

JULY 7, STS. CYRIL & METHODIUS, BISHOPS & CONFESSORS

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These two celebrated apostles of the East are bound by more than one tie to the history of Papal Rome. The Slav nations are indebted to Cyril and Methodius for their civilization, their faith, and their original communion with the See of Peter. To this day the Slav pilgrim who visits Rome and kneels at the sepulchre of the Prince of the Apostles sees upon that tomb a painting representing the Savior between St. Peter and St. Paul. That venerated ikon, on which is traced an inscription in the Slavonic tongue, is said to have been placed there by Sts. Cyril and Methodius as a mark of their homage and devotion to the Apostolic See.

They were consecrated bishops by Pope Adrian II. They invented a writing for the language of the Slav; translated the Scriptures and made use of this language in the Liturgy. Cyril, worn out by the mission, returned to Rome and prepared a tomb for himself in the shadow of St. Clement's. He died in 869 at the age of 42. Methodius died in 885.

INTROIT Psalm 131: 9-10

Sacerdotes Tui Domine, induant justitiam, et sancti tui exsultent: propter David servum Tuum, non avertas faciem Christi Tui. (Ps. 131: 1)

Meménto Domine David et omnis mansuetúdinis ejus. Glória Patri et Filio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Sacerdotes Tui Domine, induant justitiam, et sancti tui exsultent: propter David servum Tuum, non avertas faciem Christi Tui.

COLLECT

Omnípotens sempitérne Deus, qui Slavóniæ gentes per beátos Confessóres tuos atque Pontífices Cyríllum et Methódium ad agnitiónem tui nóminis venire tribuísti: præsta: ut, tuorum festivitáte gloriámur, eórum consórtio copulémur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Filium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE Hebrews 7: 23-27

Fratres: Plures facti sunt sacerdotes, idcirco quod morte prohiberéntur permanere: Jesus autem eo quod maneat in ætérnum, sempitérnus habet sacerdotium. Unde et salvare in perpétuum potest accedentes per semetípsum ad Deum: semper vivens ad interpellándum pro nobis. Talis enim decébat ut nobis esset pón tifex, sanctus, innocens, impollútus, segregátus a peccatóribus, et excelsior cælis factus: qui non habet necessitátem quotidie, quemádmódu m sacerdotes, prius pro suis delictis hóstias offerre, deinde pro pópuli: hoc enim fecit semel, seípsum offerendo, Jesus Christus Dóminus noster.

GRADUAL Psalm 131: 16-17

Sacerdotes ejus induam salutári: et sancti ejus exsultatióne exsultábunt. Illuc prodúcam cornu David; parávi lucérnam Christo meo.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 109: 4

Allelúja, allelúja. Jurávit Dóminus, et non pœnitébit eum: Tu es sacérdos in ætérnum, secúndum ór dinem Melchisedech. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Luke 10: 1-9

In illo témpore: Designávit Dóminus et álios septuaginta duos: et misit illos binos ante faciém suam in omnem civitátem et locum, quo erat ipse ventúrus. Et dicébat illis: Messis quidem multa, operárii autem pauci. Rogáte ergo Dóminum messis ut mittat operários in messem suam. Ite: ecce ego mitto vos sicut agnos inter lupos. Nolíte portáre sácculum, neque peram, neque calceaménta, et néminem per viam salutáveritis. In quamcúmque domum intravéritis, primum dícite: Pax huic dómni; et si ibi fúerit filius pacis, requiescet super illum pax vestra: sin autem, ad vos revertétur. In eádem autem domo manéte edéntes, et bibéntes quæ apud alios sunt: dignus est enim operárius mercéde sua. Nolíte transíre de domo in domum. Et in quamcúmque civitátem intravéritis, et suscéperint vos, manducáte quæ apponúntur vobis: et curáte infirmos, qui in illa sunt, et dícite ilis: Appropinquávit in vos regnum Dei.

OFFERTORY Psalms 67: 36

Mirábilis Deus in sanctis suis: Deus Israél, ipse dabit virtútem, et fortitúdinem. plebi suæ: benedíctus Deus.

SECRET

Preces nostras, quæsumus, Domine, et tuórum réspice oblatiões fidélium: ut tibi gratia sint in tuórum festivitáte Sanctórum, et nobis cónferat tum propitiatiónis auxiliúm. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Filium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Matthew 10: 27

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

POSTCOMMUNION

Quæsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, qui nobis múnera dignáris præbére cælestia, intercedéntibus sanctis tuis Cyrílló et Methódio, despícere terréna concédas. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Filium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Let Thy priests, O Lord, be clothed with justice, and let Thy saints rejoice: for Thy servant David's sake, turn not away the face of Thine anointed. (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. Let Thy priests, O Lord, be clothed with justice, and let Thy saints rejoice: for Thy servant David's sake, turn not away the face of Thine anointed.

Almighty, eternal God, Who didst grant the peoples of Slavonia to come to the knowledge of Thy name through Thy blessed confessors and bishops, Cyril and Methodius, grant that, as we glory in their festival, we may be joined with them in fellowship. 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, there were made many priests, because by reason of death they were not suffered to continue: but Jesus, for that He continueth forever, hath an everlasting priesthood.

Whereby He is able also to save forever them that come to God by Him; always living to make intercession for us. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, and undefiled, separated from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily (as the other priests) to offer sacrifice first for His own sins, and then for the people's; for this Jesus Christ our Lord did once, in offering Himself.

I will clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall rejoice with exceeding great joy. There will I bring forth a horn to David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed.

Alleluia, alleluia. The Lord hath sworn, and He will not repent: Thou art a priest for ever according to the order of Melchisedech. Alleluia.

At that time, The Lord appointed also other seventy-two; and He sent them two and two before His face into every city and place whither He Himself was to come. And He said to them, The harvest indeed is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He send laborers into His harvest. Go, behold I send you as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes; and salute no man by the way. Into whatsoever house you enter, first say, Peace be to this house: and if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon him: but if not, it shall return to you. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they have: for the laborer is worthy of his hire. Remove not from house to house. And into what city soever you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you; and heal the sick that are therein; and say to them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.

God is wonderful In His saints: the God of Israel is He Who will give power and strength to His people: blessed be God.

Have regard to our prayers, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and to the oblations of Thy faithful, that they may be pleasing unto Thee on the festival of Thy saints, and may draw down on us the aid of Thy mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

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 house tops.

Let us pray. We beseech Thee, O Almighty God, that Thou, Who dost vouchsafe unto us the Heavenly gifts, grant us, by the intercession of Thy saints, Cyril and Methodius, to despise all things earthly. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.