

MAY 4, ST. MONICA, WIDOW

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St. Monica, born in Africa, married a pagan whom she converted. As described in the ninth book of his Confessions, the beautiful figure of the mother of St. Augustine will continue to live in the Church as one of the finest examples of a Christian mother; night and day she prayed for her son. He tells us that she "shed for him more tears than other mothers shed over a coffin." God heard her prayers after twenty years and gave to her son, under the influence of St. Ambrose, the grace of conversion. She died at Ostia in 387, after God had granted to her and to Augustine a marvelous ecstasy.

The body of St. Monica remained at Ostia until the year 1162, when a certain Walter Prior, of the Canons Regular of Aroasia, in Belgium, removed the

body secretly from its tomb and carried it off to his own monastery. The celebration of her feast on the 4th of May spread from this monastery through Belgium, Germany and France and thus came into general liturgical use.

in veritate tua humiliasti me: con
timore tuo carnes meas, a manu

tuis tímui. Alleluja, alleluja (Ps. 118: 1)
Beáti immaculáti in via : qui ámbulant in
lege Dómini. Glória Patri et Fílio et
Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío,
et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula
sæculórum. Amen. Cognóvi, Dómine,
quia æquitas iudícia in veritaté tua
humiliásti me: confíge timore tuo
carnes meas, a mandátis tuis tímui.
Alleluja, alleluja.

Augustíni r

Augustinus misericorditer suscepisti: da nobis utriusque intervéntu; peccáta nostra deploráre, et grátiae tuæ indulgéntiam inveníre. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia scácula scáculórum.

Caríssime: Víduas honóra qu

viduæ sunt. Si qua autem vidua filios, aut nepotes habet, discat primum domum suam regere, et mutuam vicem reddere parentibus: hoc enim acceptum est coram Deo. Quæ autem vere vidua est, et desolata, speret in Deum, et instet obsecrationibus, et orationibus nocte, ac die. Nam quæ in deliciis est, vivens mortua est. Et hoc præcipe, ut irreprehensibiles sint. Si quis autem suorum, et maxime domesticorum curam non habet, fidem negavit, et est infidelis deterior. Vidua eligatur non minus sexaginta annorum, quæ fuerit unius viri uxor, in operibus bonis. testimonium habens, si filios educavit, si hospitio recepit, si sanctorum pedes lavit, si tribulationem patientibus ministravit, si omne opus bonum subsecuta est.

veritatem et mansuetudinem et
iustitiam et docent te mirabiliter

GOSPEL Luke 7: 11-16
In illo tempore: Ibat Jesus in civitate
eius vocatur Naïm, et ibant eum...

ecce, defunctus efferebatur

unicus matris suæ: et hæc vidua erat,
et turba civitátis multa cum illa. Quam
cum vidísset Dóminus, misericórdia
motus super eam, dixit illi: Noli flere. Et
accéssit et tégit lóculum. (Hi autem,
qui portábant, stetérunt.) Et ait:
Adoléscent, tibi dico, surge. Et resédit,
qui erat mórtuus, et coepit loqui. Et
dedit illum matri suæ. Accépit autem
omnes timor: et magnificábant Deum,
dicéntes: Quia Prophéta magnus
surréxit in nobis: et quia Deus visitávit
plebem suam.

OFFERTORY Psalms 44: 3
Diffusa est gratia in labiis tuis:
propterea benedixit te Deus in
aeternum, et in saeculum saeculi.

Accépta tibi sit, Dómine, sacra

oblátio pro tuórum se méritis, de
tribulatióne percepisse cognóscit
auxílium. Per Dóminum nostrum J.
Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum
et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti

PREFACE
Vere di...

salutäre, Te quidem, Dómine, omni
tém pore, sed in hoc potissimum,
gloriosius prædicäre, cum Pascha
nostrum immolátus est Christus. Ipse
enim verus est Agnus, qui ábstulit
peccáta mundi. Qui mortem nostram
moriéndo destrúxit et vitam

Dóminatió nibus, cūmque omni milí
eolétic exércitus, hūmūm glérics

cælestis exercitus, hymnū gloriæ tuæ
cānimus sine fine dicentes:

propterea unxit te Deus, Deus

oleo lætitiae præ consórtibus tuis.
Allelúja.

POSTCOMMUNION
Satiéti, Dómine, famíliam tuam

semper intervencióne

solémnia celebrámus. Per Dóminum
nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum,
qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte
Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia
sæcula sæculórum.

Thy fear, I am afraid of Thy judgments. Alleluia, alleluia (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. Alleluia, alleluia.

O God, the consoler of them that mourn and the health of them that hope in Thee, Who didst show Thine acceptance of blessed Monica's pious

Augustine, grant us, by the intercession of them both, to deplore our sins and find the mercy 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.

dearly beloved. Honor widows, that are widows indeed. But if any widow have children, or grandchildren, let her learn first to govern her own house, and to make a return of duty to her parents: for this is acceptable before God. But she that is a widow indeed and desolate, let her trust in God, and continue in prayers and supplications night and day. For she that liveth in pleasures, is dead while she is living. And this give in charge, that they may be blameless. But if any man have not care of his own, and especially of those of his house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. Let a widow be chosen of no less than threescore years of age, who hath been the wife of one husband, having testimony for her good works, if she have brought up children, if she have received to harbor, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have ministered to them that suffer tribulation, if she have diligently followed every good work.

Alleluia, alleluia. With thy comeliness, and thy beauty, set out, proceed prosperously, and reign. Alleluia.

justice: and thy right hand shall conduct thee wonderfully, Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus went into a city called Nazareth, and there went with him

And when He came nigh to the gate of the city, behold a dead man was carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a great multitude of the city were with her. And when the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her, and said to her: Weep not. And He came near and touched the bier. And they that carried it stood still. And He said: Young man, I say to thee, Arise. And he that was dead, sat up, and began to speak. And He delivered him to his mother. And there came a fear on them all: and they glorified God, saying: A great prophet is risen up among us, and God has visited His people.

Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever and for ages. Alleluia.

accepted by Thee, O Lord, in honor
Thy saints, through whose merits they
know that they have received aid in
time of trouble. Through our Lord Je-
sus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns

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

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:

They hast filled Thy household. O Lord

man suffer a grief, O God, 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.