

OCTOBER 8, ST. BRIDGET OF SWEDEN, WIDOW

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St. Bridget (or Birgitta) of Sweden, on the death of Prince Ulfo, her husband, embraced a life of prayer and penance. Favored by Almighty God with wonderful visions and revelations, she founded the Religious Order of the Most Holy Savior. With her daughter, St. Catherine, she made numerous pilgrimages to various sanctuaries in Italy and in Palestine. The secrets of heaven were manifested to her in many revelations which are referred to in the Collect of the Mass. She exerted her influence in the cause of the Church's reform in the courts, episcopal palaces, the abbeys and even at the Holy See. She died at Rome, July 2, 1373. Her relics were brought back to Sweden by her daughter a year later. She was canonized by Boniface IX, in 1391.

Commemoration of Sts. Sergius, Bacchus, Marcellus, and Apuleius, Martyrs: Sts. Sergius and Bacchus were at one time officers in the imperial army. After many tortures they were put to death for being Christians. The date of their martyrdom, which took place in the Third Century, is uncertain. Together with them are honored two Roman martyrs, Marcellus and Apuleius, probably their contemporaries.

INTROIT Psalms 118: 75, 120

Cognóvi, Dómine, quia æquitas iudicia in veritate tua humiliasti me: confige timore tuo carnes meas, a mandatis tuis tímui. (Psalm 118) Beáti immaculáti in via: qui ámbulant in lege Dómini. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Cognóvi, Dómine, quia æquitas iudicia in veritate tua humiliasti me: confige timore tuo carnes meas, a mandatis tuis tímui.

COLLECT

Dómine, Deus noster, qui beátæ Birgittæ per Fílium tuum unigénitum secréta coeléstia revelásti: ipsíus pia intercessióne da nobis, fámulis tuis; in revelatióne sempitérna glóriæ tuæ gaudére lætántes. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For Sts. Sergius, Bacchus, Marcellus, & Angelus, Martyrs)

Sanctórum Mártyrum tuórum nos, Dómine, Sérgii, Bacchi, Marcélli et Apuléji beáta mérita prosequántur: et tuo semper fáciant amóre fervéntes. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE 1 Timothy 5: 3-10

Caríssime: Víduas honóra quæ vere víduæ sunt. Si qua autem vídua filios, aut nepótes habet, discat primum domum suam régere, et mútuam vicem réddere paréntibus: hoc enim accéptum est coram Deo. Quæ autem vere vídua est, et desoláta, speret in Deum, et instet obsecratióibus, et oratióibus nocte, ac die. Nam quæ in delíciis est, irreprensibiles sint. Si quis autem suórum, et máxime domesticórum curam non habet, fidem negávit, et est infidélí detérior. Vídua eligátur non minus sexagínta annórum, quæ fúerit unius víri uxor, in opéribus bonis. testimónium habens, si filios educávit, si hospítio recépít, si sanctórum pedes lavít, si tribulatiónem patiéntibus subministrávit, si omne opus bonum subsecuta est.

GRADUAL Psalms 44: 3

Diffusa est gratia in labiis tuis: propterea benedixit te Deus in æternum. Própter veritátem et mansuetúdinem, et justítiam: et dedúcet te mirabíliter délixtera tua. Allelúja, allelúja.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 44: 5

Spécie tua, et pulchritúdine tua inténdem, próspere procéde, et regna. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 13: 44-52

In illo tempore: Dixit Jesus, discípuis suis parábolam hanc: Símile est regnum coelórum thesáuro abscondito in agro: quem qui invénit homo, abscondit, et præ gáudio illíus vadit, et vendit univérsa quæ habet, et emit agrum illum. Íterum símile est regnum coelórum hómini negotiátóri, quærénti bonas margaritas. Invénta autem una pretiósa margaríta, abiit, et véndidit ómnia quæ hábuit, et emit eam. Íterum símile est regnum cælórum sagénæ missæ in mare, et ex omni génere píscium congregánti. Quam, cum impléta esset, educéntes, et secus littus sedéntes, elegérunt bonos in vasa, malos autem foras misérunt. Sic erit in consummatione sæculi: exíbut Angeli, et separábunt malos de médio justórum, et mittent eos in camínium ignis: ibi erit fletus, et stridor déntium. Intellexístis hæc omnia? Dicunt ei: Étiam. Ait illis: Ideo omnia scriba doctus in regno cælórum, similis est hómini patrifamílias, qui profert de thesáuro suo nova et vétera.

OFFERTORY Psalms 44: 3

Diffusa est gratia in labiis tuis: propterea benedixit te Deus in æternum, et in saeculum saeculi.

SECRET

Accépta tibi sit, Dómine, sacrátæ plebis oblátio pro tuórum se méritis, de tribulatióne percepísse cognóscit auxiliúm. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For Sts. Sergius, Bacchus, Marcellus, & Angelus, Martyrs)

Majestátem tuam nobis, Dómine, quæsolánda placátam, tuórum digna postulatióne Sanctórum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Psalms 44: 8

Dilexísti justítiam, et odísti iniquitátem: propterea unxit te Deus, Deus tuus, óleo lætitiæ præ consórtibus tuis.

POSTCOMMUNION

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

(For Sts. Sergius, Bacchus, Marcellus, & Angelus, Martyrs)

Sacraméntis, Dómine, muniámur accéptis: et accéptis, Dómine, muniámur tuórum Sérgii, Bacchi, Marcélli et Apuléji intercessióne, contra omnes nequítias irruéntes, annis coeléstibus protegámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are equity, and in Thy truth Thou hast humbled me: pierce Thou my flesh with Thy fear, I am afraid of Thy judgments. (Psalm 118) Blessed are the undefiled in the way: who walk in the law 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. I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are equity, and in Thy truth Thou hast humbled me: pierce Thou my flesh with Thy fear, I am afraid of Thy judgments.

O Lord, our God, Who through Thine only-begotten Son, didst reveal heavenly secrets to blessed Bridget, grant us, Thy servants, by her kind intercession, to rejoice and be glad in the revelation of Thine eternal glory. 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 blessed merits of Thy holy martyrs, Sergius, Bacchus, Marcellus, and Apuleius, bide with us, O Lord, and make us ever fervent in Thy love. 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: Honor widows, that are widows indeed. But if any widow have children, or grandchildren, let her learn first to govern her own house, and to make a return of duty to her parents: for this is acceptable before God. But she that is a widow indeed and desolate, let her trust in God, and continue in prayers and supplications night and day. For she that liveth in pleasures, is dead while she is living. And this give in charge, that they may be blameless. But if any man have not care of his own, and especially of those of his house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. Let a widow be chosen of no less than threescore years of age, who hath been the wife of one husband, having testimony for her good works, if she have brought up children, if she have received to harbor, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have ministered to them that suffer tribulation, if she have diligently followed every good work.

Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore hath God blessed thee for ever. Because of truth, and meekness, and justice: and thy right hand shall conduct thee wonderfully. Alleluia, alleluia.

With thy comeliness, and thy beauty, set out, proceed prosperously, and reign. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus, spoke this parable to His disciples: The kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hidden in a field; which a man having found, hid it, and for joy thereof goeth, and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again the kingdom of heaven is like to a merchant seeking good pearls. Who when he had found one pearl of great price, went his way, and sold all that he had, and bought it. Again the kingdom of heaven is like to a net cast into the sea, and gathering together of all kind of fishes; which, when it was filled, they drew out, and sitting by the shore, they chose out the good into vessels, but the bad they cast forth. So shall it be at the end of the world. The angels shall go out, and shall separate the wicked from among the just. And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have ye understood all these things? They say to him: Yes. He said unto them: Therefore every scribe instructed in the kingdom of heaven, is like to a man that is a householder, who bringeth forth out of his treasure new things and old.

Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever and for ages of ages.

May the offerings of thy holy people be accepted by Thee, O Lord, in honor of Thy saints, through whose merits they know that they have received aid in time of trouble. 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 this sacrifice that is about to be offered cause Thy majesty to be appeased toward us, O Lord, by the worthy prayer of Thy saints. 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 loved justice and hated iniquity: therefore God thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Thou hast filled Thy household, O Lord, with sacred gifts; ever comfort us, we beseech Thee, by the intercession of the saint whose festival we celebrate. 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 we be fortified, O Lord, by the reception of Thy sacraments, and protected, through the intercession of Thy holy martyrs, Sergius, Bacchus, Marcellus, and Apuleius, by heavenly armor against all the malice that assaileth 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.