

The story of Daniel in the lion's den read in this Mass was widely known in the early days of Christianity, for it is reproduced in many of the catacombs.

In the Postcommunion we beseech God that our frequency in drawing near to the holy table may be for us both a token and a pledge of our approaching each day nearer to the celestial altar and the eternal prize.

INTROIT Psalms 26: 14

Exspéctá Dóminum, viriliter age: et confortétur cor tuum, et sústine Dóminum. (Ps. 26: 1) Dóminus illuminátio mea et salus mea: quem timebo? Exspéctá Dóminum, viriliter age: et confortétur cor tuum, et sústine Dóminum.

COLLECT

Nostra tibi, Dómine, quæsumus, sint accepta jejúnia: quæ nos et expiándo grátia tua dignos efficiant; et ad remédia perdúcant ætérna. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For St. Vincent

Deus, qui Ecclésiám tuam beáti Vincéntii Confessóris tui méritis et prædicatióne illustráre dignátus es: concéde nobis fámulis tuis; ut et ipsíus instruámur exémpis et ab ómnibus eius patrocínio liberémur advérsis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Daniel 14: 27-42

In diébus illis: Congregáti sunt Babylónii ad regem, et dixérunt ei: Trade nobis Daniélem, qui Bel destrúxit et draconem interfécit, alioquin interficiémus te et domum tuam. Vidit ergo rex, quod irrúerent in eum veheménter: et necessitáte compúlsus trádidit eis Daniélem. Qui misérunt eum in lacum leónum, et erat ibi diébus sex. Porro in lacu erant leones septem, et dabántur eis duo córpora cotídie et duæ oves: et tunc non data sunt eis, ut devorarent Daniélem. Erat autem Hábacuc prophéta in Judæa, et ipse cóxerat pulméntum, et intríverat panes in alvéolo: et ibat in campum, ut ferret messóribus. Dixítque Ángelus Dómini ad Hábacuc: Fer prándium, quod habes, in Babylónem Daniéli, qui est in lacu leónum. Et dixit Hábacuc: Dómine, Babylónem non vidi, et lacum nescio. Et apprehéndit eum Ángelus Dómini in vértice ejus, et portávit eum capillo cápitis sui, posuítque eum in Babylóne supra lacum in impetu spíritus sui. Et clamávit Hábacuc, dicens: Dániel, serve Dei, tolle prándium, quod misit tibi Deus. Et ait Dániel: Recordátus es mei, Deus, et non dereliquísti diligéntes te. Surgénsque Dániel comédit. Porro Ángelus Dómini restituit Hábacuc conféstim in loco suo. Venit ergo rex die séptimo, ut lugéret Daniélem: et venit ad lacum et introspéxit, et ecce Dániel sedens in medio leónum. Et exclamávit voce magna rex, dicens: Magnus es, Dómine, Deus Daniélis. Et extráxit eum de lacu leónum. Porro illos, qui perditiónis ejus causa fúerant, intromísit in lacum, et devoráti sunt in momentis coram eo. Tunc rex ait: Páveant omnes habitántes in univérsta terra Deum Daniélis: quia ipse est salvátor, fáciens signa et mirabília in terra: qui liberávit Daniélem de lacu leónum.

GRADUAL Psalms 42: 1, 3

Discérne causam meam, Dómine: ab hómine iníquo et dolóso éripe me. Emítte lucem tuam et veritátem tuam: ipsa me deduxérunt, et adduxérunt in montem sanctum tuum.

GOSPEL John 7: 1-13

In illo témpore: Ambulábat Jesus in Galilæam, non enim volébat in Judæam, non illáre, quæ quærébant eum Judæi interficere. Erat autem in próximo dies festus Judæórum, Scenopégia. Dixérunt autem ad eum fratres ejus: Transi hinc, et vade in Judæam, ut et discípuli tui vídeant ópera tua, quæ facis. Nemo quippe in occúlto quid facit, et quærit ipse in palam esse: si hæc facis, manifesta teípsum mundo. Neque enim fratres ejus credébant in eum. Dixit ergo eis Jesus: Tempus meum nondum advénit: tempus autem vestrum semper esse parátum. Non potest mundus odísse vos: me autem odit: quia ego testimónium perhibeo de illo, quod ópera ejus mala sunt. Vos ascéndite ad diem festum hunc, ego autem non ascéndo ad diem festum istum: quia meum tempus nondum implétum est. Hæc cum dixisset, ipse mansit in Galilæa. Ut autem ascendérunt fratres ejus, tunc et ipse ascéndit ad diem festum non maniféste, sed quasi in occúlto. Judæi ergo quærébant eum in die festo, et dicébant: Ubi est ille? Et murmur multum erat in turba de eo. Quidam enim dicébant: Quia bonus est. Alii autem dicébant: Non, sed sedúcit turbas. Nemo tamen palam loquebátur de illo, propter metum Judæórum.

OFFERTORY Psalms 9: 11-13

Sperent in te omnes, qui novérunt nomen tuum, Dómine: quóniam non derelínquis quæréntes te: psállite Dómino, qui habitat in Sion: quóniam non est oblítus oratiónes páuperum.

SECRET

Hóstias tibi, Dómine, deférimus immolándas: quæ temporálem consolatiónem signíficent; ut promíssea non desperémus ætérna. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For St. Vincent

Laudis tibi, Dómine, hostias immolámas in tuórum commemoratióne sanctorúm: quibus nos et præsentibus éxui malis confidimus, et futúris. 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 ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus: Qui salútem constituísti: ut unde mors oriebátur, inde vita resúrgeret: et, qui in ligno vincébat, in ligno quoque vincerétur: per Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adórant angélos, ætérne Deus: Qui salútem constituísti: ut unde mors oriebátur, inde vita resúrgeret: et, qui in ligno vincébat, in ligno quoque vincerétur: per Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adórant angélos, ætérne Deus: Qui salútem constituísti: ut unde mors oriebátur, inde vita resúrgeret: et, qui in ligno vincébat, in ligno quoque vincerétur: per Christum, Dóminum nostrum.

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COMMUNION Psalms 24: 22

Rédime me, Deus Israël, ex ómnibus angústias meis.

POSTCOMMUNION

Da, quæsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, quæ divína sunt, jugiter exsequéntes, donis mereámur cæléstibus propinquáre. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For St. Vincent

Refécit tibi, Dómine, hostias immolámas in tuórum commemoratióne sanctorúm: quibus nos et præsentibus éxui malis confidimus, et futúris. 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. Da nobis, quæsumus, Dómine: perseverátem in tua voluntáte persequéntes; ut in diébus nostris, et mérito et número, pópulus tibi sérvians augeátur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Expect the Lord, do manfully: let your heart be strengthened, and wait for the Lord. (Ps. 26: 1) The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? Expect the Lord, do manfully: let your heart be strengthened, and wait for the Lord.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, may our fasts be acceptable to Thee; may they atone for our sins, make us worthy of Thy grace, and lead us to eternal remedies. 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 was pleased to make Thy Church illustrious by the merits and preaching of blessed Vincent, Thy Confessor: grant that we Thy servants may be instructed by his example and be freed from all adversity by his 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.

In those days, the Babylonians went to the king and demanded: Hand over to us Daniel, who has destroyed Bel and killed the dragon, or we will kill you and your family. When he saw himself threatened with violence, the king was forced to hand Daniel over to them.

They threw Daniel into a lions' den, where he remained six days. In the den were seven lions, and two carcasses and two sheep had been given to them daily. But now they were given nothing, so that they would devour Daniel. In Judea there was a prophet, Habacuc; he mixed some bread in a bowl with the stew he had boiled, and was going to bring it to the reapers in the field, when an Angel of the Lord told him, Take the lunch you have to Daniel in the lions' den at Babylon. But Habacuc answered, Babylon, sir, I have never seen, and I do not know the den! The Angel of the Lord seized him by the crown of his head and carried him by the hair; with the speed of the wind, he set him down in Babylon above the den. Daniel, servant of God, cried Habacuc, take the lunch God has sent you. Thou hast remembered me, O God, said Daniel; Thou hast not forsaken those who love Thee. While Daniel began to eat, the Angel of the Lord at once brought Habacuc back to his own place. On the seventh day the king came to mourn for Daniel. As he came to the den and looked in, there was Daniel, sitting in the midst of the lions! The king cried aloud, Thou art great, O Lord, the God of Daniel!

Daniel he took out of the lions' den, but those who had tried to destroy him he threw into the den, and they were devoured in a moment before his eyes. Then the king said: Let all the inhabitants of the whole earth fear the God of Daniel; for He is the Savior, working signs and wonders in the earth, Who has delivered Daniel out of the lions' den.

Distinguish my cause, O Lord: deliver me from the unjust and deceitful man. Send forth Thy light and Thy truth: they have conducted me and brought me unto Thy holy mount.

At that time, Jesus went about in Galilee, for He did not wish to go about in Judea because the Jews were seeking to put Him to death. Now the Jewish feast of Tabernacles was at hand. His brethren therefore said to Him, Leave here and go into Judea that Thy disciples also may see the works that Thou do; for no one does a thing in secret if he wants to be publicly known. If Thou do these things, manifest Thyself to the world. For not even His brethren believed in Him. Jesus therefore said to them, My time has not yet come, but your time is always at hand. The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I bear witness concerning it, that its works are evil. As for you, go up to the feast, but I do not go up to this feast, for My time is not yet fulfilled. When He had said these things He stayed on in Galilee. But as soon as His brethren had gone up to the feast, then He also went up, not publicly, but as it were privately. The Jews therefore were looking for Him at the feast, and were saying, Where is He? And there was much whispering comment among the crowd concerning Him. For some were saying, He is a good man. But others were saying, No, rather He seduces the crowd. Yet for fear of the Jews no one spoke openly of Him.

They trust in Thee who cherish Thy Name, O Lord, for Thou forsake not those who seek Thee. Sing praise to the Lord enthroned in Sion, for He has not forgotten the cry of the afflicted.

We bring Thee, O Lord, to be immolated, the victims which signify the comforts of this life, that we may not despair of the eternal promises. 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 offer Thee, O Lord, sacrifices of praise in commemoration of Thy saints, by whom we trust to be delivered from evils both present and future. 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:

Redeem me, O God of Israel from all my tribulations.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that, ever following those things which are divine, we may be worthy to approach heavenly gifts. 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 Thy suppliants, who are refreshed with heavenly food and drink, beseech Thee, O our God, that we may be fortified by the prayers of him in whose commemoration we have partaken of these gifts. 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. Grant us, we beseech Thee, O Lord persevering service in Thy will: so that, in our days, the people serving Thee may increase both in number and in merit. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.