

The Seven Machabees, brothers, and other Jews, suffered martyrdom for their faith in the second century before Christ, under the tyrant Antiochus Epiphanes, the impious king of Syria. They are the only martyrs who suffered before Christ that are honored with a feast of universal observance. Their relics were placed in the church of St. Peter's Chains beneath the new altar on August 1st.

**INTROIT Psalms 33: 18**

Clamavérunt justi, et Dóminus exaudivit eos: et ex ómnibus tribulatióibus eórum liberávit eos. (Ps. 33: 2) Benedícam Dóminum in omni témpore: semper laus ejus in ore meo. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Clamavérunt justi, et Dóminus exaudivit eos: et ex ómnibus tribulatióibus eórum liberávit eos.

**COLLECT**

Fraterna nos, Dómine, Mártyrum tuórum coróna lætificet: quæ et fidei nostræ præbeat increménta virtútum; et múltiplici nos suffrágio consolétur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

**EPISTLE Hebrews 11: 33-39**

Fratres: Sancti per fidem vicérunt regna, operáti sunt justítiam, adépti sunt repromissiónes, obturavérunt ora leónum, exstinxérunt ímpetum ignis, effugerunt áciem gládii, convaluérunt de infirmitáte, fortes facti sunt in bello, castra vertérunt exterórum: accepérunt mulieres de resurrectione mórtuos suos: álii autem disténti sunt, non suscipiéntes redemptionem, ut meliorem invenírent resurrectionem: álii vero ludíbria et vébera expéti, ínsuper et víncula et cárceres: lapidáti sunt, secti sunt, tentári sunt, in occisióne gládii mórtui sunt: circujéti in melótis, in péllibus caprinis, egéntes, angustiáti, afflicti: quibus dignus non erat mundus: in solitudínibus errántes, in móntibus et spelúncis et in cavérnis terræ. Et hi omnes testimónio fidei probáti, invénti sunt in Christo Jesu, Dómino nostro.

**GRADUAL Psalms 132: 1-2**

Ecce, quam bonum et quam jucundum, habitare fratres in unum! Sicut unguéntum in cápite, quod descendit in barbam, barbam Aaron.

**LESSER ALLELUIA**

Allelúja, allelúja. Hæc est vera fraternitas, quæ vicit mundi crimina: Christum secuta est, inclita tenens regna coeléstia. Allelúja.

**GOSPEL Luke 12: 1-8**

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discípulis suis: Atténdite a ferméto pharisæórum, quod est hypócrisis. Nihil autem opértum est, quod non revelétur: neque absconditum, quod non sciátur. Quóniam, quæ in ténebris dixístis, in lúmine dicéntur: et quod in aurem locúti estis in cubiculis, prædicábitur in tectis. Dico autem vobis amicis meis: Ne terreámini ab his, qui occídunt corpus, et post hæc non habent ámplius quid fáciant. Osténdant autem vobis, quem timeátis: timéte eum, qui, postquam ceciderit, habet potestátem mittere in gehénnam. Ita dico vobis: hunc timeíte. Nonne quinque pásseres véneunt dipóndio, et unus ex illis non est in oblivióne coram Deo? Sed et capílli cápitis vestri omnes numeráti sunt. Nolíte ergo timére: multis passéribus pluris estis vos. Dico autem vobis: Omnis, quicumque conféssus fuerit me coram homínibus, et Fílius hóminis confitébitur illum coram Ángelis Dei.

**OFFERTORY Psalms 149: 5-6**

Exsultábunt Sancti in glória, lætabúntur in cubílibus suis: exaltatiónes Dei in fáucibus eórum, allelúja.

**SECRET**

Mysteria tua, Dómine, pro sanctórum Martyrum tuórum honóre, devóta mente tractémus: quibus et præsidium nobis crescat et gáudium. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

**COMMUNION Luke 12: 4**

Dico autem vobis amicis meis: Ne terreámini ab his, qui vos persecúntur.

**POSTCOMMUNION**

Præsta, quæsumus, Dómine, Deus: ut, quorum memóriam sacraménti participatióne recólimus, fidem quoque proficiéndo sectémur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

The just cried, and the Lord heard them; and delivered them out of all their troubles. (Ps. 33: 2) I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall be ever in my mouth. 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 just cried, and the Lord heard them; and delivered them out of all their troubles.

May the fruits of the fraternal crown of Thy Martyrs, O Lord, make us joyful, both to afford our faith increase of virtues and to console us with their manifold prayers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Brethren, the saints through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, recovered strength from weakness, became valiant in battle, put to flight the armies of foreigners: women received their dead raised to life again: but others were racked, not accepting deliverance, that they might find a better resurrection; and others had trial of mockeries and stripes, moreover also of bands and prisons: they were stoned, they were cut asunder, they were tempted, they wandered about in sheep-skins, and in goat-skins, being in want, distressed, afflicted of whom the world was not worthy: wandering in deserts, in mountains, and in dens, and in caves of the earth. And all these were found approved by the testimony of faith, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment on the head, that ran down upon the beard, the beard of Aaron.

Alleluia, alleluia. This is the true fraternity, which overcame the guilt of the world: they followed Christ, holding fast to the glorious kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. For there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed: nor hidden that shall not be known. For whatsoever things you have spoken in darkness shall be published in the light: and that which you have spoken in the ear in the chambers shall be preached on the housetops. And I say to you, My friends: Be not afraid of them who kill the body and after that have no more that they can do. But I will show you Whom you shall fear: Fear ye Him Who, after He hath killed, hath power to cast into hell. Yea, I say to you: Fear Him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? Yea, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: you are of more value than many sparrows. And I say to you: whosoever shall confess Me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the Angels of God.

The Saints shall rejoice in glory, they shall be joyful in their repose: the high praises of God shall be in their mouth, alleluia.

May we devoutly deal with Thy mysteries, O Lord, for the honor of Thy holy Martyrs, and by them may both protection and joy be increased unto 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.

And I say to you, My friends: Be not afraid of them that persecute you.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty God, that we may more and more closely follow the faith of Thy saints whose memory we venerate in partaking of Thy sacrament. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.