

St. Hermenegild, a Spanish prince, was a convert from Arianism, thanks to the influence of his Catholic wife and the instructions and prayers of St. Leander. His conversion so angered his father, the king, that the monarch had him cast into prison. On Easter night a heretical Arian bishop was sent to him with Holy Communion, but he refused to receive even the Easter Communion from the hands of a heretic, and his father then put him to death.

St. Gregory the Great learned of his martyrdom while at Constantinople and inserted the account in the third book of his *Dialogues*.

INTROIT Psalms 63: 3

Protexísti me, Deus, a convéntu malignántium, allelúja: a multítudine operántium iniquitátem, allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 63: 2) Exáudi, Deus, oratióne meam cum déprecor: a timóre inimíci éripe ánimam meam. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sáecula sáeculórum. Amen. Protexísti me, Deus, a convéntu malignántium, allelúja: a multítudine operántium iniquitátem, allelúja, allelúja.

COLLECT

Deus, qui beátum Hermenegíldum Mártyrem tuum cælésti regno terrénium postpónere docuísti: da, quæsumus, nobis; ejus exémplo cadúca despícere atque æténa sectári. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sáecula sáeculórum.

LESSON Wisdom 5: 1-5

Stabunt justí in magna constántia advérsus eos, qui se angustiavérunt, et qui abstulérunt labóres eórum. Vidéntes turbabúntur timóre horríbili, et mirabúntur in subitatióne insperátæ salutis, dicéntes intra se, pœniténtiam agéntes, et præ angústia spíritus geméntes: Hi sunt, quos habúimus aliquándo in derísium, et in similitúdinem improperii. Nos insensáti vitam illórum æstimabámus insániam, et finem illórum sine honóre: ecce quómodo computáti sunt inter filios Dei, et inter Sanctos sors illórum est.

GREATER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 88: 6) Confítebúntur cæli mirabília tua, Dómine: étenim veritátem tuam in ecclésia sanctórum. Allelúja. (Ps. 20: 4) Posuísti, Dómine, super ca-put ejus coronam de lápide pretióso. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Luke 14: 26-33

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus turbis: Si quis venit ad me, et non odit patrem suum, et matrem, et uxórem, et filios, et fratres, et soróres, adhuc autem et ánimam suam, non potest meus esse discipulus. Et qui non bájulat crucem suam, et venit post me, non potest meus esse discipulus. Quis enim ex vobis volens turrim ædificáre, non prius sedens cómputat sumptus, qui necessarií sunt, si hábeat ad perficiéndum; ne, posteaquam posúerit fundaméntum, et non potúerit perfícere, omnis, qui vident, incípiant illúdere ei, dicéntes: Quia hic homo cœpit ædificáre, et non pótuit consummáre? Aut quis rex itúrus committere bellum advérsus álium regem, non sedens prius cogitat, si possit cum decem mílibus occúrrere ei, qui cum viginti mílibus venit ad se? Alióquin, adhuc illo longe agénte, legatióne mittens, rogat ea, quæ pacis sunt. Sic ergo omnis ex vobis, qui non renúnciat ómnibus, quæ pössidet, non potest meus esse discipulus.

OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 6

Confítebúntur cæli mirabília tua, Dómine, et veritátem tuam in ecclésia sanctórum, allelúja, allelúja.

SECRET

Munéribus nostris quæsumus Dómine precibúsq; suscéptis: et cælestibus nos munda mystéritis, et cleméner exáudi. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sáecula sáeculórum.

PREFACE FOR EASTER

Vere dignum et justum est. æquum et salutáre, te quidem, Dómine, omni témpore, sed in hac potíssimum die, gloriósius prædicáre, cum Pascha nostrum immolátus est Christus. Ipse enim verus est Agnus, qui ábstulit peccáta mundi. Qui mortem nostram moriéndo destrúxit, et vitam resurgéndo reparávit. Et ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dóminatióibus, cumque omni milítia cælestis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNION Psalms 63: 11

Lætábitur justus in Dómino, et sperábit in eo: et laudabúntur omnes recti corde, allelúja, allelúja.

POSTCOMMUNION

Refécti participatióne múnneris sacri, quæsumus Dómine Deus noster: ut cujus exséquimur cultum, intercedénte beáto Hermenegildo, Martyre tuo, sentiámus efféctum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sáecula sáeculórum.

Thou last protected me, O God, from the assembly of the malignant, alleluia: from the multitude of the workers of iniquity, alleluia. alleluia. (Ps. 63: 2) Hear, O God, my prayers, when I make supplication to Thee: deliver my soul from the fear of the enemy. 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. Thou last protected me, O God, from the assembly of the malignant, alleluia: from the multitude of the workers of iniquity, alleluia. alleluia.

O God, Who didst teach blessed Hermenegild, Thy martyr, to choose a heavenly kingdom rather than an earthly one, grant us, we beseech Thee, to despise fleeting things, after his example, and to pursue those that are eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Then shall the just stand with great constancy against those that have afflicted them and taken away their labors. These seeing it, shall be troubled with terrible fear, and shall be amazed at the suddenness of their unexpected salvation, saying within themselves, repenting, and groaning for anguish of spirit: These are they whom we had some time in derision and for a parable of reproach. We fools esteemed their life madness and their end without honour; behold how they are numbered among the children of God, and their lot is among the Saints.

Alleluia, alleluia. (Ps. 88: 6) The Heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord; and Thy truth in the Church of the saints. Alleluia. (Ps. 20: 4) O Lord, Thou halt set on his head a crown of precious stones. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to the people: If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not carry his cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you having a mind to build a tower, doth not first sit down, and reckon the charges that are necessary, whether he have wherewithal to finish it: Lest, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that see it begin to mock him, Saying: This man began to build, and was not able to finish. Or what king, about to go to make war against another king, doth not first sit down, and think whether he be able, with ten thousand, to meet him that, with twenty thousand, cometh against him? Or else, whilst the other is yet afar off, sending an embassy, he desireth conditions of peace. So likewise every one of you that doth not renounce all that he possesseth, cannot be my disciple.

The Heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the church of the saints, alleluia, alleluia.

Receive, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our offerings and prayers: cleanse us by virtue of these heavenly mysteries and graciously hear 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.

It is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, at all times to praise Thee, O Lord, but more gloriously especially at this time above others when Christ our Pasch was sacrificed. For He is the true Lamb Who hath taken away the sins of the world: Who by dying hath destroyed our death: and by rising again hath restored us to life. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

The just shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him: and all the upright in heart shall be praised, alleluia, alleluia.

O Lord, we have received the Sacrament of eternal life, and humbly beseech Thee, that through the intercession of blessed Hermenegild, Thy Martyr, it may obtain for us pardon and grace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.