

WHIT WEDNESDAY (EMBER WEDNESDAY OF PENTECOST)

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The station is at St. Mary Major, as is the rule in Rome whenever the scrutinies of the candidates for Holy Orders are to take place. The Mass bears a festival character; at one time the Ember fast was postponed for a few weeks. Gregory VII re-established the Ember Days in their proper place, but the festal tone of the Office was retained.

The contrast between today's fast and the Gospel lesson in which Jesus offers Himself as the bread of eternal life is very oportune. Man does not live by bread alone, but has an absolute need of the Word of God, without Whom this earthly existence is as a day without light, an empty pretence of life, a gloomy image of death.

INTROIT Psalms 67: 8-9

Deus, dum egredereris coram pópou tuo, iter faciens eis, hábitans in illis, allelúja: terra mota est, cæli distilláverunt, allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 67: 2) Exsúrgat Deus, et dissipéntur inimici ejus: et fúgiant, qui odérunt eum, a fácie ejus. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Deus, dum egredereris coram pópou tuo, iter faciens eis, hábitans in illis, allelúja: terra mota est cæli distilláverunt, allelúja, allelúja.

(After the Gloria)

COLLECT

Mentes nostras, quæsumus, Dómine, Paráclitus, qui a te procedit, illúminet: et indúcat in omnem, sicut tuus promisit Filius, veritatem: Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Acts 2: 14-21

In diébus illis: Stans Petrus cum úndecim, levávit vocem suam, et locútus est eis: Viri Judæi, et qui habitátis Jerúsalem univérsi, hoc vobis notum sit, et áuribus percípíte verba mea. Non enim, sicut vos æstimátis, hi ébrii sunt, cum sit hora diéi tértia: sed hoc est quod dictum est per prophétam Joël: Et erit in novíssimis diébus (dicit Dóminus) effúndam de Spíritu meo super omnem carnem, et prophetábunt filii vestri et filiae vestrae et júvenes vestri visiões vidébunt et senióres vestri somnia somniábunt. Et quidem super servos meos, et super ancíllas meas in diébus illis effúdam de Spíritu meo, et prophetábunt: et dabo prodígia in cælo sursum, et signa in terra deórsum, ságnuinem, et ignem, et vapórem fumi. Sol convertétur in ténebras, et luna in sánguinem, ántequam véniat dies Dómini magnus et manifestus. Et erit: omnis quicúmque invocáverit nomen Dómini, salves erit.

ALLELUIA Psalms 32: 6

Allelúja, Verbo Dómini cæli firmáti sunt, et Spíritu oris ejus omnis virtus eórum.

(After the Dominus vobiscum)

COLLECT

Præsta, quæsumus, omnípotens et miséricors Deus: ut Spíritus Sanctus advéniens, templum nos glóriæ suæ dignánter inhabitándo perficiat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate ejusdem Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Acts 5: 12-16

Léctio Actum Apostolórum. In diébus illis: Per manus Apostolórum fiébant signa et prodígia multa in plebe. Et erant unanimiter omnes in pórticu Salomónis. Ceterórum autem nemo audébat se conjúgere illis: sed magnificábat eos pópulus. Magis autem augebátur credéntium in Dómino multitúdo virórum ac mulierum, ita ut in platéas egerent infirmos, et pónerent in léctulis ac grabátis, ut, veniénte Petro, saltem umbra illius obumbráret quemquam illórum, et liberaréntur ab infirmitátibus suis. Concurrébat autem et multitúdo vicinárum civitútem Jerúsalem, afferéntes ægros, et vexátos a spirítibus immúndis: qui curabántur omnes.

ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. *(Genuflect)* Veni, sancte Spíritus, reple tuórum corda fidélium: et tui amoris in eis ignem accénde.

SEQUENCE

VENI SANCTE SPIRITUS

Veni, Sancte Spíritus,
Et emíte cælium
Lucis tuæ rádium.
Veni pater páuperum,
Veni dator múnerum,
Veni lumen córdium.
Consolátor óptime,
Dulcis hospes ánimæ,
Dulce refrigérum.
In labóre réquies,
In æstu tempéries,
In fletu solátium.
O Lux beatíssima,
Reple cordis íntima
Tuórum fidélium.
Sine tuo númine,
Nihil est in hómine,

Nihil est innoxium.
Lava quod est sórdidum,
Riga quod est áridum,
Sana quod est sícurium.
Flecte quod est rigidum,
Fove quod est frigidum,
Rege quod est dévium.
Da tuis fidélibus,
In te confidéntibus,
Sacrum septenárium.
Da virtutútis méritum,
Da salútis éxítium,
Da perénne gáudium.
Amen. Allelúja.

GOSPEL John 6: 44-52

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus turbis Judæois: Nemo potest me, traxerit eum; nisi Pater, qui misit me, traxerit eum: et ego resuscitábo eum in novíssimo die. Est scriptum in prophétis: Et erunt omnes docíbiles Dei. Omnis, qui audívit a Patre, et dídicit, venit ad me. Non quía Patrem vidit quisquam, nisi is, qui est a Deo, hic vidit Patrem. Amen, amen dico vobis: qui credit in me, habet vitam ætérrnam. Ego sum panis vitæ. Patres vestri manducáverunt manna in desérto, et mórtui sunt. Hic est panis de cælo descéndens: ut si quis ex ipso manducáverit, non moriátur. Ego sum panis vivus, qui de cælo descénde. Si quis manducáverit ex hoc pane, vivet in ætérrnum: et panis, quem ego dabo, caro mea est pro mundi víta.

OFFERTORY Psalms 118: 47, 48

Meditábor in mandátis tuis, quæ diléxi valde: et levábo manus meas ad mandáta tua, quæ diléxi, allelúja.

SECRET

Accípe, quæsumus, Dómine, munus oblátum: et dignánter operáre; ut, quod mystériis ágimus, piis efféctibus celebrémus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE FOR PENTECOST

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubíque gratías ágere: Dómine pancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérrne Deus, per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Qui ascéndens super omnes cælos sedénsque ad dexteram tuam, promíssum Spíritum sanctum (hodiérna die) in filios adoptiõnis effúdit. Qua própter profúsis gáudiis, totus in orbe terrárum mundus exsúltat. Sed et superénna Virtútes, atque angélicæ Potestátes, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cóncinunt, sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNICANTES

FOR PENTECOST

Communicántes, et diem sacratíssimum Pentecóstes celebrántes, quo Spíritus Sanctus Apóstolis, innúmeris línguís apparuit: gloriosæ semper Vírginis Mariæ, Genitricis Dei et Dómini nostri Jesu Christi: sed et beáti Joseph, ejúsdem Vírginis Sponsi, et beatórum Apostolórum ac Mártyrum tuórum, Petri et Pauli, Andréæ, Jacóbi, Joánnis, Thomæ, Jacóbi, Philíppi, Bartholomæi, Mathæi, Simónis: et Thaddæi: Lini, Cleti, Cleméntis, Xysti, Cornélii, Cripii, Lauréntii, Chrysógoni, Joánnis et Pauli, Cosmæ et Damiánis: et ómnium Sanctórum tuórum; quorum méritis, precibúsq; concédas, ut in ómnibus protectiõnis tuæ muniámur auxilió. Per eúndem Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

HANC IGITUR FOR PENTECOST

Hanc ígitur oblátionem servitútis nostræ, sed et cunctæ famíliæ tuæ, quam tibi offérimus pro his quoque, quos regeneráre dignátus es ex aqua, et Spíritu Sancto, tribuens eis remissum omnium peccatórum, quæsumus Dómine, ut peccátus accípias: diésque nostros in tua pace dispónas, atque ab ætérrna damnatiõne nos éripi, et in electórum tuórum júbeas grege numerári: Per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

COMMUNION John 14: 27

Pacem, relínquo vobis, allelúja: pacem meam do vobis, allelúja, allelúja.

POSTCOMMUNION

Suméntes, Dómine, cælestia sacraménta, quæsumus cleméntiam tuam: ut, quod temporáliter gérimus, ætérrnis gáudiis consequámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

O God, when Thou didst go forth in the sight of Thy people, making a passage for them, dwelling in the midst of them, alleluia; the earth was moved, the heavens dropped, alleluia, alleluia. (Ps. 67: 2) Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered: and let them that hate Him flee from before His face. 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. O God, when Thou didst go forth in the sight of Thy people, making a passage for them, dwelling in the midst of them, alleluia; the earth was moved, the heavens dropped, alleluia, alleluia.

May the Paraclete Who proceedeth from Thee enlighten our minds, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and lead us into all truth, as Thy Son hath promised. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

In those days, Peter standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice and spoke to them: Ye men of Judea, and all you that dwell in Jerusalem, be this known to you, and with your ears receive my words. For these are not drunk, as you suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day; but this is that which was spoken of by the prophet Joel, And it shall come to pass in the last days (saith the Lord), I will pour out My spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. And upon My servants indeed, and upon My handmaids, will I pour out, in those days, of My spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heaven above, and signs on the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and manifest day of the Lord come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved.

Alleluia. By the word of the Lord the Heavens were established: and all the power of them by the spirit of His mouth.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty and most merciful God, that the Holy Spirit, coming to us, may perfect us as a temple worthy the indwelling of His glory. Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Lesson from the Acts of the Apostles. In those days, by the hands of the Apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. But of the rest no man durst join himself with them: but the people magnified them. And the multitude of men and women that believed in the Lord was more increased; insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that when Peter came, his shadow at least might overshadow any of them, and they might be delivered from their infirmities. And there came also together to Jerusalem a multitude out of the neighboring cities, bringing sick persons, and such as were troubled with unclean spirits, who were all healed.

Alleluia, alleluia. *(Genuflect)* Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful: and kindle in them the fire of Thy love.

Come, Thou Holy Spirit, come,
And from Thy celestial home
Shed a ray of light divine.
Come, Thou Father of the poor,
Come, Thou source of all our store,
Come, within our bosoms shine,
Thou of Comforters the best,
Thou the soul's delightful guest,
Sweet refreshment here below.
In our labor rest most sweet,
Pleasant coolness in the heat,
Solace in the midst of woe.
O most blessed Light divine,
Shine within these hearts of Thine,
And our inmost being fill.
Where Thou art not,
Man hath nought,
Nothing good in deed or thought,
Nothing free from taint of ill.
Heal our wounds, our strength renew,
On our dryness pour Thy dew,
Wash the stains of guilt away.
Bend the stubborn heart and will,
Melt the frozen, warm the chill,
Guide the steps that go astray.
On Thy faithful who adore,
And confess Thee evermore,
In Thy sevenfold gifts descend.
Give them virtue's sure reward,
Give them Thy salvation, Lord,
Give them joys that never end.
Amen. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to the multitude of Jews, No man can come to Me, except the Father, Who hath sent Me, draw him; and I will raise him up in the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall all be taught of God. Every one that hath heard of the Father, and hath learned, cometh to Me. Not that any man hath seen the Father, but He who is of God, He hath seen the Father. Amen, amen, I say unto to you, he that believeth in Me hath everlasting life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the desert, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from Heaven, that, if any man eat of it, he may not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever; and the bread that I will give, is My flesh for the life of the world.

I will meditate on Thy commandments, which I have loved exceedingly: and I will up my hands to Thy commandments, which I have loved, alleluia.

Receive, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the gift we offer: and graciously cause, that, wherein we act in these mysteries, we may celebrate in their pious effects. 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 should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God: through Christ our Lord. Who, ascending above all the heavens and sitting at Thy right hand, poured out (on this day) the promised Holy Spirit upon the children of adoption. Wherefore the whole world doth rejoice with overflowing joy and the heavenly hosts also and the angelic Powers sing together the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

Communicating with, and keeping the most holy day of Pentecost, whereon the Holy Ghost appeared to the Apostles in countless tongues and also reverencing the memory, first, of the glorious Mary, ever Virgin, Mother of our God and Lord Jesus Christ: as also of blessed Joseph, Spouse of the same Virgin, of your blessed Apostles and Martyrs Peter and Paul, Andrew, James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Thaddeus: Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Lawrence, Chrysogonus, John and Paul, Cosmas and Doman, and of all Thy Saints, through whose merits and prayers grant that we may in all things be defended by the help of Thy protection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

We therefore beseech Thee, O Lord, graciously to accept this oblation of our service, as also of Thy whole family, which we make unto Thee on behalf of these whom Thou hast vouchsafed to bring to a new birth by water and the Holy Ghost, granting them remission of all their sins: and to dispose our days in Thy peace, preserve us from eternal damnation, and rank us in the number of Thine elect. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

My peace I leave you, alleluia: My peace I give you, alleluia, alleluia.

Receiving Thy heavenly sacrament, we beg Thy clemency, O Lord, that what we do in this life we may follow in the joys of eternity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.