

JULY 21, ST. LAURENCE OF BRINDISI, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

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Born Giulio Cesare Russo, Laurence was a priest and theologian as well as a member of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin. An accomplished linguist, in addition to his native Italian, Lawrence could read and speak Latin, Hebrew, Greek, German, Bohemian, Spanish, and French fluently. In 1602, he was elected vicar general of the Capuchin friars, at that time the highest office in the Order. He was elected again in 1605, but refused the office.

He was beatified on June 1st, 1783, and was canonized as a saint on December 8th, 1881. He was named a Doctor of the Church in 1959. St. Laurence of Brindisi Complete Works were published in 15 volumes, in a critical edition, between 1926 and 1956.

Commemoration of St. Praxedes, Virgin: She was the daughter of the Roman Senator Pudens, and a sister of St. Pudentiana, whose feast is celebrated on May 19th. After consecrating her virginity to God, she gave up all her wealth to the poor.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 15: 5

In médio Ecclésiæ aperuit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spiritu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ induit eum. (Ps. 91: 2) Bonum est confitéri Dómino: et psállere nómini tuo Altíssime. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. In médio Ecclésiæ aperuit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spiritu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ induit eum.

COLLECT

Deus, qui ad árdua quæque pro nóminis tui glória et animárum salute beáto Lauréntio, Confessóri tuo atque Doctóri, spíritum sapiéntiæ et fortitúdinis contulísti: da nobis in eódem spírítu et agénda cognóscere; et cógnita, ejus intercessióne, perficere. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Praxedes, Virgin)

Exáudi nos, Deus, salutáris noster: ut, sicut de beatæ Praxédis Vírginis tuæ festivitáte gaudémus; ita piæ devotiónis erudiámur afféctu. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE 2 Timothy 4: 1-8

Caríssime: Testíficor coram Deo, et Jesu Christo, qui judicatúrus est vivos et mórtuos, per advéntum ipsíus, et regnum ejus: prædica verbum, insta oportúne, importúne: árgue, óbsecra, íncrepa in omni patiéntia, et doctrína. Erit enim tempus, cum sanam doctrínam non sustinébunt, sed ad sua desidéria cocervábunt sibi magístros, pruriéntes áuribus, et a veritate quidem audítum avértent, ad fábulas autem converténtur. Tu vero vígila, in ómnibus labóra, opus fæ evangelistæ, ministérium tuum imple. Sóbrius esto. Ego enim iam delíbor, et tempus resolutiúnis meæ instat. Bonum certámen certávi, cursum consummávi, fidem servávi. In réliquo repósita est míhi coróna justífiæ, quam reddet míhi Dóminus in illa die, justus judex: non solum autem míhi, sed et iis, qui dilígunt advéntum ejus.

GRADUAL Psalms 36: 30, 31

Os justí meditábitur sapiéntiam, et lingua ejus loquétur júdicium. Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsíus: et non supplantábuntur gressus ejus.

LESSER ALLELUIA Ecclesiasticus 45: 9

Allelúja, allelúja. Amávit eum Dóminus, et ornávit eum: stolam glóriæ induit eum. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 5: 13-19

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplulis suis: Vos estis sal terræ. Quod si sal evanúerit, in quo saliétur? Ad níhilum valet ultra, nisi ut mittátur foras, et conculcétur ab homínibus. Vos estis lux mundi. Non potest cívitas abscondi supra montem pónsita. Neque accéndunt lucérna, et non eam sub módio, sed super candelábrum, ut lúceat ómnibus qui in domo sunt. Sic lúceat lux vestra coram homínibus: ut vídeant ópera vestra bona, et gloríficent Patrem vestrum, qui in cælis est. Nolíte putáre quóniam veni sólvete legem aut prophétas: non veni sólvete, sed adimplére. Amen quippe dico vobis, donec tránseat cælum et terra, ióta unum aut unus apex non præteríbit a lege donec ómnia fiant. Qui ergo sólverit unum de mandátis istis mínimis, et docúerit sic hómines, mínimus vocábitur in regno cælórum: qui autem fécerit et docúerit, hic magnus vocábitur in regno cælórum.

OFFERTORY Psalms 91: 13

Justus ut palma florébit: sicut cedrus, quæ in Líbano est, multiplicábitur.

SECRET

Sancti Lauréntii, Confessóris tui atque Doctóris nobis, Dómine, pia non desit orátio: quæ et múnera nostra concíliet; et tuam nobis indulgéntiam semper obtíneat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Praxedes, Virgin)

Accépta tibi sit, Dómine, sacrátæ plebis oblátio pro tuórum honóre Sanctórum: quorum se méritis de tribulatióne perópisse cognóscit auxílium. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Luke 12: 42

Fidélis servus et prudens, quem constitúit dóminus super familiam suam: ut det illis in témpore trítici mensúram.

POSTCOMMUNION

Ut nobis, Dómine, tua sacrificia dent salutem: beátus Lauréntius, Conféssor tuus, et Doctor egrégíus, quæsumus, precátor accédát. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Praxedes, Virgin)

Satiásti, Dómine, familiam tuam munéribus sacris: ejus, quæsumus, semper interventióne nos réfove, cujus solémnia celebrámus. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth: and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. He clothed him with a robe of glory. (Ps. 91: 2) It is good to give praise to the Lord: and to sing to Thy Name, O Most High. 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. In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth: and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. He clothed him with a robe of glory.

O God, Who, to enable him to accomplish tasks, no matter how difficult, for the glory of Thy name and the salvation of souls, endowed blessed Lawrence, Thy Confessor and Doctor, with the spirit of wisdom and fortitude; grant us, in the same spirit, ever to know our duty, and through his prayers to do it. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Graciously hear us, O God our Savior, that, as we rejoice in the festival of blessed Praxedes, Thy Virgin, so we may we be taught by the spirit of her pious devotion. 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, I charge thee, before God and Jesus Christ, Who shall judge the living and the dead, by His coming, and His kingdom: preach the word: be instant in season, out of season: reprove, entreat, rebuke in all patience and doctrine. For there shall be a time when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires they will heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears: and will indeed turn away their hearing from the truth, but will be turned unto fables. But be thou vigilant, labour in all things, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill thy ministry. Be sober. For I am even now ready to be sacrificed: and the time of my dissolution is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. As to the rest, there is laid up for me a crown of justice, which the Lord, the just Judge, will render to me in that day: and not only to me, but to them also that love His coming.

The mouth of the just shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak judgment. The law of his God is in his heart: and his steps shall not be supplanted.

Alleluia, alleluia. The Lord loved him and adorned him: He clothed him with a robe of glory. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt lose its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is good for nothing any more but to be cast out, and to be trodden on by men. You are the light of the world. A city seated on a mountain cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but upon a candlestick, that it may shine to all that are in the house. So let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father Who is in heaven. Do not think that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets. I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For amen I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot, or one tittle shall not pass of the law, till all be fulfilled. He therefore that break one of these least commandments, and shall so teach men, shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. But he that shall do and teach, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

The just shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow up, like the cedar of Libanus.

May the holy prayer of St. Laurence, Thy Confessor and Doctor, fail us not, O Lord: may it render our offerings acceptable, and ever obtain for us Thy pardon. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

May the sacrifice made by Thy devoted people be pleasing to Thee, O Lord, in honor of Thy Saints, through whose merits they know they have received help in their tribulation. 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.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, that blessed Lawrence, Thy Confessor and illustrious Doctor, may approach to pray for us, that these Thy sacrifices may bring us 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.

Thou hast filled Thy household, O Lord, with holy gifts: do Thou cherish us always, through the intercession of her whose festival we are keeping. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.