

MAY 9, ST. GREGORY NAZIANZEN, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

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St. Gregory of Nazianzen, one of the Fathers of the Greek Church, was born in Asia Minor; he was made a bishop and afterward Patriarch of Constantinople. He labored with wonderful success against the Arians. His success drew on him the hatred of the enemies of the Faith. Finally, he resigned his See and retired to his native town, where he died in 390. As a champion of the Faith he was so well equipped, so strenuous, and so exact that he is called St. Gregory the Theologian. His firmness restored the Faith of the Council of Nicea to Constantinople; he was, however, a man of gentle spirit and eminently poetic mind. Renouncing his bishopric, he set his heart on the contemplative life and monastic discipline.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 15: 5

In méditio Eclésiæ apéruit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spírítu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ índuit eum. Allelúja, allelúia. (Ps. 91: 2) Bonum est confitéri Dómino: et psállere nómini tuo Altíssime. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spírítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. In médio Eclésiæ apéruit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spírítu sapiéntiæ et intelléctus: stolam glóriæ índuit eum. Allelúja, allelúia.

COLLECT

Deus, qui pópulo tuo ætérnæ salútis beátum Gregórium mínistrum tribuísti: præsta, quæsumus; ut quem Doctórem vitæ habuimus in terris, intercessórem habéere mereámur in cælis. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Ecclesiasticus 39: 6-14

JUSTUS cor suum tradet ad vigilándum dilúculo ad Dóminum, qui fecit illum, et in conspéctu Altíssimi deprecábitur. Apériet os suum in oratióne, et pro delictis suis deprecábitur. Si enim Dóminus magnus volúerit, spírítu intelligéntiæ replébit illum: et ipsa tamquam imbres mittet elóquia sapiéntiæ suæ, et in oratióne confitébitur Dómino: et ipse diriget consílium ejus et disciplínam, et in absconditis suis consiliabitur. Ipse palam faciet disciplínam doctríne suæ, et in lege testaménti Dómini gloriábitur. Collaudábunt multi sapiéntiam ejus, et usque in sæculum non delébitur. Non recédet memória ejus, et nomen ejus requirétur a generatióne in generatióne. Sapiéntiam ejus enarrábunt gentes, et laudem ejus enuntiábit Eclésiá.

GREATER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. (Eccl. 45: 9) Amávit eum Dóminus, et ornávit eum: stolam glóriæ índuit eum. Allelúia. (Osee 14: 6) Justus germinábit sicut lílium: et florébit in ætérnum ante Dóminum. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 5: 13-19

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplulis suis: Vos estis sal terræ. Quod si sal evanúerit, in quo saliétur? Ad níhilum valet ultra, nisi ut mittátur foras, et conculcétur ab homínibus. Vos estis lux mundi. Non potest civitas abscondi supra montem pósita. Neque accéndunt lucérnam, et ponunt eam sub módio, sed super candelábrum, ut líuceat ómnibus qui in domo sunt. Sic líuceat lux vestra coram homínibus: ut vídeant ópera vestra bona, et gloríficent Patrem vestrum, qui in cælis est. Nolíte putáre quóniam veni sólvare legem aut prophétas: non veni sólvare, sed adimplére. Amen quippe dico vobis, donec tránseat cælum et terra, iota unum aut unus apex non præteríbit a lege donec ómnia fiant. Qui ergo sólverit unum de mandátis istis mínimis, et docúerit sic hómines, mínimus vocábitur in regno cælórum: qui autem fecerit et docúerit, hic magnus vocábitur in regno cælórum.

OFFERTORY Ps. 91: 13

Justus ut palma florébit: sicut cedrus, quæ in Líbano est, multiplicábitur. Allelúja.

SECRET

Sancti Gregórii, Pontíficis tui atque Doctóris nobis, Dómine, pia non desit orátio: quæ et múnera nostra concíliet; et tuam nobis indulgéntiam semper obtíneat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE ASCENSION

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, ætérne Deus: per Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Qui post resurrectionem suam ómnibus discíplulis suis manifestus apparuit et, ipsis cernéntibus, est elevátus in cælum, ut nos divinitátis suæ tribúeret esse partícipes. Et ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus cumque omni milítia cælestis exércitus hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus, sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNION Luke 12: 42

Fidélis servus et prudens, quem constitúit dóminus super familiam suam: ut det illis in témpore trítici mensúram. Allelúja.

POSTCOMMUNION

Ut nobis, Dómine, tua sacrificia dent salutem: beátus Gregórius Póntifex tuus, et Doctor egrégíus, quæsumus, precátor accédát. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spírítus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth: and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. He clothed him with a robe of glory.

Alleluia, alleluia. (Ps. 91: 2) It is good to give praise to the Lord: and to sing to Thy Name, O Most High. 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. In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth: and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. He clothed him with a robe of glory. Alleluia, alleluia.

O God, who didst give blessed Gregory as a minister of eternal salvation to Thy people: grant, we beseech Thee, that we, who have had him for our teacher on earth, may deserve to have him for our advocate in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

The just man will give his heart to resort early to the Lord that made him, and he will pray in the sight of the Most High. He will open his mouth in prayer, and will make supplication for his sins. For if it shall please the great Lord, He will fill him with the spirit of understanding: and he will pour forth the words of His wisdom as showers, and in his prayer he will confess to the Lord. And He shall direct his counsel, and his knowledge, and in His secrets shall he meditate. He shall show forth the discipline he hath learned, and shall glory in the law of the covenant of the Lord. Many shall praise his wisdom, and it shall never be forgotten. The memory of him shall not pass away, and his name shall be in request from generation to generation. Nations shall declare his wisdom, and the Church shall show forth his praise.

Alleluia, alleluia. (Eccl. 45: 9) The Lord loved him and adorned him: He clothed him with a robe of glory. Alleluia. (Osee 14: 6) The just man shall spring as the lily: and shall flourish for ever before the Lord. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt lose its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is good for nothing any more but to be cast out, and to be trodden on by men. You are the light of the world. A city seated on a mountain cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but upon a candlestick, that it may shine to all that are in the house. So let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Do not think that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets. I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For amen I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot, or one tittle shall not pass of the law, till all be fulfilled. He therefore that shall break one of these least commandments, and shall so teach men, shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. But he that shall do and teach, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

The just shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow up, like the cedar of Libanus. Alleluia.

May the holy prayer of St. Gregory., Thy Bishop and Doctor, fail us not, O Lord: may it render our offerings acceptable, and ever obtain for us Thy pardon. 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, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God: through Christ our Lord. Who, after His Resurrection, appeared openly to all His disciples, and, while they looked on, was taken up into Heaven, that He might grant unto us to be sharers in His own divinity. And therefore with the Angels and Archangels, with the Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

The faithful and wise servant, whom his lord setteth over his family: to give them their measure of wheat in due season. Alleluia.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, that blessed Gregory, Thy Bishop and illustrious Doctor, may approach to pray for us, that these Thy sacrifices may bring us salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.