

SATURDAY AFTER THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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This Saturday is called *Sitiētes* from the opening words of the Introit. Since the time of Pope Gelasius (492-496) it has been a day for conferring Holy Orders, and was therefore once a day of great fast, extending through the night.

The Gospel teaches us that if the house of God on earth is not to be turned into a house of traffickers - still less can we purchase our entrance into heaven. We are to drink with joy from the fountains of grace which flow from the blessed Eucharist.

INTROIT Isaiah 55: 1

Sitiētes, venite ad aquas, dicit Dóminus: et qui non habētis prētium, veníte et bibite cum lætítia. (Ps. 77: 1) Attēdite, pópule meus, legem meam: inclináte aurem vestram in verba oris mei. Glória Patri et Filio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Sitiētes, venite ad aquas, dicit Dóminus: et qui non habētis prētium, veníte et bibite cum lætítia.

COLLECT

Fiat, Dómine, quæsumus, per grátiam tuam fructuósus nostræ devotiónis afféctus: quia tunc nobis próderunt suscēpta jejúnia, si tuæ sint plácita pietáti. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For St. Francis of Paula

Deus, humílium celsitúdo, qui beátum Francíscum Confessórem Sanctórum tuórum glória sublimásti: tríbue, quæsumus; ut, ejus méritis et imitatióne, promíssa humílibus præmia feliciter consequámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Isaiah 49: 8-15

Hæc dicit Dóminus: In témpore plácito exaudívi te, et in die salútis auxiliátus sum tui: et servávi te, et dedi te in foedus pópuli, ut suscitáres terram, et possidéres hereditátes dissipátas: ut díceres his, qui vincíti sunt: Exíte: et his, qui in ténebris: Revelámini. Super vias pascéntur, et in ómnibus planis páscua eórum. Non esúrient neque sítient, et non percútiēt eos æstus et sol: quia miserátor eórum reget eos, et ad fontes aquárum potábit eos. Et ponam omnes montes meos in viam, et sémitæ meæ exaltábuntur. Ecce, isti de longe vénient, et ecce illi ab aquilóne et mari, et isti de terra austráli. Laudáte, cæli, et exsúlta, terra, jubilate, montes, laudem: quia consolátus est Dóminus pópulum suum, et páuperum suórum miserébitur. Et dixit Sion: Derelíquit me Dóminus, et Dóminus oblítus est mei. Numquid oblivísci potest múlier infántem suum, ut non misereátur filio úteri sui? et si illa oblíta fúerit, ego tamen non oblivíscar tui, dicit Dóminus omnípotens.

GRADUAL Psalms 9: 14, 1-2

Tibi, Dómine, derelíctus est pauper: pupílló tu eris adjútor. Ut quid, Dómine, recessísti longe, déspicis in opportunitátibus, in tribulatióne? dum superbit impius, incénditur pauper.

GOSPEL John 8: 12-20

In illo témpore: Locútus est Jesus turbis Judæórum, dicens: Ego sum lux mundi: qui séquitur me, non ámbulat in ténebris, sed habébit lumen vitæ. Dixérunt ergo ei pharisæi: Tu de te ipso testimónium pérhibes: testimónium tuum non est verum. Respóndit Jesus et dixit eis: Et si ego testimónium perhíbeo de meípso, verum est testimónium meum: quia scio, unde veni et quo vado: vos autem nescítis, unde vénio aut quo vado. Vos secúndum carnem judicátis: ego non júdico quemquam: et si júdico ego, júdícium meum verum est, quia solus non sum: sed ego et, qui misit me, Pater. Et in lege vestra scriptum est, quia duórum hóminum testimónium verum est. Ego sum, qui testimónium perhíbeo de meípso: et testimónium perhíbet de me, qui misit me, Pater. Dicébant ergo ei: Ubi est Pater tuus? Respóndit Jesus: Neque me scítis neque Patrem meum: si me sciretis, fórsitan et Patrem meum scirétis. Hæc verba locútus est Jesus in gazophylácio, docens in templo: et nemo apprehéndit eum, quia necdum vénerat hora ejus.

OFFERTORY Psalms 17: 3

Factus est Dóminus firmaméntum meum, et refúgium meum, et liberátor meus: et sperábo in eum.

SECRET

Oblatióibus nostris, quæsumus, Dómine, placáre suscēptis: et ad te nostras etiam rebélles compélle propítius voluntátes. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For St. Francis of Paula

Hæc dona devótæ plebis, Dómine, - quibus tua devotámus altária, beáti Francisci méritis tibi grata nobisque salutária, te miseránte, reddántur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF LENT

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus: Qui corporáli jejúnio vítia cóprimis, mentem élevas, virtútem largírís et præmia: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Potestátes. Cæli cælórumque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia exultatióne concélebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces ut admítti júbeas, deprecámur, súpplici confessióne dicéntes:

COMMUNION Psalms 22: 1-2

Dóminus regit me, et nihil mihi déerit: in loco páscuæ ibi me collocávit: super aquam refectiúnis educávit me.

POSTCOMMUNION

Tua nos, quæsumus, Dómine, sancta puríficent: et operatióne sua tibi plácitos esse perficiant. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For St. Francis of Paula

Sumpta, Dómine, sacraménta cæléstia: beáto Francíscó Confessóre tuo intercedénte, precámur; ut et temporális vitæ subsídia nobis mereremur et ætérnæ. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Humiliáte cápita vestra Deo.

Deus, qui sperántibus in te miseréri pótius éligis quam irasci: da nobis digne flere mala, quæ fécimur; ut tuæ consolatiónis grátiam inveníre mereámur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

All you who thirst, come to the waters, says the Lord: and you who have no money, come and drink with joy. (Ps. 77: 1) Harken, My people, to My law; incline your ears to the words of My mouth. 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. All you who thirst, come to the waters, says the Lord: and you who have no money, come and drink with joy.

Make fruitful, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the zeal of our fervent devotion; for only if it pleases Thee shall the fasting we have undertaken be of benefit to 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.

O God, Who in exalting the lowly hast raised the blessed confessor Francis to the glory of the saints, grant, we beseech Thee, that, by his merits and our imitation of him, we may happily attain to the rewards promised to the humble. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Thus says the Lord: In a time of favor I answer you, on the day of salvation I help you, to restore the land and allot the desolate heritages, saying to the prisoners: Come out! to those in darkness: Show yourselves! Along the ways they shall find pasture, on every bare height shall their pastures be. They shall not hunger or thirst, nor shall the scorching wind or the sun strike them; for he who pities them leads them and guides them beside springs of water. I will cut a road through all My mountains, and make My highways level. See, some shall come from afar, others from the north and the west, and some from the land of Syene. Sing out, O heavens, and rejoice, O earth, break forth into song, you mountains. For the Lord comforts His people and shows mercy to His afflicted. But Sion said, The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me. Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you, says the Lord almighty.

To Thee, O Lord, is the poor man left: Thou will be a help to the orphan. Why, O Lord, hast Thou retired afar off; why dost Thou slight us in our wants in time of trouble? While the wicked man is proud, the poor is set on fire.

At that time, Jesus spoke to the multitudes of the Jews, saying, I am the light of the world. He who follows Me does not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life. The Pharisees therefore said to Him, You bear witness to Yourself. Your witness is not true. Jesus answered and said to them, Even if I bear witness to Myself, My witness is true, because I know where I came from and where I go. But you do not know where I came from or where I go. You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. And even if I do judge, My judgment is true, because I am not alone, but with Me is He Who sent Me, the Father. And in your Law it is written that the witness of two persons is true. It is I Who bear witness to Myself, and He Who sent Me, the Father, bears witness to Me. They therefore said to Him, Where is your Father? Jesus answered, You know neither Me nor My Father. If you knew Me, you would then know My Father also. Jesus spoke these words in the treasury, while teaching in the temple. And no one seized Him, because His hour had not yet come.

The Lord is become my rock, my fortress, my deliverer; and in Him will I put my trust.

Graciously accept our offerings, O Lord, we beseech Thee, and mercifully direct our still rebellious wills to Thee. 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 these offerings of a devout people with which we heap Thine altars, O Lord, be rendered pleasing to Thee by the merits of blessed Francis, and, by Thy mercy, salutary to 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.

It is truly fitting and just, proper and beneficial, that we should always and everywhere, give thanks unto Thee, holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God. Who by this bodily fast, dost curb our vices, dost lift up our minds and bestow on us strength and rewards; through Christ our Lord. Through whom the Angels praise Thy majesty, the Dominations adore, the Powers tremble: the heavens and the hosts of heaven, and the blessed Seraphim, together celebrate in exultation. With whom, we pray Thee, command that our voices of supplication also be admitted in confessing Thee saying:

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures He gives me repose; beside restful waters He leads me.

May Your holy sacrament cleanse us, we beseech You, O Lord, and may its power make us pleasing to You. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

We pray Thee, O Lord, that the heavenly sacrament we have received may by the intercession of blessed Francis, Thy confessor, bestow on us the aids both of temporal and of life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Bow your heads to God.

O God, Who would rather show mercy than anger toward those who hope in Thee, make us truly sorry for the evil we have done, that we may be worthy of Thy merciful consolation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.