

NOVEMBER 4, ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO, CONFESSOR & BISHOP

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About fifty years after the Protestant heresy began, Our Lord raised up a mere youth to renew the face of His Church. The lifework of St. Charles may be divided into two periods, first, the activities he discharged beside his uncle Pius IV which embraced not only Rome but the Universal Church. Secondly, the pastoral office which he filled at Milan, as the Bishop and Apostle of that diocese. He may be said to have directed from Rome the last phase of the Council of Trent.

The zeal displayed by St. Charles in fulfilling his pastoral duties is almost incredible. His field of action as Archbishop of Milan and Legate of the Holy See was very extensive. Yet there was no deserted Alpine village which was not included in his pastoral visitation. His biographers tell us that in three weeks he consecrated no less than fifteen churches. He established a seminary, whose rules have been the basis of seminary regulations since that time. He died November 4, 1584.

Commemoration of Sts. Vitalis & Agricola, Martyrs: St. Vitalis, the servant of St. Agricola, by his courage in bearing the most atrocious tortures for the Faith, encouraged his master to die bravely with him for Christ. They suffered at Bologna in Italy about the year 300.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 45: 30

Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et príncipem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum. (Ps. 131:1) Meménto, Dómine, David: et omnis mansuetúdinis ejus. Glória Patri et Filio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculórum. Amen. Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et príncipem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum.

COLLECT

Ecclesiám tuam, Dómine, sancti Caróli Confessoris tui atque Pontíficis continúa protectióne custódi: ut, sicut illum pastorális sollicitúdo gloriósum reddidit; ita nos ejus intercessio in tuo semper fáciat amóre fervéntes. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

(Commemoration of Sts Vitalis & Agricola, Martyrs.)

Præsta, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut, qui sanctórum Mártyrum tuórum Vitális et Agricolæ solémnia cólimus, eórum apud te intercessiónibus adjuvémur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

LESSON

Ecclesiasticus 44: 16-27; 45: 3-20

Ecce sacerdos magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo, et invéntus est justus: et in témpore iracúndiæ factus est reconciliátió. Non est invéntus similis illi, qui conservávit legem Excélsi. Ideo jurejurándo fecit illum Dóminus créscere in plebem suam. Benedictiónem ómnium géntium dedit illi, et testaméntum suum confirmávit super caput ejus. Agnovit eum in benedictiónibus suis: conservávit illi misericórdiam suam: et invenit grátiam coram óculis Dómini. Magnificávit eum in conspéctu regum: et dedit illi corónam glóriæ. Státuit illi testaméntum ætérnum, et dedit illi sacerdotium magnum: et beatificávit illum in glória. Fungi sacerdotio, et habére laudem in nómine ipsíus, et offérre illi incénsum dignum in odórem suavitatís.

GRADUAL Ecclus 44:16

Ecce sacerdos magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo. (Ecclus. 44: 20) Non est invéntus símilis illi, qui conserváret legem Excélsi.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 109: 4

Allelúja, allelúja. Tu es sacerdos in aetérnum, secúndum ordinem Melchisedech. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-23

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discípulis suis parábolam hanc: Homo pégre profíciscens vocávit servos suos, et trádidit illis bona sua. Et uni dedit quinque talénta, álii autem duo, álii vero unum, unicúque secúndum própriam virtútem, et proféctus est statim. Abiit autem, qui quinque talénta accéperat, et operátus est in eis, et lucrátus est ália quinque. Similiter et, qui duo accéperat, lucrátus est ália duo. Qui autem unum accéperat, ábiens fodit in terram, et abscondit pecúniám dómini sui. Post multum vero témporis venit dóminus servórum illórum, et pósuit ratiónem cum eis. Et accédens qui quinque talénta accéperat, obtulit ália quinque talénta, dicens: Dómine, quinque talénta tradidisti mihi, ecce, ália quinque superlucrátus sum. Ait illi dóminus ejus: Euge, serve bone et fidélis, quia super pauca fuisti fidélis, super multa te constítuam: intra in gáudium dómini tui. Accéssit autem et qui duo talénta accéperat, et ait: Dómine, duo talénta tradidisti mihi, ecce, ália duo lucrátus sum. Ait illi dóminus ejus: Euge, serve bone et fidélis, quia super pauca fuisti fidélis, super multa te constítuam: intra in gáudium dómini tui.

OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 21-22

Invéni David servum meum, óleo sancto meo unxi eum: manus enim mea auxiliábitur ei, et bráchium meum confortábit eum.

SECRET

Sancti tui, quæsumus, Dómine, nos úbique lætificent: ut, dum eórum mérita recólimus, patrocínia sentiámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

(Commemoration of Sts Vitalis & Agricola, Martyrs.)

Placáre, quæsumus, Dómine, placáre munéribus: et, intercedéntibus sanctis Martýribus tuis Vitále et Agrícola, a cunctis nos defénde periculis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

COMMUNION Luke 12: 42

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

POSTCOMMUNION

Præsta, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut, de percéptis munéribus grátias exhibéntes, intercedénte beáto N. Confessóre tuo atque Pontífice, beneficia potióra sumámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

(Commemoration of Sts Vitalis & Agricola, Martyrs.)

Hæc nos commúnio, Dómine, purget a crimine: et, intercedéntibus sanctis Martýribus tuis Vitále et Agrícola, cæléstis remedii fáciat esse consórtes. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

The Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever. (Ps. 131: 1) O Lord, remember David: and all his meekness. 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 Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever.

Keep safe Thy Church, O, Lord, with the continual protection of St. Charles, Thy Confessor and Bishop, that, as pastoral solicitude rendered him glorious, so his intercession may ever make us fervent in Thy love. 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 solemnity of Thy holy martyrs, Vitalis and Agricola, may be assisted by their intercession with 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.

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God, and was found just; and in the time of wrath was made a reconciliation. There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High. Therefore by an oath the Lord made him increase among his people. He gave him the blessing of all nations, and confirmed His covenant upon his head. He acknowledged him in His blessings: He preserved for him His mercy: and he found grace before the eyes of the Lord. He glorified him in the sight of kings, and gave him a crown of glory. He made an everlasting covenant with him; and gave him a great priesthood; and made him blessed in glory. To execute the office of the priesthood and to have praise in his name, and to offer to him worthy incense for an odor of sweetness.

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God. (Ecclus. 44: 20) There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High.

Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art a priest according to the order of Melchisedech. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus spoke this parable to His disciples: A man going into a far country called his servants, and delivered to them his goods. And to one he gave five talents, and to another two, and to another one, to every one according to his proper ability: and immediately he took his journey. And he that had received the five talents, went his way, and traded with the same, and gained other five. And in like manner he that had received the two, gained other two. But he that had received the one, going his way digged into the earth, and hid his lord's money. But after a long time the lord of those servants came, and reckoned with them. And he that had received the five talents coming, brought other five talents, saying: Lord, thou didst deliver to me five talents, behold I have gained other five over and above. His lord said to him: Well done, good and faithful servant, because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. And he also that had received the two talents came and said: Lord, thou deliveredst two talents to me: behold I have gained other two. His lord said to him: Well done, good and faithful servant: because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

I have found David My servant, with My holy oil I have anointed him: for My hand shall help him, and My arm shall strengthen him.

May Thy saints, we beseech Thee, O Lord, everywhere make us joyful, that, while we venerate their merits, we may experience their patronage. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Be appeased, O Lord, with the gifts we offer, and, by the intercession of Thy holy martyrs, Vitalis and Agricola, defend us from all dangers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

This is the faithful and wise steward, whom his lord setteth over his family: to give them their measure of wheat in due season.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that as we thank You for the favors we have received, we may, by the intercession of blessed N., Thy Confessor and Bishop, obtain still greater blessings. 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 this communion, O Lord, purge us of guilt and, by the intercession of Thy holy martyrs, Vitalls and Agricola, make us partakers of the heavenly salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.