

NOVEMBER 2, RÉQUIEM FOR ALL SOULS (#1)

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Should November 2 fall on Sunday, the commemoration of All Souls is transferred to the following Monday. Pope Benedict XV granted priests permission to offer three Masses on all Souls' Day. One of these Masses the celebrant may say according to his own intention; one must be offered for all the faithful departed; and the third for the intention of the Holy Father.

The Church with her usual sublime economy preserved all that was innocent, tender and inspired, in the funeral rites of classic antiquity. She purified and spiritualized them, handing them on to the new generations of the Middle Ages transfigured by a new thought which gave a sense of joy and life to the Liturgy of the departed, the thought that they would rise once more like the risen Redeemer. Therefore all that was dismal or frightening disappeared. There were no more emblems of death, skulls or cross-bones traced upon the draperies; all spoke instead of peace and serene hope. The ancient Roman cemeteries, then, were not merely graveyards, they were country houses with baths and gardens adjoining them, where even the Popes themselves often resided.

The memento of the dead in the Mass is common to all Liturgies since the Third Century. In Benedictine monasteries, the custom prevailed of commemorating every year the benefactors and friends of the house who had been taken from this world. St. Odilo, Abbot of Cluny, is generally recognized as having been responsible for the universal adoption of this custom, already in use in many churches.

INTROIT 4 Esdras 2: 34-35

Réquiem ætérnam dona eis, Dómine: et lux perpétua lúceat eis. (Ps. 64: 2, 3) Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion, et tibi reddétur votum in Jerúsalem: exáudi oratióinem meam, ad te omnis caro véniet. Réquiem ætérnam dona eis, Dómine; et lux perpétua lúceat eis.

COLLECT

Fidélium, Deus, ómnium cónditor et redemptor: animábus famulórum, famularúmque tuárum remissionem cunctórum tribue peccatórum; ut indulgéntiam, quam semper optavérunt, piis supplicatióibus consequántur: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 15: 51-57

Fratres: Ecce, mystérium vobis dico: Omnes quidem resurgémus, sed non omnes immutábimur. In moménto, in ictu óculi, in novíssima tuba: canet enim tuba, et mórtui resúrgent incorrúpti: et nos immutábimur. Opórtet enim corruptíbile hoc indúere incorruptiõem: et mortále hoc indúere immortalitátem. Cum autem mortále hoc indúerit immortalitátem, tunc fiet sermo, qui scriptus est: Absórpta est mors in victória. Ubi est, mors, victória tua? Ubi est, mors, stímulus tuus? Stímulus autem mortis peccátum est: virtus vero peccáti lex. Deo autem grátias, qui dedit nobis victóriam per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum.

GRADUAL 4 Esdras 2: 34-35

Réquiem ætérnam dona eis, Dómine: et lux perpétua lúceat eis. (Ps 111: 7) In memória ætérna erit justus: ab auditióne mala non timébit.

TRACT

Absólve, Dómine, ánimas ómnium fidélium defunctorum ab omni vínculo delictórum. Et grátia tua illis succurréte, mereántur evádere iudícium últiónis. Et lucis ætérnæ beatitúdine pérfrui.

SEQUENCE

Dies iræ, dies illa,
Solvét sæclum in favilla:
Teste David cum Sibýlla.

Quantus tremor est futúrus,
Quando iudex est ventúrus.
Cuncta stricte discussúrus!

Tuba, mirum spargens sonum
Per sepúlchra regiónum.
Coget omnes ante thronum.

Mors stupébit, et natúra,
Cum resúrget creatúra,
Judicánti responsúra.

Liber scriptus proferétur.
In quo totum continétur,
Unde mundus iudicétur.

Judex ergo cum sedébit,
Quidquid latet apparébit:
Nil inúltum remanébit.

Quid sum miser tunc dictúrus?
Quem patrónum rogáturus,
Cum vix justus sit secúrus?

Rex treméndæ majestátis,
Qui salvándos salvás gratis,
Salva me, fons pietátis.

Recordáre, Jesu pie,
Quod sum causa tuæ viæ:
Ne me perdas illa die.

Quærens me, sedísti lassus:
Redemísti crucem passus:
Tantus labor non sit cassus.

Iuste iudex últiónis,
Donum fac remissionis
Ante diem ratiónis.

Ingemísco, tamquam reus:
Culpa rubet vultus meus:
Supplicánti parce, Deus.

Qui Mariám absolvísti,
Et latrónem exaudísti,
Mihi quoque spem dedísti.

Preces meæ non sunt dignæ:
Sed tu bonus fac benigne.
Ne perénni cremer igne.

Inter oves locum præsta,
Et ab hædis me sequéstra,
Státuens in parte dextra.

Confutátis maledíctis,
Flammis ácribus addíctis:
Voca me cum benedíctis.

Oro supplex, et acclínis,
Cor contrítum quasi cinis:
Gere curam mei finis.

Lacrymósa dies illa,
Qua resúrget ex favilla,

Judicándus homo reus.
Huic ergo parce, Deus:

Pie Jesu Dómine,
Dona eis réquiem. Amen.

GOSPEL John 5: 25-29

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus turbis Judæórum: Amen, amen, dico vobis, quia venit hora, et nunc est, quando mórtui áudient vocem Filii Dei: et qui audérint, vivent. Sicut enim Pater habet vitam in semetípso, sic dedit et Filio habére vitam in semetípso: et potestátem dedit ei iudícium fácere, quia Filius hóminis est. Nolíte mirári hoc, quia venit hora, in qua omnes, qui in monuméntis sunt, áudient vocem Filii Dei: et procedent, qui bonæ fecerunt, in resurrecciónem iudicii.

OFFERTORY

Dómine Jesu Christe, Rex glóriæ, líbera ánimas ómnium fidélium defunctorum de pœnis inférni, et de profúndo lacu: líbera eas de ore leónis, ne absórbeat eas tárntarus, ne cadant in obscúrum: sed signífer sanctus Michaël repræséntet eas in lucem sanctam: Quam olim Ábrahæ promisísti, et sémini ejus. Hóstias et preces tibi, Dómine, laudis offérimus: tu súscipe pro animábus illis, quarum hódie memóriam, fácimus: ad eas, Dómine, de morte transíre fac vitam. Quam olim Ábrahæ promisísti, et sémini ejus.

SECRET

Hóstias, quæsumus, Dómine, quas tibi pro animábus famulórum famularúmque tuárum offérimus, propitiátus inténde: ut, quibus fidei cristiánæ méritum contulisti, dones et præmíum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Filium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE FOR THE DEAD

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, ætérne Deus: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. In quo nobis spes beatæ resurrecciónis effúlsit, ut quos contrístat certa moriéndi conditio, eósdem consolétur futúre immortalitátis promissio. Tuis enim fidélibus, Dómine, vita mutátur, non tollitur, et dissolúta terréstris hujus incolátus dómo, ætérna in cælis habitatio comparátur. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus, cumque omni militía cælestis exercitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus sine fine dicentes:

COLLECT 4 Esdras 2: 35, 34

Lux ætérna lúceat eis, Dómine: Cum Sanctis tuis in ætérnum: quia pius es. Réquiem ætérnam dona eis, Dómine: et lux perpétua lúceat eis. Cum Sanctis tuis in ætérnum: quia pius es.

POSTCOMMUNION

Animábus, quæsumus, Dómine, famulórum famularúmque tuárum oratio proficiat supplicántium: ut eas et a peccátiis ómnibus éxuas, et tuæ redemptionis fácias esse partícipes: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them. (Ps. 64: 2,3) A hymn, O God, becometh Thee in Sion; and a vow shall be paid to Thee in Jerusalem: O Lord, hear my prayer; all flesh shall come to Thee. Eternal rest give to them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them.

O God, the Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful, grant to the souls of Thy servants and handmaids the remission of all their sins, that they may obtain by loving prayers the forgiveness which they have always desired. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Brethren, Behold, I tell you a mystery: we shall all indeed rise again, but we shall not all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall rise again incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. And when this mortal hath put on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting? Now the sting of death is sin: and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, Who hath given us the victory through Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them. (Ps 111: 7) The just shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear the evil hearing.

Absolve, O Lord, the souls of all the faithful departed from every bond of sins. And by the help of Thy grace may they be enabled to escape the avenging judgment. And enjoy the bliss of everlasting light.

Day of wrath, that day of mourning,
Lo, the world in ashes burning,
Seer and David gave the warning,

O what fear man's bosom rendeth,
When from heaven the Judge descendeth,
On whose sentence all dependeth.

Wondrous sound the trumpet flingeth,
Through earth's sepulchres it ringeth,
All before the throne it bringeth.

Death is struck, and nature quaking,
All creation is awaking,
To its Judge an answer making.

Lo, the book exactly worded,
Wherein all hath been recorded,
Thence shall judgment be awarded.

When the Judge His seat attaineth,
And each hidden deed arraigneth,
Nothing unavenged remaineth.

What shall I, frail man, be pleading?
Who for me be interceding
When the just are mercy needing?

King of majesty tremendous,
Who dost free salvation send us,
Fount of pity, then befriend us.

Think, kind Jesus, my salvation
Caused Thy wondrous Incarnation.
Leave me not to reprobation.

Faint and weary Thou hast sought me,
On the cross of suffering bought me,
Shall such grace be vainly brought me?

Righteous Judge of retribution,
Grant Thy gift of absolution,
Ere that reck'ning day's conclusion.

Guilty now I pour my moaning,
All my shame with anguish owning,
Spare, O God, Thy suppliant groaning.

Thou the sinful Mary savest,
Thou the dying thief forgavest,
And to me a hope vouchsafest.

Worthless are my prayers and sighing,
Yet, good Lord, in grace complying,
Rescue me from fires undying.

With Thy favored sheep O place me,
Nor among the goats abase me,
But to Thy right hand upraise me.

When the wicked are confounded,
Doomed to flames of woe unbounded,
Call me with Thy Saints surrounded.

Low I kneel with heart's submission,
See, like ashes, my contrition,
Help me in my last condition.

Ah! That day of tears and mourning,
From the dust of earth returning,

Man for judgment must prepare him,
Spare, O God, in mercy spare him.

Lord, all pitying, Jesu blest,
Grant them Thine eternal rest. Amen.

At that time, Jesus said to the multitudes of the Jews: Amen, amen, I say unto you, that the hour cometh, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in Himself, so He hath given to the Son also to have life in Himself; and He hath given Him power to do judgment, because He is the Son of man. Wonder not at this, for the hour cometh wherein all that are in the graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and they that have done good things shall come forth unto the resurrection of life, but they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment.

O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of all the faithful departed from the pains of hell and from the deep pit; deliver them from the lion's mouth, that hell engulf them not, nor they fall into darkness, but let Michael, the holy standard-bearer, bring them into the holy light which Thou once didst promise to Abraham and his seed. We offer Thee, O Lord, sacrifices and prayers of praise; do Thou accept them for those souls whom we this day commemorate; grant them, O Lord, to pass from death to the life which Thou once didst promise to Abraham and his seed.

Mercifully look down, we beseech Thee, O Lord, upon the sacrifice which we offer Thee for the souls of Thy servants and handmaids, that, to those on whom Thou didst confer the merit of Christian faith, Thou mayst also grant its reward. 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, that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God, through Christ our Lord. In Whom the hope of a blessed resurrection hath shown forth unto us; so that those who are saddened by the certain lot of dying may be consoled by the promise of a future deathless life. For to Thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not taken away: and when the home of this earthly sojourn is dissolved, an eternal dwelling place is being prepared in the heavens. And therefore with the Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominations and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, saying without end:

May eternal light shine upon them, O Lord, with Thy saints forevermore, for Thou art gracious. Eternal rest give to them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them: with Thy saints forevermore, for Thou art gracious.

May the prayer of Thy suppliants profit the souls of Thy servants and handmaids, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thou mayst free them from all sins and make them sharers in Thy redemption. Who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.