

FEBRUARY 24 (25 in leap years), ST MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

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St. Matthias was elected to take the place of Judas among the apostles. He is honored as a martyr by the Church. In the Roman Canon of the Mass the name of Matthias is not among those of the twelve apostles, whose number is completed by the addition of the name of Paul. In the series of apostolic men in the prayer preceding the Pater noster, Matthias is named between St. Stephen, the Proto-martyr, and the Apostle Barnabas. His relics are said to be kept in the Basilica of St. Mary Major. St. Clement of Alexandria says that he gave to us the beautiful maxim: "We must wholly subdue the body through mortification, subjecting it to the spirit of the crucified Jesus."

INTROIT Psalms 138: 17

Mihi tuum amici
tui, Deus: nimis confortatus est
principatus eorum. (Ps 138: 1-2)
Dómine, probasti me et cognovisti me:
tu cognovisti sessionem meam et
resurrectionem meam. Glória Patri et
Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in
principio, et nunc, et semper, et in
sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Mihi autem
nimis honorati sunt amici tui, Deus:
nimis confortatus est principatus
eorum.

COLLECT

Deus, qui beátum Matthiam
Apostolorum tuorum collégio sociasti:
tribue, quæsumus; ut, ejus
interventióne, tuæ circa nos pietátis
semper viscera sentiámus. Per
Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum,
Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in
unitate Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per
omnia sæcula sæculorum.

LESSON Acts 1: 15-26

In diébus illis exsurgens Petrus in
medio fratrum, dixit - erat autem turba
hominum simul, fere centum viginti -:
Viri fratres, oportet impleri Scripturam,
quam prædixit Spiritus Sanctus per os
David de Juda, qui fuit dux eorum, qui
comprehenderunt Jesum: qui
connumeratus erat in nobis, et sortitus
est sortem ministérii hujus. Et hic
quidem possedit agrum de mercéde
iniquitatis, et suspensus crepuit
medius: et diffusa sunt omnia viscera
ejus. Et notum factum est omnibus
habitantibus Jerúsalem, ita ut
appellarétur ager ille, lingua eorum,
Haceldama, hoc est ager sanguinis.
Scriptum est enim in libro Psalmorum:
Fiat commoratio eorum deserta, et non
sit, qui inhabitet in ea: et episcopatum
ejus accipiat alter. Oportet ergo ex his
viris, qui nobiscum sunt congregati in
omni tempore, quo intravit et exivit inter
nos Dóminus Jesus, incipiens a
baptismate Joánnis usque in diem, qua
resurrectio est a nobis, testem
resurrectionis ejus nobiscum fieri unum
ex istis. Et statuerunt duos, Joseph qui
vocabatur Barsabas, qui cognominatus
est Justus, et Matthiam. Et orantes
dixerunt: Tu, Dómine, qui corda nosti
omnium, ostende, quem elegeris ex his
duobus unum, accipere locum
ministérii hujus et apostolatus, de quo
prævaricatus est Judas, ut abiret in
locum suum. Et dederunt sortes eis, et
cecidit sors super Matthiam, et
annumeratus est cum undecim
Apostolis.

GRADUAL Psalms 138: 17-18

Nimis honorati sunt amici tui, Deus:
nimis confortatus est principatus
eorum. Dinumerabo eos, et super
arenam multiplicabuntur.

TRACT Psalms 20: 3-4

Desiderium animæ ejus tribuisti ei: et
voluntate labiorum ejus non fraudasti
eum. Quoniam prævenisti eum in
benedictionibus dulcedinis. Posuisti in
capite ejus coronam de lapide pretioso.

GOSPEL Matthew 11: 25-30

In illo tempore: Respondens Jesus,
dixit: Confiteor tibi, Pater, Dómine cæli
et terræ, quia abscondisti hæc a
sapientibus et prudentibus, et revelasti
ea parvulis. Ita, Pater: quoniam sic fuit
placitum ante te. Omnia mihi tradita
sunt a Patre meo. Et nemo novit Fílium
nisi Pater: neque Patrem novit nisi
Fílius, et cui voluerit Fílius revelare.
Venite ad me, omnes, qui laboratis et
onerati estis, et ego reficiam vos.
Tollite jugum meum super vos, et
discite a me, quia mitis sum et humilis
corde: et inveniétis requiem animabus
vestris. Jugum enim meum suave est
et onus meum leve.

OFFERTORY Psalms 44: 17-18

Constitues eos principes super
omnem terram: memores erunt nominis
tui, Dómine, in omni progénie et
generatióne.

SECRET

Hóstias tibi, Dómine, quas nómini tuo
sacrandas offerimus, sancti Matthiæ
Apóstoli tui prosequatur oratio: per
quam nos expiari facias et defendi. Per
Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum,
Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in
unitate Spirítus Sancti Deus, per omnia
sæcula sæculorum.

PREFACE OF THE APOSTLES

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et
salutare, Te Dómine suppliciter
exorare, ut gregem Tuum pastor
ætérne, non deseras: sed per beátos
Apóstolos tuos continúa protectiόne
custodias. Ut iisdem rectóribus
gubernétur, quos óperis Tui vicários
eidem contulisti præesse pastóres. Et
ideo cum Angelis et Archángelis, cum
Thronis et Dominatió nibus, cumque
omni milítia cælestis exercitus,
hymnum glóriæ Tuæ cānimus sine fine
dicentes:

COMMUNION Matthew 19: 28

Vos, qui secuti estis me, sedebitis
super sedes, judicantes duodecim
tribus Israël.

POSTCOMMUNION

Præsta, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus:
ut per hæc sancta, quæ sumpsimus,
interveniénte beáto Matthiá Apóstolo
tuo, véniam consequámur et pacem.
Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum
Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit
et regnat in unitate Spirítus Sancti
Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculorum.

To me Thy friends, O God, are made
exceedingly honorable: their
principality is exceedingly
strengthened. (Ps. 138: 1-2) Lord,
Thou hast proved me, and known me:
Thou hast known my sitting down, and
my rising up. 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. To me Thy friends, O God, are
made exceedingly honorable: their
principality is exceedingly
strengthened.

O God, who didst join blessed Matthias
to the company of Thine Apostles:
grant, we beseech Thee, that by his
intercession, we may ever sense within
us Thy tender mercy
surrounding 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.

In those days, Peter rising up in the
midst of the brethren said (now the
number of persons together was about
hundred and twenty): Men and
brethren, the Scripture must needs be
fulfilled which the Holy Ghost spoke
before by the mouth of David
concerning Judas, who was the leader
of them that apprehended Jesus; who
was numbered with us, and had
obtained part of this ministry. And he
indeed hath possessed a field of the
reward of iniquity; and, being hanged,
burst asunder in the midst; and all his
bowels gushed out. And it became
known to all the inhabitants of
Jerusalem, so that the same field was
called in their tongue Haceldama, that
is to say, the field of blood. For it is
written in the book of Psalms: Let their
habitation become desolate, and let
there be none to dwell therein: and his
bishopric let another take. Wherefore of
these men, who have companied with
us, all the time that the Lord Jesus
came in and went out among us,
beginning from the baptism of John
until the day wherein He was taken up
from us, one of these must be made a
witness with us of His Resurrection.
And they appointed two; Joseph called
Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus,
and Matthias. And praying they said:
Thou Lord, who knowest the hearts of
all men, show whether of these two
Thou hast chosen, to take the place of
this ministry and apostleship, from
which Judas hath by transgression
fallen, that he might go to his own
place. And they gave them lots, and the
lot fell upon Matthias, and he was
numbered with the eleven apostles.

Thy friends, O God, are exceedingly
honorable; their principality is
exceedingly strengthened. I will number
them, and they shall be multiplied
above the sand.

Thou hast given him his heart's desire;
and hast not withheld from him the will
of his lips. For Thou hast prevented him
with blessings of sweetness. Thou hast
set on his head a crown of precious
stones.

At that time, Jesus answered and said:
I confess to thee, O Father, Lord of
heaven and earth, because Thou hast
hid these things from the wise and
prudent, and hast revealed them to the
little ones. Yea, Father; for so hath it
seemed good in Thy sight. All things
are delivered to me by my
Father. And no one knoweth the Son,
but the Father: neither doth any one
know the Father, but the Son, and he to
whom it shall please the Son to reveal
him. Come to me, all you that labor,
and are burdened, and I will refresh
you. Take up my yoke upon you, and
learn of me, because I am meek, and
humble of heart: and you
shall find rest to your souls. For my
yoke is sweet and my burden light.

Thou shalt make them princes over all
the earth: they shall remember Thy
name, O Lord, in every progeny and
generation.

May the prayer of Thy holy Apostle
Matthias, accompany the sacrifice
which we offer to Thy name O Lord,
and that through it we may be both
purified and defended. 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, to entreat Thee humbly,
O Lord, that Thou wouldst not desert
Thy flock, O everlasting Shepherd, but,
through Thy blessed Apostles, wouldst
keep it under Thy constant protection;
that it may be governed by those same
rulers, whom as vicars of Thy work,
Thou didst set over it to be its pastors.
And therefore with Angels and
Archangels, with Thrones and
Dominations, and with all the hosts of
the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of
Thy glory, evermore saying:

You who have followed Me shall sit on
seats judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty
God, that by these holy mysteries
which we have received, through the
intercession of Thine blessed Apostle
Matthias, we may obtain both pardon
and peace. Through our Lord Jesus
Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns
with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever.