

St. Agatha, born in Sicily, resisted the solicitations of Governor Quintianus, who ordered her breast to be torn, but it was healed on the following night by the Apostle, St. Peter, as is mentioned in the Communion. She died uttering a prayer in 251. Her name is in the Canon of the Mass.

INTROIT

Gaudeámus omnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beátæ Ágathæ Vírginis et Mártiris: de cuius passióne gaudent Ángeli et colláudant Fílium Dei. (Ps 44: 2) Eructávit cor meum verbum bonum: dico ego ópera meae Regi. Glória Patri et Filio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Gaudeámus omnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beátæ Ágathæ Vírginis et Mártiris: de cuius passióne gaudent Ángeli et colláudant Fílium Dei.

COLLECT

Deus, qui inter cétera poténtiæ tuæ mirácula étiam in sexu frágili victóriam mártýrii contulísti: concéde propítius; ut, qui beátæ Agathæ Vírginis et Mártiris tuæ natalítia cólimus, per eius ad te exémpa gradiámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 1: 26-31

Fratres: Vidéte vocatiónem vestram: quia non multi sapiéntes secúndum carnem, non multi poténtes, non multi nóbiles: sed quæ stulta sunt mundi elégit Deus, ut confúndat sapiéntes: et infírma mundi elégit Deus, ut confúndat fórtia: et ignobília mundi et contemptibília elégit Deus, et ea quæ non sunt, ut ea quæ sunt destrúeret: ut non gloriétur omnis caro in conspéctu Jesu. Ex ipso autem vos estis in Christo Jesu, qui factus est nobis sapiéntia a Deo, et justítia, et sanctificátio, et redéptio: ut, quemádmódu scriptum est: Qui gloriátur, in Dómino gloriétur.

GRADUAL Psalms 45: 6, 5

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

(From Septuagesima until Easter, the Lesser Alleluia is replaced by the Tract.)

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 118: 46

Allelúja, allelúja. Loquébar de testamóniis tuis in conspéctu regum, et non confundébar. Allelúja.

TRACT Psalms 125: 5-6

Qui séminant in lácrimis, in gáudio metent. Eúntes ibant et flebant, mitténtes semina sua. Veniéntes autem vénient cum exsultatióne, portántes manípulos suos.

GOSPEL Matthew 19: 3-12

In illo témpore: Accessérunt ad Jesum pharisæi, tentántes eum et dicéntes: Si licet hómini dimíttere uxórem suam quacúmque ex causa? Qui respóndens, ait eis: Non legístis, quia, qui fecit hóminem ab initio, másculum et féminam fecit eos? et dixit: Propter hoc dimíttet homo patrem, et matrem, et adhærébit uxóri suæ, et erunt duo in carne una. Ítaque jam non sunt duo, sed una caro. Quod ergo Deus conjúnxit, homo non séparet. Dicunt illi: Quid ergo Móyses mandávit dare libéllum repúdií, et dimíttere? Ait illis: Quóniam Móyses ad durítiam cordis vestri permísit vobis dimíttere uxóres vestras: ab initio autem non fuit sic. Dico autem vobis, quia, quicúmque dimiserit uxórem suam, nisi ob fornicatiónem, et áliam dúxerit, mœchátur: et qui dimíssam duxerit, mœchátur. Dicunt ei discípuli ejus: Si íta est causa hóminis cum uxóre, non expedit núbere. Qui dixit illis: Non quibus dátum est. Sunt enim eunúchi, qui de matris útero sic nati sunt; et sunt eunúchi, qui facti sunt ab homínibus; et sunt eunúchi, qui seipsos castravérunt propter regnum cælórum. Qui potest cápere, cápiat.

OFFERTORY Psalms 44: 15

Afferéntur Regi Vírgines post eam: próxímæ ejus afferéntur tibi.

SECRET

Súscipe, Dómine, múnera, quæ in beátæ Ágathæ Vírginis et Mártiris tuæ sollemnitate deférimus: cuius nos confidimus patrocínio liberári. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION

Qui me dignátus est ab omni plaga curáre et mamíllam meam meo péctori restituere, ipsum ínvoco Deum vivum.

POSTCOMMUNION

Auxiliéntur nobis, Dómine, sumpta mystéria: et, intercedénte beáta Ágatha Vírgine et Mártýre tua, sempitérna protectióne confírment. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a festival in honor of blessed Agatha, virgin and martyr; at whose passion the Angels rejoice, and give praise to the Son of God. (Ps 44: 2) My heart hath uttered a good word; I speak my words to the King. 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. Let us all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a festival in honor of blessed Agatha, virgin and martyr; at whose passion the Angels rejoice, and give praise to the Son of God.

O God, who among other miracles of Thy power, hast granted even to the weaker sex the victory of martyrdom, grant, we beseech Thee, that we who celebrate the festival of blessed Agatha, Thy virgin and martyr, may walk to Thee by 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.

Brethren: See your vocation, that there are not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble: but the foolish things of the world hath God chosen, that He may confound the wise, and the weak things of the world hath God chosen that He may confound the strong; and the base things of the world, and the things that are contemptible hath God chosen, and things that are not, that He might bring to nought things that are: that no flesh should glory in His sight. But of Him are you in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and justice, and sanctification, and redemption; that as it is written: He that glorieth may glory in the Lord.

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

From Septuagesima until Easter, the Lesser Alleluia is replaced by the Tract.)

Alleluia, alleluia. I spoke of Thy testimonies before kings, and I was not ashamed. Alleluia.

Those that sow in tears shall reap rejoicing. Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown. They shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves.

At that time, the Pharisees came to Jesus tempting Him, and saying: Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? Who answering, said to them: Have ye not read, that He who made man from the beginning, made them male and female? And He said: For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and cleave to his wife, and they two shall be in one flesh. Therefore now they are not two, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. They say to Him: Why then did Moses command to give a bill of divorce, and to put away? He saith to them: Because Moses, by reason of the hardness of your heart, permitted you to put away your wives; but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, that whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery; and he that shall marry her that is put away, committeth adultery. His disciples say unto Him: If the case of a man with his wife be so, it is not expedient to marry. Who said to them: All men take not this word, but they to whom it is given; for there are eunuchs, who were born so from their mother's womb; and there are eunuchs who were made so by man; and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven. He that can take it, let him take it.

After her shall virgins be brought to the King; her neighbors shall be brought to Thee.

Receive, O Lord, the offerings we bring on the solemn festival of Thy blessed virgin and martyr, Agatha; by whose intercession we hope for deliverance. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

I invoke Him the living God, who vouchsafed to cure me of every wound, and to restore my breast to my body.

May we be helped, O Lord, by the mysteries we have received; and blessed Agatha, Thy virgin and martyr, interceding for us, may they strengthen us with 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.