

DEACON TONY'S NOVEMBER 13, 2022 HOMILY

For the

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

God loves Israel (1:2–5), but the people return that love poorly. Taking advantage of the negligent attitude of the priests, they withhold tithes and sacrificial contributions (3:6–11) and cheat God by providing defective goods for sacrifice (1:6–14). People divorce their spouses and marry worshipers of other gods (2:10–16). Sorcerers, adulterers, perjurers, and people who take advantage of workers and the needy abound (3:5). Priests, who could strengthen discipline by their instruction, connive with the people, telling them what they want to hear (2:1–9). Underlying all this is a weary attitude, a cynical notion that nothing is to be gained by doing what God wants and that wrongdoers prosper (2:17; 3:14–15). God condemns the wrongdoing and the underlying attitude, issuing a challenge to immediate reform (3:10–12), but also announcing a general reckoning at a future moment (3:16–21).

Malachi means **my messenger**.

There will be a day when all the proud evildoers will be set on fire to the root of their being, but for those who “fear the Lord:” will enjoy the sun’s healing rays.

Paul shares how important his message was and how hard his disciples work so hard to see that they paid their own way. They witnessed to the love they were sharing and not the expenses in food and lodging.

So as the people were preoccupied with the adornment of costly stones, and they needed Our Lord’s reminder of how temporary these so called costly stones were.

DO NOT BE DECEIVED BY WORTHLESS WEALTH.

Be true to your message and do not worry about what you shall say, for Jesus Himself will give you a wisdom in speaking that will set your adversaries powerless to refute.

These are the ways to keep our focus:

Make time in our day for personal prayer.

Absorbed in the message we share with all God’s saints.

Be aware of being Christ to others.

Being a WITNESS to the saving plan of Jesus our Savior.