

VOTIVE MASS IN TIME OF PESTILENCE

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This Mass was commissioned by Pope Clement VI (1291-1352), who was pope from 1342 until his death in 1352. He reigned during the period of the "Black Death" – the plague (1348-1350). This pandemic swept through Asia and the Middle East and into Europe between 1347 and 1350, and is believed to have killed between a third and two-thirds of Europe's population. During the plague, Clement attributed the plague to the divine wrath. This is reflected throughout the Proper for the Mass.

INTROIT 2 Kings 24: 16

Recordáre, Dómine, testaménti tui, et dic Angelo percutiénti: Cesset jam manus tua, et non desolétur terra, et ne perdas omnem ánimam vivéntem. (T.P. Allelúja, allelúja.) (Ps. 79: 2) Qui regis Israëel, inténde: qui dedúcis, velut ovem, Joseph. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Recordáre, Dómine, testaménti tui, et dic Angelo percutiénti: Cesset jam manus tua, et non desolétur terra, et ne perdas omnem ánimam vivéntem. (T.P. Allelúja, allelúja.)

COLLECT

Deus, qui non mortem, sed pœniténtiam desideras peccatórum: pópulum tuum ad te reverténtem propítius réspice; ut, dum tibi devótus exsístit, iracúndiæ tuæ flagélla ab eo cleménter amóveas. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON 2 Kings 24: 15-19, 25

In diébus illis: Immísit Dóminus pestiléntiam in Israëel, de mane usque ad tempus constitútum, et mórtui sunt ex pópulo, a Dan usque ad Bersabée, septuagínta mília virórum. Cumque exténdisset manum suam Angelus Dómini super Jerúsalem, ut dispéderet eam, misértus est Dóminus super afflictióne, et ait Angelo percutiénti pópulum: Súfficit; nunc cóntine manum tuam. Erat autem Angelus Dómini juxta arcam Aréuna Jebusæi. Dixit que David ad Dóminum, cum vidísset Angelum cædéntem pópulum: Ego sum, qui peccávi, ego iníque egi: isti, qui oves sunt, quid fecerunt? Vertátur, óbsecro, manus tua contra me et contra domum patris mei. Venit autem Gad prophéta ad David in die illa, et dixit ei: Ascénde, et constítue altare Dómino in área Aréuna Jebusæi. Et ascéndit David juxta sermónem Gad, quem præcéperat ei Dóminus. Et ædificávit altáre Dómino; et obtulit holocáusta et pacífica: et propitiátus est Dóminus terræ, et cohíbita est plaga ab Israëel.

GRADUAL Psalms 106: 20-21

Misit Dóminus verbum suum, et sanávit eos: et erípuit eos de morte eórum. Confíteántur Dómino misericórdiæ ejus: et mirabília ejus filiis hóminum.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 68: 2

Allelúja, allelúja. Salvum me fac, Deus, quóniam intravérunt aquæ usque ad ánimam meam. Allelúja.

(After Septuagesima the Lesser Allelúia is omitted and the Tract is said instead.)

TRACT Psalms 102: 10

Dómine, non secúndum peccáta nostra, quæ fécimus nos: neque secúndum iniquitátes nostras retríbuas nobis. (Ps. 78: 8-9) Dómine, ne memíneris iniquitátum nostrárum antiquárum: cito anticipent nos misericórdiæ tuæ, quia páuperes facti sumus nimis. Adjuva nos, Deus, salutáris noster: et propter glóriam nóminis tui, Dómine, líbera nos, et propítius esto peccátis nostris, propter nomen tuum.

(In Eastertide, the Gradual, the Lesser Alleluia and the Tract are omitted and the Greater Alleluia is said instead.)

GREATER ALLELUIA Psalms 68: 2

Allelúja, allelúja Salvum me fac, Deus, quóniam intravérunt aquæ usque ad ánimam meam. Allelúja. (Zach. 8: 7, 8) Salvábo pópulum meum Israëel in die malo, et ero eis in Deum, in veritáte et justítia. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Luke 4: 38-44

In illo témpore: Surgens Jesus de synagóga, introívit in domum Simónis. Socrus autem Simónis tenebátur magnis fébribus: et rogavérunt illum pro ea. Et stans super illam, imperávit feбри: et dimísit illam. Et contínuo surgens, ministrábat illis. Cum autem sol occidísset, omnes, qui habébant infirmos váriis languóribus, ducébant illos ad eum. At ille síngulis manus ímponens, curábat eos. Exíbant autem dæmónia a multis, clamántia et dicéntia: Quia tu es Fílius Dei: et íncrepans non sinébat ea loqui, quia sciébat ípsum esse Christum. Facta autem die egréssus íbat in desértum locum, et turbæ requirébant eum, et venerunt usque ad ípsum: et detinébant illum, ne discéderet ab eis. Quibus ille ait: Quia et aliis civitátibus opórtet me evangelizáre regnum Dei: quia ídeo missus sum. Et erat prædicans in synagógis Galilææ.

OFFERTORY Numbers 16: 48

Stetit póntifex inter mórtuos et vivos, habens thuríbulum áureum in manu sua: et offerens incénsi sacrificium, placávit iram Dei, et cessávit quassátio a Dómino. (T.P. Allelúja.)

SECRET

Sacrificiat nobis, quæsumus, Dómine, sacríficii præséntis oblátio: quæ nos et ab erróribus univérsis poténter absolvat, et a totíus erípiat perditiónis incúrsu. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Luke 6: 17, 18, 19

Multítudo languéntium, et qui vexabántur a spíritibus immúndis, veniébant ad eum: quia virtus de illo exíbat, et sanábat omnes. (T.P. Allelúja.)

POSTCOMMUNION

Exáudi nos, Deus, salutáris noster: et pópulum tuum ab iracúndiæ tuæ terróribus líberum, et misericórdiæ tuæ fac largitáte secúrum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Be mindful, O Lord, of Thy covenant, and say to the destroying angel. Now hold thy hand, and let not the land be made desolate, and destroy not every living soul. (P. T. Alleluia, alleluia) (Ps. 79: 2) Give ear, O Thou that rulest Israel: Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep. 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. Be mindful, O Lord, of Thy covenant, and say to the destroying angel. Now hold thy hand, and let not the land be made desolate, and destroy not every living soul. (P. T. Alleluia, alleluia)

O God, Who desirest not the death of sinners, but their repentance, look mercifully upon Thy people when they turn unto Thee, that, while they show devotion to Thee, Thou mayst turn away from them the scourges of Thine anger. 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 Lord sent a pestilence upon Israel, from the morning unto the time appointed, and there died of the people from Dan to Bersabee seventy thousand men. And when the angel of the Lord had stretched out his hand over Jerusalem to destroy it, the Lord had pity on the affliction, and said to the angel that slew the people: It is enough: now hold thy hand. And the angel of the Lord was by the thrashing-floor of Areuna the Jebusite. And David said to the Lord, when he saw the angel striking the people: It is I, I am he that have sinned, I have done wickedly: these that are the sheep, what have they done? Let Thy hand, I beseech Thee, be turned against me, and against my father's house. And Gad came to David that day, and said: Go up, and build an altar to the Lord in the thrashing-floor of Areuna the Jebusite. And David went up according to the word of Gad which the Lord had commanded him: And he built there an altar to the Lord, and offered holocausts and peace offerings: and the Lord became merciful to the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.

The Lord sent His word, and healed them: and delivered them from their death. Let the mercies of the Lord give glory to Him; and His wonderful works to the children of men.

Alleluia, alleluia. Save me, O God, for the waters are come in even unto my soul. Alleluia.

(After Septuagesima the Lesser Allelúia is omitted and the Tract is said instead.)

TRACT Psalms 102: 10

O Lord, repay us not according to the sins we have committed, nor according to our iniquities. (Ps. 78: 8-9) O Lord, remember not our former iniquities: let Thy mercies speedily prevent us, for we are become exceeding poor. Help us, O God our Savior: and for the glory of Thy name, O Lord, deliver us: and forgive us our sins for Thy name's sake.

(In Eastertide, the Gradual, the Lesser Alleluia and the Tract are omitted and the Greater Alleluia is said instead.)

GREATER ALLELUIA Psalms 68: 2

Alleluia, alleluia. Save me O God, for the waters are come in even unto my soul. Alleluia. (Zach. 8: 7, 8) I will save my people Israel in the evil day: and I will be their God in truth and in justice. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 4: 38-44

At that time, Jesus rising up out of the synagogue, went into Simon's house: and Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever, and they besought Him for her. And standing over her, He commanded the fever, and it left her: and immediately rising, she ministered to them. And when the sun was down, all they that had any sick with divers diseases, brought them to Him: but He laying His hands on every one of them, healed them. And devils went out from many, crying out, and saying, Thou art the Son of God: And rebuking them, He suffered them not to speak, for they knew that He was Christ. And when it was day, going out He went into a desert place; and the multitudes sought Him, and came unto Him; and they stayed Him that He should not depart from them. To whom He said, to other cities also I must preach the kingdom of God, for therefore am I sent. And He was preaching in the synagogues of Galilee.

The high priest stood between the dead and the living, having a golden censer in his hand: and offering the sacrifice of incense, he appeased the wrath of God, and the affliction from the Lord ceased, (P.T. Alleluia.)

May the offering of the present sacrifice, O Lord, we beseech Thee, assist us, that it may both absolve us from all our sins, and save us from the onslaught of complete destruction. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

COMMUNION Luke 6: 17, 18, 19

A multitude of sick, and they that were troubled with unclean spirits, came to Him: for virtue went out from Him, and healed all. (P.T. Alleluia.)

POSTCOMMUNION

Harken unto us, O God, our Savior, and make Thy people free from the terrors of Thy wrath and secure in the gift of Thy mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.