

St. Bibiana, a Roman virgin, was scourged to death (363) in the persecution of Julian the Apostate. Before her death her father, mother, and only sister, had given their lives for Christ. One of the most ancient churches in Rome bears her name, and is said to have been built on the site of her house.

INTROIT Psalms 118: 95-96

Me exspectavérunt peccatóres, ut pérderent me: testimónia tua, Dómine, intelléxi: omnis consummationis vidi finem: latum mandátum tuum nimis. (Ps. 118: 1) Beáti immaculáti in via: qui ámbulant in lege Dómini. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Me exspectavérunt peccatóres, ut pérderent me: testimónia tua, Dómine, intelléxi: omnis consummationis vidi finem: latum mandátum tuum nimis.

COLLECT

Deus, ómnium largítor bonórum, qui in fámula tua Bibiána cum virginitátis flore mártýrii palmam conjunxisti: mentes nostras ejus intercessióne tibi caritáte conjúge; ut, amótiis periculis, præmia consequámur ætérna. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of the Advent feria.)

Excíta, quæsumus, Dómine, poténtiam tuam, et veni: ut ab imminéntibus peccatórum nostrórum periculis, te mereámur protegénte éripi, te liberánte salvári. Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Ecclesiasticus 51: 13-17

Dómine Deus meus, exaltásti super terram habitatiónem meam, et pro morte defluénte deprecáta sum. Invocávi Dóminum, patrem Dómini mei, ut non derelinquat me in die tribulatiónis meæ, et in témpore superbórum sine adjutório. Laudábo nomen tuum assidue, et collaudábo illud in confessióne, et exaudíta est orátio mea. Et liberásti me de perditióne, et eripuísti me de témpore iníquo. Propterea confitébor et laudem dicam tibi, Dómine Deus noster.

GRADUAL Psalms 45: 6; 45: 5

Adjuvábít eam Deus vultu suo: Deus in médio ejus, non commovébitur. Flúminis ímpetus lætíficat civitátem Dei: sanctificávit tabernáculum suum Altíssimus.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. Hæc est virgo sapiéns, et una de número prudéntum. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 13: 44-52

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplis suis parábolam hanc: Símile est regnum cælórum thesáuro abscondito in agro: quem quis inveniit homo, abscondit, et præ gáudio illíus vadit, et vendit univérsa, quæ habet, et emit agrum illum. Íterum símile est regnum cælórum hómini negotiatóri, quærénti bonas margarítas. Invénta autem una pretiósá margaríta, ábiit, et véndidit ómnia, quæ hábuit, et emit eam. Íterum símile est regnum cælórum sagénæ missæ in mare et ex omni génere piscium congregánti. Quam, cum impléta esset, educéntes, et secus líttas sedéntes, elegérunt bonos in vasa, malos autem foras misérunt. Sic erit in consummatione sæculi: exíbunt Ángeli, et separábunt malos de médio justórum, et mittent eos in caminum 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: 3

Diffúsa est grátia in lábiis tuis: propterea benedixit te Deus in ætérnum, et in sæculum sæculi.

SECRET

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

(Commemoration of the Advent feria.)

Hæc sacra nos, Dómine, poténti virtúte mundátos, ad suum fáciant puriôres veníre princípium. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF ADVENT

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubíque grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, ætérne Deus: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Quem pèrdito hóminum géneri Salvatórem miséricors et fidélis promisiisti: cujus véritas instrúeret íncios, sáncritas justificáret ímpios, virtus adjuváret infirmos. Dum ergo prope est ut veniat quem missúrus es, et dies affúlget liberatiónis nostræ, in hac promissionum tuárum fide, piis gáudiis exultámus. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus, cumque omni militia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus, sine dicéntes:

COMMUNION

Psalms 118: 121, 122, 128

Feci judícium et justítiam, Dómine, non calumniéntur mihi supérbi: ad ómnia mandáta tua dirigébar, omnem viam iniquitátis ódio hábui.

POSTCOMMUNION

Divíni múnemis largitáte satiáti, quæsumus, Dómine Deus noster: ut, intercedénte beáta Bibiána Vírgine et Mártýre 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.

(Commemoration of the Advent feria.)

Suscipiámus, Dómine, misericórdiam tuam in médio templi tui: ut reparatiónis nostræ ventúra solémnia cóngruis honóribus præcedámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: but I have understood Thy testimonies, O Lord: I have seen an end of all perfection; Thy command is exceeding broad. (Ps. 118: 1) Blessed are the undefiled in the way: who walk in the law 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. The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: but I have understood Thy testimonies, O Lord: I have seen an end of all perfection; Thy command is exceeding broad.

O God, the bestower of all good gifts, who in Thy handmaid Bibiana didst to the flower of virginity join the palm of martyrdom: do Thou, through her intercession, so unite our minds in the bond of charity to Thee, that all dangers being done away, we may obtain everlasting rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Stir up Thy power, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and come: that from the threatening dangers of our sins we may deserve to be rescued by Thy protection, and to be saved by Thy deliverance. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

O Lord my God, Thou hast exalted my dwelling place upon the earth, and I have prayed for death to pass away. I called upon the Lord, the Father of my Lord, that He would not leave me in the day of my trouble, and in the time of the proud without help. I will praise Thy name continually, and will praise it with thanksgiving, and my prayer was heard. And Thou hast saved me from destruction, and hast delivered me from the evil time. Therefore I will give thanks and praise to Thee, O Lord our God.

God will help her with His countenance: God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved. The stream of the river maketh the city of God joyful: the Most High hath sanctified His own tabernacle.

Alleluia, alleluia. This is a wise virgin, and one of the number of the prudent. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus spoke to His disciples this parable: 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 kind 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 that is a householder, who bringeth forth out of his treasure new things and old.

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

Graciously receive, O Lord, the offerings consecrated to Thee by the merits of blessed Bibiana, Thy Virgin and Martyr, and grant that they may ever bring us help. 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 these holy mysteries, O Lord, cleanse us by their powerful virtue and make us to come with greater purity to Him Who is their source. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

It is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, that we should at all times and places give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, almighty Father, eternal God, through Christ our Lord; for in Thy mercy and fidelity Thou hast promised Him as Savior to the lost race of men, to instruct the ignorant with His truth, justify the wicked with His holiness, and help the weak by His power. Now that the time draweth nigh that He Whom Thou art to send should come, and the day of our liberation should dawn, with faith in Thy promises, we rejoice with holy exultation. And therefore with the Angels and Archangels, with the Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing a hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

I have done judgment and justice, O Lord, give me not up to them that slander me: I was directed to all Thy commandments, I have hated all wicked ways.

Filled with the Gift of Thy divine bounty, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our God; that by the intercession of blessed Bibiana, Thy Virgin and Martyr, we may partake thereof evermore. 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 we receive, O Lord, Thy mercy in the midst of Thy temple, that we may prepare with due honor for the approaching feast of our redemption. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.