

MASSES FOR THE DEAD

Reading I from the Old Testament

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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 di 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