

APRIL 2, ST. FRANCIS OF PAULA, CONFESSOR

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St. Francis was born at Paola in Calabria (1416). At an early age he led such a holy life that many disciples came to follow his way of living in the desert place to which he had retired. He gave them a rule and formed them into the Order of the Minims placing them in humility a degree below the Friars Minor.

His prophecy that the Motherhouse of his order would one day stand on the Pincian Hill in Rome was fulfilled in 1493 when Charles VIII built a church there.

After a long life, famous for prophecies and miracles which he seemed to work at will, he died at the age of 91 in 1508.

INTROIT Psalms 91: 13-14

Libani multiplicábitur: sicut cedrus Líbani multiplicábitur: plantátus in domo Dómini: in átriis domus Dei nostri. [T.P. Allelúja, allelúja.] (Ps. 91: 2) Bonum est confitéri Dómino: et psállere Nómni tuo, Altíssime. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Justus ut palma florébit: sicut cedrus Líbani multiplicábitur: plantátus in domo Dómini: in átriis domus Dei nostri. [T.P. Allelúja.]

COLLECT

Deus, humílium celsitúdo, qui beátum Francíscum Confessórem Sanctórum tuórum glória sublimásti: tribue, quæsumus; ut, ejus méritis et imitatióne, promíssa humílibus præmia feliciter consequámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE Philippians 3: 7-12

Fratres: Quæ mihi fuérunt lucra, hæc arbitrátus sum propter Christum detriménta. Verúmtamen exístimo ómnia detriméntum esse propter eminéntem sciéntiam Jesu Christi, Dómini mei: propter quem ómnia detriméntum feci et arbitror ut stércora, ut Christum lucrifáciam, et invéniam in illo, non habens meam justítiam, quæ ex lege est, sed illam, quæ ex fide est Christi Jesu: quæ ex Deo est justítia in fide, ad cognoscéndum illum, et virtútem resurrectiónis ejus, et societátem passiónum illius: configurátus morti ejus: si quo modo occurrám ad resurrectiónem, quæ est ex mórtuis: non quod jam accéperim aut jam perféctus sim: sequor autem, si quo modo comprehéndam, in quo et comprehensus sum a Christo Jesu.

(During Eastertide the Gradual, Lesser Alleluia, and Tract are omitted and the Greater Alleluia is said instead)

GRADUAL Psalms 36: 30-31

Os justi meditábitur sapiéntiam, et lingua ejus loquétur júdicium. Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsíus: et non supplantabúntur gressus ejus.

(From Septuagesima until Easter the Lesser Alleluia is omitted and the Tract is said instead)

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 111: 1

Allelúia, allelúia. Beátus vir, qui timet Dóminum: in mandátis ejus cupit nimis. Allelúia.

TRACT Psalms 111: 1-3

Beátus vir, qui timet Dóminum: in mandátis ejus cupit nimis. Potens in terra erit semen ejus: generátio rectórum benedicétur. Glória et divitiæ in domo ejus: et justítia ejus manet in sæculum sæculi.

GREATER ALLELUIA

Allelúia, allelúia. (Ps. 111: 1) Beátus vir, qui timet Dóminum: in mandátis ejus cupit nimis. Allelúia. (Osee 14: 6) Justus germinábit, sicut lílium: et florébit in ætérnum ante Dóminum. Allelúia.

GOSPEL Luke 12. 32-34

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplis suis: Nolíte timére vestillus grex, quia complácuit Patri vobis dare vobis regnum. Véndite quæ possidétis, et date eleemósynam. Fácite vobis sácculos, qui non veteráscunt, thesáurum non deficiéntem in cælis: quo fur non apprópiat, neque tinea corrúmpit. Ubi enim thesáurus vester est, ibi et cor vestrum erit.

OFFERTORY Psalms 20: 2-3

In virtúte tua, Dómine, lætábitur justus, et super salutáre tuum exultábit vehementer: desidérium animæ ejus tribuísti ei. [T.P. Allelúja.]

SECRET

Hæc dona devótæ plebis, Dómine, - quibus tua cumulámus altária, beáti Francísci méritis tibi grata nobísque salutária, te miseránte, reddántur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(IN LENT)

PREFACE OF LENT

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, ætérne Deus: Qui corporáli jejúnio vítia cómprimis, mentem élevas, virtútem largiris et præmia: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adórant Dominatiónes, tremunt Potestátes. Cæli cælórúmque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia exsultatióne concélebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces ut admítte júbeas, deprecámur, súpplici confessióne dicéntes:

(OR IN EASTERTIDE)

PREFACE OF EASTER SEASON

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, Te quidem, Dómine, omni témpore, sed in hoc potíssimum, gloriósius prædicáre, cum Pascha nostrum immolátus est Christus. Ipse enim verus Agnus est qui ábstulit peccáta mundi. Qui mortem nostram moriéndó destrúxit, et vitam resurgéndo reparávit. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dóminatió nibus, cumque omni milítia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNION Matthew 19: 28-29

Amen dico vobis: quod vos, qui reliquístis ómnia, et secúti estis me, céntuplum accipietis et vitam ætérnam possidébítis. [T. P. Allelúja.]

POSTCOMMUNION

Sumpta, Dómine, sacraménta cæléstia: beáto Francíscó Confessóre tuo intercedénte, precámur; ut et temporáliis vobis, subscíptis que cónferant et ætérnæ. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

The just shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow up like the cedar of Libanus: planted in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. [P.T. Alleluia, alleluia.] (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. The just shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow up like the cedar of Libanus: planted in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. [P.T. Alleluia.]

O God, Who in exalting the lowly hast raised the blessed confessor Francis to the glory of the saints, grant, we beseech Thee, that, by his merits and our imitation of him, we may happily attain to the rewards promised to the humble. 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, the things that were gain to me, the same I have counted loss for Christ. Furthermore, I count all things to be but loss, for the excellent knowledge of Jesus Christ my Lord; for Whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but as dung, that I may win Christ: and may be found in Him, not having my justice, which is of the law, but that which is of the faith of Christ Jesus, which is of God, justice in faith; that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings; being made conformable to His death, if by any means I may attain to the resurrection which is from the dead; not as though I had already attained, or were already perfect; but I follow after, if I may by any means apprehend wherein I am also apprehended by Christ Jesus.

(During Eastertide the Gradual, Lesser Alleluia, and Tract are omitted and the Greater Alleluia is said instead)

The mouth of the just shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak judgment. The law of his God is in his heart: and his steps shall not be supplanted.

(From Septuagesima until Easter the Lesser Alleluia is omitted and the Tract is said instead)

Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord: he shall delight exceedingly in His commandments. Alleluia.

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord: he shall delight exceedingly in His commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the righteous shall be blessed. Glory and wealth shall be in his house: and his justice remaineth for ever and ever.

Alleluia, alleluia. (Ps. 111: 1) Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord: he shall delight exceedingly in His commandments. Alleluia. (Osee 14: 6) The just shall spring as the lily: and flourish for ever before the Lord. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: Fear not, little flock, for it hath pleased your Father to give you a kingdom. Sell what you possess and give alms. Make to yourselves bags which grow not old, a treasure in heaven which faileth not: where no thief approacheth, nor moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

In Thy strength, O Lord, the just man shall joy, and in Thy salvation he shall rejoice exceedingly: Thou hast given him his heart's desire. [P. T. Alleluia.]

May these offerings of a devout people with which we heap Thine altars, O Lord, be rendered pleasing to Thee by the merits of blessed Francis, and, by Thy mercy, salutary to 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 LENT)

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:

(OR IN EASTERTIDE)

It is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, certainly at all times to proclaim Thee, O Lord, but above all in this time more gloriously, when Christ our Pasch was sacrificed. For He is the true Lamb Who hath taken away the sins of the world: Who by dying hath destroyed our death: and by rising again hath restored us to life. 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:

Amen I say to you, that you, who have left all things and followed Me, shall receive a hundredfold, and shall possess life everlasting. [P. T. Alleluia.]

We pray Thee, O Lord, that the heavenly sacrament we have received may by the intercession of blessed Francis, the confessor, bestow on us the aids both of temporal and of 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.