

JULY 16, OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

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Today, the whole Latin Church joins with the Friars of the Blessed Virgin of Mount Carmel in celebrating the munificence of the Mother of God towards this Order, which is dedicated to her. The origin of this illustrious brotherhood, which has given so many saints to the Church, is well known. A little while before the year 1185, a priest of Calabria having had a revelation of the prophet Elias, ascended Mount Carmel and began to restore one of the four ancient monasteries which he found there, and of which only the foundations remained. The new institution prospered, and although the latest comer, it was able to graft itself successfully upon the great tradition, already centuries old, of the monastic life which Oriental cenobites and Benedictine monks had led on Mount Carmel. Albert, Patriarch of Jerusalem, gave certain rules of conduct to those hermits, who were living at that time under their superior Brocardo, rules which subsequently were approved, together with the new foundation, by Honorius III and Gregory IX.

In the Thirteenth Century Innocent IV approved the rule under the generalship of Simon Stock. On July 16, 1251, the Carmelite habit was placed in his hands by the Blessed Virgin. It was blessed by the Pope and many privileges attached to it, not only for members of the Order, but for all those who enter the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and wear the scapular. The Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was inserted into the Calendar under Benedict XIII in 1726.

INTROIT Sedulius

Gaudeámus omnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beátæ Mariæ Vírginis: de cuius sollemnitate gaudent Angeli et colláudant Fílium Dei. (Ps. 44: 2) Eructávit cor meum verbum bonum: dico ego ópera mea Regi. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Gaudeámus omnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beátæ Mariæ Vírginis: de cuius sollemnitate gaudent Angeli et colláudant Fílium Dei.

COLLECT

Deus, qui beatíssimæ semper Vírginis et Genetrícis tuæ Mariæ singulári título Carméli órđinem decorásti: concéde propítius; ut, cuius hódie Commemoratiónem sollénni celebrámus officio, ejus muniti præsídiis, ad gáudia sempitérna perveníre mereámur: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Ecclesiasticus 24: 23-31

Ego quasi vitis fructificávi suavitátem odóris: et flores mei fructus honóris et honestátis. Ego mater pulchræ dilectiónis et timóris et agnitiónis et sanctæ spei. In me grátia omnis viæ et veritátis: in me omnis spes vitæ et virtútis. Transíte ad me, omnes qui concupiscitis me, et a generatióibus meis implémini. Spíritus enim meus super mel dulcis, et heréditas mea super mel et favum. Memória mea in generatiónes sæculórum. Qui edunt me, adhuc esúrient: et qui bibunt me, adhuc sitient. Qui audit me, non confundétur: et qui operántur in me, non peccábunt. Qui elúcidant me, vitam ætérnam habébunt.

GRADUAL

Benedícta et venerábilis es, Virgo María: quæ sine tactu pudóris invénta es Mater Salvatóris. Virgo, Dei Génatrix, quem totus non capit orbis, in tua se clausit víscera factus homo.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. Per te, Dei Génatrix, nobis est vita pérđita data: quæ de cælo suscepísti prolem, et mundo genuísti Salvatórem. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Luke 11: 27-28

In illo témpore: Loquente Jesu ad turbas, extóllens vocem quædam múlier de turba, dixit illi: Beátus venter, qui te portávit, et úbera, quæ suxísti. At ille dixit: Quinímmo beáti, qui áudiunt verbum Dei, et custódiunt illud.

OFFERTORY Jeremiah 18: 20

Recordáre, Virgo Mater, in conspéctu Dei, ut loquáris pro nobis bona, et ut avértat indignatióem suam a nobis.

SECRET

Sanctifica, Dómine, quæsumus, obláta libámina: et, beátæ Dei Genetrícis Mariæ salubérrima intercessióne, nobis salutária fore concéde. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE BVM

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, ætérne Deus: Et te in Festivitate beátæ Mariæ semper Vírginis collaudáre, benedícere et prædicáre. Quæ et Unigénitum tuum Sancti Spíritus obumbratióne concépit: et, virginitátis glória permanénte, lumen ætérnum mundo effúdit, Jesum Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Per quem maiestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adórant Dominatiónes, tremunt Potestátes. Cæli cælórúmque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia exsultatióne concélebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces ut admítti júbeas, deprecámur, súpplíci confessióne dicétes:

COMMUNION

Regina mundi digníssima, María, Virgo perpétua, intercéde pro nostra pace et saluté, quæ genuísti Christum Dóminum, Salvatórem ómnium.

POSTCOMMUNION

Adjuvet nos, quæsumus, Dómine, gloriósæ tuæ Genetrícis sempérque Vírginis Mariæ intercésio veneránda: ut, quos perpétuis cumulávit beneficiis, a cunctis perículis absolútos, sua fáciat pietáte concórdes: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Let all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a festival day in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for whose Assumption the Angels rejoice and give praise to the Son of God. (Ps. 44: 2) My heart hath uttered a good word: I speak my works to the King. 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 all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a festival day in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for whose Assumption the Angels rejoice and give praise to the Son of God.

O God, Who hast honored the Order of the most blessed Mary, ever a virgin, Thy mother, with the special title of Carmel, graciously grant that we, who this day celebrate her commemoration with solemn service, may, being protected by her care, be worthy to attain to everlasting joys. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

As the vine I have brought forth a pleasant odor, and my flowers are the fruit of honor and riches. I am the mother of fair love, and of fear, and of knowledge, and of holy hope. In me is all grace of the way and of the truth, in me is all hope of life and of virtue.

Come over to me, all ye that desire me, and be filled with my fruits; for my spirit is sweet above honey, and my inheritance above honey and the honeycomb. My memory is unto everlasting generations. They that eat me, shall yet hunger; and they that drink me, shall yet thirst. He that harkeneth to me shall not be confounded, and they that work by me shall not sin. They that explain me shall have life everlasting.

Blessed and venerable art thou, O Virgin Mary, Who, without spot, wast found the Mother of the Savior. Virgin Mother of God, He Whom the whole world containeth not, being made man, shut Himself in thy womb.

Alleluia, alleluia. Mother of God, the life that had been lost was given us through thee, who didst receive thine offspring from Heaven, and didst bring forth a Savior unto the world. Alleluia.

At that time: As Jesus Was speaking to the multitudes, a certain woman from the crowd, lifting up her voice, said to Him, Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that gave Thee suck. But He said, Yea, rather, blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

Remember, O Virgin Mother, that thou speak good things for us in the sight of God, that He turn away His wrath from us.

Sanctify, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the sacrifices we offer, and, by the most salutary intercession of blessed Mary, Mother of God grant them to be effectual for our salvation. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, 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 always and everywhere give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father mighty, everlasting God: and that we should praise and bless, and proclaim Thee, in this feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, ever Virgin: Who also conceived Thine only-begotten Son by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, and the glory of her virginity still abiding, gave forth to the world the everlasting Light, Jesus 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:

Most worthy queen of the world, Mary, ever a virgin, intercede for our peace and safety, who didst bring forth Christ, Our Lord, the Savior of all.

May the august intercession of Mary, Thy glorious Mother, ever a virgin, help us, O Lord, that those whom it hath heaped with benefits it may deliver from all peril and by her tender kindness, make to be of one mind. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.