A time to weep, and a time to laugh;

          a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;

          a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.

A time to seek, and a time to lose;

          a time to keep, and a time to cast away.

A time to rend, and a time to sew;

          a time to be silent, and a time to speak.

A time to love, and a time to hate;

          a time of war, and a time of peace.

What advantage has the worker from his toil?

I have considered the task that God has appointed

          for the sons of men to be busied about.

He has made everything appropriate to its time,

          and has put the timeless into their hearts,

          without man’s ever discovering,

          from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Masses for the Dead**

**Reading I from the Old Testament**

**1011.1 Second Book of Maccabees          12:43-46**

**He acted in an excellent and noble way as he had the resurrection of the dead in view.**

**1011 .2** **Book of Job          19:1, 23-27a**

## I know that my Vindicator lives.

**1011.3 Book of Wisdom          3:1-9 Long Form**

## As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

**1011.3 Book of Wisdom          3:1-6, 9 Short Form**

## As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

**1011.4 Book of Wisdom          4:7-15**

## An unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

**1011.5 Book of the Prophet Isaiah          25:6a, 7-9**

## He will destroy death forever.

**1011.6 Book of Lamentations          3:17-26**

## It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

**1011.7 Book of the Prophet Daniel          12:1-3**

## Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake.

**Masses for the Dead**

**Reading I from the Old Testament**

**(Additional Readings)**

**827.2 (8) Book of the Prophet Ezekiel          34:11-16**

## As a shepherd tends his flock, so will I ten my sheep.

**801.6 (9) A reading from the Book of the Proverbs      31:10-13, 9-20, 30-31**

## The woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

**453 (10) A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes      3:1-11**

## There is time for everything under the sun.