DECEMBER 28, HOLY INNOCENTS

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INTROIT Psalms 8: 3

Ex ore infántium Deus, et lacténtium perfecísti laudem propter inimícos tuos. (Ps. 8: 2) Dómine Dóminus noster: quam admirábile est nomen tuum in univérsa terra! v. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in sǽcula sæculórum. Amen. Ex ore infántium Deus, et lacténtium perfecísti laudem propter inimícos tuos.

Out of the mouth of infants and of sucklings, O God, Thou hast perfected praise because of Thine enemies. v. O Lord our God, how admirable is Thy Name in the whole earth! 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. Out of the mouth of infants and of sucklings, O God, Thou hast perfected praise because of Thine enemies.

COLLECT

Deus, cujus hodiérna die præcónium Innocentes Mártyres non loquéndo, sed moriéndo conféssi sunt: ómnia in nobis vitiórum mala mortífica; ut fidem tuam, quam lingua nostra lóquitur, étiam móribus vita fateátur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.

O God, Whose praise the martyred innocents did this day proclaim, not by speaking, but by dying, do to death in us all the malice of sinfulness, that our lives may also proclaim Thy faith, which our tongues profess. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

LESSON Apocalypse 14: 1-5

In diébus illis: Vidi supra montem Sion Agnum stantem, et cum eo centum quadragínta quátuor míllia, habéntes nomen ejus, et nomen Patris ejus scriptum in fróntibus suis. Et audívi vocem de cælo, tamquam vocem aquárum multárum, et tamquam vocem tonítrui magni: et vocem, quam audívi, sicut citharædórum citharizántium in cítharis suis. Et cantábant quasi cánticum novum ante sedem, et ante quátuor animália, et senióres: et nemo póterat dicere cánticum, nisi illa centum quadragínta quátuor míllia, qui empti sunt de terra. Hi sunt, qui cum muliéribus non sunt coinquináti: vírgines enim sunt. Hi sequúntur Agnum, quocúmque ierit. Hi empti sunt ex homínibus primítiæ Deo, et Agno: et in ore eórum non est invéntum mendácium: sine mácula enim sunt ante thronum Dei.

In those days I saw upon Mount Sion a Lamb standing, and with Him a hundred forty-four thousand having His name, and the name of His Father, written on their foreheads. And I heard a noise from heaven, as the noise of many waters, and as the voice of great thunder; and the voice which I heard was as the voice of harpers, harping on their harps. And they sung as it were a new canticle, before the throne, and before the four living creatures, and the ancients; and no man could say the canticle, but those hundred forty four thousand who were purchased from the earth. These are they who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. These were purchased from among men, the first-fruits to God and to the Lamb; and in their mouth there was found no lie; for they are without spot before the throne of God.

GRADUAL Psalm 123: 7, 8

Ánima nostra, sicut passer erépta est de láqueo venántium. V. Láqueus contrítus est, et nos liberáti sumus: adjutórium nostrum in nómine Dómini, qui fecit cælum et terram. Allelúja, allelúja. V. (Ps. 112: 1) Laudáte púeri, Dóminum, laudáte nomen Dómini. Allelúja.

Our soul hath been delivered as a sparrow out of the snare of the fowlers. V. The snare is broken, and we are delivered; our help is in the name of the Lord, Who hath made Heaven and earth. Alleluia, alleluia. V. (Ps. 112: 1) Praise the Lord, ye children, praise the name of the Lord. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 2: 13-18

In illo témpore: Ángelus Dómini appáruit in somnis Joseph, dicens: Surge, et áccipe púerum, et matrem ejus, et fuge in Ægyptum, et esto ibi usque dum dicam tibi. Futúrum est enim, ut Heródes quærat púerum ad perdéndum eum. Qui consúrgens accépit púerum, et matrem ejus nocte, et secéssit in Ægyptum: et erat ibi usque ad obitum Heródis: ut adimplerétur quod dictum est a Dómino per Prophétam dicéntem. Ex Ægypto vocávi Fílium meum. Tunc Heródes videns quóniam illúsus esset a Magls, irátus est valde, et mittens occídit omnes púeros, qui erant in Béthlehem, et in ómnibus fínibus ejus, a bimátu et infra, secúndum tempus quod exquisíerat a Magis. Tunc adimplétum est quod dictum est per Jeremíam prophétam dicéntem: plorátus, et ululátus multus: Rachel plorans fílios suos, et nóluit consolári, quia non sunt.

At that time an angel of the Lord appeared in sleep to Joseph, saying: Arise, and take the child and His mother, and fly into Egypt; and be there until I tell thee: for it will come to pass that Herod will seek the child to destroy Him. Who arose, and took the child and His mother by night, and retired into Egypt; and He was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which the Lord spoke by the prophet, saying: Out of Egypt have I called My Son. Then Herod, perceiving that he was deluded by the wise men, was exceeding angry; and sending, killed all the men children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the borders thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremias the prophet, saying: A voice in Rama was heard, lamentation and great mourning; Rachel bewailing her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

OFFERTORY Psalm 123: 7

Ánima nostra sicut passer erépta est de láqueo venántium láqueus contrítus est, et nos liberáti sumus.

Our soul hath been delivered as a sparrow out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are delivered.

SECRET

Sanctórum tuórum, Dómine, nobis 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.

Let not the gracious prayer of Thy saints fail us, O Lord, both to render our offerings acceptable to Thee and ever to obtain Thy 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.

PREFACE OF THE NATIVITY

Vere dignum et justum est, ǽquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubíque grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus. Quia per incarnáti Verbi mystérium nova mentis nostræ óculis lux tuæ claritátis infúlsit: ut dum visibíliter Deum cognóscimus, per hunc invisibílium amórem rapiámur. Et ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dóminatiónibus, cumque omni milítia 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 in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God: for through the Mystery of the word made flesh, the new light of Thy glory hath shone upon the eyes of our mind, so that while we acknowledge God in visible form, we may be through Him be drawn to the love of things invisible. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dóminations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

COMMUNICANTES FOR THE NATIVITY

Communicántes, et diem sacratíssimum celebrántes, quo beátæ Mariæ intemeráta virginítas huic mundo édidit Salvatórem: sed et memóriam venerántes, in primis ejúsdem gloriósæ semper Vírginis Mariæ, Genetrícis ejúsdem Dei et Dómini Jesu Christi: sed et beáti Joseph ejúsdem Vírginis Sponsi, et beatórum Apostolórum ac Mártyrum tuórum, Petri et Pauli, Andréæ, Jacóbi, Joánnis, Thomæ, Jacóbi, Philíppi, Bartholomǽi, Matthǽi, Simónis: et Thaddǽi: Lini, Cleti, Cleméntis, Xysti, Cornélii, Cypriáni, Lauréntii, Chrysógoni, Joánnis et Pauli, Cosmæ et Damiánis: et ómnium Sanctórum tuórum; quorum méritis, precibúsque concédas, ut in ómnibus protectiónis tuæ muniámur auxilio. Per eúndem Christum Dóminum Nostrum. Amen.

Communicating, and keeping this most holy day, in which the spotless virginity of blessed Mary brought forth a Savior to this world and also reverencing the memory of the same glorious Mary, ever Virgin Mother of the same our God and Lord Jesus Christ: as also blessed Joseph, Spouse of the Virgin, and of Thy blessed Apostles and Martyrs Peter and Paul, Andrew, James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Thaddeus: Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Lawrence, Chrysogonus, John and Paul, Cosmas and Damian, and of all Thy Saints, through whose merits and prayers, grant that we may in all things be defended by the help of Thy protection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION Matthew 2: 18

Vox in Rama audíta est, plorátus, et ululátus: Rachel plorans fílios suos, et nóluit consolári, quia non sunt.

A voice in Rama was heard, lamentation and mourning: Rachel bewailing her children: and would not be comforted because they are not.

POSTCOMMUNION

Votíva, Dómine, dona percépimus: quæ Sanctórum nobis précibus et præséntis, quæsumus, vitæ páriter et ætérnæ tríbue conférre subsídium. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.

May the votive gifts, O Lord, of which we have partaken, through the intercession of the Saints gain for us help, both for this life and life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.