

## OCTOBER 9, ST. JOHN LEONARDI, CONFESSOR

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He was the youngest of seven children born to middle-class parents in Diecimo (now within the Republic of Lucca). From childhood, he sought solitude and wished to dedicate himself to prayer and meditation. At age 17, he began his ten-year study to become a certified pharmacist's assistant in Lucca. Afterward, he studied for the priesthood and was ordained in 1572. He first dedicated himself to the Christian formation of adolescents in his local Lucca parish. He also gathered a group of laymen around him to work in hospitals and prisons. In 1574 he founded a group charged to deepen Christian faith and devotion; this foundation occurred as part of the Counter Reformation. Leonardi worked with this group to spread devotion to the Blessed Mother and devotion to the Forty Hours as well as spreading the message of the importance of frequent reception of Holy Communion.

*Commemoration of Sts. Dionysius, Rusticus and Eleutherius, Martyrs:*  
Ever since the Seventh Century Rusticus and Eleutherius have been associated with St. Dionysius (or Denis). The veneration of St. Dionysius at Paris goes back to an earlier period. St. Gregory of Tours frequently mentions the Basilica of St. Denis built at the suggestion of St. Genevieve. This saint, martyred at Paris, is to be distinguished from the Areopagite converted by St. Paul, whose veneration has ever been famous among the Greeks, and from the pseudo-Dionysius, a Syrian of the Fifth or Sixth century.

### INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 42: 15-16

In sermónibus Dómini ópera ejus: sol illúminans per ómnia respéxit, et glória Dómini plenum est opus ejus. (Ps. 95: 1) Cantáte Dómino cánticum novum: cantáte Dómino, omnis terra. Glória Patri et Filio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. In sermónibus Dómini ópera ejus: sol illúminans per ómnia respéxit, et glória Dómini plenum est opus ejus.

### COLLECT

Deus, qui beátum Joánnem Confessórem tuum ad fidem in géntibus propagándam mirabiliter excitáre dignátus es, ac per eum in erudiéndis fidélibus novam in Ecclésia tua familiam congregásti: da nobis fámulis tuis; ita ejus institútis proficere, ut præmia consequámur ætérna. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

*(For St. Dionysius and companions)*

Deus, qui hodiérna die beátum Dionýsium, Mátyrem tuum atque Pontíficem, virtúte constantiæ in passióne roborásti, quique illi, ad prædicándum géntibus glóriam tuam, Rústicum et Eleuthérium sociáre dignátus es: tríbe nobis, quæsumus; eórum imitatióne, pro amóre tuo próspéra mundi despícere, et nulla ejus advérsa formidáre. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

### EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 4: 1-6, 15-18

Habénte administratiónem juxta quod misericórdiam consecúti sumus, non defícimus, sed abdicámus occúlta dedécóris, non ambulátes in astútia, neque adulterátes verbum Dei, sed in manifestatióne veritátis commendátes nosmetípsos ad omnem consciéntiam hóminum coram Deo. Quod si etiám opértum est Evangélium nostrum : in iis, qui péreunt, est opértum: in quibus Deus hujus sæculi excæcávit mentes infidélium, ut non fúlgeat illis illuminátió Evangélii glóriæ Christi, qui est imágo Dei. Non enim nosmetípsos prædicámus, sed Jesum Christum Dóminum nostrum: nos autem servos vestros per Jesum: quóniam Deus, qui dixit de ténebris lucem splendescere, ipse illúxit in córdibus nostris ad illuminatiónem sciéntiæ claritátis Dei, in facié Christi Jesu. Omnia enim propter vos: ut grátia abúndans, per multos in gratiárum actione, abúndet in glóriam Dei. Propter quod non defícimus: sed licet is, qui foris est, noster homo corrumpátur: tamen is, qui intus est, renovatur de die in diem. Id enim, quod in praesenti est momentáneum et leve tribulatiónis nostræ, supra modum in sublimitáte ætérnum glóriæ pondus operátur in nobis, non contemplántibus nobis quæ vidéntur, sed quæ non vidéntur. Quæ enim vidéntur, temporália sunt: quæ autem non vidéntur, ætérna sunt.

### GRADUAL Psalms 72: 21; 68: 10

Inflammátum est cor meum, et renes mei commutáti sunt: zelus domus tuæ comédit me. (Is. 49: 2) Pósuit os meum quasi gládium acutum: in umbra manus suæ protéxit me, et pósuit me sicut sagittam eléctam.

### LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 70: 7

Allelúja, allelúja. Tamquam prodígium factus sum multis: et tu adjútor fortis, Allelúja.

### GOSPEL Luke 10: 1-9

In illo témpore: Designávit Dóminus et alios septuaginta duos: et misit illos binos ante faciém suam in omnem civitátem et locum, quo erat ipse ventúrus. Et dicebat illis: Messis quidem multa, operárii autem pauci. Rogáte ergo dóminum messis ut mittat operários in messem suam. Ite: ecce ego mitto vos sicut agnos inter lupos. Nolíte portáre sácculum, neque peram, neque calceaménta: et néminem per viam salutavéritis. In quamcúmque domum intravéritis, primum dícite: Pax huic dómui: et si ibi fúerit filius pacis, requiescet super illum pax vestra: sin autem, ad vos revertetur. In eádem autem domo manéte edéntes, et bibéntes quæ apud illos sunt: dignus est enim operarius mercéde sua. Nolíte tránsire de domo in domum. Et in quamcúmque civitátem intravéritis, et suscéperint vos, manducáte, quæ apponúntur vobis: et curáte infirmos, qui in illa sunt, et dícite illis: Appropinquávit in vos regnum Dei.

### OFFERTORY Colossians 1: 25

Christi factus sum ego mínister secúndum dispensatiónem Dei, quæ data est mihi, ut impleam verbum Dómini.

### SECRET

Súscipe, Dómine, oblatiόnem mundam salutáris hóstiæ: et præsta; ut, intercedénte beáto Joáñne Confessóre tuo, úbique géntium júgiter offerátur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

*(For St. Dionysius and companions)*

Obláta tibi, Dómine, múnera pópuli tui, pro tuórum honóre Sanctórum, súscipe propítius, quæsumus: et eórum nos intercessiόne sanctífica. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

### COMMUNION Philippians 3: 7

Quæ mihi fúerunt lucra, hæc arbitrátus sum propter Christum detriménta.

### POSTCOMMUNION

Refecti córporis, et sánguine tui sacris pretiόsi mystéris, Dómine, adprecámur: ut beáti Joánnis Confessóris tui exémplo, studeámus confitéri quod crédidit, et ópere exercére quod dócuit: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

*(For St. Dionysius and companions)*

Sumptis, Dómine, sacraméntis, quæsumus: ut, intercedéntibus beátis Mátyribus tuis Dionýsio, Rústico et Eleuthério, ad redemptiόnis ætérnæ proficiamus augméntum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

By the words of the Lord are His works: the sun giving light hath looked upon all things, and full of the glory of the Lord is His work. (Ps. 95: 1) O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth. 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. By the words of the Lord are His works: the sun giving light hath looked upon all things, and full of the glory of the Lord is His work.

O God, Who for the propagation of the Faith among the people was pleased in a wondrous manner to stir up blessed John, Thy confessor: and Who, through him, did in Thy Church gather together a new Society for the instruction of the faithful: do Thou grant unto us Thy servants, that we may so profit by his teaching, as to attain unto the everlasting rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

O God, Who on this day did strengthen blessed Dionysius, Thy martyr, with the virtue of fortitude in his suffering, and did vouchsafe to join with him Rusticus and Eleutherius to preach Thy glory to the nations, grant us, we beseech Thee, to imitate them in contemning the prosperity of the world for the sake of Thy love, and to fear none of its adversity. 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. Seeing we have this ministratiō, according as we have obtained mercy, we faint not, but renounce the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor adulterating the word of God, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience, in the sight of God. And if our Gospel be also hid; it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of unbelievers, that the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, Who is the image of God, should not shine unto them. For we preach not ourselves, but Jesus Christ our Lord: and ourselves your servants through Jesus. For God, Who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Christ Jesus. For all things are for your sakes: that the grace, abounding through many, may abound in thanksgiving unto the glory of God. For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man be corrupted, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For that which is at present momentary and light of our tribulation, worketh for us above measure exceedingly an eternal weight of glory; while we look, not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen, are temporal: but the things which are not seen, are eternal.

My heart hath been inflamed and my loins have been changed: the zeal of Thy house hath eaten me up. (Is. 49: 2) He hath made my mouth like unto a sharp sword: in the shadow of His hand hath He protected me, and made me as a chosen shaft.

Alleluia, alleluia. I am become to many as a wonder: but Thou art a strong helper. Alleluia.

At that time, The Lord appointed also other seventy-two; and He sent them two and two before His face into every city and place whither He Himself was to come. And He said to them, "The harvest indeed is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He send laborers into His harvest. Go, behold I send you as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes; and salute no man by the way. Into whatsoever house you enter, first say, Peace be to this house: and if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon him: but if not, it shall return to you. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they have: for the laborer is worthy of his hire. Remove not from house to house. And into what city soever you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: and heal the sick that are therein; and say to them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.

I am made a minister of Christ according to the dispensation of God, which is given to me, that I may fulfill the word of the Lord.

Let us pray. Receive, O Lord, the clean oblation of this salutary sacrifice: and, by the intercession of blessed John, Thy confessor, grant that everywhere among the nations it may fittingly be offered up. 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 receive, O Lord we beseech Thee, the gifts of Thy people in honor of Thy saints, and sanctify us by their intercession. 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 things that were gain to me, the same I counted loss for Christ.

Refreshed by the sacred mysteries of Thy precious body and blood, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that, following the example of blessed John, Thy confessor, we may set ourselves to profess that which he believed, and in our actions to put into practice that which he taught. Who livest and reignest, with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, forever and ever.

We who have received Thy sacraments, O Lord, beseech Thee that, by the intercession of Thy blessed Martyrs, Dionysius, Rusticus, and Eleutherius, we may be profited into the increase of our everlasting redemption. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.