MARCH 9, ST. FRANCES OF ROME, WIDOW, ON LENT 3RD MONDAY

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St. Frances, a noble Roman lady, married at the age of 11, was for forty years a perfect Christian spouse. Pope Innocent X placed her name in the Calendar of the Church as a striking example and heavenly patron of the state of widowhood. She was professed as an Oblate of the Basilica of Sta. Maria Nova under the rule of St. Benedict. She renounced all her possessions and labored for the poor even joining crowds of beggars asking for alms. She died 1440.

INTROIT Psalms 118: 75, 120 Cognóvi, Dómine, quia ǽquitas judícia in veritáte tua humiliásti me: confíge timore tuo carnes meas, a mandátis tuis tímui. (Ps. 118: 1) Beáti immaculáti in via: qui ámbulant in lege Dómini. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in sǽcula sæculórum. Amen. Cognóvi, Dómine, quia ǽquitas judícia in veritáte tua humiliásti me: confíge timore tuo carnes meas, a mandátis tuis tímui.	I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are equity, and in Thy truth Thou hast humbled me: pierce Thou my flesh with Thy fear, I am afraid of Thy judgments. (Ps. 118: 1) Blessed are the undefiled in the way: who walk in the law of the Lord. 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 know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are equity, and in Thy truth Thou hast humbled me: pierce Thou my flesh with Thy fear, I am afraid of Thy judgments.
COLLECT Deus, qui beátam Francíscam fámulam tuam, inter cétera grátiæ tuæ dona, familiári Angeli consuetúdine decorásti: concéde, quǽsumus; ut, intercessiónis ejus auxílio, Angelórum consórtium cónsequi mereámur. 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 gifts of Thy grace didst honor blessed Frances, Thine handmaid, with the familiar companionship of an angel, grant, we beseech Thee, that by the help of her intercession we may deserve to attain the company of angels. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.
Lenten Feria: Monday, 3rd week Córdibus nostris, quǽsumus, Dómine, grátiam tuam benígnus infúnde: ut, sicut ab escis carnálibus abstinémus; ita sensus quoque nostros a nóxiis retrahámus excéssibus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.	Lord, we beseech Thee, pour Thy grace into our hearts, that, as we abstain from carnal food, so also we may withdraw our senses from harmful excesses. 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 Proverbs 31: 10-31 Mulíerem fortem quis invéniet? Procul et de últimis fínibus prétium eius. Confídit in ea cor viri sui, et spóliis non indigébit. Reddet ei bonum, et non malum, ómnibus diébus vitæ suæ. Quæsívit lanam et linum, et operáta est consílio mánuum suárum. Facta est quasi navis institóris, de longe portans panem suum. Et de nocte surréxit, dedítque prædam doméstícis suis, et cibária ancíllis suis. Considerávit agrum, et emit eum: de fructu mánuum suárum plantávit víneam. Accínxit fortitúdine lumbos suos, et roborávit bráchium suum. Gustávit, et vidit, quia bona est negotiátio eius: non exstinguétur in nocte lucérna eius. Manum suam misit ad fórtia, et dígiti eius apprehénderent fusum. Manum suam apéruit ínopi, et palmas suas exténdit ad páuperem. Non timébit dómui suæ a frigóribus nivis: omnes enim doméstici eius vestíti sunt duplícibus. Stragulátam vestem fecit sibi: byssus et púrpura induméntum eius. Nóbilis in portis vir eius, quando séderit cum senatóribus terræ. Síndonem fecit et véndidit, et cíngulum tradidit Chananaeo. Fortitúdo et decor induméntum eius, et ridébit in die novíssimo. Os suum apéruit sapiéntiæ, et lex cleméntiæ in lingua eius. Considerávit sémitas domus suæ, et panem otiósa non comédit. Surrexérunt fílii eius, et beatíssimam prædicavérunt: vir eius, et laudávit eam. Multæ fíliæ congregavérunt divítias, tu supergréssa es univérsas. Fallax grátia, et vana est pulchritúdo: mulier timens Dóminum, ipsa laudábitur. Date ei de fructu mánuum suárum, et laudent eam in portis ópera eius.	When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life. She obtains wool and flax and makes cloth with skillful hands. Like merchant ships, she secures her provisions from afar. She rises while it is still night, and distributes food to her household. She picks out a field to purchase; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. she is girt about with strength, and sturdy are her arms. She enjoys the success of her dealings; at night her lamp is undimmed. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle. She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy. She fears not the snow for her household; all her charges are doubly clothed. She makes her own coverlets; fine linen and purple are her clothing. Her husband is prominent at the city gates as he sits with the elders of the land. She makes garments and sells them, and stocks the merchants with belts. She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs at the days to come. She opens her mouth in wisdom, and on her tongue is kindly counsel. She watches the conduct of her household, and eats not her food in idleness. Her children rise up and praise her; her husband, too, extols her: Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all. Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her a reward of her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.
GRADUAL Psalms 44: 3 Diffusa est gratia in labiis tuis: propterea benedixit te Deus in aeternum. Própter veritátem et mansuetúdinem, et justítiam: et dedúcet te mirabíliter déxtera tua. Allelúja, allelúja.	Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore hath God blessed thee for ever. Because of truth, and meekness, and justice: and thy right hand shall conduct thee wonderfully. Alleluia, alleluia.
LESSER ALLELUJA Psalms 44: 5 Spécie tua, et pulchritúdine tua inténde, próspere procéde, et regna. Allelúja.	With thy comeliness, and thy beauty, set out, proceed prosperously, and reign. Alleluia.
TRACT Veni, sponsa Christi, áccipe corónam, quam tibi Dóminus præpárvit in ætérnum: pro cujus amóre sánguinem tuum fudisti. (Ps. 44: 8, 5) Dilexisti justitiam et odisti iniquitátem: proptérea unxit te Deus, Deus tuus, oleo lætitiae præ consórtibus tuis. Spécie tua, et pulchritudine tua inténde, próspere procéde, et regna.	Come, O spouse of Christ, receive the crown which the Lord hath prepared for thee forever: for the love of Whom thou didst shed thy blood. (Ps. 44: 8, 5) Thou hast loved justice and hated inquity: therefore God, thy God, hast anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. With thy comeliness and thy beauty set out, proceed prosperously, and reign.
GOSPEL Matthew 13: 44-52 In illo tempore: Dixit Jesus, discípulis suis parábolam hanc: "Símile est regnum cælórum thesáuro abscóndito in agro: quem qui invénit homo, abscóndit, et præ gáudio illíus vadit, et vendit univérsa quæ habet, et emit agrum illum. Íterum símile est regnum cælórum hómini negotiatóri, quærénti bonas margaritas. Invénta autem una pretiósa margaríta, abiit, et véndidit ómnia quæ hábuit, et emit eam. Íterum símile est regnum cælórum sagénæ missæ in mare, et ex omni génere píscium congregánti. Quam, cum impléta esset, educéntes, et secus littus sedéntes, elegérunt bonos in vasa, malos autem foras misérunt. Sic erit in consummatióne sæculi: exíbunt Ángeli, et separábunt malos de médio justórum, et mittent eos in camínum ignis: ibi erit fletus, et stridor déntium. Intellexístis hæc omnia?" Dicunt ei: Étiam. Ait illis:" Ideo omnis scriba doctus in regno cælórum, similis est hómini patrifamílias, qui profert de thesáuro suo nova et vétera."	At that time, Jesus, spoke this parable to His disciples: The kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hidden in a field; which a man having found, hid it, and for joy thereof goeth, and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again the kingdom of heaven is like to a merchant seeking good pearls. Who when he had found one pearl of great price, went his way, and sold all that he had, and bought it. Again the kingdom of heaven is like to a net cast into the sea, and gathering together of all kind of fishes; which, when it was filled, they drew out, and sitting by the shore, they chose out the good into vessels, but the bad they cast forth. So shall it be at the end of the world. The angels shall go out, and shall separate the wicked from among the just. And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have ye understood all these things? They say to him: Yes. He said unto them: Therefore every scribe instructed in the kingdom of heaven, is like to a man that is a householder, who bringeth forth out of his treasure new things and old.
OFFERTORY Psalms 44: 3 Diffusa est gratia in labiis tuis: propterea benedixit te Deus in aeternum, et in saeculum saeculi.	Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever and for ages of ages.
SECRET Accépta tibi sit, Dómine, sacrátæ plebis oblátio pro tuórum se méritis, de tribulatióne percepísse cognóscit auxílium. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.	May the offerings of thy holy people be accepted by Thee, O Lord, in honor of Thy saints, through whose merits they know that they have received aid in time of trouble. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.
Lenten Feria: Monday, 3rd week Munus, quod tibi, Dómine, nostræ servitútis offérimus, tu salutáre nobis pérfice sacraméntum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.	The gift of our homage we offer Thee, O Lord, do Thou make it unto us the sacrament of salvation. 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 LENT Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubíque grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus: Qui corporáli jejúnio vítia cómprimis, mentem élevas, virtútem largíris et prǽmia: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adórant Dominatiónes, tremunt Potestátes. Cæli cælorúmque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia exsultatióne concélebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces ut admítti júbeas, deprecámur, súpplici confessióne dicéntes:	It is truly fitting and just, proper and beneficial, that we should always and everywhere, give thanks unto Thee, holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God. Who by this bodily fast, dost curb our vices, dost lift up our minds and bestow on us strength and rewards through Christ our Lord. Through Whom the Angels praise Thy majesty, the Dominations adore, the Powers tremble: the heavens and the hosts of heaven, and the blessed Seraphim, together celebrate in exultation. With whom, we pray Thee, command that our voices of supplication also be admitted in confessing Thee saying:
COMMUNION Psalms 44: 8 Dilexísti justitiam, et odísti iniquitátem: proptérea unxit te Deus, Deus tuus, óleo lætitiæ præ consórtibus tuis.	Thou hast loved justice and hated iniquity: therefore God thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.
POSTCOMMUNION Satiásti, Dómine, famíliam tuam munéribus sacris: ejus, quæsumus, semper interventióne nos refóve, cujus solémnia celebrámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.	Thou hast filled Thy household, O Lord, with sacred gifts; ever comfort us, we beseech Thee, by the intercession of the saint whose festival we celebrate. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.
Lenten Feria: Monday, 3rd week Præsta, quǽsumus, omnípotens et miséricors Deus: ut, quod ore contíngimus, pura mente capiámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula sæculórum.	Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty and merciful God: that what we have touched with our mouth we may receive with mind undefiled. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.