JUNE 25, ST. WILLIAM, ABBOT

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The feast of the founder of the Solitaries of Monte Vergine was inserted in the Calendar of the Universal Church by Leo XIII. This monastic Congregation was widely diffused at one time in the South of Italy, but having greatly decreased in numbers it was amalgamated in the second half of the Nineteenth Century, with the Benedictines of Subiaco.

St. William, who died in 1142, was noted for the austerity of his life and for his great gentleness towards others. His body rests now on the summit of the Parthenius, in the Basilica of Our Lady which he built, and where every year many thousands of pilgrims assemble to do honor to the Blessed Virgin.

INTROIT Psalms 36: 30-31

Os justi meditábitur sapiéntiam, et lingua ejus loquétur judícium: lex Dei ejus in corde ipsíus. (Ps. 36: 1) Noli æmulári in malignántibus: neque zeláveris faciéntes iniquitátem. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Os justi meditábitur sapiéntiam, et lingua ejus loquétur judícium: lex Dei ejus in corde ipsíus.

COLLECT

Deus, qui infirmitáti nostræ ad teréndam salútis viam in Sanctis tuis exémplum et præsídium collocásti: da nobis, ita beáti Guliélmi Abbátis mérita venerári; ut ejusdem excipiámus suffrágia et vestígia prosequámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Ecclesiasticus 45: 1-6

Diléctus Deo et homínibus, cujus memória in benedictióne est. Símilem illum fecit in glória sanctórum, et magnificávit eum in timóre inimicórum, et in verbis suis monstra placávit. Gloríficávit illum in conspéctu regum, et jussit illi coram pópulo suo, et osténdit illi glóriam suam. In fide et lenitáte ipsíus sanctum fecit illum, et elégit eum; ex omni carne. Audívit enim eum et vocem ipsíus, et indúxit illum in nubem. Et dedit illi coram præcépta, et legem vitæ et disciplínæ.

GRADUAL Psalms 20: 4-5

Dómine, prævenísti eum in benedictiónibus dulcédinis: posuísti in cápite ejus corónam de lápide pretióso. Vitam pétiit a te, et tribuísti ei longitúdinem diérum in sæculum

The mouth of the just shall meditate wisdom and his tongue shall speak judgment: the law of his God is in his heart. (Ps. 36: 1) Be not emulous of evildoers: nor envy them that work iniquity. 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 mouth of the just shall meditate wisdom and his tongue shall speak judgment: the law of his God is in his heart.

O God, Who hast set for us in Thy saints an example and a help for our weakness; to assist us to tread the path of salvation, grant us so to venerate the virtues of the blessed Abbot William that we may share in his prayers and follow in his footsteps. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Beloved of God, and men: whose memory is in benediction. He made him like the saints in glory, and magnified him in the fear of his enemies, and with his words he made prodigies to cease. He glorified him in the sight of kings, and gave him commandments in the sight of his people, and shewed him His glory. He sanctified him in his faith, and meekness, and chose him out of all flesh. For he heard Him, and His voice, and brought him into a cloud. And He gave him commandments before His face, and a law of life and instruction.

Lord, Thou hast prevented him with blessings of sweetness: Thou hast set on his head a crown of precious stones. He asked life of Thee, and Thou hast given him length of days for

Alleluia, alleluia. The just shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow up like the cedar of Libanus. Alleluia. At that time, Peter said to Jesus: Behold we have left all things, and have followed thee: what therefore shall we have? And Jesus said to them: Amen, I say to you, that you, who have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit on the seat of his majesty, you also shall sit on twelve seats, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive an
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hundredfold, and shall possess life everlasting.
Thou hast given him his heart's desire, O Lord, and hast not withholden from him the will of his lips: Thou hast set on his head a crown of precious stones.
May the holy Abbot William, we beseech Thee, O Lord, obtain by his prayers, that the Sacrifice laid on Thy holy altar, may profit us unto 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.
The faithful and wise servant, whom his lord setteth over his family, to give them their measure of wheat in due season.
May the pleading of blessed William, the Abbot, for us, as well as the reception of Thy Sacraments, protect us, O Lord, that we may both share in the glory of his works, and receive the help of his intercession. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.