

FEBRUARY 8, ST. JOHN OF MATHA, CONFESSOR

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St. John of Matha, a Frenchman, with his compatriot, St. Felix of Valois, founded the Trinitarian Order for the redemption of Christian slaves from the Mohammedans. The little cell in which he lived in Rome is still to be seen. On the door of the church nearby there still exists, dating from the time of Innocent III, a striking mosaic of the Savior between two slaves, one white and the other black.

INTROIT Psalm 36: 30,31

Os justi meditabitur sapiéntiam, et lingua ejus loquétur júdíciúm: lex Dei æmulári in malignántibus: neque Noli zeláveris faciéntes iniquitátem. Glória Patri et Filio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Os justi meditabitur sapiéntiam, et lingua ejus loquétur júdíciúm: lex Dei ejus in corde ipsíus.

COLLECT

Deus, qui per sanctum Joánnem órđinem sanctíssimæ Trinitátis ad rediméndum de potestáte Saracenórum captívos cælitus institúere dignátus es: præsta quæsumus; ut, ejus suffragántibus méritis, a captivitate córporis et ánimæ, te adjuvánte, liberémur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Ecclesiasticus 31: 8-11

Beátus vir, qui invéntus est sine mácula, et qui post aurum non ábiit, nec sperávit in pecúnia et thesáuris. Quis est hic, et laudábimus eum? fecit enim mirabília in víta sua. Qui probátus est in illo, et perféctus est, erit illi glória æténa: qui pótuít tránsgrédi, et non est tránsgréssus: fácere mala, et non fecit: ideo stabilita sunt bona illíus in Dómino, et eleemósynas illíus enarrábit omnis ecclésia sanctórum.

GRADUAL Psalms 91: 13,14

Justus ut palma florébit: sicut cedrus Líbani multiplicátur in domo Dómini. Ad annuntiándum mane misericórdiam tuam, et veritátem tuam per noctem.

(From Septuagesima until Easter the Lesser Alleluia is omitted and the Tract is said instead)

LESSER ALLELUIA James 1: 12

Allelúja, allelúja. Beátus vir, qui suffert tentatiónem. quóniam cum probátus fúerit, accípiet corónam vitæ. Allelúja.

TRACT Psalms 111: 1-3

Beátus vir, qui timet Dóminum: in mandátis ejus cupit nimis. Potens in terra erit semen ejus: generátio rectórum benedicétur. Glória et divítiæ in domo ejus: et justítia ejus manet in sæculum sæculi.

GOSPEL Luke 12: 35-40

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discipulis suis: Sint lumbi vestri præcincti et lucernæ ardéntes in mánibus vestris. Et vos símiles homínibus expectántibus dóminum suum quando revertátur a núptiis ut cum vénerit et pulsáverit conféstim apériant ei. Beáti servi illi quos cum vénerit dóminus invénerit vigilántes. Amen dico vobis quod præcínget se et fáciat illos discumbere et tránsiens ministrábit illis. Et si vénerit in secúnda vigíla et si in tértia vigíla vénerit et ita invénerit beáti sunt servi illi. Hoc autem scitote, quóniam si sciret paterfamilias qua hora fur véniret vigiláret útique et non síneret pérfodi domum suam. Et vos estote paráti quia qua hora non putátis Fílius hóminis véniet.

OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 25

Véritas mea et misericórdia mea cum ipso: et in nómine meo exaltábitur cornu ejus.

SECRET

Laudis tibi, Dómine, hostias immolámus in tuórum commemoratióne sanctórum: quibus nos et præsentibus éxui malis confidimus, et futúris. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Matthew 24: 46-47

Beátus ille servus quem cum vénerit dóminus ejus invénerit sic faciéntem. Amen dico vobis quóniam super ómnia bona sua constituet eum.

POSTCOMMUNION

Refécti cibo, pótuque cælésti, Deus noster, te súpplices exorámus: ut, in cujus hæc commemoratióne percépimus, ejus muniámur et précibus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

The mouth of the just shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak judgment: the law of his God is in his heart. (Ps. 36: 1) Be not emulous of evildoers: nor envy them that work iniquity. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. The mouth of the just shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak judgment: the law of his God is in his heart.

O God, Who didst vouchsafe by heavenly direction, through Saint John to institute the order of the Most Holy Trinity for ransoming captives from the power of the Saracens: grant, we beseech Thee, that by virtue of his merits pleading for us, we may, by Thine aid, be delivered from all bondage both of body and soul. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Happy the man found without fault, who turns not aside after gain, nor puts his trust in money nor in treasures! Who is he, that we may praise him? For he has done wonders in his life. He has been tested by gold and come off safe, and this remains his glory forever; he could have sinned but did not, could have done evil but would not, so that his possessions are secure in the Lord, and the assembly of the Saints shall recount his alms.

The just shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow up like the cedar of Lebanon in the house of the Lord. To show forth Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth in the night.

(From Septuagesima until Easter the Lesser Alleluia is omitted and the Tract is said instead)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he hath been proved, he shall receive the crown of life. Alleluia.

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord: he shall delight exceedingly in His commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the righteous shall be blessed. Glory and wealth shall be in his house: and his justice remaineth forever and ever.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples, Let your loins be girt, and lamps burning in your hands. And you yourselves like to men who wait for their lord, when he shall return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open to him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh, shall find watching. Amen I say to you, that he will gird himself, and make them sit down to meat, and passing will minister unto them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. But this know ye, that if the householder did know at what hour the thief would come, he would surely watch, and would not suffer his house to be broken open. Be you then also ready: for at what hour you think not, the Son of man will come.

My truth and My mercy shall be with him: and in My name shall his horn be exalted.

We offer Thee, O Lord, sacrifices of praise in commemoration of Thy saints, by whom we trust to be delivered from evils both present and future. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Blessed is that servant, whom when his lord shall come he shall find so doing. Amen I say to you, he shall place him over all his goods.

We Thy suppliants, who are refreshed with heavenly food and drink, beseech Thee, O our God, that we may be fortified by the prayers of him in whose commemoration we have partaken of these gifts. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.