

INTROIT Wisdom 18: 14-15

Dum médium siléntium tenérent ómnia, et nox in suo cursu médium iter habéret, omnipotens sermo tuus, Dómine, de cælis, a regálibus sédibus venit. (Ps. 92: 1) Dóminus regnávit, decórem indútus est: indútus est Dóminus fortitúdinem, et præcínxit se. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Dum médium siléntium tenérent ómnia, et nox in suo cursu médium iter habéret, omnipotens sermo tuus, Dómine, de cælis, a regálibus sédibus venit.

COLLECT

Omnípotens sempitérne Deus, dírige actus nostros in beneplácito tuo: ut in nómine dilécti Fílii tui mereámur bonis opéribus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For St. Stephen)

Da nobis, quæsumus, Dómine, imitári quod cólimus: ut discámus et inimícos díligere; quia ejus natalítia celebrámus, qui novit étiam pro persecutóribus exoráre Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE Galatians 4: 1-7

Fratres: Quanto témpore heres párvulus est, nihil differt a servo, cum sit dóminus ómnium: sed sub tutóribus et actóribus est usque ad præfínitum tempus a patre: ita et nos, cum essémus párvuli, sub eleméntis mundi erámus serviéntes. At ubi venit plenitúdo témporis, misit Deus Fílium suum factum ex muliere, factum sub lege, ut eos, qui sub lege erant, redímeret, ut adoptiónem filiórú recipérémus. Quóniam autem estis filii, misit Deus Spíritum Fílii sui in corda vestra, clamántem: Abba, Pater. Itaque jam non est servus, sed fílius, quod si filius: et heres per Deum.

GRADUAL Psalms 44: 3, 2

Speciósus forma præ filiis hóinum: diffúsa est grátia in lábiis tuis. Eructávit cor meum verbum bonum; dico ego ópera mea Regi: lingua mea cálamus scribæ velóciter scribéntis.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 92: 1

Allelúja, allelúja. Dóminus regnávit, decórem índuit: índuit Dóminus fortitúdinem, et præcínxit se virtúte. Allelúja.

GOPEL Luke 2: 33-40

In illo témpore: Erat Joseph, et Maria mater Jesu, mirántes super his quæ dicebántur de illo. Et benedixit illis Símeon, et dixit ad Maríam matrem ejus: Ecce pósitus est hic in ruínam et in resurrecciónem multórum in Israël: et in signum cui contradicétur: et tuam ipsíus ánimam pertransíbit gládius ut reveléntur ex multis córdibus cogitatiónes. Et erat Anna prophetíssa, fília Phánuel, de tribu Aser, hæc procésserat in diébus multis, et vixerat cum viro suo annis septem a virginitate sua. Et hæc vídua usque ad annos octogínta quátuor: quæ non discedébat de templo, jejúniis et obsecratióibus sérvians nocte ac die. Et hæc, ipsa hora supervénit, confitebátur Dómino, et loquebátur de illo omnibus, qui exspectábant redemptiónem Israël. Et ut perfecérunt ómnia secúndum legem Dómini, revérsi sunt in Galiléam, in civitátem suam Náza-reth. Puer autem crescébat, et confortabátur, plenus sapiéntia: et gratia Dei erat in illo.

OFFERTORY Psalms 92: 1, 2

DEUS firmávit orbem terræ, qui non commovébitur: paráta sedes tua, Deus, ex tunc, a sæculo tu es.

SECRET

Concéde, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut óculis tuæ majestátis munus oblátum et grátiam nobis piæ devotiónis obtíneat, et efféctum beátæ perennitátis acquirat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For St. Stephen)

Súscipe, Dómine, múnera pro tuórum commemoratióne Sanctórum: ut, sicut illos pássio glorióso effécit; ita nos devótió reddat innóculos.. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE NATIVITY

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubíque grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, ætérne Deus. Quia per incarnáti Verbi mystérium, nova mentis nostræ óculis lux tuæ claritátis infúlsit: ut dum visibíliter Deus cognóscimus, per hunc in invisibílium amórem rapiámur. Et ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dóminatióibus, cumque omni milítia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNICANTES FOR CHRISTMAS

Communicántes, et noctem sacratíssimam celebrátes, quo beátæ Maríæ intemeráta virgíntas huic mundo édídít Salvatórem: sed et memóriam venerántes, in primis ejúsdem gloriósæ semper Vírginis Maríæ, Genetrícis ejúsdem Dei et Dómini nostri Jesu Christi: sed et beáti Joséphi, ejúsdem Vírginis sponsi, et beatórum Apostolórum ac Máryrum tuórum, Petri et Pauli, Andréæ, Jacóbi, Joánnis, Thomæ, Jacóbi, Philíppi, Bartholomæi, Matthæi, Simónis et Thaddæi: Lini, Cleti, Cleméntis, Xysti, Cornélii, Cypriáni, Lauréntii, Chrysógoni, Joánnis et Pauli, Cosmæ et Damiáni: et ómnium Sanctórum tuórum; quorum méritis, precibúsq; concédas, ut in ómnibus protectiúnis tuæ muniámur auxilió. Per eúndem Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

COMMUNION Matthew 2: 20

Tolle púerum, et matrem ejus, et vade in terram Israël: defúncti sunt enim, qui quærébant ánimam púeri.

POSTCOMMUNION

Per hujus, Dómine, operatiónem mystérii et vítia nostra purgéntur, et justa desidéria compleántur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For St. Stephen)

Auxiliéntur nobis, Dómine, sumpta mystéria: et, intercedénte beáto Stéphano Márytre tuo, sempitérna protectiúnem obtineánt. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

While all things were in quiet silence, and the night was in the midst of her course, Thine almighty Word, O Lord, leaped down from heaven from Thy royal throne. (Ps. 92: 1) The Lord hath reigned, He is clothed with beauty: the Lord is clothed with strength, and hath girded Himself. 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. While all things were in quiet silence, and the night was in the midst of her course, Thine almighty Word, O Lord, leaped down from heaven from Thy royal throne.

Almighty and everlasting God, direct our actions according to Thy good pleasure that in the Name of Thy beloved Son we may deserve to abound in good works: Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Grant us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to imitate what we venerate, that we may learn to love even our enemies; for we celebrate the birth to life everlasting of him who knew how to pray even for his persecutors to our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son: Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Brethren, As long as the heir is a child, he differs nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all: but is under tutors and governors until the time appointed by the father: so we also, when we were children, were serving under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, that He might redeem them who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because you are sons, God hath sent the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying: Abba, Father. Therefore now he is not a servant, but a son, and if a son, an heir also through God.

Thou art beautiful above the sons of men: grace is poured abroad in Thy lips. My heart hath uttered a good word, I speak my words to the king: my tongue is the pen of a scrivener, that writes swiftly.

Alleluia, alleluia. The Lord hath reigned, He is clothed with beauty: the Lord is clothed with strength, and hath girded Himself with might. Alleluia.

At that time Joseph and Mary, the mother of Jesus, were wondering at those things which were spoken concerning Him, And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His Mother: Behold this child is set for the fall and for the resurrection of many in Israel: and for a sign which shall be contradicted: and thine own soul a sword shall pierce, that out of many hearts thoughts may be revealed. And there was one Anna a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser. She was far advanced in years, and had lived with her husband seven years from her virginity. And she was a widow until fourscore and four years: who departed not from the temple, by fastings and prayers serving night and day. Now she, at the same hour, coming in, confessed to the Lord: and spoke of Him to all that looked for the redemption of Israel. And after they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to the city of Nazareth. And the Child grew and waxed strong, full of wisdom: and the grace of God was in Him.

God hath established the world, which shall not be moved: Thy throne, O God, is prepared from of old; Thou art from everlasting.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that the offering made in the sight of Thy Majesty may obtain for us the grace of loving devotion, and the reward of a blessed eternity. 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, O Lord, our gifts, in commemoration of Thy Saints: that as suffering made them glorious, so our devotion may render us innocent. 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: for through the Mystery of the word made flesh, the new light of Thy glory hath shone upon the eyes of our mind, so that while we acknowledge God in visible form, we may through Him be drawn to the love of things invisible. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dóminations, and with the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

Communicating, and keeping this most holy night, in which the spotless virginity of blessed Mary brought forth a Savior to this world; and also reverencing the memory of the same glorious Mary, ever Virgin Mother of the same our God and Lord Jesus Christ: as also of blessed Joseph, her Spouse, and of Thy blessed Apostles and Martyrs, Peter and Paul, Andrew, James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Thaddeus; Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Lawrence, Chrysogonus, John and Paul, Cosmas and Damian, and of all Thy Saints, through whose merits and prayers grant that we may in all things be defended by the help of Thy protection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Take the Child and His Mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead who sought the life of the Child.

By the working of this Mystery, O Lord, may our vices be cleansed, and our just desires fulfilled. 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 mysteries we have received, O Lord, help us, and through the intercession of blessed Stephen, Thy Martyr, establish us by Thine everlasting protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.