

The feast of this great Pope was transferred from the day of his death, November 10, 461, to April 11, the day on which his body was first laid in the tomb under the outer porch of the old St. Peter's. He is called "Great," not only for his learning, but also for his successful government of the Church by overcoming heretics and saving Rome from the invasion of Attila. The magnificent Offices of Advent are attributed to him and certainly several of his compositions are contained in the Leonine Sacramentary. By his humility, mildness, and charity, this great Pope won the love and reverence of emperors, princes, and people of every rank.

INTROIT John 21: 15-17

Si diligis me, Simon Petre, pasce agnos meos, pasce oves meas. [T.P. Allelúja, allelúja.] (Ps. 29: 1) Exaltábo te, Dómine, quóniam suscepísti me, nec delectásti inimícos meos super me. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Si diligis Me, Simon Petre, pasce agnos meos, pasce oves meas. [T.P. Allelúja, allelúja.]

COLLECT

Gregem tuum, Pastor ætérnæ inténde: et per beátum Leonem Summum Pontíficem tuum, perpétua protectióne custódi; quem totius Ecclésiæ præstitísti esse pastórem. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE 1 Peter 5: 1-4, 10-11

Caríssimi: Senióres, qui in vobis sunt, obsécro consénior et testis Christi passiónum, qui et ejus, quæ in futuro revelánda est, glóriæ comunicátor: pásce qui in vobis est gregem Dei, providéntes non coácte, sed spontáneæ secúndum Deum, neque turpis lucri grátia, sed voluntárie; neque ut dominántes in cleris, sed forma facti gregis ex ánimo. Et, cum appáruerit princeps pastórum, percipiétis immarcescibilem glóriæ coronam. Deus autem omnis grátia, qui vocávit nos in ætérnam suam glóriam in Christo Jesu, módicum passos ipse perficiet, confirmábit solidabítque. Ipsi glória et impérium in saecula sæculórum. Amen.

(From Septuagesima until Easter the Lesser Alleluia is omitted and the Tract is said instead. During Eastertide the Gradual, Lesser Alleluia, and Tract are replaced by the Greater Alleluia.)

GRADUAL Psalms 106: 32,31

Exáltent eum in ecclésia plebis: et in cáthedra seniórum laudent eum. Confíteántur Dómino misericórdiaie ejus, et mirabilia ejus filiis hóminum.

LESSER ALLELUIA Matthew 16: 18

Allelúja, allelúja. Tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiam meam. Allelúja.

TRACT Psalms 39: 10-11

Annuntiávi justítiam tuam in ecclésia magna; ecce lábia mea non prohibébo: Dómine, tu scisti. Justítiam tuam non abscondi in corde meo: veritátem tuam et salutáre tuum dixi. Non abscondi misericórdiam tuam, et veritátem tuam a concílio multo.

(The Greater Alleluia is only said in Eastertide.)

GREATER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. (Matth. 16: 18) Tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiam meam. Allelúja. (Ps. 44: 17, 18) Constitútes eos príncipes super omnem terram: mémoires erunt nóminis tui, Dómine. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 16: 13-19

In illo témpore: Venit Jesus in partes Cæsaráe Philíppi, et interrogábat discipulos suos, dicens: Quem dicunt hómines esse Fílium hóminis? At illi dixerunt: Álii Joánnem Baptistam, álii autem Eliám, álii vero Jeremíam aut unum ex prophétis. Dicit illis Jesus: Vos autem quem me esse dicitis? Respóndens Simon Petrus, dixit: Tu es Christus, Fílius Dei vivi. Respóndens autem Jesus, dixit ei: Beátus es, Simon Bar Jona: quia caro et sanguis non revelávit tibi, sed Pater meus, qui in cælis est. Et ego dico tibi, quia tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiam meam, et portæ ínferi non prævalébunt advérsus eam. Et tibi dabo claves regni cælórum. Et quodcúmque ligáveris super terram, erit ligátum et in cælis: et quodcúmque sólveris super terram, erit solútum et in cælis.

OFFERTORY Jeremiah 1: 9-10

Ecce, dedi verba mea in ore tuo: ecce, constitúti te super gentes et super regna, ut evéllas et destruas, et ædífices et plantes. [T.P. Allelúja.]

SECRET

Oblátis munéribus, quæsumus, Dómine, Ecclésiam tuam benígus illúmina: ut, et gregis tui proficiat ubique succéssus, et grati fiant nómini tuo, te gubernánte, pastóres. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(Outside Eastertide)

PREFACE OF THE APOSTLES

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, Te Dómine suppliciter exoráre, ut Gómine Tuum pastor ætérne, non déseras: sed per beátos Apóstolos tuos continúa protectióne custódiás. Ut iisdem rectóribus gubernétur, quos óperis Tui vicários eidem contúlísti prææce pastóres. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatióibus, cumque omni milítia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ Tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes:

(In Eastertide)

PREFACE OF EASTER SEASON

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, Te quidem, Dómine, omni témpore, sed in hoc potíssimum, glóriósus prædicáre, cum Pascha nostrum immolátus est Christus. Ipse enim verus est Agnus, qui ábstulit peccáta mundi. Qui mortem nostram moriéndó destrúxit, et vitam resurgéndo reparávit. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatióibus, cumque omni milítia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNION Matthew 16: 18

Tu es Petrus, et super hanc petram ædificábo Ecclésiam meam. [T.P. Allelúja.]

POSTCOMMUNION

Refectióne sancta enutrítam gubérna, quásumus Dómine, tuam placátus Ecclésia: ut poténtia libertátione accípiat et in religiónis integritáte persístat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Simon Peter, if thou lovest Me, feed My lambs, feed My sheep. [P.T. Alleluia, alleluia.] (Ps. 29: 1) I will extol Thee, O Lord, for Thou hast upheld me: and hast not made my enemies to rejoice over me. 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. Simon Peter, if thou lovest Me, feed My lambs, feed My sheep. [P.T. Alleluia, alleluia.]

Eternal Shepherd, regard graciously Thy flock, and keep it with an everlasting protection, by the intercession of blessed Leo., Thy Sovereign Pontiff, whom Thou hast constituted shepherd of the whole Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Dearly beloved, The ancients therefore that are among you, I beseech, who am myself also an ancient, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ: as also a partaker of that glory which is to be revealed in time to come: feed the flock of God which is among you, taking care of it, not by constraint, but willingly, according to God: not for filthy lucre's sake, but voluntarily: neither as lording it over the clergy, but being made a pattern of the flock from the heart. And when the prince of pastors shall appear, you shall receive a never fading crown of glory. But the God of all grace, who hath called us into his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little, will himself perfect you, and confirm you, and establish you. To him be glory and empire for ever and ever. Amen.

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Let them exalt him in the church of the people: and praise him in the chair of the ancients. Let the mercies of the Lord give glory to Him: and His wonderful works to the children of men.

Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church. Alleluia.

I have declared Thy justice in a great church, lo, I will not restrain my lips: O Lord, Thou knowest it. I have not hid Thy justice within my heart: I have declared Thy truth and Thy salvation. I have not concealed Thy mercy and Thy truth from a great council.

(The Greater Alleluia is only said in Eastertide.)

Alleluia, alleluia. (Matth. 16: 18) Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church. Alleluia. (Ps. 44: 17, 18) Thou shalt make them princes over all the earth: they shall remember Thy Name, O Lord. Alleluia.

And Jesus came into the quarters of Cesarea Philippi: and he asked his disciples, saying: Whom do men say that the Son of man is? But they said: Some John the Baptist, and other some Elias, and others Jeremias, or one of the prophets. Jesus saith to them: But whom do you say that I am? Simon Peter answered and said: Thou art Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answering, said to him: Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jona: because flesh and blood hath not revealed it to thee, but my Father who is in heaven. And I say to thee: That thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give to thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose upon earth, it shall be loosed also in heaven.

Behold I have given My words in thy mouth: lo, I have set thee over the nations, and over kingdoms, to root up, and to pull down, and to build, and to plant. [P.T. Alleluia.]

By the offered gifts we beg Thee, O Lord: enlighten kindly Thy Church: so that Thy flock everywhere may be increasing, and the Shepherds, under Thy direction, may be pleasing to Thy Name. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

(Outside Eastertide)

It is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, to entreat Thee humbly, O Lord, that Thou wouldst not desert Thy flock, O everlasting Shepherd, but, through Thy blessed Apostles, wouldst keep it under Thy constant protection; that it may be governed by those same rulers, whom as vicars of Thy work, Thou didst set over it to be its pastors. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

(In Eastertide)

It is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, certainly at all times to proclaim Thee, O Lord, but above all in this time more gloriously, when Christ our Pasch was sacrificed. For He is the true Lamb Who hath taken away the sins of the world: Who by dying hath destroyed our death: and by rising again hath restored us to life. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church. [P.T. Alleluia.]

O Lord, we beseech Thee, graciously govern Thy Church, which Thou hast fed with a holy meal; so that, directed by a mighty wisdom, she may progress in liberty, and persist in the integrity of faith. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.