

OCTOBER 3, ST. THERESA OF THE INFANT JESUS

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Mary Frances Teresa Martin was born of saintly parents at Alencon (Orne) on January 2, 1873. She was educated by the Benedictine Nuns at Lisieux. After her ninth year she tried to enter the Carmelites, and put her case before the Bishop of Bayeux and pope Leo XIII, whom she visited. At the age of fifteen she was allowed to enter the Carmel at Lisieux (April 9 1888). She died at the age of twenty-four.

There was nothing extraordinary about her religious life; she was perfect in her simplicity, humility, charity, her love of God, and her trust in Him. She Offered herself as a victim to the "merciful love of the good God." She was just a little child in the arms of Jesus. Her way of sanctity was a little way; Pius XI said: "we wish that St. Teresa's secret of sanctity should be made known to everyone of our children. We have set her before the children of the Church as a striking and most precious example." Countless miracles have been wrought through her intercession. On her death bed she said: "I do not intend to remain idle in heaven. My longing is to labor even there for the Church and souls. Our Lord will work wonders for me that will infinitely surpass my boundless desire After my death I shall let fall a shower of roses." She was canonized May 17, 1925.

INTROIT Canticles 4: 8, 9

Veni de Líbano, sponsa mea, veni de Líbano, veni: vulnerásti cor meum, soror mea sponsa, vulnerásti cor meum. (Ps. 112: 1) Laudáte, púeri, Dórninum: laudáte nomen Dómini. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Veni de Líbano, sponsa mea, veni de Líbano, veni: vulnerásti cor meum, soror mea sponsa, vulnerásti cor meum.

COLLECT

Dómine, qui dixísti: Nisi efficiámini sicut párvuli, non intrábitis in regnum cælórum: da nobis, quæsumus; ita beátæ Terésiaë Vírginis in humilitáte et simplicitáte cordis vestigia sectári, ut præmia consequámur ætérna. Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Isaiah 66: 12-14

Hæc dicit Dóminus: Ecce ego declinábo super eam quasi flúvium pacis, et quasi torrémentem inundántem glóriam géntium, quam sugétis: ad úbera portabímni, et super génuá blandiéntur vobis. Quómodo si cui mater blandiátur, ita ego consolabor vos, et in Jerusalem consolabímni. Vidébitis, et gaudébit cor vestrum, et ossa vestra quasi herba germinábunt, et cognoscétur manus Dómini servis ejus. Lécio Isaíæ Prophétæ.

GRADUAL Matthew 11: 25

Confíteor tibi, Pater, Dómine cæli et terra, quia abscondísti hæc a sapiéntibus, et prudéntibus, et revelasti ea párvulis (Ps. 70: 5) Dómine, spes mea a juventúte mea.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Ecclesiasticus 39: 17-19

Allelúja, allelúja. Quasi rosa plantáta super rivos aquárum fructificáte: quasi Líbanus odórem suavitátis habéte: floréte flores, quasi lílium, et date odórem, et frondéte in grátiam, et collaudáte cánticum, et benedicite Dóminum in opéribus suis. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 18: 1-5

In illo témpore: Accessérunt discípuli ad Jesum, dicéntes: Quis, putas, major est in regno Cælórum? Et ádvocans Jesum párvulum, stáruit eum in médio eórum, et dixit: Amen dico vobis, nisi convérsi fuéritis, et efficiámini sicut párvuli, non intrábitis in regnum Cælórum. Quicúmque ergo humiliáverit se sicut párvulus, hic est major in regno Cælórum.

OFFERTORY Luke 1: 46, 48-49

Magnificat ánima mea Dóminum: et exultávit spíritus meus in Deo salutári meo: quia respéxit humilitátem ancillæ suæ: fecit mihi magna qui potens est.

SECRET

Sacrificium nostrum tibi, Dómine, quæsumus, beátæ Therésiaë Vírginis tuæ precátio sancta concíliet: ut in cujus honóre solémniter exhibétur, ejus méritis efficiátur accéptum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION

Deuteronomy 32: 10, 12

Circumdúxit eam, et dócuit: et custodívit quasi pupíllam óculi sui. Sicut áquila expándit alas suas, et assúmpsit eam, atque portávit in húmeris suis Dóminus solus dux ejus fuit.

POSTCOMMUNION

Illo nos, Dómine, amóris igne cæléste mystérium inflámmet quo beáta Therésia Vírgo tua se tibi pro homínibus caritátis víctimam devóvit. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Come from Libanus, my spouse, come from Libanus, come: Thou hast wounded my heart, my sister, my spouse: Thou hast wounded my heart. (Ps. 112: 1) Praise the Lord, ye children: Praise ye the name of the Lord. 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. Come from Libanus, my spouse, come from Libanus, come: Thou hast wounded my heart, my sister, my spouse: Thou hast wounded my heart.

O Lord, Who hast said: Unless ye become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven, grant unto us, we beseech Thee, so to follow the footsteps of blessed Teresa, virgin, in lowliness and simplicity of heart that we may gain everlasting rewards. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Thus saith the Lord: Behold I will bring upon her as it were a river of peace, and as an overflowing torrent the glory of the gentiles, which you shall suck; you shall be carried at the breasts, and upon the knees they shall caress you. As one whom the mother caresseth, so will I comfort you, and you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see and your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb, and the hand of the Lord shall be known to His servants.

I confess to Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent and hast revealed them to little ones. (Ps. 70: 5) Lord, Thou art my hope from my youth.

Alleluia, alleluia. Bud forth as the rose planted by the brooks of waters. Give ye a sweet odor as Libanus. Send forth flowers, as the lily, and yield a smell, and bring forth leaves in grace, and praise with canticles, and bless the Lord in His works. Alleluia.

At that time, the disciples came to Jesus saying: Who, thinkest Thou, is the greater in the kingdom of Heaven? And Jesus calling unto Him a little child, set him in the midst of them and said: Amen I say to you, unless you be converted and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, he is the greater in the kingdom of Heaven.

My soul doth magnify the Lord. And my spirit hath magnified in God my Savior. Because He hath regarded the humility of His handmaid: He that is mighty hath done great things to me.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, that the holy intercession of blessed Teresa, Thy virgin, may make our sacrifice agreeable to Thee, so that it may be made acceptable by the merits of her in whose honor it is solemnly offered. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

He led her about and taught her: and He kept her as the apple of His eye. As the eagle, He spread His wings and hath taken her, and carried her on His shoulders. The Lord alone was her leader.

May the heavenly mystery, O Lord, enkindle in us that fire of love, whereby the blessed Teresa, Thy virgin, offered herself to Thee as a victim of charity for men. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.