

St. James was the brother of John, and the first of the Apostolic College to suffer martyrdom. He was beheaded by Herod Agrippa about the year 43. He was one of the intimate friends of Our Savior: he witnessed the Transfiguration and the agony in the Garden of Olives. Christ foretold his martyrdom on the occasion when the mother of James and John asked for her two sons that they be seated one at His right hand and one at his left in His Kingdom. James preached the Gospel in Judea and Samaria and even in distant Spain.

In the Sixth Century the tomb of the two apostles of the name of James was still being venerated at Jerusalem. But in the Ninth Century we find that the relics of St. James the Greater were already the object of great devotion at Santiago de Compostella, whither they may have been carried after the Arabs had taken possession of the Holy City. Throughout the Middle Ages, the pilgrimage to Galicia to the tomb of St. James was one of the most popular of all, and wholly worthy of the special place which St. James occupied beside Our Blessed Lord.

St. Christopher, Martyr: St. Christopher, a native of Chanaan, was martyred at Lycia in the Third Century. He was greatly venerated in the East. His name, which signifies "one who carries Christ," won for him great veneration even in the city of Rome. Many statues of St. Christopher were placed at the entrance to cathedrals. He is the patron of travelers and is invoked in storms, tempests and plagues. The medal of St. Christopher is frequently attached to motor vehicles.

INTROIT Psalms 138: 17

Mihi autem nimis honorāti sunt amici tui, Deus: nimis confortātus est principātus eórum. (Ps. 138: 1-2) Dómine, probásti me et cognovísti me: tu cognovísti sessiónem meam et resurrectionem meam. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Mihi autem nimis bonorāti sunt amici tui, Deus: nimis confortātus est principātus eórum.

COLLECT

Esto, Dómine, plebi tuæ sanctificátor et custos: ut, Apóstoli tui Jacóbi munita præsiðiis, et conversatióne tibi placeat, et secúra mente deserviat. Per

Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per

omnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Christopher, Martyr)

Præsta, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut, qui beáti Christóphori Mártyris tui natalita cólimus, intercessióne ejus in tui nóminis amore roborémur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE I Corinthians 4: 9-15

Fratres: Puto, quod Deus nos Apóstolos novíssimos osténdit, tamquam mortí destinátos: quia spectáculum facti sumus mundo, et Angelis, et homínibus. Nos stulti propter Christum, vos autem prudéntes in Christo: nos infirmi, vos autem fortes: vos nobiles, nos autem ignóbiles. Usque in hanc horam et esurimus, et sitimus, et nudi sumus, et cólaphis cædimur, et instábiles sumus, et laboramus operántes mánibus nostris: maledícimur, et benedícimus: persecutionem pátimur, et sustinémus: blasphemámur, et obsecrámus: tamquam purgamenta hujus mundi facti sumus, ómnium peripséma usque adhuc. Non ut confúndam vos, hæc scribo, sed ut filios meos caríssimos móneo. Nam si decem millia pædagogórum habeátis in Christo: sed non multos patres. Nam in Christo Jesu per Evangélium ego vos genui.

GRADUAL Psalms 44: 17, 18

Constítutes eos príncipes super omnem terram: memores erunt nóminis tui, Dómine. Pro pátribus tuis nati sunt tibi filíi: proptérea pópuli confitebúntur tibi. Allelúja, allelúja. (John 15: 16) Ego vos elégi de mundo, ut estis, et fructum afferátis: et fructus vester méneat. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 20: 20-23

In illo tempore: Accéssit ad Jesum mater filiórum Zebedæi cum filiis suis, adórans, et petens áliquid ab eo. Qui dixit ei: Quid vis? Ait illi: Dic ut sedeant hi duo filii mei, unus ad dexteram tuam, et unus ad sinistram in regno tuo. Respóndens autem Jesus, dixit: Nescítis quid petá tis. Potéstis bíbere cálicem, quem ego bibitúrus sum? Dicunt ei: Póssumus. Ait illis: Cálicem quidem meum bibétis: sedére autem ad dexteram meam, vel sinistram, non est meum dare vobis, sed quibus pará tum est a Patre Meo.

OFFERTORY Psalms 18: 5

In omnem terram exívit sonus eórum: et in fines orbis terræ verba eórum.

SECRET

Oblatiónes pópuli tui, quæsumus, Dómine, beáti Jacóbi Apóstoli pássio beáta concíliet: et quæ nostris non aptæ sunt méritis, fiant tibi plácitæ ejus deprecatióne. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Christopher, Martyr)

Munéribus nostris, quæsumus, Dómine, precibúsq;e suscéptis: et cæléstibus nos munda mystériis, et cleménter exáudi. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE APOSTLES

Verè dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, Te Dómine supplicíter exoráre, ut gregem Tuum pastor ætérne, non déseras: sed per beátos Apóstolos tuos continúa protectiõe custódiás. Ut íisdem rectóribus eubernémur, quos præstitit Tui pastóris gubernáre, vel sínistris pastóres. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatió nibus, cumque omni milítia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ Tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNION Matthew 19: 28

Vos, qui secuti estis me, sedebitis super sedes, judicantes duodecim tribus Israél.

POSTCOMMUNION

Beáti Apóstoli tui Jacóbi, quæsumus, Dómine, intercessióne nos ádjuva: pro cuius festivitáte percépimus tua sancta lætántes. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Christopher, Martyr)

Da, quæsumus, Dómine, Deus noster: ut, tuórum commemoriõe Sanctórum temporáli gratulamur officio; ita perpétuo læténtur aspéctu. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia sæcula sæculórum.

To me Thy friends, O God, are made exceedingly honorable: their principality is exceedingly strengthened. (Ps. 138: 1-2) Lord, Thou hast proved me, and known me; Thou hast known my sitting down and my rising up. 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. To me Thy friends, O God, are made exceedingly honorable: their principality is exceedingly strengthened.

Be Thou, O Lord, the sanctifier, and the guardian of Thy people, so that, being defended by the protection of Thine apostle James, they may both please Thee by their conduct and serve Thee with mind all untroubled. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that we, who honor the anniversary of the death of blessed Christopher, Thy Martyr, may by his intercession be strengthened in love of Thy name. 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, I think that God hath set forth us apostles the last, as it were men appointed to death: we are made a spectacle to the world, and to angels, and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ: we are weak, but you are strong: you are honorable, but we without honor. Even unto this hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no fixed abode, and we labor, working with our own hands. We are reviled, and we bless: we are persecuted, and we suffer it: we are blasphemed, and we entreat: we are made as the refuse of this world, the offscouring of all even until now. I write not these things to confound you: but I admonish you as my dearest children: for if you have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet not many fathers. For in Christ Jesus by the gospel I have begotten you.

Thou shalt make them princes over all the earth: they shall remember Thy name, O Lord. Instead of thy fathers, sons are born to thee: therefore shall people praise thee. Alleluia, alleluia. (John 15: 16) I have chosen you out of the world, that you should go, and should bring forth fruit, and your fruit should remain. Alleluia.

At that time, the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus with her sons, worshiping, and asking something of Him. Who said to her: What wilt thou? She saith to Him: Say that these my two sons may sit, the one on Thy right hand, and the other on Thy left, in Thy kingdom. And Jesus answering, said: You know not what you ask, can you drink the chalice that I shall drink? They say to Him: We can. He saith to them: My chalice indeed you shall drink; but to sit on My right or left hand is not Mine to give to you, but to them for whom it is prepared by My Father.

Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth; and their words unto the ends of the world.

May the holy sufferings of James, Thy blessed apostle, commend the offerings of Thy people, we beseech Thee, O Lord; and since they are not worthy for any merits of ours let them be made pleasing to Thee by his prayers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Receive our gifts, and our prayers, we beseech Thee, O Lord; cleanse us by the heavenly Mysteries and mercifully hear 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.

It is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, to entreat Thee humbly, O Lord, that Thou wouldst not desert Thy flock, O everlasting Shepherd, but, through Thy blessed Apostles, wouldst keep it under Thy constant protection; that it may be governed by those rulers, whom as vicars of Thy work, Thou didst set over it to be its pastors. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

You who have followed Me shall sit on seats judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Help us, O Lord, we beseech Thee, by the intercession of blessed James, Thine Apostle, for whose festival we have joyfully received Thy holy sacrament. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our God: that as we rejoice on earth in keeping the memory of Thy Saints, so also we may enjoy their company for evermore. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.