

PASSION SUNDAY

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The Mass of this Sunday is entirely dominated by the memory of the Sacrifice on Golgotha, and is one of the most beautiful and pathetic in the whole Roman Antiphony. Beginning with today's Mass, the concluding doxology (the *Gloria Patri...*) is omitted until Easter. Psalm 42 (*Judica me*) is sung at the Introit, and is therefore omitted during the prayers at the foot of the altar. It will not be heard again there until Easter.

The communion verse (1 Cor. 11: 24-25) expresses the union of the daily sacrifice with the Passion of our Lord. The liturgical celebration of the Passion begins today; the words of St. Paul (as adapted by the Church) emphasize the commemoration of the sufferings and death of Christ in every reception of Holy Communion.

The whole Christian life (as St. Ambrose remarked) is linked through its sufferings, austerities, self-denials and sacrifices, with the singular sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The whole work of salvation is the continuation and completion of the mystery of our Savior's death and resurrection. His sacrifice sanctifies and consecrates all our sacrifices and makes of them one offering before God.

INTROIT Psalms 42: 1-2

Júdica me, Deus, et discérne causam meam de gente non sancta: ab hómine iníquo et dolóso éripe me: quia tu es Deus meus et fortitúdo mea. (Ps. 42: 3) Emítte lucem tuam et veritátem tuam: ipsa me deduxérunt, et adduxérunt in montem sanctum tuum, et in tabernácula tua. Júdica me, Deus, et discérne causam meam de gente non sancta: ab hómine iníquo et dolóso éripe me: quia tu es Deus meus et fortitúdo mea.

COLLECT

Quæsumus, omnípotens Deus, famíliam tuam propítius réspice: ut, te largiénte, regátur in córpore; et, te servánte, custodiátur in mente. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE Hebrews 9: 11-15

Fratres: Christus assistens póntifex futurórum bonórum, per ámplius et perféctius tabernáculum non manufáctum, id est, non hujus creatiónis: neque per sánguinem hircórum aut vitulórum, sed per próprium sánguinem introívit semel in Sancta, ætérra redemptióne invénta. Si enim sanguis hircórum et taurórum, et cinis vitulæ aspérsus, inquinátos sanctíficat ad emundatióem carnis: quanto magis sanguis Christi, qui per Spíritum Sanctum semetípsum obtulit immaculátum Deo, emundábit consciéntiam nostram ab opéribus mórtuis, ad serviéndum Deo vivénti? Et ideo novi testaménti mediátor est: ut morte intercedénte, in redemptiónem eárum prævaricatiónum, quæ erant sub prióri testaménto, repromissionem accípiant, qui vocáti sunt ætérræ hereditátis: in Christo Jesu Dómino nostro.

GRADUAL

Psalms 142: 9-10; 17: 48-49

Éripe me, Dómine, de inimicis meis: doce me fácere voluntátem tuam. Liberátor meus, Dómine, de géntibus iracúndis: ab insurgéntibus in me exaltábis me: a viro iníquo erípies me.

TRACT Psalms 128: 1-4

Sæpe expugnáverunt me a juventúte mea. Dicat nunc Israël: sæpe expugnáverunt me a juventúte mea. Étenim non potuérunt mihi: supra dorsum meum fabricáverunt peccatóres. Prolongáverunt iniquitátes suas: Dóminus justus concidet cervices peccatórum.

GOSPEL John 8: 46-59

In illo tēmpore: Dicébat Jesus turbis Judæórum: Quis ex vobis árguet me de peccáto? Si veritátem dico vobis, quare non créditis mihi? Qui ex Deo est, verba Dei audit. Proptérea vos non audítis, quia ex Deo non estis. Respondérunt ergo Judæi, et dixérunt ei: Nonne bene dícimus nos, quia Samaritánus es tu, et dæmónium habes? Respóndit Jesus: Ego dæmónium non hábeo: sed honorífico Patrem meum, et vos inhonorástis me. Ego autem non quæro glóriam meam: est qui quærat, et júdicet. Amen, amen dico vobis: si quis sermónem meum serváverit, mortis non vidébit in ætérrum. Dixérunt ergo Judæi: Nunc cognóvimus quia dæmónium habes. Abraham mórtuus est, et prophétæ: et tu dícis: Si quis sermónem meum serváverit, non gustábit mortem in ætérrum. Numquid tu major es patre nostro Abraham, qui mórtuus est? et prophétæ mórtui sunt. Quem téipsum facis? Respóndit Jesus: Si ego glorífico meípsum, glória mea nihil est: est Pater meus, qui glorificat me, quem vos dicitis quia Deus vester est, et non cognovístis deum: ego autem novi eum: et si díxero quia non scio eum, ero simílis vobis, mendax. Sed scio eum, et sermónem ejus servo. Abraham pater vester exsultávit ut vidéret diem meum: vidit, et gavísus est. Dixérunt ergo Judæi ad eum: Quinquaginta annos nondum habes, et Abraham vidísti? Dixit eis Jesus: Amen, amen dico vobis, ántequam Abraham fieret, ego sum. Tulérunt ergo lápides, ut jácerent in eum: Jesus autem abscondit se, et exívit de templo.

OFFERTORY Psalms 118: 17, 107

Confitébor tibi, Dómine, in toto corde meo: retribue servo tuo, vivam et custódiam sermónes tuos: vivífica me secúndum verbum tuum, Dómine.

SECRET

Hæc múnera, quæsumus, Dómine, et víncula nostræ pravitátis absólvant, et tuæ nobis misericórdiæ dona concíliant. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE HOLY CROSS

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubíque grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérra Deus: Qui salútem humáni géneris in ligno Crucis constituísti: ut unde mors oriebátur, índitáretur: et, qui in ligno vincébat, in ligno quoque vincerétur: per Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adórant Dominatiónes, tremunt Potestátes. Cæli cælórumque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia exsultatióne concélebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces ut admitti jubeas, deprecámur, súplici confessióne dicéntes:

COMMUNION

1 Corinthians 11: 24, 25

Hoc corpus, quod pro vobis tradétur: hic calix novi testaménti est in meo ságuine, dicit Dóminus: hoc fácite, commémoratióem.

POSTCOMMUNION

Adéstó nobis, Dómine Deus noster, et quos tuis mystériis recreásti, perpétuis defunde subsidiis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Judge me, O God, and distinguish my cause from the nation that is not holy: deliver me from the unjust and deceitful man, for Thou art my God and my strength. (Ps. 42: 3) Send forth Thy light and Thy truth: they have conducted me, and brought me unto Thy holy hill, and into Thy tabernacles. Judge me, O God, and distinguish my cause from the nation that is not holy: deliver me from the unjust and deceitful man, for Thou art my God and my strength.

Look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, O Lord, upon Thy family; by Thy governance may we be outwardly protected in body; by Thy favor may we be inwardly strengthened in heart and mind. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Brethren: Christ being come, a High Priest of the good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is, not of this creation, neither by the blood of goats or of calves, but by His own blood, entered once into the Holies, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and of oxen, and the ashes of a heifer being sprinkled, sanctify such as are defiled, to the cleansing of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the Holy Spirit, offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse our conscience from dead works, to serve the living God? And therefore He is the Mediator of the new Testament; that by means of His death, for the redemption of those transgressions which were under the former Testament, they that are called may receive the promise of eternal inheritance, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord: teach me to do Thy will. Thou art my deliverer, O Lord, from the angry nations: Thou wilt lift me up above them that rise up against me: from the unjust man Thou wilt deliver me.

Often have they fought against me from my youth. Let Israel now say: Often have they fought against me from my youth. But they could not prevail over me: the wicked have wrought upon my back. They have lengthened their iniquities: the Lord, Who is just, will cut the necks of sinners.

At that time, Jesus said to the multitudes of the Jews: Which of you shall convince Me of sin? If I say the truth to you, why do you not believe Me? He that is of God, heareth the words of God. Therefore you hear them not, because you are not of God. The Jews therefore answered, and said to Him: Do not we say well, that Thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil? Jesus answered: I have not a devil, but I honor My Father, and you have dishonored Me. But I seek not My own glory; there is One that seeketh and judgeth. Amen, amen, I say to you, If any man keep My word, he shall not see death for ever. The Jews therefore said: Now we know that Thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and Thou sayest: If any man keep My word, he shall not taste death for ever. Art Thou greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? and the prophets are dead. Whom dost Thou make Thyself? Jesus answered: If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing. It is My Father that glorifieth Me, of Whom you say that He is your God. And you have not known Him; but I know Him. And if I shall say that I know Him not, I shall be like to you, a liar. But I do know Him, and do keep his word. Abraham your father rejoiced that he might see My day: he saw it, and was glad. The Jews therefore said to Him: Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast Thou seen Abraham? Jesus said to them: Amen, amen, I say to you, before Abraham was made, I AM. They took up stones therefore to cast at Him; but Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple.

I will confess to Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart: render to Thy servant: I shall live and keep Thy words: enliven me according to Thy word, O Lord.

May these gifts, we beseech Thee, O Lord, merit for us the loosening of the bonds of our sins, and draw down upon us Thy bounteous mercies.. 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: Who didst establish the salvation of mankind on the tree of the Cross: that whence death came, thence also life might arise again, and that he, who overcame by the tree, by the tree also might be overcome: Through Christ our Lord. Through Whom the Angels praise Thy Majesty, the Dominations worship it, the Powers stand in awe. The Heavens and the Heavenly hosts together with the blessed Seraphim in triumphant chorus unite to celebrate it. With whom, we pray Thee, command that our voices of supplication also be admitted in confessing Thee saying:

This is My Body which shall be delivered for you: this is the chalice of the New Testament in My Blood, saith the Lord: do this, as often as you receive it, in commemoration of Me.

Draw near to us, O Lord our God, and with everlasting succor aid those whom by Thy sacrament Thou hast called to newness of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.