

JULY 20, ST. JEROME EMILIAN, CONFESSOR

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In the Sixteenth Century God raised up a number of saints who by prayer, teaching and good works combated the influence of the pagan Renaissance. Among these was St. Jerome Emiliani, who spent himself in the care of orphans and the poor. He instituted homes for orphan children, and founded the Congregation whose object was to educate orphans. They are called the Somaschi, from Somascha, the little Italian town in which they were first established. He died on February 8, 1537, from the plague which he contracted while burying the dead. It was related that St. Charles Borromeo, when going several years afterwards to make a pastoral visitation at Somascha, became aware of the presence of the relics of a saint through the sweet perfume which emanated from his tomb. Asking for a thurible, St. Charles offered incense on the sepulcher, being thus the first to render public veneration to the saint.

Commemoration of St. Margaret: St. Margaret, called by the Greeks, Marina, was martyred at Antioch in Pisidia under Emperor Diocletian at the end of the Third Century. Devotion to her became very popular in Rome during the Middle Ages, and many chapels and churches were dedicated to her. She is invoked, especially, by those who are about to become mothers.

INTROIT Lamentations 2: 11

Effúsum est in terra jecur meum super contritióne filiæ pópuli mei, cum deficeret párvulus et lactens in platéis óppidi. (Ps 112: 1) Laudáte, pueri, Dóminum: laudáte nomen Dómini. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Effúsum est in terra jecur meum super contritióne filiæ pópuli mei, cum deficeret párvulus et lactens in platéis óppidi.

COLLECT

Deus, misericordiárum pater, per mérita et intercessiónem beáti Hieronymi, quem órphanis adiutorem et patrem esse voluísti: concéde; ut spíritum adoptiόνis, quo fílii tui nominámur et sumus, fidéliter custodiámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Margaret, Virgin & Martyr)

Indulgéntiam nobis, quæsumus, Dómine, beáta Margaríta Virgo et Martyr implóret: quæ tibi grata semper éxstitit et mérito castitátis, et tuæ professióne virtútis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Isaiah 58: 7-11

Hæc dicit Dóminus: Frange esuriéti panem tuum, et egénos vagósque induc in domum tuam: cum videris nudum, operi eum, et carnem tuam ne despéxeris. Tunc erúmpet quasi mane lumen tuum, et sánitas tua citius oriétur, et anteíbit fáciem tuam justítia tua, et glória Dómini cólliget te. Tunc invocábis, et Dóminus exáudiet: clamabis, et dicet: Ecce, adsum; si abstúleris de médio tui caténam, et desieris exténdere dígitum, et loqui quod non prodest. Cum effúderis esuriéti ánimam tuam, et ánimam afflíctam repléveris. Oriétur in tenebris lux tua, et ténebræ tuæ erunt sicut merídiés. Et réquiem tibi dabit Dóminus semper, et implébit splendóribus ánimam tuam, et ossa tua liberábit, et eris quasi hortus irriguus, et sicut fons aquárum, cujus non deficient aquæ.

GRADUAL Proverbs 5: 16

Derivéntur fontes tui foras, et in platéis aquas tuas divide. (Ps. 111: 5-6) Jucúndus homo, qui miserétur et cómmodat: dispónet sermónes suos in júdicio, quia in ætérnum non commovébitur.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 111: 9

Allelúja, allelúja. Dispérsit, dedit paupéribus: justítia ejus manet in sæculum sæculi. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 19: 13-21

In illo témpore: Obláti sunt Jesu párvuli, ut manus eis impóneret et oráret. Discípuli autem increpábant eos. Jesus vero ait eis: Sínite párvulos, et nolíte eos prohibére ad me venire: tálium est enim regnum cælórum. Et cum imposuisset eis manus, ábiit inde. Et ecce, unus accedens, ait illi: Magister bone, quid boni fáciam, ut hábeam vitam ætérnam? Qui dixit ei: Quid me intérogas de bono? Unus est bonus, Deus. Si autem vis ad vitam íngredi, serva mandáta. Dicit illi: Quæ? Jesus autem dixit: Non homicídium fácies: Non adulterábis: Non fácies furtum: Non falsum testimónium dices: Hónora patrem tuum et matrem tuam, et díliges próximum tuum sicut te ipsum. Dicit illi adoléscens: Omnia hæc custodívi a juventúte mea: quid adhuc mihi deest? Ait illi Jesus: Si vis perfectus esse, vade, vende, quæ habes, et da paupéribus, et habébis thesáurum in cælo: et veni, séquere me.

OFFERTORY Tobias 12: 12

Quando orábas cum lácrimis, et sepeliébas mórtuos, et derelinquébas prándium tuum, et mórtuos abscondébas per diem in domo tua, et nocte sepeliébas eos: ego óbtuli oratióne tuam Dómino.

SECRET

Clementíssime Deus, qui, véteri homine consúmpto, novum secúndum te in beáto Hierónymo creáre dignátus es: da, per mérita ipsíus; ut nos, páriter renováti, hanc placatiónis hóstiam in odórem tibi suavíssimum offerámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Margaret, Virgin & Martyr)

Hóstias tibi, Dómine, beátæ Margarítæ Vírginis et Martyris tuæ dicátas méritis, benígnus assúme: et ad perpétuum nobis tribue proveníre subsidiúm. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION James 1: 27

Religio munda et immaculáta apud Deum et Patrem hæc est: Visitáre pupillos et víduas in tribulatióne eórum, et immaculátum se custodíre ab hoc sæculo.

POSTCOMMUNION

Angelórum pane refécti te, Dómine, suppliciter deprecámur: ut, qui ánnum beáti Hierónymi Confessóris tui memóriam celebráre gaudémus; ejúsdem étiam et exéplum imitémur, et amplíssimum in regno tuo præmíum obtinére valeámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Margaret, Virgin & Martyr)

Divíni múnis largitáte satiáti, quæsumus, Dómine, Deus noster: ut, intercedénte beáta Margaríta Vírgine et Mártire tua, in ejus semper participatióne vivámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Poured out upon the earth is my liver, for the destruction of the daughter of my people, when the child and the suckling fainted away in the streets of the city. (Ps. 112: 1) Praise the Lord, ye children: praise ye the name of the Lord. 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. Poured out upon the earth is my liver, for the destruction of the daughter of my people, when the child and the suckling fainted away in the streets of the city.

God, the Father of mercies, grant, by the intercession of blessed Jerome, whom Thou didst will to be the helper and father of orphans, that we may faithfully guard the spirit of adoption whereby we are both in name and reality Thy children. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

May blessed Margaret, Virgin and Martyr, who was ever pleasing to Thee by the merit of her chastity and by her trust in Thy power, implore for us Thy forgiveness, we beseech Thee, O Lord. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Thus said the Lord: Deal thy bread to the hungry, and bring the needy and the harborless into thy house: when thou shalt see one naked, cover him, and despise not thy own flesh. Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thy health shall speedily arise, and thy justice shall go before thy face, and the glory of the Lord shall gather thee up. Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall hear: thou shalt cry, and He shall say, Here I am. If thou wilt take away the chain out of the midst of thee, and cease to stretch out the finger, and to speak that which profiteth not. When thou shalt pour out thy soul to the hungry, and shalt satisfy the afflicted soul, then shall thy light rise up in darkness, and thy darkness shall be as the noonday. And the Lord will give thee rest continually, and will fill thy soul with brightness, and deliver thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a fountain of water whose waters shall not fail.

Let thy fountains be conveyed abroad, and in the streets divide thy waters. (Ps. 111: 5-6) Acceptable is the man that showeth mercy and lendeth, he ordereth his words with judgment; because he shall not be moved forever.

Alleluia, alleluia. He hath distributed, he hath given to the poor; his justice remaineth forever and ever. Alleluia.

At that time, little children were presented to Him, that He should impose hands upon them, and pray. And the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said to them, Suffer the little children, and forbid them not to come to Me; for the kingdom of Heaven is for such. And when He had imposed hands upon them, He departed from thence. And behold one came to Him, and said to Him, Good master, what good shall I do, that I may have life everlasting? Who then said to him, Why askest thou Me concerning good? One is good, God. But if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He said to Him, Which? And Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, thou shalt not commit adultery, thou shalt not steal, thou shalt not bear false witness, honor thy father and thy mother; and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. The young man saith to Him, All these things have I kept from my youth; what is yet wanting to me? Jesus saith to him, If thou wilt be perfect, go, sell what thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in Heaven: and come, follow Me.

When thou didst pray with tears, and didst bury the dead, and didst leave thy dinner, and hide the dead by day in thy house, and bury them by night, I offered thy prayer to the Lord.

Most merciful God,, Who, having destroyed the old man, didst vouchsafe to create in blessed Jerome a new man according to Thee, grant by his merits that we, renewed in like manner, may offer this sacrifice of propitiation for an odor of sweetness unto Thee. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Graciously accept the sacrificial gifts offered Thee, O Lord, through the merits of blessed Margaret, Thy Virgin and Martyr, and grant that they may prove an unfailing aid for 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.

Religion clean and undefiled before God and the Father, is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their tribulation, and to keep one's self unspotted from this world.

Refreshed with the bread of angels we humbly ask of Thee, O Lord, that we, who joyfully celebrate the annual commemoration of blessed Jerome, Thy confessor, may also imitate his example and be enabled to obtain a most abundant reward in Thy kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

We who have been refreshed by the richness of Thy divine sacrament, beseech Thee, O Lord, our God, that through the intercession of blessed Margaret, Thy Virgin and Martyr, we may forevermore abide in its participation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.