

St. Linus, the immediate successor of St. Peter, ruled the Church for about twelve years. In the year 79 he suffered martyrdom, and was buried alongside the Prince of Apostles. His name is in the Canon of the Mass.

The virgin, St. Thecla, was converted by St. Paul while preaching at Iconium. She left a luxurious home and followed the apostle in his later journeys. She suffered many tortures for the Faith but finally passed her life in solitude in Isauria, and there died a holy death.

INTROIT John 21: 15-17

Si díligis me, Simon Petre, pasce agnos meos, pasce oves meas. (Ps. 29: 1) Exaltábo te, Dómine, quóniam suscepisti me, nec delectásti inimicos meos super me. Glória Patri et Filio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sǎcula sǎculórum. Amen. Si díligis Me, Simon Petre, pasce agnos meos, pasce oves meas.

COLLECT

Gregem tuum, Pastor ætérnæ placátus inténde: et per beátum Linum, Martyrem atque Summum Pontíficem tuum, perpétua protectióne custódi; quem totíus Ecclésiæ præstitisti esse pastórem. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǎcula sǎculórum.

(For St. Thecla, virgin & martyr)

Da, quǎsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, qui beátæ Theclæ Vírginis et Mártiris tuæ natalítia cólimus; et ánnua sollemnítate lætémur, et tantæ fidei proficiámus exémplo. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǎcula sǎculórum.

EPISTLE 1 Peter 5: 1-4, 10-11

Caríssimi: Senióres, qui in vobis sunt, óbsecro consénior et testis Christi passiónum, qui et ejus, quæ in futúro revelánda est, glóriæ comunicátor: páscite qui in vobis est gregem Dei, providéntes non coácte, sed spontáneee secúndum Deum, neque turpis lucrí grátia, sed voluntárie; neque ut dominántes in cleris, sed forma facti gregis ex ánimo. Et, cum apparúerit princeps pastórum, percipiétis immarcescibilem glóriæ coronam. Deus autem omnis grátiae, qui vocávit nos in ætérnam suam glóriam in Christo Iesu, módicum passos ipse perficiet, confirmábit solidabítque. Ipsi glória et impérium in saecula sǎculórum. Amen.

GRADUAL Psalm 106: 32, 31

Exáltent eum in ecclésiâ plebis: et in cáthedra seniórum laudent eum. Confiteántur Dómino misericórdiae ejus, et mirabília ejus filiis hóminum.

LESSER ALLELUIA Matthew 16: 18

Allelúja, allelúja. Tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiám meam. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 16: 13-19

In illo témpore: Venit Jesus in partes Cæsaráe Philíppi, et interrogábat discípulos suos, dicens: Quem dicunt hómines esse Fílium hóminis? At illi dixérunt: Álii Joánnem Baptístam, álii autem Eliám, álii vero Jeremíam aut unum ex prophétis. Dicit illis Jesus: Vos autem quem me esse dicitis? Respóndens Simon Petrus, dixit: Tu es Christus, Fílius Dei vivi. Respóndens autem Jesus, dixit ei: Beátus es, Simon Bar Jona: quia caro et sanguis non revelávit tibi, sed Pater meus, qui in cælis est. Et ego dico tibi, quia tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiám meam, et portæ inferi non prævalébunt advérsus eam. Et tibi dabo claves regni cælórum. Et quodcúmque ligáveris super terram, erit ligátum et in cælis: et quodcúmque sólveris super terram, erit solútum et in cælis.

OFFERTORY Jeremias 1: 9-10

Ecce, dedi verba mea in ore tuo: ecce, constítui te super gentes et super regna, ut evéllas et déstruas, et ædífices et plantes.

SECRET

Oblátis munéribus, quǎsumus, Dómine, Ecclésiám tuam benígnus illúmina: ut, et gregis tui proficiat ubíque succéssus, et grati fiant nómini tuo, te gubernánte, pastóres. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǎcula sǎculórum.

(For St. Thecla, virgin & martyr)

Súscipe, Dómine, múnera, quæ in beátæ Theclæ Vírginis et Mártiris tuæ sollemnítate deférimus: cujus nos confídimus patrocínio liberári. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǎcula sǎculórum.

COMMUNION Matthew 16: 18

Tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiám meam.

POSTCOMMUNION

Refectióne sancta enutritam gubérna, quǎsumus Dómine, tuam placátus Ecclésiám: ut poténti moderatióne dirécta, et increménta libertátis accípiat et in religiónis integritate persístat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǎcula sǎculórum.

(For St. Thecla, virgin & martyr)

Auxiliéntur nobis, Dómine, sumpta mystéria: et, intercedénte beáta Thecla Vírgine et Mártire tua, sempitérna fáciant protectióne gaudére. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǎcula sǎculórum.

Simon Peter, if thou lovest Me, feed My lambs, feed My sheep. (Ps. 29: 1) I will extol Thee, O Lord, for Thou hast upheld me: and hast not made my enemies to rejoice over me. 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. Simon Peter, if thou lovest Me, feed My lambs, feed My sheep.

Eternal Shepherd, regard graciously Thy flock, and keep it with an everlasting protection, by the intercession of blessed Linus, Thy Martyr and) Sovereign Pontiff, whom Thou hast constituted shepherd of the whole Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty God, that we, who venerate the natal feast of blessed Thecla, Thy virgin and martyr, may rejoice in her annual solemnity and make progress by the example of so great a faith. 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, The ancients therefore that are among you, I beseech, who am myself also an ancient, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ: as also a partaker of that glory which is to be revealed in time to come: feed the flock of God which is among you, taking care of it, not by constraint, but willingly, according to God: not for filthy lucre's sake, but voluntarily: neither as lording it over the clergy, but being made a pattern of the flock from the heart. And when the Prince of pastors shall appear, you shall receive a never fading crown of glory. But the God of all grace, Who hath called us into His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little, will Himself perfect you, and confirm you, and establish you. To Him be glory and empire for ever and ever. Amen.

Let them exalt him in the church of the people: and praise him in the chair of the ancients. Let the mercies of the Lord give glory to Him: and His wonderful works to the children of men.

Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church. Alleluia.

And Jesus came into the quarters of Cesarea Philippi: and he asked his disciples, saying: Whom do men say that the Son of man is? But they said: Some John the Baptist, and other some Elias, and others Jeremias, or one of the prophets. Jesus saith to them: But whom do you say that I am? Simon Peter answered and said: Thou art Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answering, said to him: Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jona: because flesh and blood hath not revealed it to thee, but my Father who is in heaven. And I say to thee: That thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give to thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose upon earth, it shall be loosed also in heaven.

Behold I have given My words in thy mouth: lo, I have set thee over the nations, and over kingdoms, to root up, and to pull down, and to build, and to plant.

By the offered gifts we beg Thee, O Lord: enlighten kindly Thy Church: so that Thy flock everywhere may be increasing, and the Shepherds, under Thy direction, may be pleading to Thy Name. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Receive, O Lord, the gifts which we bring Thee, on the feast of blessed Thecla, Thy Virgin and Martyr, by whose patronage we hope to be delivered. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church.

O Lord, we beseech Thee, graciously govern Thy Church, which Thou hast fed with a holy meal; so that, directed by a mighty wisdom, she may progress in liberty, and persist in the integrity of faith. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

May the Mysteries which we have received, help us, O Lord; and by the intercession of blessed Thecla, Thy Virgin and Martyr, may we ever enjoy their 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.