

NOVEMBER 14, ST. JOSAPHAT, BISHOP & MARTYR

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St. Josaphat was a monk of the Order of St. Basil, and afterward Archbishop of Polotsk, in Poland. His labors for the union of the Ruthenian Church with that of Rome are almost incredible. After a youth of singular innocence mortified by voluntary penance, Josaphat, remembering the powerful support lent to the orthodox cause by the monastic orders, entered religion, and, with the help of Velamin Rutski, devoted himself to the restoration of the rule of St. Basil.

As Superior of a monastery, the saint had succeeded in keeping his disciples free from any schismatic taint: so, too, as metropolitan he devoted himself to the conquest of error with ardent and enlightened charity. He gave to all the example of a holy life, and labored for souls by preaching, by teaching the catechism, and by the distribution of controversial works. As a result of his zeal many schismatics were reconciled to the Catholic Church. His opponents at last resolved to take his life, and he suffered martyrdom at their hands with great courage and serenity at the age of forty-three years.

In 1642, Urban VIII placed his name in the ranks of the Blessed, and Pius IX, on June 29, 1867, on the occasion of the centenary of the Princes of the Apostles, canonized the zealous champion of the Primacy of the Roman Church. The Ruthenians celebrate his feast on September 16.

INTROIT

Gaudeámus omnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beáti Jósaphat Mátyris: de cujus passióne gaudent Ángeli et colláudant Fílium Dei. (Ps. 32: 1) Exsultáte, justí, in Dómino: rectos decet collaudátio. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Gaudeámus omnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beáti Jósaphat Mátyris: de cujus passióne gaudent Ángeli et colláudant Fílium Dei.

COLLECT

Excíta, quæsumus, Dómine, in Ecclésia tua Spíritum, quo replétus beátus Jósaphat Martyr et Póntifex tuus ánimam suam pro óvibus pósuit: ut, eo intercedénte, nos quoque eódem Spíritu moti ac roboráti, ánimam nostram pro frátribus pónere non vereámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte ejúsdem Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE Hebrews 5: 1-6

Fratres: Omnis póntifex ex homínibus assúptus, pro homínibus constitúitur in iis, quæ sunt ad Deum, ut offerat dona, et sacrificia pro peccátis: qui condolére possit iis, qui ignorant et errant: quóniam et ipse circúmdatus est infirmitáte: et propterea debet, quemádmódum pro pópulo, ita étiam et pro semetípso offerre pro peccátis. Nec quisquam sumit sibi honórem, sed qui vocátur a Deo, tamquam Aaron. Sic et Christus non semetípsum clarificávit, ut póntifex fieret: sed qui locútus est ad eum: Fílius meus es tu, ego hódie genui te. Quemádmódum et in álio loco dicit: Tu es sacerdos in ætérnum, secúndum órđinem Melchisedech.

GRADUAL Psalms 88: 21-23

Inveni David servum meum, óleo sancto meo unxi eum: manus enim mea auxiliábitur ei, et bráchium meum confortábit eum. Nihil proficiet inimicus in eo, et filius iniquitátis non nocébit ei.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. Hic est sacerdos, quem coronávit Dóminus. Allelúja.

GOSPEL John 10: 11-16

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus pharisæis: Ego sum pastor bonus. Bonus pastor ánimam suam dat pro óvibus suis. Mercennarius autem, et qui non est pastor, cujus non sunt oves própriæ, videt lupum veniéntem, et dimíttit oves et fugit: et lupus rapit et dispérgit oves; mercennarius autem fugit, quia mercennarius est et non pértinet ad eum de óvibus. Ego sum pastor bonus: et cognóscó meas et cognóscunt me meæ. Sicut novit me Pater, et ego agnóscó Patrem, et ánimam meam pono pro óvibus meis. Et alias oves hábeo, quæ non sunt ex hoc ovíli: et illas opórtet me addúcere, et vocem meam áudient, et fiet unum ovíle et unus pastor.

OFFERTORY John 15: 13

Majórem caritátem nemo habet, ut ánimam suam ponat quis pro amícis suis.

SECRET

Clementíssime Deus, múnera hæc tua benedictióne perfunde, et nos in fide confirma: quam sanctus Jósaphat Martyr et Póntifex tuus, effúso sanguíne, asséruit. Per Dómino nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION John 10: 14

Ego sum pastor bonus: et cognóscó oves meas et cognóscunt me meæ.

POSTCOMMUNION

Spíritum, Dómine, fortitúdinis hæc nobis tríbuat mensa cæléstis: quæ sancti Jósaphat Mátyris tui atque Pontíficis vitam pro Ecclésiæ honóre júgiter áluit ad victóriam. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a festal day in honor of the blessed Josaphat the Martyr: at whose martyrdom the Angels rejoice, and praise the Son of God. (Ps. 32: 1) Rejoice in the Lord, O ye just: praise becometh the upright. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Let us all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a festal day in honor of the blessed Josaphat the Martyr: at whose martyrdom the Angels rejoice, and praise the Son of God.

Stir up in Thy Church, O Lord, the spirit with which blessed Josaphat, Thy martyr and bishop, was filled when he laid down his life for us his sheep, so that, by his intercession, we, also, may be moved and strengthened by the same Spirit, and may not fear to lay down our lives for our brethren. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Brethren: For every high priest taken from among men, is ordained for men in the things that appertain to God, that he may offer up gifts and sacrifices for sins: who can have compassion on them that are ignorant and that err: because he himself also is compassed with infirmity. And therefore he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. Neither doth any man take the honour to himself, but he that is called by God, as Aaron was. So Christ also did not glorify Himself, that He might be made a high priest: but He that said unto Him: Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten Thee. As He saith also in another place: Thou art a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchisedech.

I have found David My servant: with My holy oil I have anointed him; for My hand shall help him, and My arm shall strengthen him. The enemy shall have no advantage over him, and the son of iniquity shall not hurt him.

Alleluia, alleluia. This is the priest whom the Lord hath crowned. Alleluia.

At that time: Jesus said to the Pharisees: I am the Good Shepherd. The good shepherd giveth his life for his sheep. But the hireling, and he that is not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and flieth: and the wolf catcheth, and scattereth the sheep: And the hireling flieth, because he is a hireling: and he hath no care for the sheep. I am the Good Shepherd; and I know Mine, and Mine know Me. As the Father knoweth Me, and I know the Father: and I lay down My life for My sheep. And other sheep I have, that are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd.

Greater love than this no man hath, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

O most merciful God, pour Thy blessing over these our offerings and confirm us in the Faith, which St. Josaphat, Thy martyr and bishop, upheld by the shedding of his blood. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

I am the good Shepherd: and I know My sheep, and Mine know Me.

May this heavenly table, O Lord, impart to us the spirit of fortitude which constantly nourished the life of St. Josaphat, Thy martyr and bishop, unto victory for the honor of the Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.