

Besides the solemn feast two days after Christmas, the Church commemorates the attempt to put St. John to death in a caldron of boiling oil outside the Latin Gate. The saint came from it unhurt, and even more vigorous than before. A church now marks the site which a late tradition assigns to this event. This feast celebrates the martyrdom of the evangelist who, according to the prophecy of the Savior, was also, like his brother, to drink of the chalice of the Passion, in order that he might have the right to one of the highest thrones in the Messianic kingdom, which his mother had begged for him.

**INTROIT Psalms 63: 3**

Protexísti me, Deus, a convéntu malignántium, allelúja: a multítudine operántium iniquitátem, allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 63: 2) Exáudi, Deus, oratióne meam cum deprecor: a timóre inimíci éripe ánimam meam. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Protexísti me, Deus, a convéntu malignántium, allelúja: a multítudine operántium iniquitátem, allelúja, allelúja.

**COLLECT**

Deus, qui cónspicis quia nos úndique mala nostra perturbant: præsta, quæsumus; ut beáti Joánnis Apóstoli tui et Evangelistæ intercéssio gloriósa nos próteget. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

**LESSON Wisdom 5: 1-5**

Stabunt justí in magna constántia advérsus eos, qui se angustia véruunt, et qui abstulérunt labóres eórum. Vidéntes turbabúntur timóre horríbili, et mirabúntur in subitatióne insperátæ salutis, dicéntes intra se, pœniténtiam agéntes, et præ angústia spíritus geméntes: Hi sunt, quos habúimus aliquándo in derísium, et in similitúdinem improperii. Nos insensáti vitam illórum æstimabámus insániam, et finem illórum sine honóre: ecce quómodo computáti sunt inter filios Dei, et inter Sanctos sors illórum est.

**GREATER ALLELUIA**

Allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 91: 13) Justus ut palma florébit: sicut cedrus Líbani multiplicábitur. (Osee, 14: 6) Justus germinábit sicut lílium: et florébit in ætérnum ante Dóminum. Allelúja.

**GOSPEL Matthew 20: 20-23**

In illo témpore: Accéssit ad Jesum mater filiórum Zebedæi cum filiis suis, adórans, et petens áliquid ab eo. Qui dixit ei: Quid vis? Ait illi: Dic ut sédeant hi duo filii mei, unus ad dexteram tuam, et unus ad sinistram in regno tuo. Respóndens autem Jesus, dixit: Nescítis quid petátis. Potéstis bíbere cálicem, quem ego bibíturus sum? Dicunt ei: Póssumus. Ait illis: Cálicem quidem meum bibétis: sedére autem ad dexteram meam, vel sinistram, non est meum dare vobis, sed quibus pará tum est a Patre meo.

**OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 6**

Confítebúntur cæli mirabília tua, Dómine, et veritátem tuam in ecclésia sanctorum, allelúja, allelúja.

**SECRET**

Munéribus nostris quæsumus Dómine precibúsq; suscéptis: et cæléstibus nos munda suscérítis, et cleméner exáudi. 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 protectióne 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 cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ Tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes:

**COMMUNION Psalm 63: 11**

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

**POSTCOMMUNION**

Refécti, Dómine, pane cælésti: ad vitam, quæsumus, nutriámur ætérnam. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Thou last 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 last protected me, O God, from the assembly of the malignant, alleluia: from the multitude of the workers of iniquity, alleluia, alleluia.

O God, Who beholdest that our own ill deeds disquiet us on every side, grant, we beseech Thee, that the glorious intercession of blessed John, Thine apostle and evangelist, may be our 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.

Then shall the just stand with great constancy against those that have afflicted them and taken away their labors. These seeing it, shall be troubled with terrible fear, and shall be amazed at the suddenness of their unexpected salvation, saying within themselves, repenting, and groaning for anguish of spirit: These are they whom we had some time in derision and for a parable of reproach. We fools esteemed their life madness and their end without honor; behold how they are numbered among the children of God, and their lot is among the Saints.

Alleluia, alleluia. (Ps. 91: 13) The just shall flourish like the palm-tree; he shall grow up like the cedar of Libanus. Alleluia. (Osee 14: 6) The just shall spring as the lily: and flourish for ever before the Lord. Alleluia.

At that time, the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus with her sons, worshiping, and asking something of Him. Who said to her: What wilt thou? She saith to Him: Say that these my two sons may sit, the one on Thy right hand, and the other on Thy left, in Thy kingdom. And Jesus answering, said: You know not what you ask, can you drink the chalice that I shall drink? They saith to Him: We can. He saith to them: My chalice indeed you shall drink; but to sit on my right or left hand is not Mine to give to you, but to them for whom it is prepared by My Father.

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

Receive, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our offerings and prayers: cleanse us by virtue of these heavenly mysteries and graciously hear us. 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.

Refreshed with the bread of Heaven, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that we may be nourished unto everlasting life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.