

MAY 2, ST. ATHANASIUS, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

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St. Athanasius, Doctor of the Church and Patriarch of Alexandria, one of the most renowned of the Fathers of the Church, was the heroic and successful defender of Catholic doctrine against Arius. After many sufferings in the cause of God's Church, he died May 2, 373.

While living in Rome during his exile he described to the Romans the wonderful life of Antony and Pachomius in Egypt, sowing the seed of monasticism in Rome. He taught with great power the independence of the Church from civil authority.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 15: 5

In plévit eum Dóminus spírítu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ índuit eum, allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 91: 2) Bonum est confitéri Dómino: et psállere nómini tuo, Altíssime. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spírítui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. In médio Ecclésiæ apéruit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spírítu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ índuit eum, allelúja, allelúja.

COLLECT

Exáudi, quæsumus, Dómine, preces nostras, quas in beáti Athanásii Confessóris tui atque Pontíficis solemnitate deférimus: et, qui tibi digne méruit famulári, ejus intercedéntibus méritis, ab ómnibus nos absólve peccátis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 4: 5-14

Fratres: Non nosmetípsos prædicámus, sed Jesum Christum, Dóminum nostrum: nos autem servos vestros per Jesum: quóniam Deus, qui dixit de ténebris lucem splendéscere, ipse illúxit in córdibus nostris ad illuminatiónem sciéntiæ claritátis Dei, in fácie Christi Jesu. Habémus autem thesáurum istum in vasis fictílibus: ut sublimitas sit virtútis Dei, et non ex nobis. In ómnibus tribulatióne pátimur, sed non angustiámur: aporiámur, sed non destitúimur: persecutióne pátimur, sed non derelínquimur: deiícimur, sed non perímus: semper mortificatióne Jesu in córpore nostro circumferétes, ut et vita Jesu manifestétur in corpóribus nostris. Semper enim nos, qui vívimus, in mortem trádimur propter Jesum: ut et vita Jesu manifestétur in carne nostra mortáli. Ergo mors in nobis operátur, vita autem in vobis. Habétes autem eúndem spírítum fidei, sicut scriptum est: Crédidi, propter quod locútus sum: et nos crédimus, propter quod et lóquimur: sciétes, quóniam qui suscitávit Jesum, et nos cum Jesu suscitábit et constituét vobíscum.

GREATER ALLELUIA Psalms 109: 4

Allelúja, allelúja. Tu es sacérdos in ætérnum, secúndum órđinem Melchisedech. Allelúja. (James 1: 12) Beátus vir, qui suffert tentatióne: quóniam, cum probátus fúerit, accípiet corónam vitæ. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 10: 23-28

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discípulis suis: Cum persequéntur vos in civitate ista, fúgite in áliam. Amen dico vobis, non consummábitis civitates Israël, donec véniat Fílius hóminis. Non est discípulus super magístrum, nec servus super dóminum suum. Súfficit discípulo, ut sit sicut magíster ejus: et servo, sicut dóminus ejus. Si patremfámilias Beélzebub vocavérunt: quanto magis domésticos ejus? Ne ergo timuérítis eos. Nihil enim est opértum, quod non revelábitur: et occúltum, quod non sciétur. Quod dico vobis in tenebris, dícite in lúmine: et quod in aure audítis, prædicáte super tecta. Et nolíte timére eos, qui occidunt corpus, ánimam autem non possunt occídere: sed pótius timéte eum, qui potest et ánimam et corpus pérđere in gehénam.

OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 21-22

Inveni David servum meum, óleo sancto meo unxi eum: manus enim mea auxiliábitur ei, et bráchium meum confortábit eum, allelúja.

SECRET

Sancti Athanásii Confessóris tui atque Pontíficis, quæsumus, Dómine, ánnua solémnitas pietáti tuæ nos reddat accéptos: ut, per hæc piæ placatiónis officia, et illum nobéa retribútio comitétur, et nobis grátia tuæ dona concíliet. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

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 est Agnus, qui ábstulit peccáta mundi. Qui mortem nostram moriéndo destrúxit, et vitam resurgéndo reparávit. Et ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatiónebus, cumque omni militía cæléstis exercitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus sine fine dicétes:

COMMUNION Matthew 10: 27

Quod dico vobis in ténebris, dícite in lúmine, dicit Dóminus: et quod in aure audítis, prædicáte super tecta, allelúja.

POSTCOMMUNION

Deus, fidélium remunerátor animárum: præsta; ut beáti Athanásii Confessóris tui atque Pontíficis, cujus venerándam indulgéntiam consequámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

In the midst of the Church the Lord opened his mouth: and filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding: He clothed him with a robe of glory. (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. In the midst of the Church the Lord opened his mouth: and filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding: He clothed him with a robe of glory.

Graciously hear our Prayers, we beseech Thee, O Lord, which we bring before Thee on the solemnity of blessed Athanasius, Thy confessor and pontiff, and, by the merits and intercession of him who had the grace to serve Thee worthily, absolve us of all our sins. 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, We preach not ourselves, but Jesus Christ our Lord; and ourselves your servants through Jesus. For God, Who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Christ Jesus. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency may be of the power of God and not of us. In all things we suffer tribulation, but are not distressed; we are straitened, but are not destitute; we suffer persecution, but are not forsaken; we are cast down, but we perish not; always bearing about in our body the mortification of Jesus, that the life also of Jesus may be made manifest in our bodies. For we who live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake; that the life also of Jesus, may be made manifest in our mortal flesh. So then death worketh in us, but life in you. But having the same spirit of faith, as it is written, I believed, for which cause I have spoken, we also believe, for which cause we speak also: knowing that He who raised up Jesus will raise up us also with Jesus, and place us with you.

Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art a priest forever, according to the order of Melchisedech. Alleluia. (James 1: 12) Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he hath been proved, he shall receive the crown of life. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: When they shall persecute you in this city, flee to another. Amen, I say to you, you shall not finish all the cities of Israel till the Son of man come. The disciple is not above the master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the good man of the house Beelzebub, how much more them of his household? Therefore fear them not; for nothing is covered that shall not be revealed; nor hid that shall not be known. That which I tell you in the dark, speak ye in the light; and that which you hear in the ear, preach ye upon the housetops. And fear ye not them that kill the body, and are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear Him that can cast both soul and body into hell.

I have found David My servant: with My holy oil I have anointed him; for My arm shall help him, and My hand shall strengthen him, alleluia.

May the annual solemnity of Saint Athanasius, Thy confessor, commend us to Thy loving kindness, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that, by this office of pious atonement, a blessed reward may follow him, and he may obtain for us the gifts of Thy grace. 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, at all times to praise Thee, O Lord, but more gloriously especially at this time above others 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:

That which I tell you in the dark, speak ye in the light, saith the Lord; and that which you hear in the ear, preach ye upon the housetops, alleluia.

O God, the rewarder of faithful souls grant that, by the prayers of blessed Athanasius, Thy confessor and bishop, whose august festival we celebrate, we may obtain pardon. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.