

This group of Persian martyrs, consisted of a husband, wife, and two sons. The men were beheaded and their bodies burnt. Martha was killed and her body thrown into a well. They came to Rome under the Emperor Claudius II and visited Christians cast into prison, and buried the slain. The Mass for their feast is very ancient and in excellent liturgical form.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus. 44: 15,14; Psalms 32: 1

Justi epuléntur, et exúltent in conspéctu Dei, et delecténtur in lætítia. (Ps) Exsúrgat Deus, et dissipéntur inimíci ejus: et fúgiant qui odérunt eum, fácie ejus. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen.

COLLECTS

Exáudi, Dómine, pópulum tuum cum Sanctórum tuórum patrocínio supplicántem: ut et temporális vitæ nos tribuas pace gaudére; et ætérnæ reperíre subsidiúm. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For St. Canute

Deus, quid ad illustrándam Ecclésiám tuam, beátum Canútum regem máryrii palma et gloriósis miraculis decoráre dignáter es: concéde propítius; ut, sicut ipse Domínæ passiónis imitátor fuit, ita nos per ejus vestígia gradiétes, ad gáudia sempitérna percenire mereámur. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE Hebrews 10: 32-38

Fratres: Rememorámini pristinos deis, in quibus illumínáti, magnum certámen sustinuístis passiónum: et in altéro quidem oppróbriis, et tribulatióibus spectáculum facti: in altéro autem sócii talíter conversántium effécti. Nam et vinctis compássi estis, et rapinam bonórum vestrórum cum gáudio suscenpístis, cognoscéte vos habére meliórem, et manéntem substántiam. Nolíte itaque amittere confidéntiam vestram, quæ magnam habet remuneratiónem. Patiéntes enim vobis necessária est: ut voluntátem Dei faciéntes reportétis promissionem. Adhuc enim módicum aliquántulum, qui ventúrus est, véniet, et non tardábit. Justus autem meus ex fide vivit.

GRADUAL Wisdom 3: 1,2,3

Justórum autem ánimæ in manu Dei sunt et non tanget illos torméntum mortis. Visi sunt in óculis insipiéntium mori et æstimáta est adflíctio exitus illórum. et quod a nobis est iter extérminii: illi autem sunt in pace

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

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 67: 36

Allelúja, allelúja. Mirábilis Deus noster in sanctis suis. Allelúja.

TRACT Psalms 125: 5-6.

Qui sémant in lácrimis, in gáudio metent. Eúntes ibant et flébant, mitténtes semina sua. Veniéntes autem véniet cum exsultatióne, portántes manípulos suos.

GOSPEL Matthew 24: 3-13

In illo témpore: Sedénte Jesu super montem Olivéti accessérunt ad eum discípuli secréti, dicéntes: Dic nobis quando hæc erunt et quod signum advéntus tui et consummatiónis sæculi? et respóndens Jesus dixit eis: Vidéte ne quis vos sedúcat. Multi enim vénient in nómine meo, dicéntes: Ego sum Christus: et multos sedúcent. Auditóri autem estis prælíta et opiniónes præliórum. Vidéte ne turbémíni. Opórtet enim hæc fieri sed nondum est finis. Consúrget enim gens in gentem, et regnum in regnum, et erunt pestiléntiæ, et fames, et terræmótus per loca. Hæc autem ómnia inítia sunt dolórum. Tunc tradent vos in tribulatiónem, et occídent vos: et éritis ódio ómnibus géntibus propter nomen meum. Et tunc scandalizabúntur multi, et ínicem tradent, et ódio habeébunt ínicem. Et multi pseudoprophétæ surgent, et sedúcent multos. Et quóniam abundábit iniquitas refrigescet caritas multórum. Qui autem permanserit usque in finem hic salvus erit.

OFFERTORY Psalms 123: 7

Ánima nostra sicut passererépta est de láqueo venántium: láqueus contritus est et nos liberáti sumus.

SECRETS

Preces, Dómine, tuórum respice, oblationésque fidélium: ut et tibi grata sint protuórum festivitáte Sanctórum, et nobis conférant tuæ propitiónis auxiliúm. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For St. Canute

Accépta sit in conspéctu tuo, Dómine, nostra devótio et ejus nobis fiat supplicatióne salutáris, pro cujus solemnitate defértur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION Mark 10: 27

Dico autem vobis ámicis meis: ne terrémíni ab his qui vos persecuúntur.

POSTCOMMUNIONS

Sanctórum tuórum, Dómine, intercessióne placátus: præsta, quæsumus; ut, quæ temporáli celebrámus actióne, perpétua nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For St. Canute

Refécti participatióne munéris sacri, quæsumus, Domine, Deus noster: ut, cugus exsequimur cultum, intercedénte beáto Canúto, Máryre tuo sentiámus efféctum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Let the just feast and rejoice before God, and be delighted with gladness. (Ps) Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered: and let them that hate Him flee from before His face. 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.

Give ear, O Lord, to Thy people when with Thy Saints as advocates we humbly pray: that Thou wouldst grant us in our present life joy and peace and growth 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.

For St. Canute

O God, Who, for the greater glory of Thy Church, wast pleased to adorn blessed Canute the king with the palm of martyrdom and with glorious miracles: mercifully grant that walking in the footsteps of him who followed our Lord in His sufferings, we may deserve to attain eternal joys. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Brethren, call to mind the former days, wherein, being illuminated, you endured a great fight of afflictions. And on the one hand indeed, by reproaches and tribulations, were made a gazingstock; and on the other, became companions of them that were used in such sort. For you both had compassion on them that were in bands, and took with joy the being stripped of your own goods, knowing that you have a better and a lasting substance. Do not therefore lose your confidence, which hath a great reward. For patience is necessary for you; that, doing the will of God, you may receive the promise. For yet a little and a very little while, and he that is to come, will come, and will not delay. But my just man liveth by faith; but if he withdraw himself, he shall not please my soul.

The souls of the just are in the hands of God, and the torment of death shall not touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: but they are in peace.

Alleluia, alleluia. God is wonderful in His Saints. Alleluia.

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. Going they went and wept casting their seeds. But coming they shall come with joyfulness carrying their sheaves.

At that time: As Jesus was sitting on mount Olivet, the disciples came to him privately, saying: Tell us when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the consummation of the world? And Jesus answering, said to them: Take heed that no man seduce you: For many will come in my name saying, I am Christ: and they will seduce many. And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that ye be not troubled. For these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be pestilences, and famines, and earthquakes in places: Now all these are the beginnings of sorrows. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall put you to death: and you shall be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be scandalized: and shall betray one another: and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall seduce many. And because iniquity hath abounded, the charity of many shall grow cold. But he that shall persevere to the end, he shall be saved.

Our soul hath been delivered as a sparrow out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are delivered.

O Lord, having regard to the prayers and offerings of Thy faithful people: that they may be pleasing to Thee on the feast day of Thy Saints, and obtain for us Thine indulgent aid. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

For St. Canute

May our offering be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, and may it benefit us by the prayer of him on whose feast it is offered. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

But I say to you, my friends: be not afraid of those who persecute you.

Be appeased, O Lord, by the intercession of Thy Saints and grant, we beseech Thee, that we may retain the fruits of this present Sacrifice unto eternal salvation. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

For St. Canute

Refreshed by partaking of Thy sacred Gift, we beseech thee, O Lord, our God, that through the intercession of blessed Canute, Thy Martyr, we may perceive the fruit of the rite which we celebrate. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.