

JULY 26, ST. ANNE, MOTHER OF BVM

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The privileges and graces with which God had surrounded the Immaculate Conception of His Blessed Mother Mary were reflected upon her happy parents, Joachim and Anne. We find, therefore, that in the Sixth Century Justinian built a church at Constantinople in honor of St. Anne. Devotion to the grandparents of the divine Redeemer spread almost everywhere in the East. The Syrians venerated St. Anne, under the name of Dina, on July 25; other eastern Churches placed her feast on another date. Pope Leo III placed pictures of Joachim and Anne in the Church of St. Mary Major. Gregory XIII in 1584 inserted the feast of St. Ann in the Roman Missal.

At Rome in the patriarchal basilica of St. Paul the precious relic of the arm of St. Anne was venerated even in the days of St. Bridget of Sweden, who obtained a very small portion of it as a gift. St. Anne then appeared to her and showed her how to venerate and take care of the sacred relics. Leo XIII and Benedict XV have given several fragments of this arm of St. Ann to celebrated sanctuaries dedicated to her in Canada and in Normandy, where God has been pleased to honor them by performing various miracles. Her feast was extended to the Universal Church by Pope Leo XIII in 1879. Pope Benedict XV visited her chapel outside the Vatican; this was the first time after 1870 that a Pope left the Vatican.

INTROIT

Gaudeámus omnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beátæ Annæ: de cujus solemnitate gaudent Ángeli et colláudant Fílium Dei. (Ps. 44: 2) Eructávit cor meum verbum bonum: dico ego ópera mea Regi. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Gaudeámus omnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beátæ Annæ: de cujus solemnitate gaudent Ángeli et colláudant Fílium Dei.

COLLECT

Deus, qui beátæ Annæ grátiam conférre dignatus es, ut Genetrícis unigéniti Filii tui mater effíci mererétur: concéde propítius; ut, cujus sollémnia celebrámur, ejus apud te patrocíniis adjuvémur. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Proverbs 31: 10-31

Mulíerem fortem quis invéniet? Procul et de últimis finibus prétium ejus. Confídít in ea cor viri sui, et spóliis non indigébit. Reddet ei bonum, et non malum, ómnibus diébus vitæ suæ. Quæsívít lanam et linum, et operáta est consílio mánuum suárum. Facta est quasi navis institóris, de longe portans panem suum. Et de nocte surréxit, dedítque prædam domésticis suis, et cibária ancíllis suis. Considerávit agrum, et emit eum: de fructu mánuum suárum plantávit víneam. Accínxit fortitúdone lumbos suos, et roborávit bráchium suum. Gustávit, et vidit, quia bona est negotiátio ejus: non exstingúetur in nocte lucérna ejus. Manum suam misit ad fórtia, et dígiti ejus apprehendérunt fustum. Manum suam apéruit ínopi, et palmas suas exténdit ad páuperem. Non tímébit dómui suæ a frigóribus nivis: omnes enim doméstici ejus vestíti sunt duplícibus. Stragulatam vestem fecit sibi: byssus in portis vir ejus, quando séderit cum senatóribus terræ. Síndonem fecit et véndidit, et cingulum trádidit Chananæo. Fortitúdo et décor indumentum ejus, et ridébit in die novíssimo. Os suum apéruit sapiéntiæ, et lex cleméntiæ in lingua ejus. Considerávit sémitas domus suæ, et panem otíosa non comédit. Surrexérunt filii ejus, et beatíssimam prædicavérunt: vir ejus, et laudávit eam. Multæ filiæ congregavérunt divítias, tu supergréssa es univérsas. Fallax grátia, et vana est pulchritúdo: múlier tímens Dóminum, ipsa laudábitur. Date ei de fructu mánuum suárum: et laudent eam in portis ópera ejus.

GRADUAL Psalms 44: 8

Dilexísti justítiam, et odísti iniquitátem. Proptérea unxit te Deus, Deus tuus, óleo lætítiæ.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 44: 3

Allelúja, allelúja. Diffúsa est grátia in lábiis tuis: proptérea benedíxit te Deus in ætérnum. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 13: 44-52

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplis suis parábolam hanc: Símile est regnum cælórum thesáuro abscondito in agro: quem qui invénit homo, abscondit, et præ gáudio illíus vadit, et vendit univérsa, quæ habet, et emit agrum illum. Iterum símile est regnum cælórum hómini negotiátóri, quærénti bonas margarítas. Invénta autem una pretiósa margaríta, ábiit, et véndidit ómnia, quæ hábuit, et emit eam. Iterum símile est regnum cælórum sagénæ, missæ in mare et ex omni genere píscium congregánti. Quam, cum impléta esset, educétes, et secus litus sedéntes, elegerunt bonos in vasa, malos autem foras misérunt. Sic erit in consummatione sæculi: exhibunt Ángeli, et separábunt malos de médio justórum, et mittent eos in camínium ignis: ibi erit fletus et stridor déntium. Intellexístis hæc ómnia? Dicunt ei: Etiam. Ait illis: Ideo omnis scriba doctus in regno cælórum símilis est hómini patrifamílias, qui profert de thesáuro suo nova et vétera.

OFFERTORY Psalms 44: 10

Filiæ regum in honóre tuo, ástitit regína a dextris tuis in vestítu deauráto, circúmdata varietáte.

SECRET

Sacrificiis præsentibus, quæsumus, Dómine, placatus inténde: ut per intercessiónem beátæ Annæ, quæ Genetrícis Filii tui, Dómini nostri Jesu Christi, mater éxstitit, et devotióni nostræ proficiat salutem. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Psalms 44: 3

Diffúsa est grátia in lábiis tuis: proptérea benedíxit te Deus in ætérnum, et in sæculum sæculi.

POSTCOMMUNION

Cæléstibus sacramentis vegetáti, quæsumus, Dómine, Deus noster: ut, intercessióne beátæ Annæ, quam Genetrícis Filii tui matrem esse voluísti, ad ætérnam salutem pervenire mereámur. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a festival-day in honor of blessed Anne; on whose solemnity the angels rejoice, and give praise to the Son of God. (Ps. 44: 2) My heart hath uttered a good word: I speak my works to the King. 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. Let us all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a festival-day in honor of blessed Anne; on whose solemnity the angels rejoice, and give praise to the Son of God.

O God, Who didst vouchsafe to confer grace on blessed Anne that she might deserve to be made the mother of the mother of Thine only-begotten Son, mercifully grant that, as we celebrate her solemnity, we may be assisted with Thee by her patronage. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Who shall find a valiant woman? the price of her is as of things brought from afar off, and from the uttermost coasts. The heart of her husband trusteth in her, and he shall have no need of spoils. She will render him good and not evil all the days of her life. She hath sought wool and flax, and hath wrought by the counsel of her hands: she is like the merchant's ship, she bringeth her bread from afar: and she hath risen in the night, and given a prey to her household, and victuals to her maidens: she hath considered a field and bought it; with the fruit of her hands she hath planted a vineyard. She hath girded her loins with strength, and hath strengthened her arm. She hath tasted and seen that her traffic is good; her lamp shall not be put out in the night. She hath put out her hands to strong things, and her fingers have taken hold of the spindle. She hath opened her hand to the needy, and stretched out her hands to the poor. She shall not fear for her house in the cold of snow: for all her domestics are clothed with double garments. She hath made for herself clothing of tapestry; fine linen and purple is her covering. Her husband is honorable in the gates, when he sitteth among the senators of the land. She made fine linen and sold it, and delivered a girdle to the Canaanite. Strength and beauty are her clothing: and she shall laugh in the latter day. She hath opened her mouth to wisdom, and the law of clemency is on her tongue: she hath looked well to the paths of her house, and hath not eaten her bread idle. Her children rose up, and called her blessed; her husband, and he praised her. Many daughters have gathered together riches; thou hast surpassed them all. Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: the woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her works praise her in the gates.

Thou hast loved justice, and hated iniquity. Therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness.

Alleluia, alleluia. Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore hath God blessed thee forever. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus spoke this parable to His disciples: The kingdom of Heaven is like unto a treasure hidden in a field; which a man having found, hid it, and for joy thereof goeth, and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of Heaven is like to a merchant seeking good pearls. Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went his way and sold all that he had, and bought it. Again, the kingdom of Heaven is like to a net cast into the sea, and gathering together of all kinds of fishes; which, when it was filled, they drew out, and sitting by the shore, they chose out the good into vessels, but the bad they cast forth. So shall it be at the end of the world. The angels shall go out, and shall separate the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have ye understood all these things? They say to Him, Yes. He said unto them, Therefore, every scribe instructed in the kingdom of Heaven, is like to a man who is a householder, who bringeth forth out of his treasure new things and old.

The daughters of kings in thy glory: the queen stood on thy right hand in gilded clothing, surrounded with variety.

Be appeased, O Lord, we beseech Thee, and look upon the sacrifices here before Thee, that, by the intercession of blessed Anne, who was the mother of Thy Son's mother, Our Lord Jesus Christ, they may profit both for our devotion and our salvation. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore hath God blessed thee forever, and for ages of ages

Nourished by Thy Heavenly sacraments, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our God, that, by the intercession of blessed Anne, whom Thou didst will to be the mother of Thy Son's mother, we may be worthy to attain unto everlasting salvation. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.