

NOVEMBER 11, ST. MARTIN OF TOURS, CONFESSOR & BISHOP

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At a time when liturgical honors were reserved almost exclusively to martyrs only, the "Apostle of Gaul" was the object, at a very early period of the veneration afterwards extended to all Confessors. St. Martin died at Oandes towards the end of the year 396 or the beginning of 397, after a life marked by many miracles, and by the apostolic zeal in which he labored to root out paganism in his diocese and to establish in it the ideals of the monastic life. His asceticism and his simple habits did not find favor with his brother bishops, or even with his own clergy whilst he lived, but in 397, immediately after his death, his biography, written by Sulpicius Severus, entirely rehabilitated his memory. This little book became a kind of gospel of the monastic life.

Martin was born in Sabaria (now in Hungary). His father, a Roman general, brought him up as a pagan and destined him for the life of a soldier. He was drawn to Christianity, despite his pagan surroundings. Thousands of churches have been dedicated to him. St. Benedict dedicated the first church of his Order on Monte Cassino to his honor and desired to yield up his soul before the altar of St. Martin.

Commemoration of St. Mennas, Martyr: St. Mennas, an Egyptian, a soldier in the Roman army, was beheaded in Phrygia, a province of Asia Minor, in 304, for refusing to renounce his faith in Christ. At one time his fame eclipsed that of St. Martin at Rome. Many miracles occurred at his tomb.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 45: 30

Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et principem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum.

(Ps. 131: 1) Meménto, Dómine, David: et omnis mansuetúdinis ejus. Glória Patri et Filio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculórum. Amen. Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et principem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum.

COLLECT

Deus, qui cónspicis, quia ex nulla nostra virtúte subsistimus: concéde propítius; ut, intercessióne beáti Martíni Confessoris tui atque Pontificis, contra ómnia advérsa muniámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Mennas, Martyr.)

Præsta, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut, qui beáti Mennæ Mátyris tui natalítia cólimus, intercessióne ejus, in tui nóminis amóre roborémur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

LESSON

Ecclesiasticus 44: 16-27; 45: 3-20

Ecce sacérdos magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo, et invéntus est justus: et in témpore iracúndiæ factus est reconciliátió. Non est invéntus símilis illi, qui conservávit legem Excélsi. Ideo jurejurándo fecit illum Dóminus créscere in plebem suam. Benedictiónem ómnium géntium dedit illi, et testaméntum suum confirmávit super caput ejus. Agnóvit eum in benedictiónibus suis: conservávit illi misericórdiam suam: et invenit grátiam coram óculis Dómini. Magnificávit eum in conspéctu regum: et dedit illi corónam glóriæ. Státuit illi testaméntum aetérnum, et dedit illi sacerdotium magnum: et beatificávit illum in glória. Fungi sacerdotio, et habére laudem in nómine ipsíus, et offerre illi incensum dignum in odórem suavitátis.

GRADUAL Ecclesiasticus 44: 16

Ecce sacérdos magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo. (Ecclus. 44: 20) Non est invéntus símilis illi, qui conserváret legem Excélsi.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. Beátus vir, sanctus Martínus, urbis Turónis Epíscopus, requiévit: quem suscéperunt Angeli atque Archángeli, Throni, Dominatiónes et Virtútes. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Luke 11: 33-36

In illo témpore: Dixit Iesus discipulis suis: Nemo lucérnam accéndit, et in abscondito ponit, neque sub módio: sed supra candelábrum, ut, qui ingrediúntur, lumen vídeant. Lucérna corpóris tui est óculus tuus. Si óculus tuus fúerit simplex, totum corpus tuum lúcidum erit: si autem nequam fúerit, étiam corpus tuum tenebrósum erit. Vide ergo, ne lumen, quod in te est, ténebræ sint. Si ergo corpus tuum totum lúcidum fúerit, non habens áliquam partem tenebrárum, erit lúcidum totum, et sicut lucérna fulgóris illuminábit te.

OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 25

Véritas mea et misericórdia mea cum ipso: et in nómine meo exaltábitur cornu ejus.

SECRET

Sanctífica, quæsumus, Dómine Deus, hæc múnera, quæ in sollemnitate sancti Antístitis tui Martíni offérimus: ut per ea vita nostra inter advérsa et próspéra ubíque dirigátur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Mennas, Martyr.)

Munéribus nostris, quæsumus, Dómine, precibúsq; 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 saecula saeculórum.

COMMUNION Matthew 24: 46-47

Beátus servus, quem, cum vénerit dóminus, invénerit vigilántem: amen, dico vobis, super ómnia bona sua constítuet eum.

POSTCOMMUNION

Præsta, quæsumus, Dómine, Deus noster: ut, quorum festivitate votiva sunt sacramenta, eorum intercessióne salutária nobis reddántur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

(Commemoration of St. Mennas, Martyr.)

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

The Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever. (Ps. 131: 1) O Lord, remember David: and all his meekness. 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. The Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever.

O God, Who knowest that we exist by no power of our own: mercifully grant that, by the intercession of blessed Martin, Thy Confessor and Bishop, we be strengthened against all adversities. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God: that we, who celebrate the heavenly birthday of Mennas, Thy Martyr, may, through his intercession, be strengthened in the love of Thy Name. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God, and was found just; and in the time of wrath was made a reconciliation. There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High. Therefore by an oath the Lord made him increase among his people. He gave him the blessing of all nations, and confirmed His covenant upon his head. He acknowledged him in His blessings: He preserved for him His mercy: and he found grace before the eyes of the Lord. He glorified him in the sight of kings, and gave him a crown of glory. He made an everlasting covenant with him; and gave him a great priesthood; and made him blessed in glory. To execute the office of the priesthood and to have praise in his name, and to offer to him worthy incense for an odor of sweetness.

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God. (Ecclus. 44: 20) There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High.

Alleluia, alleluia. The blessed man, St. Martin, bishop of Tours, hath gone to rest, and angels and archangels, thrones, dominations, and powers have received him. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: No man lighteth a candle, and putteth it in a hidden place, nor under a bushel: but upon a candlestick, that they that come in may see the light. The light of thy body is thine eye. If thine eye be single, thy whole body will be lightsome; but if it be evil, thy body also will be darksome. Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness. If then thy whole body be lightsome, having no part of darkness, the whole shall be lightsome, and as a bright lamp shall enlighten thee.

My truth and My mercy shall be with him: and in My name shall his horn be exalted.

Hallow, we beseech Thee, O Lord God, these gifts, which we offer on the festival of Thy holy Bishop Martin: that through them our life may always be guided both in prosperity and in 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.

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.

Blessed is that servant, whom when his Lord shall come he shall find watching: amen I say to you, he shall place him over all his goods.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord our God, that through the intercession of the Saints, the Sacraments we have celebrated on their festival may avail us unto salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

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.