

SEPTEMBER 22, ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA, CONFESSOR - BISHOP

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St. Thomas of Villanova, Archbishop of Valencia, Spain, was a Religious of the Order of St. Augustine. He was distinguished by his perfect humility and his charity to the poor, to whom he gave all he possessed. When he died the very bed on which he lay no longer belonged to him. He had given it a few days before to a poor man, who in his turn allowed him to keep it for the short time that it would still be of use to him. He died September 8, 1555.

Commemoration of St. Maurice and Companions: St. Maurice was an officer of the Theban legion, a body of about 6000 men. These soldiers were Christians and loyal to their emperor and to God. They refused to sacrifice to the heathen gods and were put to the sword, in 286, by Maximian, the colleague of Diocletian, unresistingly giving their lives for the Faith.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 45: 30

Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et princípem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum. (Ps. 131: 1) Meménto, Dómine, David: et omnis mansuetúdinis ejus. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et princípem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum.

COLLECT

Deus, qui beátum Thomam Pontíficem insignis in páuperes misericórdiæ virtúte decorásti: quæsumus; ut, ejus intercessióne, in omnes, qui te deprecántur, divítias misericórdiæ tuæ benígnus effúndas. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of Sts. Maurice & companions.)

Ánne, quæsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut sanctorum Martyrum tuórum Maurítii et Sociórum ejus nos lætíficet festíva solémnitas; ut, quorum suffragiis nitimur, eórum natalítis gloriémur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Lesson**Ecclesiasticus 44: 16-27; 45: 3-20**

Ecce sacerdos magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo, et invéntus est justus: et in témpore iracúndiæ factus est reconciliátio. Non est invéntus símilis illi, qui conservávit legem Excélsi. Ideo jurejurándo fecit illum Dóminus créscere in plebem suam. Benedicciónem ómnium géntium dedit illi, et testaméntum suum confirmávit super caput ejus. Agnovit eum in benediccióibus suis: conservávit illi misericórdiam suam: et invenit grátiam coram óculis Dómini. Magnificávit eum in conspéctu regum: et dedit illi corónam glóriæ. Státuit illi testaméntum aetérnum, et beatit illi sacerdotium magnum: et deificávit illum in glória. Fungi sacerdotio, et habére laudem in nómine ipsíus, et offérre illi incensum dignum in odórem suavitatís.

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GRADUAL Ecclesiasticus 44: 16

Ecce sacerdos magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo. (Ecclus. 44: 20) Non est invéntus símilis illi, qui conserváret legem Excélsi.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 109: 4

Allelúja, allelúja. Tu es sacerdos in aetérnum, secúndum órđinem Melchisedech. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 25: 14-23

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplis suis parábolum hanc: Homo pégre proficiscens vocávit servos suos, et trádidit illis bona sua. Et uni dedit quinque talénta, álii autem duo, álii vero unum, unicuíque secúndum própriam virtútem, et proféctus est statim. Abiit autem, qui quinque talénta accéperat, et operátus est in eis, et lucrátus est ália quinque. Simíliter et, qui duo accéperat, lucrátus est ália duo. Qui autem unum accéperat, ábiens fodit in terram, et abscóndit pecúniám dómini sui. Post multum vero témporis venit dóminus servórum illórum, et pósuit ratióne cum eis. Et accédens qui quinque talénta accéperat, obtulit ália quinque talénta, dicens: Dómine, quinque talénta tradidisti mihi, ecce, ália quinque superlucrátus sum. Ait illi dóminus ejus: Euge, serve bone et fidélis, quia super pauca fuísti fidélis, super multa te constítuam: intra in gáudium dómini tui. Accéssit autem et qui duo talénta accéperat, et ait: Dómine, duo talénta tradidisti mihi, ecce, ália duo lucrátus sum. Ait illi dóminus ejus: Euge, serve bone et fidélis, quia super pauca fuísti fidélis, super multa te constítuam: intra in gáudium dómini tui.

OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 21-22

Invéni David servum meum, óleo sancto meo unxi eum: manus enim mea auxiliábitur ei, et bráchium meum confortábit eum.

SECRET

Sancti Thomæ Confessóris tui atque Pontíficis, quæsumus, Dómine, ánnua solémnitas pietáti tuæ nos reddat accéptos: ut, per hæc piæ placatiónis officia, et illum nobéa tribútio comitétur, et beáti grátiae tuæ dona concíliet. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of Sts. Maurice & companions.)

Réspice, quæsumus, Dómine, múnera, quæ in sanctorum Mártyrum tuórum Maurítii et Sociórum ejus commémoratióne defréntur: et præsta; ut, quorum honóre sunt grata, eórum nobis fiant intercessióne perpétua. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Luke 12: 42

Fidélis servus et prudens, quem constítuit dóminus super familiam suam: ut det illis in témpore trítici mensúram.

POSTCOMMUNION

Deus, fidélium remunerátor animárum: præsta; ut beáti Thomæ Confessóris tui atque Pontíficis, cujus venerándam celebrámus festivitátem, précibus indulgéntiam consequámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of Sts. Maurice & companions.)

Cæléstibus refécti sacraméntis et gáudiis: súpplices te rogámus, Dómine; ut, quorum gloriámur triúmphis, protegámur auxiliis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

The Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever. (Ps. 131: 1) O Lord, remember David: and all his meekness. 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 Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever.

O God, Who didst adorn blessed Thomas, Thy bishop, with the virtue of a consuming charity for the poor, we beseech Thee that, through his intercession, Thou graciously pour forth the riches of Thy mercy upon all who pray to 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.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty God, that the festival of Thy holy martyrs, Maurice and his companions, may bring us joy, that we may glory in the natal day of those upon whose patronage we lean. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God, and was found just; and in the time of wrath was made a reconciliation. There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High. Therefore by an oath the Lord made him increase among his people. He gave him the blessing of all nations, and confirmed His covenant upon his head. He acknowledged him in His blessings: He preserved for him His mercy: and he found grace before the eyes of the Lord. He glorified him in the sight of kings, and gave him a crown of glory. He made an everlasting covenant with him; and gave him a great priesthood; and made him blessed in glory. To execute the office of the priesthood and to have praise in his name, and to offer to him worthy incense for an odor of sweetness.

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God. (Ecclus. 44: 20) There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High.

Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art a priest according to the order of Melchisedech. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus spoke this parable to His disciples: A man going into a far country called his servants, and delivered to them his goods. And to one he gave five talents, and to another two, and to another one, to every one according to his proper ability: and immediately he took his journey. And he that had received the five talents, went his way, and traded with the same, and gained other five. And in like manner he that had received the two, gained other two. But he that had received the one, going his way digged into the earth, and hid his lord's money. But after a long time the lord of those servants came, and reckoned with them. And he that had received the five talents coming, brought other five talents, saying: Lord, thou didst deliver to me five talents, behold I have gained other five over and above. His lord said to him: Well done, good and faithful servant, because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. And he also that had received the two talents came and said: Lord, thou deliveredst two talents to me: behold I have gained other two. His lord said to him: Well done, good and faithful servant: because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

I have found David My servant, with My holy oil I have anointed him: for My hand shall help him, and My arm shall strengthen him.

May the annual festival of blessed Thomas, Thy Confessor and Bishop, we beseech Thee, O Lord, render us pleasing to Your loving kindness, so that this service of sacred propitiation may be a blessed recompense for him and secure for us the gifts of Thy grace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Regard, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our gifts which we bring in commemoration of Thy holy martyrs, Maurice and his companions, and grant that they be made pleasing by the perpetual intercession of those in Whose honor they are offered. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

This is the faithful and wise steward, whom his lord setteth over his family: to give them their measure of wheat in due season.

O God, Who rewards faithful souls, grant that, through the prayers of blessed Thomas, Thy Confessor and Bishop, whose hallowed feast we are keeping, we may obtain pardon for our sins. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Refreshed with heavenly sacraments and joys, we, Thy suppliants, beseech Thee, O Lord, that we be protected by the assistance of those In whose triumphs we glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.