

DECEMBER 3, ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, CONFESSOR

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This great Jesuit missionary, was the apostle of the East Indies, and the first to preach the faith of Christ in Japan. He baptized hundreds of thousands of pagans. For the love of Jesus and out of a "longing love to help Christ's poor," he traveled, barefoot, to the most distant parts, preached the Gospel in more than a hundred kingdoms, and islands, brought kings and nations into the fold of the Church. And then this noble-hearted missionary, this saint mighty in word and work, gave his great soul to his Master, December 2, 1552.

INTROIT Psalms 118: 46-47

Loquēbar de testimoniis tuis in conspectu regum, et non confundēbar: et meditābar in mandātis tuis, quæ dilēxi nimis. (Ps. 116: 1-2) Laudate Dōminum, omnes pōpuli: quōniam confirmāta est super nos misericōrdia ejus, et vēritas Dōmini manet in ætērnūm. Glōria Patri et Fīlio et Spīritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculōrum. Amen. Loquēbar de testimoniis tuis in conspectu regum, et non confundēbar: et meditābar in mandātis tuis, quæ dilēxi nimis.

COLLECT

Deus, qui Indiārum gentes beāti Francisci prædicatiōne et miraculis Ecclēsiæ tuæ aggregāre voluisti: concēde propitiū; ut, cujus gloriōsa mērita venerāmur, virtūtum quoque imitemur exēpla. Per Dōminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fīlium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spīritus Sancti, Deus, per ōmnia sæcula sæculōrum.

EPISTLE Romans 10: 10-18

Fratres: Corde enim crēditur ad justitiam: ore autem confessio fit ad salutē. Dicit enim Scriptūra: Omnis, qui credit in illum, non confundētur. Non enim est distinctio Judæi, et Græci: nam idem Dōminus ōnium, dives in omnes, qui invocant illum. Omnis enim, quicumque invocaverit nomen Dōmini, salvus erit. Quōmodo ergo invocābunt, in quem non crediderunt? Aut quōmodo credent ei, quem non audierunt? Quōmodo autem adient sine prædicāte? Quōmodo vero prædicābunt, nisi mittantur? sicut scriptum est: Quam speciōsi pedes evangelizantium pacem, evangelizantium bona! Sed non omnes obediunt Evangēlio. Isaías enim dicit: Dōmine, quis credidit auditui nostro? Ergo fides ex auditu, auditus autem per verbum Christi. Sed dico: Numquid non audierunt? Et quidem in omnem terram exivit sonus eōrum, et in fines orbis terræ verba eōrum.

GRADUAL Psalms 91: 13,14

Justus ut palma florēbit: sicut cedrus Libani multiplicābitur in domo Dōmini. (91: 3) Ad annuntiandum mane misericōrdiam tuam, et veritatem tuam per noctem. Allelūja, allelūja. (James 1: 12) Beātus vir, qui suffert tentatiōnem: quōniam cum probātus fuerit, accipiet corōnam vita. Allelūja.

GOSPEL Mark 16: 15-17

In illo tēpore: Dixit Jesus discipulis suis: Eūntes in mundum univērsū, prædicāte Evangēlium omni creatūræ. Qui crediderit, et baptizātus fuerit, salvus erit: qui vero non crediderit, condemnābitur. Signa autem eos, qui crediderint, hæc sequentur: In nōmine meo dæmōnia ejicient: linguis loquentur novis: serpētes tollent: et si mortiferum quid biberint, non eis nocēbit: super ægros manus impōnent, et bene habēbunt.

OFFERTORY Psalm 88: 25

Vēritas mea, et misericōrdia mea cum ipso: et in nōmine meo exaltābitur cornu ejus.

SECRET

Præsta nobis, quæsumus, omnīpotens Deus: ut nostræ humilitātis oblātio, et pro tuōrum tibi grata sit honōre Sanctōrum, et nos cōrpore pāriter et mente purificet. Per Dōminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fīlium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spīritus Sancti, Deus, per ōmnia sæcula sæculōrum.

COMMUNION Matthew 24: 46, 47

Beātus servus, quem, cum venerit dōminus, invenerit vigilāntem: amen dico vobis, super ōmnia bona sua constituet eum.

POSTCOMMUNION

Quæsumus, omnīpotens Deus: ut, qui cælēstia alimēnta percēpimus, intercedēte beāto Francisco Confessōre tuo, per hæc contra ōmnia advērsa muniāmur. Per Dōminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fīlium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spīritus Sancti, Deus, per ōmnia sæcula sæculōrum.

I spoke of Thy testimonies before kings, and I was not ashamed: I meditated also on Thy commandments, which I loved exceedingly. (Ps. 116: 1-2) Praise the Lord, all ye nations, and praise Him, all ye people: because His mercy is confirmed upon us and the truth of the Lord remaineth forever. 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. I spoke of Thy testimonies before kings, and I was not ashamed: I meditated also on Thy commandments, which I loved exceedingly.

O God, Who wast pleased to gather into Thy Church the nations of the Indies by the preaching and miracles of blessed Francis: mercifully grant that we, who venerate his glorious merits, may also imitate the example of his virtues. 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, With the heart we believe unto justice, but with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture saith: Whosoever believeth in Him shall not be confounded. For there is no distinction of the Jew and the Greek; for the same is Lord over all, rich unto all that call upon Him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on Him in Whom they have not believed? or how shall they believe Him of Whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear, without a preacher? and how shall they preach, unless they be sent? as it is written: How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, of them that bring glad tidings of good things! But all do not obey the gospel. For Isaías saith: Lord, who hath believed our report? Faith, then, cometh by hearing; and hearing by the word of Christ. But I say: Have they not heard? Yea, verily, their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the whole world.

The just man shall flourish like the palm-tree: he shall grow up like the cedar of Libanus in the house of the Lord. (91: 3) To show forth Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth in the night. Alleluia, alleluia. (James 1: 12) Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he hath been proved, he shall receive the crown of life. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: Go ye into the whole world, and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized, shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be condemned. And these signs shall follow them that believe: In My name they shall cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they shall drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay their hands upon the sick, and they shall recover.

My truth and My mercy shall be with him: and in My name shall his horn be exalted.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that the offering of our lowliness may be both be pleasing to Thee for the honor of Thy Saints and may likewise purify us in body and soul. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Blessed is that servant, whom when the Lord shall come, He shall find watching: Amen I say to you, He shall set him over all His goods.

We beseech Thee, O almighty God, that we, who have partaken of heavenly nourishment, may, by the intercession of blessed Francis, Thy Confessor, be fortified by the same against all adverse influences. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.