

SEPTEMBER 19, STS. JANUARIUS & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

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During the persecution under Diocletian St. Januarius, patron of the city of Naples and bishop of Beneventum, was beheaded (305 AD) with his deacons and some others. In the great church at Naples are preserved some of the blood of St. Januarius in two glass phials, and also his head. The blood is congealed, but every year up to the present it liquefies when placed near the martyr's head. This miracle has been verified both by scientists and by many pious and learned persons. Cardinal Schuster, Archbishop of Milan, was able to observe it closely and, like others who have studied it, was obliged to confess that there seems to be no possible natural explanation of this event. It may be that in this manner God is pleased to show to the people of Naples that the blood of their great Patron is still active and powerful in the sight of the Lord, for with God there is no past, but all is present and living in His sight.

INTROIT Psalms 36: 39

Salus autem iustorum a Domino: et protector eorum in tempore tribulationis. (Ps. 36: 1) Noli æmulari in malignantibus: neque zelaveris facientes iniquitatem. Glória Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Salus autem iustorum a Domino: et protector eorum est in tempore tribulationis.

COLLECT

Deus, qui nos annua sanctorum Martyrum tuorum, Januarii et sociorum, solemnitate lætificas: concede propitius; ut, quorum gaudemus meritis, accedamur exemplis. Per Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum, Filium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spiritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculorum.

EPISTLE Hebrews 10: 32-38

Fratres: Rememoramini pristinos dies, in quibus illuminati magnum certamen sustinuistis passionum: et in altero quidem opprobriis et tribulationibus spectaculum facti: in altero autem socii taliter conversantium effecti. Nam et vinctis compassi estis, et rapinam bonorum vestrorum cum gaudio suscepistis, cognoscetes vos habere meliorem et manentem substantiam. Nolite itaque amittere! confidentiam vestram, quæ magnam habet remunerationem. Patientia enim vobis necessaria est: ut, voluntatem Dei facientes, reportetis promissionem. Adhuc enim modicum aliquantulum, qui venturus est, veniet, et non tardabit. Justus autem meus ex fide vivit.

GRADUAL Psalms 33: 18-19

Clamaverunt iusti, et Dominus exaudivit eos: et ex omnibus tribulationibus eorum liberavit eos. Juxta est Dominus his, qui tribulatio sunt corde: et humiles spiritu salvabit.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. Te Martyrum candidatus laudat exercitus, Domine. Allelúja.

Matthew 24: 3-13

In illo tempore: Sedente Jesu super montem Oliveti, accesserunt ad eum discipuli secreto, dicentes: Dic nobis, quando hæc erunt? et quod signum adventus tui et consummationis sæculi? Et respondens Jesus, dixit eis: Videte, ne quis vos seducat. Multi enim venient in nomine meo, dicentes: Ego sum Christus: et multos seducunt. Audituri enim estis prœlia et opinionones proeliorum. Videte, ne turbemini. Opórtet enim hæc fieri, sed nondum est finis. Consúrget enim gens in gentem, et regnum in regnum, et erunt pestilentiae et fames et terræmótus per loca. Hæc autem omnia initia sunt dolórum. Tunc tradent vos in tribulationem et occident vos: et éritis odio omnibus géntibus propter nomen meum. Et tunc scandalizabúntur multi, et invicem tradent, et odio habébunt invicem. Et multi pseudoprophætæ surgent, et seducunt multos. Et quoniam abundavit iniquitas, refrigescet caritas multorum. Qui autem perseveraverit usque in finem, hic salvus erit.

OFFERTORY Wisdom 3: 1-3

Iustorum animæ in manu Dei sunt, et non tanget illos tormentum malitiæ: visi sunt oculis insipientium mori: illi autem sunt in pace, allelúja.

SECRET

Oblátis, quæsumus, Domine, placare munéribus: et, intercedéntibus sanctis Martýribus tuis Januário et sóciis, a cunctis nos defénde periculis. Per Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum, Filium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spiritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculorum.

COMMUNION Matthew 10: 27

Quod dico vobis in tenebris, dicite in lumine, dicit Dominus: et quod in aure audistis, prædicáte super tecta.

POSTCOMMUNION

Hæc nos commúnio, Domine, purget a crimine: et, intercedéntibus sanctis Martýribus tuis Januário et sóciis, cæléstis remédii fáciat esse consórtes. Per Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum, Filium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spiritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculorum.

The salvation of the just is from the Lord: and He is their protector in the time of trouble. (Ps. 36: 1) Be not emulous of evil-doers: nor envy them that work iniquity. 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 salvation of the just is from the Lord: and He is their protector in the time of trouble.

O God, Who dost gladden us by the annual solemnity of Thy holy martyrs, Januarius and his companions, mercifully grant that we be kindled by the example of those in whose merits we rejoice. 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, call to mind the former days, wherein, being illuminated, you endured a great fight of afflictions. And on the one hand indeed, by reproaches and tribulations were made a gazing stock; and on the other, be come companions of them that were used in such sort. For you both had compassion on them that were in bands, and took with joy the being stripped of your own goods, knowing that you have a better and lasting substance. Do not therefore lose your confidence, which hath a great reward. For patience is necessary for you: that doing the will of God you may receive the promise. For yet a little and a very little while, and He that is to come, will come and will not delay. But my just man liveth by faith.

The just cried, and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all their troubles. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart; and He will save the humble of spirit.

Alleluia, alleluia. The white-robed army of martyrs praiseth Thee, O Lord. Alleluia.

At that time: As Jesus was sitting on mount Olivet, the disciples came to him privately, saying: Tell us when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the consummation of the world? And Jesus answering, said to them: Take heed that no man seduce you: For many will come in my name saying, I am Christ: and they will seduce many. And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that ye be not troubled. For these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be pestilences, and famines, and earthquakes in places: Now all these are the beginnings of sorrows. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall put you to death: and you shall be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be scandalized: and shall betray one another: and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall seduce many. And because iniquity hath abounded, the charity of many shall grow cold. But he that shall persevere to the end, he shall be saved.

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and the torment of malice shall not touch them: in the sight of the unwise they seemed to die, but they are in peace, alleluia.

Be appeased O Lord, with the gifts we offer, and, by the intercession of Thy holy martyrs, Januarius and his companions, defend us from all dangers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

That which I tell you in the dark, speak ye in the light; and that which you hear in the ear preach ye upon the housetops.

May this communion, O Lord, purge us of guilt and, by the intercession of Thy holy martyrs, Januarius and his companions, make us partakers of the heavenly salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.