

FEBRUARY 9, ST. CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

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This feast was instituted in 1882 by Leo XIII, who chose this day because January 28, on which date the saint's name appears in the Martyrology, is already assigned to another Office. The name of St. Cyril immediately evokes the memory of those celebrated early sessions of the Council of Ephesus, when, through the agency of Cyril, the most splendid pages of the doctrine concerning the Blessed Virgin Mary were recorded. Nestorius having thrown doubt upon the dogma that in Jesus Christ there is only one person, it consequently resulted from this heresy that there could no longer be bestowed upon the Blessed Virgin the title of Mother of God, by which the faithful until then had been accustomed to invoke her. He died A.D. 444.

Commemoration of St. Apollonia: St. Apollonia, a Christian virgin of Alexandria, was martyred under the Emperor Decius (249). Because during her martyrdom her teeth were broken and torn out, devotion spread to her as a protectress against toothache. Under divine impulsion she joyfully cast herself into the flames prepared for her.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 15: 5

In médio Ecclésiæ aperuit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spírítu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ induit eum. (Ps. 91: 2) Bonum est confitéri Dómino: et psállere nómini tuo Altíssime. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spírítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. In médio Ecclésiæ aperuit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spírítu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ induit eum.

COLLECTS

Deus, qui beátum Cyríllum Confessórem tuum atque Pontíficem divínæ maternitátis beatíssimæ Vírginis Mariæ assertórem invíctum effecísti: concéde, ipso intercedénte; ut qui vere eam Genitricem Dei crédimus, matérna ejusdem protectióne salvémur. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For St. Apollonia)

Deus, qui inter cétera poténtiæ tuæ mirácula étiam in sexu frágili victóriam mártýrii contulísti: concéde propítius; ut qui beátæ Apollóniæ Vírginis et Mártýris tuæ natalítia cólimus, per ejus ad te exémpa gradiámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE 2 Timothy 4: 1-8

Caríssime: Testíficor coram Deo, et Jesu Christo, qui judicatúrus est vivos et mórtuos, per advéntum ipsíus, et regnum ejus: prædica verbum, insta oportúne, importúne: árgue, obsecra, increpa in omni patiéntia, et doctrína. Erit enim tempus, cum sanam doctrínam non sustinébunt, sed ad sua desidéria coacervábunt sibi magístros, pruriéntes áuribus, ad a verítate quidem auditum avértent, et fábulas autem converténtur. Tu vero vígila, in ómnibus labóra, opus fac evangelístæ, ministérium tuum imple. Sóbrius esto. Ego enim iam delíbor, et tempus resolutiónis meæ instat. Bonum certámen certávi, cursum consummávi, fidem servávi. In réliqua repósita est mihi coróna justítiæ, quam reddet mihi Dóminus in illa die, justus judex: non solum autem mihi, sed et iis, qui dilígunt advéntum ejus.

GRADUAL Psalms 36: 30, 31

Os justí meditábitur sapiéntiam, et lingua ejus loquétur judícium. Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsíus: et non supplantábuntur gressus ejus.

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

LESSER ALLELUIA Ecclesiasticus 45: 8

Allelúja, allelúja. Amávit eum Dóminus, et ornávit eum: stolam glóriæ induit eum. Allelúja.

TRACT Psalms 111: 1-3

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

GOSPEL Matthew 5: 13-19

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplis suis: Vos estis sal terræ. Quod si sal evanúerit, in quo saliétur? Ad níhilum valet ultra, nisi ut mittátur foras, et calculetur ab homínibus. Vos estis lux mundi. Non potest civitas abscondi supra montem pósita. Neque accéndunt lucérnam, et ponunt eam sub módio, sed super candelábrum, ut líuceat ómnibus qui in domo sunt. Sic líuceat lux vestra coram homínibus: ut vídeant ópera vestra bona, et gloríficent Patrem vestrum, qui in cælis est. Nolíte putáre quóniam veni sólvete legem aut prophétas: non veni sólvete, sed adimplére. Amen quippe dico vobis, donec tránseat cælum et terra, iota unum aut unus apex non præteríbit a lege donec ómnia fiant. Qui ergo sólverit unum de mandátis istis mínimis, et docúerit sic hómines, mínimus vocábitur in regno cælórum: qui autem fecerit et docúerit, hic magnus vocábitur in regno cælórum.

OFFERTORY Psalms 91: 13

Justus ut palma florébit: sicut cedrus, quæ in Líbano est, multiplicábitur.

SECRETS

Múnera nostra, omnípotens Deus, benígnus réspice: et, intercedénte beáto Cyrílló, præsta; ut unigénitum tuum Jesum Christum, Dóminum nostrum in tua tecum glória coæstrum in, tuis cælibus dígne suscípere mereámur: Noí tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spírítus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For St. Apollonia)

Súscipe, Dómine, múnera, quæ in beátæ Apollóniæ Vírginis et Mártýris tuæ solemnitate deférimus: cujus nos confidimus patrocínio liberári. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Luke 12: 42

Fidélis servus et prudens, quem constitúit dóminus super familiam suam: ut det illis in témpore trítici mensúram.

POSTCOMMUNIONS

Divínis, Dómine, refécti mystériis, te súpplices deprecámur: ut, exémpis et méritis beáti Cyrílli Pontíficis adjúti, sanctíssimæ Genetrícis Unigéniti tui dígne et regnat in unitáte Spírítus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For St. Apollonia)

Auxiliéntur nobis, Dómine, sumpta mystéria: et, intercedénte beáta Apollónia Vírgine et Mártýre tua, sempitérna fáciant protectióne gaudére. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth: and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. (Ps. 91: 2) It is good to give praise to the Lord: and to sing to Thy Name, O Most High. 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. In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth: and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding.

O God, Who didst render blessed Cyril, Thy Confessor and Bishop, the invincible champion of the divine motherhood of the most blessed Virgin Mary: grant by his intercession, that we who believe her to be truly the Mother of God, may be saved through her maternal intercession. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

(For St. Apollonia)

O God, who among the wonders of Thy power hast granted even to the weaker sex the triumph of martyrdom: mercifully grant that we who celebrate the heavenly birthday of blessed Apollonia Thy Virgin and Martyr may, through her example, advance nearer to Thee. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Dearly beloved, I charge thee, before God and Jesus Christ, who shall judge the living and the dead, by His coming, and His kingdom: preach the word: be instant in season, out of season: reprove, entreat, rebuke in all patience and doctrine. For there shall be a time when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires they will heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears: and will indeed turn away their hearing from the truth, but will be turned unto fables. But be thou vigilant, labour in all things, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill thy ministry. Be sober. For I am even now ready to be sacrificed: and the time of my dissolution is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. As to the rest, there is laid up for me a crown of justice, which the Lord, the just Judge, will render to me in that day: and not only to me, but to them also that love his coming.

The mouth of the just shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak judgment. The law of his God is in his heart: and his steps shall not be supplanted.

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

Alleluia, alleluia. The Lord loved him and adorned him: He clothed him with a robe of glory. 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: You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt lose its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is good for nothing any more but to be cast out, and to be trodden on by men. You are the light of the world. A city seated on a mountain cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but upon a candlestick, that it may shine to all that are in the house. So let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Do not think that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets. I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For amen I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot, or one tittle shall not pass of the law, till all be fulfilled. He therefore that shall break one of these least commandments, and shall so teach men, shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. But he that shall do and teach, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

The just shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow up, like the cedar of Libanus.

Look graciously, almighty God, upon our gifts and, through the intercession of blessed Cyril, grant that we may receive worthily into our hearts, Thy only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who is with Thee co-eternal in Thy glory. Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

(For St. Apollonia)

Receive, O Lord, the gifts which we bring on the solemnity of blessed Apollonia Thy Virgin and Martyr, through whose intercession we hope for deliverance. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

The faithful and wise servant, whom his lord setteth over his family: to give them their measure of wheat in due season.

Refreshed by these mysteries, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord: that, aided by the example and merits of the blessed Bishop Cyril, we may be able to render fitting service to the most holy Mother of Thine only-begotten Son: Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

(For St. Apollonia)

May the mysteries which we have received be a help unto us, O Lord, and through the intercession of blessed Apollonia, Thy Virgin and Martyr, may they cause us to rejoice in Thine everlasting protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.