

A reading from the Book of Malachi

Lo, the day is coming, blazing like an oven,  
when all the proud and all evildoers will be stubble,  
and the day that is coming will set them on fire,  
leaving them neither root nor branch,  
says the LORD of hosts.

But for you who fear my name, there will arise  
the sun of justice with its healing rays.

The Word of the Lord.

## A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

Brothers and sisters:

You know how one must imitate us.

For we did not act in a disorderly way among you,  
nor did we eat food received free from anyone.

On the contrary, in toil and drudgery, night and day  
we worked, so as not to burden any of you.  
Not that we do not have the right.

Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you,  
so that you might imitate us.  
In fact, when we were with you,  
we instructed you that if anyone was unwilling to work,  
neither should that one eat.

We hear that some are conducting themselves among you in a  
disorderly way,  
by not keeping busy but minding the business of others.  
Such people we instruct and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to work  
quietly  
and to eat their own food.

The Word of the Lord.

