

JUNE 6, ST. NORBERT, CONFESSOR - BISHOP

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St. Norbert, archbishop of Magdeburg, in North Germany, was the founder of the Canons Regular or Premonstratensians, as they were called. The doctrine of the Real Presence having been questioned by Tanchelin of Antwerp, Norbert, who was distinguished for his devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, reclaimed many who had fallen away, and rekindled the love of Our Lord in the Blessed Eucharist.

His order takes its name from Premontre where it was founded. The chief characteristic of the mission of St. Norbert was his eloquent preaching of the word of God. This is an entirely apostolic mission which is not always appreciated as much as it should be. The preaching of the Gospel is indeed a most necessary thing, for no man can believe the Word of God except there be an apostle to preach it to him. He died in 1134, worn out with toil.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 45: 30

Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et princípem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum. (T. P. Alleluja, alleluja.) (Ps. 131: 1)

Meménto, Dómine, David: et omnis mansuetúdinis ejus. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et princípem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum. (T. P. Alleluja, alleluja.)

COLLECT

Deus, qui beátum Norbértum Confessórem tuum atque Pontíficem verbi tui præcónem exímium effecísti, et per eum EccléSIam tuam nova prole foecundásti: præsta, quæsumus; ut, ejúsdem suffragántibus méritis, quod ore simul et ópere dócuit, te adjuvánte, exercére valeámus.

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

LESSON

Ecclesiasticus 44: 16-27; 45: 3-20

Ecce sacérdos magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo, et invéntus est justus: et in témpore iracúndiæ factus est reconciliátio. Non est invéntus símilis illi, qui conservávit legem Excélsi. Ideo jurejurándo fecit illum Dóminus créscere in plebem suam.

Benedictiónem ómnium géntium dedit illi, et testaméntum suum confirmávit super caput ejus. Agnóvit eum in benedictiónibus suis: conservávit illi misericórdiam suam: et invenit grátiam coram óculis Dómini. Magnificávit eum in conspéctu regum: et dedit illi coronam glóriæ. Státuit illi testaméntum aetérnum, et dedit illi sacerdotium magnum: et beatificávit illum in glória. Fungi sacerdotio, et habére laudem in nómine ipsíus, et offerre illi incénsum dignum in odórem suavitátis.

(During Eastertide the Gradual and Lesser Alleluia are replaced by the Greater Alleluia.)

GRADUAL Ecclesiasticus 44: 16

Ecce sacérdos magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo. (Ecclus. 44: 20) Non est invéntus símilis illi, qui conserváret legem Excélsi.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 109: 4

Alleluja, alleluja. Tu es sacérdos in aetérnum, secúndum órđinem Melchisedech. Alleluja.

GREATER ALLELUIA Psalms 109: 4

Alleluja, alleluja. Tu es sacérdos in aetérnum, secúndum órđinem Melchisedech. Alleluja. Hic est sacérdos, quem coronávit Dóminus. Alleluja.

GOSPEL Matthew 25: 14-23

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discípulis suis parábolam hanc: Homo péregre proficíscens vocávit servos suos, et trádidit illis bona sua. Et uni dedit quinque talénta, álíi autem duo, álíi vero unum, unicuúque secúndum própriam virtútem, et proféctus est statím. Abiit autem, qui quinque talénta accéperat, et operátus est in eis, et lucrátus est ália quinque. Simíliter et, qui duo accéperat, lucrátus est ália duo. Qui autem unum accéperat, ábiens fodit in terram, et abscondit pecúniám dómini sui. Post multum vero témporis venit dóminus servórum illórum, et pósuit ratiónem cum eis. Et accédens qui quinque talénta accéperat, óbtulit ália quinque talénta, dicens: Dómine, quinque talénta tradidísti mihi, ecce, ália quinque superlucrátus sum. Ait illi dóminus ejus: Euge, serve bone et fidéls, quia super pauca fuísti fidéls, super multa te constítuam: intra in gáudium dómini tui. Accéssit autem et qui duo talénta accéperat, et ait: Dómine, duo talénta tradidísti mihi, ecce, ália duo lucrátus sum. Ait illi dóminus ejus: Euge, serve bone et fidéls, quia super pauca fuísti fidéls, super multa te constítuam: intra in gáudium dómini tui.

OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 21-22

Inveni David servum meum, óleo sancto meo unxi eum: manus enim mea auxiliábitur ei, et bráchium meum confortábit eum. (T. P. Alleluja.)

SECRET

Sancti tui, quæsumus, Dómine, nos úbique lætificent: ut, dum eórum mérita recólimus, patrocínia sentiámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(from Ascension until Pentecost)

PREFACE OF THE ASCENSION

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, aetérne Deus: per Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Qui post resurrectionem suam ómnibus discípulis suis manifestus apparuit, et ipsis cernéntibus est elevátus in cælum, ut nos divinitás suæ tribúeret esse participes, et in ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus cumque omni milítia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus, sine fine dicéntes:

(after Pentecost)

COMMON PREFACE

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, aetérnæ Deus: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adórant Dominationes, tremunt Potestátes. Cæli cælórúmque Virtútes, ac beáta Séraphim, sócia exultatióne concélebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces, ut admítti júbeas deprecámur, súplici confessióne dicéntes:

COMMUNION Luke 12: 42

Fidéls servus et prudens, quem constitúit dóminus super familiam suam: ut det illis in témpore trítici mensúram. (T. P. Alleluja)

POSTCOMMUNION

Præsta, quæsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, de percéptis munéribus grátias exhibéntes, intercedénte beáto Norbérto Confessóre tuo atque Pontífice, benefícia potióra sumámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

The Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever. (P. T. Alleluia, alleluia.) (Ps. 131: 1) O Lord, remember David: and all his meekness. 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 Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever. (P. T. Alleluia, alleluia.)

O God, Who didst make blessed Norbert, Thy confessor and bishop, an excelling preacher of Thy word, and through him didst cause Thy Church to bring forth a new progeny, grant, we beseech Thee, that, by the intercession of his merits, we may have the strength, with Thine assistance, to practice what he, both by word and work, hath taught 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.

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God, and was found just; and in the time of wrath was made a reconciliation. There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High. Therefore by an oath the Lord made him increase among his people. He gave him the blessing of all nations, and confirmed His covenant upon his head. He acknowledged him in His blessings: He preserved for him His mercy: and he found grace before the eyes of the Lord. He glorified him in the sight of kings, and gave him a crown of glory. He made an everlasting covenant with him; and gave him a great priesthood; and made him blessed in glory. To execute the office of the priesthood and to have praise in his name, and to offer to him worthy incense for an odor of sweetness.

(During Eastertide the Gradual and Lesser Alleluia are replaced by the Greater Alleluia.)

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God. (Ecclus. 44: 20) There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High.

Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art a priest according to the order of Melchisedech. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art a priest according to the order of Melchisedech. Alleluia. This is the priest whom the Lord hath crowned. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus spoke this parable to His disciples: A man going into a far country called his servants, and delivered to them his goods. And to one he gave five talents, and to another two, and to another one, to every one according to his proper ability: and immediately he took his journey. And he that had received the five talents, went his way, and traded with the same, and gained other five. And in like manner he that had received the two, gained other two. But he that had received the one, going his way dug into the earth, and hid his lord's money. But after a long time the lord of those servants came, and reckoned with them. And he that had received the five talents coming, brought other five talents, saying: Lord, thou didst deliver to me five talents, behold I have gained other five over and above. His lord said to him: Well done, good and faithful servant, because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. And he also that had received the two talents came and said: Lord, thou deliveredst two talents to me: behold I have gained other two. His lord said to him: Well done, good and faithful servant: because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

I have found David My servant, with My holy oil I have anointed him: for My hand shall help him, and My arm shall strengthen him. (P. T. Alleluia.)

May Thy saints, we beseech Thee, O Lord, everywhere make us joyful, that, while we venerate their merits, we may experience their patronage. 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, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God, through Christ our Lord. Who, after His Resurrection, appeared openly to all His disciples, and, while they looked on, was taken up into heaven, that He might grant us to be sharers in His own divinity. And therefore with the Angels and Archangels, with the Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

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, 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:

This is the faithful and wise steward, whom his lord setteth over his family: to give them their measure of wheat in due season. (P. T. Alleluia)

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that as we thank Thee for the favors we have received, we may, by the intercession of blessed Norbert, Thy Confessor and Bishop, obtain still greater blessings. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.