

St. Wenceslaus, duke of Bohemia, ruled that country during its period of conversion to Christianity. His devotion to the Holy Eucharist is mentioned by St. Alphonsus in his book, *Visits to the Blessed Sacrament*.

Wenceslaus was in the habit of sowing and reaping with his own hands the wheat from which the hosts were to be made, and he used to rise in the night even during the coldest seasons to visit the Blessed Sacrament. His virtue was the cause of his death, for it aroused the antagonism of his evil-minded mother and brother, who caused him to be assassinated September 28, 938.

INTROIT Psalms 20: 2-3

In virtúte tua, Dómine, lætábitur justus: et super salutáre tuum exultábit veheménter: desidérium ánimæ ejus tribuísti ei. (Ps. 20: 4) Quóniam prævenísti eum in benedictiónibus dulcédinis: posuísti in cápíte ejus corónam de lápide pretióso. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. In virtúte tua, Dómine, lætábitur justus: et super salutáre tuum exultábit veheménter: desidérium ánimæ ejus tribuísti ei.

COLLECT

Deus, qui beátum Wenceslám per martyrii palmam a terréno principátu ad coeléstem glóriam transtulísti: ejus præcibus nos ab omni adversitate custódi; et ejúsdem tribue gaudére consórtio. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Wisdom 10: 10-14

Justum dedúxit Dóminus per vias rectas, et ostendit illi regnum Dei, et dedit illi sciéntiam sanctorum: honestávit illum in labóribus, et complévit labores illius. In fraude circumveniéntium illum áffuit illi, et honéstum fecit illum. Custodívit illum ab inimicis, et a seductóribus tutávit illum, et certámen forte dedit illi, ut vínceret et sciret, quóniam ómnium poténtior est sapiéntia. Hæc vénditum justum non derelíquit, donec afférret illi sceptrum regni, et poténtiam advérsus eos, qui eum deprimébant: et mendáces osténdit, qui maculavérunt illum, et dedit illi claritátem ætérnam, Dóminus, Deus noster.

GRADUAL Psalms 111: 1-2

Beátus vir, qui timet Dóminum: in mandátis ejus cupit nimis. Potens in terra erit semen ejus: generatio rectórum benedicétur.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 20: 4

Allelúja, allelúja. Posuísti, Dómine, super caput ejus corónam de lápide pretióso. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 10: 34-42

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplis suis: Nolíte arbitrári, quia pacem vénerim mittere in terram: non veni pacem mittere, sed gládium. Veni enim separáre hóminem advérsus patrem suum, et fíliam advérsus matrem suam, et nurum advérsus socrum suam: et inimíci hóminis doméstici ejus. Qui amat patrem aut matrem plus quam me, non est me dignus: et qui amat fílium aut fíliam super me, non est me dignus. Et qui non áccipit crucem suam, et séquitur me, non est me dignus. Qui invénit ánimam suam, perdet illam: et qui perdiderit ánimam suam propter me, invéniet eam. Qui récipit vos, me récipit: et qui me récipit, récipit eum, qui me misit. Qui récipit prophétam in nómine prophétæ, mercédem prophétæ accípiet: et qui récipit justum in nómine justí, mercédem justí accípiet. Et quícúmque potum déderit uni ex mínimis istis cálicem aquæ frígidae tantum in nómine discípluli: amen, dico vobis, non perdet mercédem suam.

OFFERTORY Psalms 8: 6-7

Glória et honóre coronásti eum: et constituísti eum super ópera mánuum tuárum, Dómine.

SECRET

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

COMMUNION Matthew 16: 24

Qui vult venire post me, ábneget semetípsum, et tollat crucem suam, et sequátur me.

POSTCOMMUNION

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

In Thy strength, O Lord, the just man shall joy: and in Thy salvation he shall rejoice exceedingly: Thou hast given him his heart's desire. (Ps. 20: 4) For Thou hast prevented him with blessings of sweetness: Thou hast set on his head a crown of precious stones. 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 Thy strength, O Lord, the just man shall joy: and in Thy salvation he shall rejoice exceedingly: Thou hast given him his heart's desire.

O God, Who, through the palm of martyrdom, didst transfer blessed Wenceslaus from an earthly principality to heavenly glory, keep us, by his prayers, from all adversity, and grant us to rejoice in his 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.

The Lord conducted the just through the right ways, and showed him the kingdom of God, and gave him the knowledge of holy things: made him honorable in his labors, and accomplished his labors. In the deceit of them that overreached him, He stood by him, and made him honorable. He kept him safe from his enemies, and He defended him from seducers, and gave him a strong conflict, that he might overcome, and know that wisdom is mightier than all. He forsook not the just when he was sold, but delivered him from sinners: He went down with him into the pit. And in bands He left him not, till He brought him the sceptre of the kingdom, and power against those that oppressed him: and shewed them to be liars that had accused him, and the Lord our God gave him everlasting glory.

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord: he delighteth exceedingly in His commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the righteous shall be blessed.

Alleluia, alleluia. O Lord, Thou hast set on his head a crown of precious stones. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: Do not think that I came to send peace upon earth: I came not to send peace, but the sword. For I came to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's enemies shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than Me, is not worthy of Me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me, is not worthy of Me. And he that taketh not up his cross, and followeth Me, is not worthy of Me. He that findeth his life, shall lose it: and he that shall lose his life for Me, shall find it. He that receiveth you, receiveth Me: and he that receiveth Me, receiveth Him that sent Me. He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet, shall receive the reward of a prophet: and he that receiveth a just man in the name of a just man, shall receive the reward of a just man. And whosoever shall give to drink to one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, amen I say to you, he shall not lose his reward.

Thou hast crowned him with glory and honor: and hast set him over the works of Thy hands, O Lord.

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.

If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

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.