

The feast of St. Mark was not regularly inserted into the Roman Calendar until about the Twelfth Century. This is explained by the original association of the commemorations of the saints with their tombs. Although St. Mark was among the first who, with St. Peter, brought the Faith to Rome and, at the request of the Romans themselves, wrote his Gospel, he did not die in the Holy City. Mark is said to have been the young man who, on the night that Jesus was made prisoner, left the sheet in which he was clothed, in the hands of the soldiers and fled naked. He accompanied his cousin, Barnabas, and Paul, on their first apostolic mission. Paul, however, would not take him along on the second journey; when Paul was in prison at Rome, Mark was again closely associated with him. To St. Mark is attributed the foundation of the Church in Alexandria, which See he governed for about twenty years, and in the end was martyred, about the year 70. His body was taken to Venice whose patron he has been since the Ninth Century and where there is a great Basilica dedicated to his name.

INTROIT Psalms 63: 3

Protexisti me, Deus, a convéntu malignántium, allelúja: a multitúdine operántium iniquitátem, allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 63: 2) Exáudi, Deus, oratióem meam cum déprecor: a timóre inimíci éripe ánimam meam. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Protexisti me, Deus, a convéntu malignántium, allelúja: a multitúdine operántium iniquitátem, allelúja, allelúja.

COLLECT

Deus, qui beátum Marcum Evangelístum tuum evangélicæ prædicatiónis grátia sublimásti: tríbue, quæsumus; ejus nos semper et eruditiónem profícere, et oratióne deféndi. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE Ezekiel 1: 10-14

Similitudo vultus quátuor animálium: fácie hóminis, et fácies leónis a dextris ipsórum quátuor: fácies autem bovis a sinístris ipsórum quátuor, et fácies áquillæ désuper ipsórum quátuor. Fácies eórum, et pennæ eórum exténtæ désuper: dum pennæ singulórum jungebá-tur, et duæ tegébant córpora eórum: et unumquódque eórum coram fácie sua ambulábat: ubi erant impetus spíritus, illuc gradiebántur, nec revertébántur cum ambulárent. Et similitúdo animálium, aspéctus eórum quasi carbónum ignis ardéntium, et quasi aspéctus lampadárum. Hæc erat visio discúrrens in médio animálium, splendor ignis, et de igne fulgur egrédiens. Et animália ibant, et revertébántur in similitúdinem fúlguris coruscántis.

GREATER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 88: 6) Confitebúntur cæli mirabilia tua, Dómine: étenim veritátem tuam in ecclésia sanctorum. Allelúja. (Ps. 20: 4) Posuisti, Dómine, super ca-put ejus coronam de lápide pretiósio. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Luke 10: 1-9

In illo témpore: Designávit Dóminus et álios septuaginta duos: et misit illos binos ante fáciem suam in omnem civitátem et locum, quo erat ipse ventúrus. Et dicébat illis: Messis quidem multa, operárii autem pauci. Rogáte ergo Dóminum messis, ut mittat operários in messem suam. Ite: ecce, ego mitto vos sicut agnos inter lupos. Nolíte portare sæculum neque peram neque calceaménta; et néminem per viam salutavéritis. In quamcúmque domum intravéritis, primúm dícite: Pax huic dómni: et si ibi fúerit fílius pacis, requiécet super illum pax vestra: sin autem, ad vos revertátur. In eádem autem domo manéte, edéntes et bibéntes quæ apud illos sunt: dignus est enim operáriu mercéde sua. Nolíte transire de domo in domum. Et in quamcúmque civitátem intravéritis, et suscéperint vos, manducáte quæ apponúntur vobis: et curáte infirmos, qui in illa sunt, et dícite illis: Appropinquávit in vos regnum Dei

OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 6

Confitebúntur cæli mirabilia tua, Dómine, et veritátem tuam in ecclésia sanctorum, allelúja, allelúja.

SECRET

Beáti Marci Evangelístæ tui solemnitate, tibi múnere deferéntes, quæsumus, Dómine; ut, sicut illum prædicatio evangélica fecit gloriósum: ita nos ejus intercésio et verbo, et ópere tibi reddat accéptos. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE APOSTLES

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, Te Dómine supplicíter exoráre, ut gregem Tuum pastor ætérne, non déseras: sed per beátos Apóstolos tuos continúa protectiõe custódiás. Ut iisdem rectóribus gubernétur, quos óperis Tui vicários eidem contulísti præesse pastóres. Et ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatió nibus, cumque omni milítia cælestis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ Tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNION Psalms 63: 11

Lætábitur justus in Dómino, et sperábit in eo: et laudabúntur omnes recti corde, allelúja, allelúja.

POSTCOMMUNION

Tríbuant nobis quæsumus, Dómine, continuum tua sancta præsidium: quo, beáti Marci Evangelístæ tui précibus, nos ab ómnibus semper tueántur advérsis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Thou hast protected me, O God, from the assembly of the malignant, alleluia: from the multitude of the workers of iniquity, alleluia. alleluia. (Ps. 63: 2)

Hear, O God, my prayers, when I make supplication to Thee: deliver my soul from the fear of the enemy. 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. Thou hast protected me, O God, from the assembly of the malignant, alleluia: from the multitude of the workers of iniquity, alleluia. alleluia.

O God, Who didst endow blessed Mark, Thine evangelist, with the grace of preaching, grant us, we beseech Thee, ever to profit by his teaching and be defended by his prayers. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

As for the likeness of the faces of the four living creatures; there was the face of a man, and the face of a lion on the right side of all the four; and the face of an ox on the left side of all the four; and the face of an eagle over all the four. And their faces and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined, and two covered their bodies; and every one of them went straight forward; whither the impulse of the spirit was to go, thither they went, and they turned not when they went.

And as for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like that of burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps. This was the vision running to and fro in the midst of the living creatures, a bright fire, and lightning going forth from the fire. And the living creatures ran and returned like flashes of lightning.

Alleluia, alleluia. (Ps. 88: 6) The Heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord; and Thy truth in the Church of the saints. Alleluia. (Ps. 20: 4) O Lord, Thou halt set on his head a crown of precious stones. Alleluia.

At that time: The Lord appointed also other seventy-two: and he sent them two and two before his face into every city and place whither he himself was to come. And he said to them: The harvest indeed is great, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send laborers into his harvest. Go: Behold I send you as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes; and salute no man by the way. Into whatsoever house you enter, first say: Peace be to this house. And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you. And in the same house, remain, eating and drinking such things as they have: for the laborer is worthy of his hire. Remove not from house to house. And into what city soever you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you. And heal the sick that are therein, and say to them: The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.

The Heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the Church of the Saints, alleluia, alleluia.

Bringing Thee gifts, O Lord. on the festival of blessed Mark, Thine evangelist, we pray Thee, that, as the preaching of the Gospel made him glorious, so his intercession may render us in word and deed acceptable to Thee. 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, 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:

The just shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him: and all the upright in heart shall be praised, alleluia, alleluia.

May Thy holy things, we beseech Thee, O Lord, bring us continual protection, so that, through the prayers of blessed Mark, Thine evangelist, they may ever guard us from all evils. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.