

**Addresses
for
Morning and Evening Prayer**

**according to the
1943 Lectionary
of the
USA 1928 Book of Common Prayer**

**Intended for use
by Layreaders
in the absence of a priest**

**by Ed Pacht
Rochester NH**

**All Saints
(November 1)**

All Saints, November 1. Only Morning Prayer so far.
Homily for Evening prayer will be written.

Morning Prayer

First Lesson: Wisdom 3:1-9

*Here beginneth the third chapter
of the Book of Wisdom.*

- 1: But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them.
2: In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery,
3: And their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace.
4: For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality.
5: And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself.
6: As gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering.
7: And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble.
8: They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign for ever.
9: They that put their trust in him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with him: for grace and mercy is to his saints, and he hath care for his elect.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Homily to be written

Second Lesson: Rev 21:1-4, 22-27, 22:1-5

*Here beginneth the twenty-first chapter
of the Revelation of St, John the Divine.*

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

26 And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

Second Lesson: Rev 19:1-16

*Here beginneth the nineteenth chapter
of the Revelation of St. John the Divine.*

1 And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

2 For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.

3 And again they said, Alleluia And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.

4 And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia.

5 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.

6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellow-servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Evening Prayer

First Lesson: Wisdom 5:1-4, 14-16

Here beginneth the fifth chapter of the Book of Wisdom.

1: Then shall the righteous man stand in great boldness before the face of such as have afflicted him, and made no account of his labours.

2: When they see it, they shall be troubled with terrible fear, and shall be amazed at the strangeness of his salvation, so far beyond all that they looked for.

3: And they repenting and groaning for anguish of spirit shall say within themselves, This was he, whom we had sometimes in derision, and a proverb of reproach:

4: We fools accounted his life madness, and his end to be without honour:

14: For the hope of the ungodly is like dust that is blown away with the wind; like a thin froth that is driven away with the storm; like as the smoke which is dispersed here and there with a tempest, and passeth away as the remembrance of a guest that tarrieth but a day.

15: But the righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High.

16: Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom, and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand: for with his right hand shall he cover them, and with his arm shall he protect them.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

There is everlasting Joy in the presence of the Son of God who died and rose for them -- and for us.

They are a great company of witnesses standing. as it were in the grandstands, cheering us on as we struggle forward, constantly praying for us, willing us, like them, to be saints, to dwell with them and with Him in glory everlasting.

Ask yourself,
"Am I a saint?"
and then ask yourself,
"Why not?"

Let us pray.

Almighty God who hast called all men unto holiness, and hast sent thine only-begotten Son for our redemption and out sanctification. Grant us some part in the prayers and examples of thy saints who have gone before, and, by the blood of Jesus and the life of His Resurrection, enable us to live on this earth as thy saints and to attain with them to everlasting life. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Homily

"... the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. "

This is All Saints' Day.

The Church Calendar is full of Saints' days. A few major ones, mostly of Apostles, are found in the Book of Common Prayer, and a large number of others fill the pages of our calendars and Missals.

Today we remember all of them, the ones with days in the Calendar, the ones there just isn't space for, and the ones no one knows but God.

So who are the saints?

Are they some superhuman kind of being, a sort of creature altogether different from us? If we discount the angels, also called "saint", they are not.

As the children's hymn has it:

"The saints of God are just folk like me,
and I mean to be one too."

The first thing to remember about a saint is that he or she is a sinner, just like we are.

As St. Paul wrote:

*"All have sinned
and come short of the glory of God."*

and, speaking of himself,

"... sinners, of whom I am chief."

A saint, just like us, needs a Savior.

Without forgiveness he or she
won't make it to Heaven.
Moreover, saints don't have it easy
on this earth.
The same writer that said that
no torment would touch them
also said these things:

*"In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die:
and their departure is taken for misery,
And their going from us to be utter destruction: ...
... they be punished in the sight of men, ...
... a little chastised, ...
As gold in the furnace hath he tried them,
and received them as a burnt offering."*

Saints have been beaten, imprisoned, and killed.
They have been ridiculed and ignored.
They have been hungry and cold and sick.
Anyone who wants to depict the Christian life
as a bed of fragrant roses,
need only to read St. Paul's descriptions
of the hardships he endured.
Saints are only too aware of their own faults,
their own weaknesses, their own sins,
and cry out often for forgiveness.
Sometimes saints are filled with doubts,
with questions, with emotional pain
and spiritual anguish,
and sometimes feel that their prayers
are getting nowhere at all.
This was the late-in-life testimony
of the great Mother Teresa of India.
A saint is sure of one thing:

that he or she is no saint;
and trusts only in God's promise
for salvation.

But a saint, sometimes aware,
sometimes not,
walks in the presence of God,
constantly coming to him
for forgiveness and redirection,
seeking only to please Him,
and to become like Him.

A saint is not a special human being,
but an unworthy vessel for God's presence
in an unworthy world.

His righteousness is not his own,
but the righteousness of God.
And he or she is not a presence apart,
but a living and vibrant human being,
with exactly the same calling
that you and I have.

We sometimes proclaim,
"I'm no saint!"
as though that excused our weakness.
There's only one answer to that:
"Why not?"

It is our calling to be saints.

This world is full of saints of God,
struggling, always seeking salvation.
Heaven is also full of His saints,
and their struggles have ended,
their questions are answered,
they know the fullness of His presence.