

MAY 26, ST. PHILIP NERI, CONFESSOR

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This holy priest who died in 1591, exercised the apostolic ministry at Rome for about fifty years, and in the midst of a frivolous and corrupt society became the adviser of Popes, of Cardinals, and of some of the most distinguished persons of his time. Until recent years his feast was kept in Rome as a holy day of obligation and the Pope himself used to go in state to celebrate Mass at his tomb in St. Mary in Vallicella. He instituted the Congregation of the Priests of the Oratory; he desired to reawaken the religious spirit in Christian society through the frequenting of the holy sacraments and through catechetical instruction. Stern and severe towards himself he was full of gentleness towards others and even humorous when the occasion required it. St. Philip was able to raise the dead to life, to hear their confession, to converse with them, and then, at their request to open to them once more the gates of eternity by the sign of the cross. He refused all ecclesiastical honors even the cardinalate. He was so filled with love at Holy Mass, that he used to spend three hours in offering the Holy Sacrifice.

Commemoration of St. Eleutherius, Pope, Martyr: St. Eleutherius succeeded St. Soter in the pontificate in 176, and governed the Church for fifteen years. He died a martyr, 192.

INTROIT Romans 5: 5

Cáritas Dei diffúsa est in córdibus nostris per inhabitántem Spíritum ejus in nobis. (T.P. Allelúja, allelúja.) (Ps. 102: 1) Benedic, ánima mea, Dómino: et ómnia, quæ intra me sunt, nómini sancto ejus. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Cáritas Dei diffúsa est in córdibus nostris per inhabitántem Spíritum ejus in nobis. (T.P. Allelúja, allelúja.)

COLLECT

Deus, qui beátum Philippum Confessórem tuum Sanctórum tuórum glória sublimásti: concéde propítius; ut, cujus sollemnitáte lætámur, ejus virtútum proficiámus exémplo. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Eleutherius)

Gregem tuum, Pastor ætérnæ placátus inténde: et per beátum Eleuthérium Martyrem atque Summum Pontíficem tuum, perpétua protectióne custódi; quem totius Ecclésiæ præstitisti esse pastórem. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Wisdom 7: 7-14

Optávi, et datus est mihi sensus: et in vocávi, et venit in me spíritus sapiéntiæ: et præpósui illam regnis et sedibus, et divítias nihil esse duxi in comparatióne illíus: nec comparávi illi lápidem pretiósum: quóniam omne aurum in comparatióne illíus arena est exígua, et tamquam lutum æstimábitur argéntum in conspéctu illíus. Super salutem et spéciem diléxi illam, et propósui pro luce habére illam: quóniam inexistinguibile est lumen illíus. Venérunt autem mihi ómnia bona páriter cum illa et innumerábilis honéstas per manus illíus, et lætátus sum in ómnibus: quóniam antecedebat me ista sapiéntia, et ignorábam, quóniam fictio ómnium mater est. Quam sine horum dídicti et sine invidia commúnico, et honestátem illíus non abscondo. Infinítus enim thesáurus est homínibus: quo qui usi sunt, partícipes facti sunt amicitíæ Dei, propter disciplínæ dona commendáti.

(During Eastertide the Gradual and Lesser Alleluia are replaced by the Greater Alleluia.)

GRADUAL Psalms 33: 12, 6

Veníte, filii, audíte me: timórem Dómini docuébó vos. Accédite ad eum, et illuminámini: et fácies vestra? non confundántur.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Lamentations 1: 18

Allelúja, allelúja. De excélsó misit ignem in óssibus meis, et erudívit me. Allelúja.

(The Greater Alleluia is only said in Eastertide.)

GREATER ALLELUIA

Lamentations 1: 13

Allelúja, allelúja. De excélsó misit ignem in óssibus meis, et erudívit me. Allelúja. (Ps. 38: 4) Concáluit cor meum intra me: et in meditatióne mea exardéscet ignis. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Luke 12: 35-40

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplulis suis: Sint lumbi vestri præcincti, et lucérna; ardéntes in mánibus vestris, et vos símiles homínibus exspectántibus dóminum suum, quando revertátur a núptiis: ut, cum vénerit et pulsáverit, conféstim apériant ei. Beáti servi illi, quos, cum vénerit dóminus, invénerit vigilántes: amen, dico vobis, quod præcinget se, et fáciet illos discumbere, et tránsiens ministrábit illis. Et si vénerit in secúnda vigília, et si in tértia vigília vénerit, et ita invénerit, beáti sunt servi illi. Hoc autem scitóte, quóniam, si sciret paterfamilias, qua hora fur veníret, vigiláret útique, et non síneret pérfodi domum suam. Et vos estóte paráti, quia, qua hora non putátis. Fílius hóminis véniet.

OFFERTORY Psalms 118: 32

Viam mandatórum tuórum cucúrri, cum dilatásti cor meum. (T.P. Allelúja.)

SECRET

Sacrificiis præsentibus, quæsumus, Dómine, inténde placatus: et præsta; ut illo nos igne Spíritus Sancti inflámmet, quo beáti Philippi cor mirabíliter penetrávit. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte ejúsdem Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Eleutherius)

Oblátis munéribus, quæsumus, Dómine, Ecclésiám tuam benignus illúmina: ut, et gregis tui proficiat ubique succéssus, et gráti fiant nómini tuo, te gubernánte, pastórum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE ASCENSION

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, ætérne Deus: per Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Qui post resurrectionem suam ómnibus discíplulis suis maniféstus apparuit, et ipsis cernéntibus est elevátus in cælum, ut nos divinitátis suæ tribúeret esse partícipes. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Domínationibus cumque omni milítia cælestis exercitus, hymne glóriæ tuæ cánimus, sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNION Psalms 83: 3

Cor meum et caro mea exsultavérunt in Deum vivum. (T.P. Allelúja.)

POSTCOMMUNION

Cælestibus, Dómine, pasti delíciis: quæsumus; ut beáti Philippi Confessóris tui méritis et imitatióne, semper eadem, per quæ veráciter vivimus, appetámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Eleutherius)

Rectificatióne nutritam gubernáta, quæsumus Dómine, tuam placátus Ecclésiám: ut poténti moderatióne dirécta, et increménta libertátis accípiat et in religiónis integritáte persístat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

The charity of God is poured forth in our hearts, by His Spirit dwelling within us. (P.T. Alleluia, alleluia.) (Ps. 102: 1) Bless the Lord, O my soul; and let all that is within me bless His holy name. 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 charity of God is poured forth in our hearts, by His Spirit dwelling within us. (P.T. Alleluia, alleluia.)

O God, Who didst exalt blessed Philip, Thy confessor, with the glory of Thy saints, mercifully grant that we, who are gladdened by his feast, may profit by the example of his virtues. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Eternal Shepherd, regard graciously Thy flock, and keep it with an everlasting protection, by the intercession of blessed Eleutherius, Thy Martyr and Sovereign Pontiff, whom Thou hast constituted shepherd of the whole Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

I wished, and understanding was given me; and I called, and the spirit of Wisdom came upon me; and I preferred her before kingdoms and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. Neither did I compare unto her any precious stone, for all gold in comparison of her is as a little sand, and silver in respect to her shall be counted as clay. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light, for her light cannot be put out. Now all good things came to me together with her, and innumerable riches through her hands. And I rejoiced in them all; for this wisdom went before me, and I knew not that she was the mother of them all: which I have learned without guile, and communicate without envy, and her riches I hide not; for she is an infinite treasure to men, which they that use become the friends of God, being commended for the gifts of discipline.

(During Eastertide the Gradual and Lesser Alleluia are replaced by the Greater Alleluia.)

GRADUAL Psalms 33: 12, 6

Come, children. harken to me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Come ye to Him, and be enlightened: and your faces shall not be confounded.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia. From above He hath sent a fire into my bones, and hath instructed me. Alleluia.

(The Greater Alleluia is only said in Eastertide.)

GREATER ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia. From above He hath sent a fire into my bones, and hath instructed me. Alleluia. (Ps. 38: 4) My heart grew hot within me, and in my meditation a fire shall break forth. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 12: 35-40

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples, Let your loins be girt, and lamps burning in your hands. And you yourselves like to men who wait for their lord, when he shall return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open to him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh, shall find watching. Amen I say to you, that he will gird himself, and make them sit down to meat, and passing will minister unto them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. But this know ye, that if the householder did know at what hour the thief would come, he would surely watch, and would not suffer his house to be broken open. Be you then also ready: for at what hour you think not, the Son of man will come.

I have run the way of Thy commandments, when Thou didst enlarge my heart. (P.T. Alleluia.)

Look with satisfaction, we beseech Thee, O Lord, upon the sacrifices here before Thee, and grant that the Holy Spirit may kindle within us that fire with which He miraculously penetrated the heart of blessed Philip. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

By the offered gifts we beg Thee, O Lord: enlighten kindly Thy Church: so that Thy flock everywhere may be increasing, and the Shepherds, under Thy direction, may be pleasing to Thy Name. 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, after His Resurrection, appeared openly to all His disciples, and, while they looked on, was taken up into heaven, that He might grant unto us to be sharers in His own divinity. And therefore with the Angels and Archangels, with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

My heart and my flesh have rejoiced in the living God. (P.T. Alleluia.)

Regaled with heavenly delights, O Lord, we pray Thee, that, by the merits of blessed Philip, Thy confessor, and after his example, we may ever seek those things by which we truly live. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

O Lord, we beseech Thee, graciously govern Thy Church, which Thou hast fed with a holy meal; so that, directed by a mighty wisdom, she may progress in liberty, and persist in the integrity of faith. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.