DECEMBER 4, ST. PETER CHRYSOLOGUS, DOCTOR

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St. Peter, Archbishop of Ravenna in Italy, who died about the year 450, won the title of Chrysologus, "golden worded," not only for his eloquence, but because his words were good, true, and of priceless worth. God's choice of St. Peter as a bishop, which was made known in a vision to Pope Sixtus III, is alluded to in the Collect of the Mass.

St. Barbara, also commemorated today, was a virgin martyr, who suffered for Christ probably in Egypt, during the reign of Galerius, about the year 306. The details of her holy life are unknown; but she has been held in veneration throughout the Church from the date of her martyrdom.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 15: 5

In médio Ecclésiæ apéruit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spíritu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ índuit eum. (Ps. 91: 2) Bonum est confitéri Dómino: et psállere nómini tuo, Altíssime. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in sǽcula sæculórum. Amen. In médio Ecclésiæ apéruit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spíritu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ índuit eum.

In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth: and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. He clothed him with a robe of glory. (Ps. 91: 2) It is good to give praise to the Lord: and to sing to Thy Name, O Most High. 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. In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth: and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. He clothed him with a robe of glory.

COLLECT

Deus, qui beátum Petrum Chrysólogum Doctorem egrégium, divínitus præmonstrátum, ad regéndam et instruéndam Ecclésiam tuam éligi voluísti: præsta, quǽsumus; ut, quem Doctórem vitæ habúimus in terris, intercessórem habére mereámur in cælis. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Filium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spiritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.

O God, Who didst will that blessed Peter Chrysologus, divinely foreshown to be a great doctor, should be elected to rule and instruct Thy Church, grant, we beseech Thee, that we may be worthy to have him as our intercessor in heaven, whom we have had as a teacher of holy living on earth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Commemoration of Feria

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

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.

Commemoration of St. Barbara

Deus, qui inter cétera poténtiæ tuæ mirácula étiam in sexu frágili victóriam martýrii contulísti: concéde propítius; ut, qui beátæ Bárbaræ Vírginis et Martyris tuæ natalícia cólimus, per ejus ad te exémpla gradiámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.

O God, Who, among other miracles of Thy power, hast conferred the victory of martyrdom even on the weaker sex, mercifully grant that we, who celebrate the natal feast of blessed Barbara, Thy virgin and martyr, may advance toward Thee through her example. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

EPISTLE 2 Timothy 4: 1-8

Caríssime: Testíficor coram Deo, et Jesu Christo, qui judicatúrus est vivos et mórtuos, per advéntum ipsíus, et regnum ejus: prǽdica verbum, insta opportúne, importúne: árgue, óbsecra, íncrepa in omni patiéntia, et doctrína. Erit enim tempus, cum sanam doctrínam non sustinébunt, sed ad sua desidéria coacervábunt sibi magístros, pruriéntes áuribus, et a veritáte quidem audítum avértent, ad fábulas autem converténtur. Tu vero vígila, in ómnibus labóra, opus fac Evangelístæ, ministérium tuum imple. Sóbrius esto. Ego enim jam delíbor, et tempus resolutiónis meæ instat. Bonum certámen certávi, cursum consummávi, fidem servávi. In réliquo repósita est mihi coróna justítiæ, quam reddet mihi Dóminus in illa die, justus judex: non solum autem mihi, sed et iis, qui díligunt advéntum ejus.

Dearly beloved, I charge thee, before God and Jesus Christ, who shall judge the living and the dead, by His coming and his kingdom: preach the word: be instant in season, out of season: reprove, entreat, rebuke in all patience and doctrine. For there shall be a time when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires they will heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears, and will indeed turn away their hearing from the truth, but will be turned unto fables. But be thou vigilant, labor in all things, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill thy ministry. Be sober. For I am even now ready to be sacrificed, and the time of my dissolution is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. As to the rest, there is laid up for me a crown of justice, which the Lord, the just Judge, will render to me in that day: and not only to me, but to them also that love his coming.

GRADUAL Ecclesiasticus 44: 16

Ecce sacérdos magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuìt Deo. (Ecclus. 44: 20) Non est invéntus similis illi, qui conserváret legem Excélsi.

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.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 109: 4

Allelúja, allelúja. Tu es sacérdos in ætérnum, secúndum órdinem Melchísedech. Allelúja.

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

GOSPEL Matthew 5: 13-19

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discípulis suis: Vos estis sal terræ. Quod si sal evanúerit, in quo saliétur? Ad níhilum valet ultra, nisi ut mittátur foras, et conculcétur ab homínibus. Vos estis lux mundi. Non potest cívitas abscóndi supra montem pósita. Neque accéndunt lucérnam, et ponunt eam sub módio, sed super candelábrum, ut lúceat ómnibus qui in domo sunt. Sic lúceat lux vestra coram homínibus: ut vídeant ópera vestra bona, et gloríficent Patrem vestrum, qui in cælis est. Nolíte putáre, quóniam veni sólvere legem aut prophétas: non veni sólvere, sed adimplére. Amen quippe dico vobis, donec tránseat cælum et terra, ióta unum aut unus apex non præteríbit a lege, donec ómnia fiant. Qui ergo sólverit unum de mandátis istis mínimis, et docúerit sic hómines, mínimus vocábitur in regno cælórum: qui autem fecérit et docúerit, hic magnus vocábitur in regno cælórum.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt lose its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is good for nothing any more but to be cast out, and to be trodden on by men. You are the light of the world. A city seated on a mountain cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but upon a candlestick, that it may shine to all that are in the house. So let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Do not think that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets. I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For amen I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall not pass of the law, till all be fulfilled. He therefore that shall break one of these least commandments, and shall so teach men, shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. But he that shall do and teach, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

OFFERTORY Psalms 91: 13

Justus ut palma florébit: sicut cedrus, quæ in Líbano est, multiplicábitur.

The just shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow up, like the cedar of Libanus.

SECRET

Sancti Petri Chrysólogi Pontíficis tui atque Doctóris nobis, Dómine, pia non desit orátio: quæ et múnera nostra concíliet; et tuam nobis indulgéntiam semper obtíneat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.

May the loving prayers of Peter Chrysologus, Thy bishop, not be wanting to us, O Lord, to commend our gifts and ever to obtain pardon for 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.

Commemoration of Feria

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

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.

Commemoration of St. Barbara

Súscipe, Dómine, munera, quæ in beátæ Bárbaræ Vírginis et Mártyris tuæ solemnitáte deférimus: cujus nos confídimus patrocínio liberári. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.

Graciously receive, O Lord, the gifts which we offer on the solemnity of Thy virgin and martyr, Barbara, by whose patronage we trust to be delivered from all evil. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

PREFACE OF ADVENT

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubíque grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Quem pérdito hóminum géneri Salvatórem miséricors et fidélis promisísti: cujus véritas instrúeret ínscios, sánctitas justificáret ímpios, virtus adjuváret infírmos. Dum ergo prope est ut véniat quem missúrus es, et dies affúlget liberatiónis nostræ, in hac promissiónum tuárum fide, piis gáudiis exsultámus. Et ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatiónibus, cumque omni militia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus, sine fine dicéntes:

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:

COMMUNION Matthew 25: 20

Dómine, quinque talénta tradidísti mihi: ecce ália quinque superlucrátus sum. Euge serve bone et fidélis, quia in pauca fuísti fidélis, supra multa te constítuam, intra in gáudium Dómini tui.

Lord, Thou didst deliver to me five talents: behold I have gained other five over and above. 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.

POSTCOMMUNION

Ut nobis, Dómine, tua sacrifícia dent salútem: beátus Petrus Chrysólogus Póntifex tuus et Doctor egrégius, quǽsumus, precátor accédat. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.

In order that Thy sacrifices may render salvation to us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that blessed Peter Chrysologus, Thy Bishop and illustrious Doctor, may act as intercessor. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Commemoration of 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 sǽcula sæculórum.

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.

Commemoration of St. Barbara

Auxiliéntur nobis, Dómine, sumpta mystéria: et, intercedénte beáta Bárbara Vírgine et Mártyre tua, sempitérna fáciant protectióne gaudére. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.

May the mysteries we have received, help us, O Lord, and, by the intercession of blessed Barbara, Thy virgin and martyr, may they cause us to rejoice in everlasting protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.