

SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BVM

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Popular devotion to the Sorrows of Our Blessed Lady, whom Holy Church invokes as Queen of Martyrs, led, in the Middle Ages, to the institution of several local festivals, such as that, still kept in some places, of Our Lady's Compassion. The devotion was fostered by the Holy Founders of the Servite Order who seem to have been the first to distinguish and enumerate the Seven Dolours. It has been raised by Pius X to the rank of a double of the second class.

Commemoration of St. Nicomedes, Martyr: St. Nicomedes, a Roman priest, was scourged to death in the persecution under Domitian, in the life-time of St. John the Evangelist. He suffered about the year 90.

INTROIT John 19: 25

Stabant juxta crucem Jesu mater ejus, et soror matris María Cléophæ, et Salóme, et María Magdaléne. (John 19: 26, 27) Múlier, ecce filius tuus: dixit Jesus; ad discípulum autem: Ecce mater tua. Glória Patri et Filio et Spirítu Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Stabant juxta crucem Jesu mater ejus, et soror matris María Cléophæ, et Salóme, et María Magdaléne.

COLLECT

Deus, in cujus passióne, secúndum Simeónis prophetíam, dulcíssimam ánimam gloriósæ Vírginis et Matris Mariæ dolóris gládius pertransívit: concède propítius; ut qui dolóres ejus venerádo recólimus, passiónis tuæ efféctum felícem consequámur: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Nicomedes)

Adésto, Dómine, pópulo tuo: ut, beáti Nicomédis Mártiris tui mérita præclára suscipiens, ad impetrándam misericórdiam tuam semper ejus patrocíniis adjuvétur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Judith 13: 22-25

Benedíxit te Dóminus in virtúte sua, quia per te ad níhilum redégit inimicus nostros. Benedícta es tu filía a Dómino Deo excélsa, præ ómnibus muliéribus super terram. Benedíctus Dómine, qui creávit cælum et terram: quia hódie nomen tuum ita magnificávit, ut non recédát laus tua de ore hóminum, qui mémoires fúerint virtútis Dómini in ætérnum, pro quibus non pepercísti ánimæ tuæ propter angústias et tribulatiónem géneris tui, sed subvenísti ruínae ante conspéctum Dei nostri.

GRADUAL

Dolorósa et lacrimábilis es, Virgo Maria, stans juxta crucem Dómini Jesu Filii tui Redemptóris. V. Virgo Dei Génitrix, quem totus non capit orbis, hoc crucis fert supplicium, auctor vitæ factus homo.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. Stabat sancta María, coeli Regína, et mundi Dómina, juxta crucem Dómini nostri Jesu Christi dolorósa.

SEQUENCE

1. Stabat Mater dolorósa
Juxta Crucem lacrimósa,
Dum pendébat Fílius.
2. Cujus ánimam geméntem,
Contristátam et doléntem
Pertransívit gládius.
3. O quam tristis et afflícta
Fuit illa benedícta
Mater Unigéniti!
4. Quæ mærébat et dolébat,
Pia Mater, dum vidébat
Nati pœnas íncliti.
5. Quis est homo, qui non fleret,
Matrem Christi si vidéret
In tanto supplicio?
6. Quis non posset contristári,
Christi Matrem contemplári
Doléntem cum Filio?
7. Pro peccátis suæ gentis
Vidit Jesum in torméntis
Et flagéllis súbditum.
8. Vidit suum dulcem
Natum Moriéndo descólátum,
Dum emísit spíritum.
9. Eja, Mater, fons amóris,
Me sentíre vim dolóris
Fac, ut tecum lúgeam.
10. Fac, ut árdeat cor meum
In amándo Christum Deum,
Ut sibi compláceam.
11. Sancta Mater, istud agas,
Crucifíxi fige plagas
Cordi meo válda.
12. Tui Nati vulneráti,
Tam dignáti me pati,
Pœnas mecum dívide.
13. Fac me tecum pie flere,
Crucifíxo condólere,
Donec ego víxero.
14. Juxta Crucem tecum stare
Et me tibi sociáre
In planctu desídero.
15. Virgo vírginum præclára.
Mihi jam non sis amára:
Fac me tecum plángere.
16. Fac, ut portem Christi mortem,
Passiós fac consórtem
Et plagas recólere.
17. Fac me plagis vulnerári,
Fac me Cruce inebriári
Et cruóre Fílii.
18. Flammiss ne urar succensus,
Per te, Virgo, sim defensus
In die júdicii.
19. Christe, cum sit hinc exíre.
Da per Matrem me veníre
Ad palmam victóriæ.
20. Quando corpus moriétur,
Fac, ut ánimæ donétur
Paradísi glória. Amen.

GOSPEL John 19: 25-27

In illo témpore: Stabant juxta Crucem Jesu Mater ejus, et soror Matris ejus, María Cléophæ, et María Magdaléne. Discípulum ergo Jesum Magdalen, et discípulum statem, quem diligébat, dicit Matri suæ: Múlier, ecce filius tuus. Deinde dicit discipulo: Ecce Mater tua. Et ex illa hora accépit eam discípulus in sua.

OFFERTORY

Recordáre, Virgo Mater Dei, dum stéteris in conspéctu Dómini, ut loquáris pro nobis bona et ut avértat indignatiónem suam a nobis.

SECRET

Offérimus tibi preces et hóstias, Dómine, Jesu Christe, humíliter supplicánte: ut, qui Transfixiónem dulcíssimi spíritus beátæ Mariæ Matris tuæ préribus recensémus; suo suorumque sub cruce Sancti; consórtium multiplicáto piíssimo intervéntu, méritis mortis tuæ, méritum cum beátis habeámus: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Nicomedes)

Súscipe, Dómine, múnera propítius obláta: quæ majestáti tuæ beáti Nicomédis Mártiris comméndet orátio. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE BVM

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubíque grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus: Et te in Transfixiónem beátæ Mariæ semper Vírginis collaudáre, benedicere et prædicáre. Quæ et Unigénitum tuum Sancti Spíritus obumbratióne concépit: et, vírginitátis glória permanénte, lumen ætérnum mundo effúdit, Jesum Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Per quem maiestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adórant Dominatiónes, tremunt Potestátes. Cæli cælórumque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia exultatióne concélebrant. Cum íbis et nostras voces ut admitti júbeas, deprecámur, súplici confessióne dicénte:

COMMUNION Hebrews 9: 15

Felícis sensus beátæ Mariæ Vírginis, qui sine morte meruerunt mártirii palmam sub cruce Dómini.

POSTCOMMUNION

Sacrificia, quæ sumpsimus Dómine Jesu Christe, Transfixiónem Matris tuæ et Vírginis devóte celebránte: nobis ímpetrent apud cleméntiam tuam omnis boni salutáris efféctum: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Nicomedes)

Puríficent nos, Dómine, sacraménta quæ sumpsimus: et, intercedénte beáto Nicoméde Mártire tuo, a cunctis officiis vitis absolúte. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

There stood by the cross of Jesus, His mother, and His mother's sister Mary of Cleophas, and Salome, and Mary Magdalen. (John 19: 26, 27) Woman, behold thy son, said Jesus; to the disciple, however, Behold thy mother. 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. There stood by the cross of Jesus, His mother, and His mother's sister Mary of Cleophas, and Salome, and Mary Magdalen.

O God, at Whose Passion, according to the prophecy of Simeon, a sword of sorrow pierced the most sweet soul of the glorious Virgin and Mother Mary: mercifully grant, that we who with devotion honor her Sorrows, may obtain the happy fruit of thy Passion: Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Be present with Thy people, O Lord, that receiving the reward of the merits of blessed Nicomedes, Thy martyr, it may ever be assisted by his patronage to obtain Thy mercy. 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 Lord hath blessed thee by His power, Who by thee hath brought our enemies to nought. Blessed art thou, O daughter, by the Lord the most high God, above all women upon the earth. Blessed be the Lord Who made Heaven and earth, because He hath so magnified thy name this day, that thy praise shall not depart out of the mouth of men, who shall be mindful of the power of the Lord forever; for that thou hast not spared thy life by reason of the distress and tribulation of thy people, but hast prevented our ruin in the presence of our God.

Sorrowful and tearful art thou, O Virgin Mary, standing by the cross of the Lord Jesus, thy Son and Redeemer. V. O Virgin Mother of God, He Whom the whole earth containeth not, the Author of life, made man, beareth this anguish of the cross.

Alleluia, alleluia. Holy Mary, queen of heaven and mistress of the world, stood by the cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ, sorrowing.

1. At the cross her station keeping,
Stood the mournful Mother weeping,
Close to Jesus to the last.
2. Through her heart, His sorrow
sharing, All his bitter anguish bearing,
Now at length the sword had pass'd.
3. Oh, how sad and sore distress'd
Was that Mother, highly blest
Of the sole-begotten One!
4. Christ above in torment hangs;
She beneath beholds the pangs
of her dying glorious Son.
5. Is there one who would not weep
Whelmi'd in miseries so deep
Christ's dear Mother to behold.
6. Can the human heart refrain
From partaking in her pain,
in that Mother's pain untold?
7. Bruis'd, derided, curs'd, defil'd,
She beheld her tender child:
All with bloody scourges rent.
8. For the sins of His own nation,
Saw Him hang in desolation,
Till His spirit forth He sent.
9. O thou Mother! Font of love!
Touch my spirit from above;
Make my heart with thine accord.
10. Make me feel as thou hast felt;
Make my soul to glow and melt
With the love of Christ our Lord.
11. Holy Mother! Pierce me through;
In my heart each wound renew
Of my Savior crucified.
12. Let me share with thee His pain,
Who for all my sins was slain,
Who for me in torments died.
13. Let me mingle tears with thee,
Mourning Him who mourned for me,
All the days that I may live.
14. By the cross with thee to stay,
There with thee to weep and pray,
Is all I ask of thee to give.
15. Virgin of all virgins best,
Listen to my fond request:
Let me share thy grief divine.
16. Let me, to my latest breath,
in my body bear the death
Of that dying Son of thine.
17. Wounded with His every wound,
steep my soul till it hath swoon'd
In His very blood away.
18. Be to me, O Virgin, nigh,
Lest in flames I burn and die,
In His awful Judgment day.
19. Christ, when Thou shalt call me
hence, Be Thy Mother my defense,
Be Thy cross my victory.
20. While my body here decays,
May my soul Thy goodness praise,
Safe in Paradise with Thee. Amen.

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus, his mother and his mother's sister, Mary of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalen. When Jesus therefore had seen His mother and the disciple standing whom He loved, He saith to His mother: Woman, behold thy son. After that, He saith to the disciple: Behold thy mother. And from that hour, the disciple took her to his own.

Remember, O Virgin Mother of God, when thou standest in the presence of the Lord, that thou speak good things for us and turn His wrath from us.

We offer Thee prayers and sacrifices, O Lord Jesus Christ, humbly entreating that we, who commemorate in our prayers the piercing of the most dear soul of blessed Mary, thy Mother, may, through the multiplied intercession of her and of her holy companions under the cross, by the merits of Thy death, receive our portion with the blessed. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Graciously receive, O Lord, the gifts offered to Thee, and may the prayer of Thy blessed martyr, Nicomedes, commend them. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

It is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation that we always and everywhere give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God: and that we should praise and bless, and proclaim Thee, in the Transfixion of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin: Who also conceived Thine only-begotten Son by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, and the glory of her virginity still abiding, gave forth to the world the everlasting Light, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Whom the Angels praise Thy majesty, the Dominations adore, the Powers tremble: the heavens and the hosts of heaven, and the blessed Seraphim, together celebrate in exultation. With whom, we pray Thee, command that our voices of supplication also be admitted in confessing Thee saying:

Happy the senses of the blessed Virgin Mary, which without death earned the palm of martyrdom beneath the cross of our Lord.

May the sacrifices of which we have partaken, O Lord Jesus Christ, devoutly celebrating the piercing of Thy virgin Mother's soul, obtain for us with Thy clemency the effect of every salutary benefit. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

May the sacrament we have received purify us. O Lord, and, by the intercession of blessed Nicomedes, Thy martyr, cause us to be absolved from all sin. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.