

Pope St. Felix, in the sixth year of his pontificate, received the martyr's crown under Emperor Aurelian, 274. It was St. Felix who commanded Masses to be celebrated over the tombs of martyrs in remembrance of which the relics of martyrs are still placed in the altar stone.

INTROIT John 21: 15-17

Si dīligis me, Simon Petre, pasce agnos meos, pasce oves meas. (Ps. 29: 1) Exaltábo te, Dómine, quóniam suscepisti me, nec delectásti inimicos meos super me. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sǣcula sǣculórum. Amen. Si dīligis me, Simon Petre, pasce agnos meos, pasce oves meas.

COLLECT

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

EPISTLE 1 Peter 5: 1-4, 10-11

Caríssimi: Senióres, qui in vobis sunt, obsécro consénior et testis Christi passiónum, qui et ejus, quæ in futúro páscenda est, glóriæ comunicátor: pásce qui in vobis est gregem Dei, providéntes non coácte, sed spontáneè secúndum Deum, neque turpis lucrí grátia, sed voluntárie; neque ut dominántes in cleris, sed forma facti gregis ex ánimo. Et, cum appáuerit princeps pastórum, percipiétis immarcescibilem glóriæ corónam. Deus autem omnis grátia, qui vocávit nos in ætérnam suam glóriam in Christo Iesu, módicum passus ipse perfíciet, confirmábit solidabítque. Ipsi glória et impérium in sǣcula sǣculórum. Amen.

GRADUAL Psalms 106: 32, 31

Exáltent eum in ecclésia plebis: et in cáthedra seniórum laudent eum. Confíteántur Dómino misericórdia e ejus, et mirabília ejus filiis hóminum.

LESSER ALLELUIA Matthew 16: 18

Allelúja, allelúja. Tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiám meam. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 16: 13-19

In illo témpore: Venit Iesus in partes Cæsaráe Philíppi, et interrogábat discípulos suos, dicens: Quem dicunt hómines esse Fílium hóminis? At illi dixérunt: Álii Joánnem Baptístam, álii autem Eliám, álii vero Jeremíam aut unum ex prophétis. Dicit illis Iesus: Vos autem quem me esse dicitis? Respóndens Simon Petrus, dixit: Tu es Christus, Fílius Dei vivi. Respóndens autem Iesus, dixit ei: Beátus es, Simon Bar Jona: quia caro et sanguis non revelávit tibi, sed Pater meus, qui in cælis est. Et ego dico tibi, quia tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiám meam, et portæ ínferi non prævalébunt advérsus eam. Et tibi dabo claves regni cælórum. Et quodcúmque ligáveris super terram, erit ligátum et in cælis: et quodcúmque sólveris super terram, erit solútum et in cælis.

OFFERTORY Jeremiah 1: 9-10

Ecce, dedi verba mea in ore tuo: ecce, constítui te super gentes et super regna, ut evéllas et destruas, et ædifices et plantas.

SECRET

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

PREFACE OF THE ASCENSION

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubíque grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus: per Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Qui post resurrectiónem suam ómnibus discípulis suis maniféstus appáruit, et ipsis cernéntibus est elevátus in cælum, ut nos divinitátis suæ tribúeret esse partícipes. Et ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatióibus cumque omni militía cælestis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus, sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNION Matthew 16: 18

Tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiám meam.

POSTCOMMUNION

Refectióne sancta enutrítam gubérna, quásumus Dómine, tuam placátus Ecclésiám: ut poténtia liberatióne 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 sǣcula sǣculórum.

Simon Peter, if thou lovest Me, feed My lambs, feed My sheep. (Ps. 29: 1) I will extol Thee, O Lord, for Thou hast upheld me: and hast not made my enemies to rejoice over me. 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. Simon Peter, if thou lovest Me, feed My lambs, feed My sheep.

Eternal Shepherd, regard graciously Thy flock, and keep it with an everlasting protection, by the intercession of blessed Felix, 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.

Dearly beloved, The ancients therefore that are among you, I beseech, who am myself also an ancient, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ: as also a partaker of that glory which is to be revealed in time to come: feed the flock of God which is among you, taking care of it, not by constraint, but willingly, according to God: not for filthy lucre's sake, but voluntarily: neither as lording it over the clergy, but being made a pattern of the flock from the heart. And when the prince of pastors shall appear, you shall receive a never fading crown of glory. But the God of all grace, who hath called us into his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little, will himself perfect you, and confirm you, and establish you. To him be glory and empire for ever and ever. Amen.

Let them exalt him in the church of the people: and praise him in the chair of the ancients. Let the mercies of the Lord give glory to Him: and His wonderful works to the children of men.

Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church. Alleluia.

And Jesus came into the quarters of Cesarea Philippi: and he asked his disciples, saying: Whom do men say that the Son of man is? But they said: Some John the Baptist, and other some Elias, and others Jeremias, or one of the prophets. Jesus saith to them: But whom do you say that I am? Simon Peter answered and said: Thou art Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answering, said to him: Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jona: because flesh and blood hath not revealed it to thee, but my Father who is in heaven. And I say to thee: That thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give to thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose upon earth, it shall be loosed also in heaven.

Behold I have given My words in thy mouth: lo, I have set thee over the nations, and over kingdoms, to root up, and to pull down, and to build, and to plant.

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 the Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church.

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.