

St. Valentine was a holy priest in Rome who assisted the martyrs in the persecutions under Claudius II. In the end he was beheaded for being a Christian, February 14, 270. He was a doctor of medicine as well as a priest; one of the catacombs is dedicated to him.

INTROIT Psalms 20: 2-3

In virtúte tua, Dómine, lætábitur justus: et super salutáre tuum exsultábit veheménter: desidérium ánimæ ejus tribuísti ei. (Ps. 20: 4) Quóniam prævenísti eum in benedictiónibus dulcédinis: posuísti in cápíte ejus corónam de lápide pretióso. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. In virtúte tua, Dómine, lætábitur justus: et super salutáre tuum exsultábit veheménter: desidérium ánimæ ejus tribuísti ei.

COLLECT

Præsta, quæsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, qui beáti Valentíni Mártyris tui natalítia cólimus, a cunctis malis imminéntibus, ejus intercessióne, liberémur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Wisdom 10: 10-14

Justum dedúxit Dóminus per vias rectas, et ostendit illi regnum Dei, et dedit illi sciéntiam sanctórum: honestávit illum in labóribus, et complévit labores illius. In fraude circumveniéntium illum áffuit illi, et honéstum fecit illum. Custodívit illum ab inimícis, et a seductóribus tutávit illum, et certámen forte dedit illi, ut vínceret et sciret, quóniam ómnium poténtior est sapiéntia. Hæc vénditum jusium non derelíquit, sed a peccatóribus liberávit eum: descendítque cum illo in fóveam, et in vínculis non derelíquit illum, donec afférret illi sceptrum regni, et poténtiam advérsus eos, qui eum deprimébant: et mendáces osténdit, qui maculavérunt illum, et dedit illi claritátem ætérnam, Dóminus, Deus noster.

GRADUAL Psalms 111: 1-2

Beátus vir, qui timet Dóminum: in mandátis ejus cupit nimis. Potens in terra erit semen ejus: generátio rectórum benedicétur.

(After Septuagesima the Alleluia is omitted and the Tract is said instead.)

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 20: 4

Allelúja, allelúja. Posuísti, Dómine, super caput ejus corónam de lápide pretióso. Allelúja.

TRACT Psalms 20: 3-4

Desidérium ánimæ ejus tribuísti ei: et voluntáte labiórum ejus non fraudásti eum. Quóniam prævenísti eum in benedictiónibus dulcédinis. Posuísti in cápíte ejus corónam de lápide pretióso.

GOSPEL Matthew 10: 34-42

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplis suis: Nolíte arbitrári, quia pacem vénerim mittere in terram: non veni pacem mittere, sed gládium. Veni enim separáre hóminem advérsus patrem suam, et filíam advérsus matrem suam, et nurum advérsus socrum suam: et inimíci hóminis doméstici ejus. Qui amat patrem aut matrem plus quam me, non est me dignus: et qui amat filíum aut filíam super me, non est me dignus. Et qui non áccipit crucem suam, et séquitur me, non est me dignus. Qui invénit ánimam suam, perdet illam: et qui perdíderit ánimam suam propter me, invéniet eam. Qui récipit vos, me récipit: et qui me récipit, récipit eum, qui me misit. Qui récipit prophétam in nómine prophétæ, mercédem prophétæ accipiet: et qui récipit justum in nómine justi, mercédem justi accipiet. Et quicumque potum déderit uni ex mínimis istis cálicem aquæ frígidæ tantum in nómine discípluli: amen, dico vobis, non perdet mercédem suam.

OFFERTORY Psalms 8: 6-7

Glória et honóre coronásti eum: et constituísti eum super ópera mánuum tuárum, Dómine.

SECRET

Súscipe, quæsumus, Dómine, múnera dignánter obláta: et, beáti Valentíni Mártyris tui suffragántibus méritis, ad nostræ salutis auxiliúm proveníre concéde. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Matthew 16: 24

Qui vult venire post me, ábneget semetípsum, et tollat crucem suam, et sequátur me.

POSTCOMMUNION

Sit nobis, Dómine, reparátio mentis et córporis cæléste mystérium: ut, cujus exséquimur actiónem, intercedénte beáto Valentíno Mártyre tuo, sentiámus effectum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

In Thy strength, O Lord, the just man shall joy: and in Thy salvation he shall rejoice exceedingly: Thou hast given him his heart's desire. (Ps. 20: 4) For Thou hast prevented him with blessings of sweetness: Thou hast set on his head a crown of precious stones. 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 Thy strength, O Lord, the just man shall joy: and in Thy salvation he shall rejoice exceedingly: Thou hast given him his heart's desire.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty God, that we who keep the birthday of blessed Valentine, Thy Martyr, may by his intercession be delivered from all the ills that threaten us. 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 conducted the just through the right ways, and showed him the kingdom of God, and gave him the knowledge of holy things: made him honorable in his labors, and accomplished his labors. In the deceit of them that overreached him, He stood by him, and made him honorable. He kept him safe from his enemies, and He defended him from seducers, and gave him a strong conflict, that he might overcome, and know that wisdom is mightier than all. He forsook not the just when he was sold, but delivered him from sinners: He went down with him into the pit. And in bands He left him not, till He brought him the sceptre of the kingdom, and power against those that oppressed him: and shewed them to be liars that had accused him, and the Lord our God gave him everlasting glory.

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord: he delighteth exceedingly in His commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the righteous shall be blessed.

Alleluia, alleluia. O Lord, Thou hast set on his head a crown of precious stones. Alleluia.

Thou hast given him his heart's desire: and hast not withholden from him the will of his lips. For thou hast prevented him with blessings of sweetness. Thou hast set on his head a crown of precious stones.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: Do not think that I came to send peace upon earth: I came not to send peace, but the sword. For I came to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's enemies shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than Me, is not worthy of Me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me, is not worthy of Me. And he that taketh not up his cross, and followeth Me, is not worthy of Me. He that findeth his life, shall lose it: and he that shall lose his life for Me, shall find it. He that receiveth you, receiveth Me: and he that receiveth Me, receiveth Him that sent Me. He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet, shall receive the reward of a prophet: and he that receiveth a just man in the name of a just man, shall receive the reward of a just man. And whosoever shall give to drink to one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, amen I say to you, he shall not lose his reward.

Thou hast crowned him with glory and honor: and hast set him over the works of Thy hands, O Lord.

Deign O Lord, we beseech Thee, to accept the gifts we offer; and through the intercession of Thy blessed Martyr Valentine, grant that they may avail as a help to our 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.

If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

Let Thy heavenly mystery, O Lord, avail to the restoration of mind and body, that, by the intercession of Thy blessed Martyr Valentine, we may feel the effect of the act which we are performing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.