

# Reflecting On Sunday's Readings

THE THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—November 17, 2019

## First Reading — Malachi 4:1-2 (3:19-20 NAB)

<sup>1</sup>“For behold, the day comes, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup>But for you who fear my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go forth leaping like calves from the stall.

## Responsorial Psalm PS 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 R. (cf. 9) **The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.**

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and melodious song.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
sing joyfully before the King, the LORD.

R. **The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.**

Let the sea and what fills it resound,  
the world and those who dwell in it;  
let the rivers clap their hands,  
the mountains shout with them for joy.

R. **The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.**

Before the LORD, for he comes,  
for he comes to rule the earth,  
he will rule the world with justice  
and the peoples with equity.

R. **The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.**

## Second Reading — 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

<sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>we did not eat any one's bread without paying, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup>It was not because we have not that right, but to

give you in our conduct an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: If any one will not work, let him not eat. <sup>11</sup>For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup>Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work in quietness and to earn their own living.

## Gospel Reading — Luke 21:5-19

<sup>5</sup>And as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things which you see, the days will come when there shall not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” <sup>7</sup>And they asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign when this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup>And he said, “Take heed that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them. <sup>9</sup>And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified; for this must first take place, but the end will not be at once.” <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. <sup>12</sup>But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. <sup>13</sup>This will be a time for you to bear testimony. <sup>14</sup>Settle it therefore in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer; <sup>15</sup>for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and kinsmen and friends, and some of you they will put to death; <sup>17</sup>you will be hated by all

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for my name's sake. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your lives.

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### INVITATION TO PRAY

Pause for a few moments of silence and enter more deeply into the presence of God...

### Proclaim the Scriptures out loud

As you listen to the scriptures be attentive to a word, a phrase, a question, an image, or a feeling that emerges. Reflect on this quietly or share it aloud.

### INVITATION TO REFLECT

### INVITATION TO GROUP SHARING

#### First Reading — Malachi 4:1-2 (3:19-20 NAB)

1. Restate this contrast in your own words.

#### Second Reading — 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

2. What would you like to have people imitate about your life?
3. What do you find most worthy of imitating in this passage from 2 Thessalonians?

#### Gospel Reading — Luke 21:5-19

4. What do verses 5-6 teach us about how to view life?
5. What aspects of life tend to frighten you? What have you found, especially in God's Word, that helps you overcome the fear?
6. What happens to one's life when they fail to endure and instead give into their fears?

### INVITATION TO ACT

*Determine a specific action (individual or group) that flows from your sharing. When choosing an individual action, determine what you will do and share it with the group. When choosing a group action, determine who will take responsibility for different aspects of the action. These should be your primary considerations.*

### CLOSING INVITATION TO PRAY

*Give thanks to God (aloud or silently) for new insights, for desires awakened, for directions clarified, for the gift of one another's openness and sensitivity. Conclude with a final prayer.*