

**JULY 10, SEVEN HOLY BROTHERS, MARTYRS, & STS. RUFINA & SECUNDA, VIRGINS**

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**& MARTYRS**

Felicitas and her seven sons were put to death for the Faith, about the year 162, under Marcus Aurelius. The sons preceded their mother to heaven; she followed them four months afterwards. In order to strike terror into the hearts of the Christians, the death sentences were not all carried out in the same place, for Januarius was beaten to death with leaden scourges and was buried in the Cemetery of Praetextatus. Felix and Philip died under the whip and received burial in that of Priscilla. Silanus was thrown from a precipice and was interred with his mother in the Cemetery of Maximus. Alexander, Vitalis, and Martial were beheaded and were given the honor of sepulture in the Cemetery of the Giordani.

Under the Emperors Valerian and Gallienus, a hundred years later, two sisters Rufina and Secunda, rather than lose their consecrated virginity, accepted martyrdom. The forest in which they were put to death, hitherto called the dark wood, soon was called the bright wood in their honor.

**INTROIT Psalms 112: 1, 9**

Laudáte, púeri, Dóminum, laudáte nomen Dómini: qui habitáre facit stérilem in domo, matrem filiórurum lætántem. (Ps. 112: 2) Sit nomen Dómini benedíctum: ex hoc nunc, et usque in sæculum. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Laudáte, púeri, Dóminum, laudáte nomen Dómini: qui habitáre facit stérilem in domo, matrem filiórurum lætántem.

**COLLECT**

Præsta, quæsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, qui gloriósos Mártýres fortes in sua confessióne cognóvimus, pios apud te in nostra intercessióne sentiámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

**LESSON Proverbs 31: 10-31**

Muliérum fortem quis invéniet? Procul, et de últimis finibus prætium ejus. Confidit in ea cor viri sui, et spólis non indigébit. Reddet et bonum, et non malum ómnibus diébus vitæ suæ. Quæsit lanam et linum, et operáta est consílio mánuum suárum. Facta est quasi navis institóri, de longe portans panem suum. Et de nocte surréxit, dedítque prædam domésticis suis, et cibária ancillis suis. Considerávit agrum, et emit eum: de fructu mánuum suárum plantávit vineam. Accínxit fortitúdine lumbos suos, et roborávit bráchium suum. Gustávit et vidit quia bona est negotiátio ejus: non exstinguétur in nocte lucérna ejus. Manum suam misit ad fórtia, et dígití ejus apprehendérunt fustum. Manum suam apéruit inopi, et palmas suas exténdit ad páuperem. Non timébit domui suæ a frigóribus nivis: omnes enim doméstici ejus vestiti sunt duplicibus. Stragulátam vestem fecit sibi: byssus, et púrpura indumentum ejus. Nóbilis in portis vir ejus, quando séderit cum senatóribus terræ. Síndonem fecit, et véndidit, et cingulum trádidit Chananæo. Fortitúdo et decor indumentum ejus, et ridébit in die novíssima. Os suum aperuit sapiéntiæ, et lex cleméntiæ in lingua ejus. Considerávit sémitas domus suæ, et panem otiósa non comédit. Surrexérunt fílii ejus, et beatíssimam prædicavérunt: vir ejus, et laudávit eam. Multæ filiæ congregavérunt divítias: tu supergréssa es univérsas. Fallax grátia, et vana est pulchritúdo: múlier timens Dóminum ipsa laudábitur. Date ei de fructu mánuum suarum: et laudent eam in portis ópera ejus

**GRADUAL Psalms 123: 7, 8**

Anima nostra, sicut passer, erépta est de láqueo venántium. Láqueus contrítus est, et nos liberáti sumus: adjutórium nostrum in nómine Dómini, qui fecit cælum et terram.

**LESSER ALLELUIA**

Allelúja, allelúja. Hæc est véra fratérnitas, quæ vicit mundi crímina: Christum secúta est, inclyta tenens regna cæléstia. Allelúja.

**GOSPEL Matthew 12: 46-50**

In illo témpore: Loquénse Jesu ad turbas, ecce mater ejus, et fratres stabant foris, quæréntes loqui ei. Dixit autem ei quidam: Ecce mater tua, et fratres tui foris stant, quæréntes te. At ipse respóndens dicénte sibi, ait: Quæ est mater Mea, et qui sunt fratres Mei? Et exténdens manum in discípulos Suos dixit: Ecce mater Mea et fratres Mei. Quicumque enim fécerit voluntátem Patris Mei, Qui in Cælis est: ipse Meus frater et soror, et mater est.

**OFFERTORY Psalms 123: 7**

Anima nostra, sicut passer, erépta est de láqueo venántium. Láqueus contrítus est, et nos liberáti sumus.

**SECRET**

Sacrificiis præsentibus, quæsumus, Dómine inténde placátus: et, intercedéntibus Sanctis tuis, devotióni nostræ proficiant, et salúti. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

**COMMUNION Matthew 12: 50**

Quicumque fécerit voluntátem Patris Mei, Qui in Cælis est: ipse Meus frater, et soror, et mater est, dicit Dóminus.

**POSTCOMMUNION**

Deus: ut intercedéntibus Sanctis tuis, illius salutáris capiámus efféctum: cujus per hæc mystéria pignus accépimus. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Praise the Lord, ye children, praise ye the name of the Lord; Who maketh the barren woman to dwell in a house, the joyful mother of children. (Ps. 112: 2) Blessed be the name of the Lord, from henceforth, now and forever. 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. Praise the Lord, ye children, praise ye the name of the Lord; Who maketh the barren woman to dwell in a house, the joyful mother of children.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty God, that, we, who have known the courage of the glorious martyrs in their confessing Thee, may experience their kindness in interceding for us with 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.

Who shall find a valiant woman? the price of her is as of things brought from afar off, and from the uttermost coasts. The heart of her husband trusteth in her, and he shall have no need of spoils. She will render him good and not evil all the days of her life. She hath sought wool and flax, and hath wrought by the counsel of her hands: she is like the merchant's ship, she bringeth her bread from afar: and she hath risen in the night, and given a prey to her household, and victuals to her maidens: she hath considered a field and bought it; with the fruit of her hands she hath planted a vineyard. She hath girded her loins with strength, and hath strengthened her arm. She hath tasted and seen that her traffic is good; her lamp shall not be put out in the night. She hath put out her hands to strong things, and her fingers have taken hold of the spindle. She hath opened her hand to the needy, and stretched out her hands to the poor. She shall not fear for her house in the cold of snow: for all her domestics are clothed with double garments. She hath made for herself clothing of tapestry; fine linen and purple is her covering. Her husband is honorable in the gates, when he sitteth among the senators of the land. She made fine linen and sold it, and delivered a girdle to the Chanaanite. Strength and beauty are her clothing: and she shall laugh in the latter day. She hath opened her mouth to wisdom, and the law of clemency is on her tongue: she hath looked well to the paths of her house, and hath not eaten her bread idle. Her children rose up, and called her blessed; her husband, and he praised her. Many daughters have gathered together riches; thou hast surpassed them all. Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: the woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her works praise her in the gates.

Our soul hath been delivered, as a sparrow, out of the snare of the fowlers. The snare is broken, and we are delivered: our help is in the name of the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

Alleluia, alleluia. This is the true brotherhood, which overcame the wickedness of the world: it followed Christ, attaining the glorious kingdom of Heaven. Alleluia.

At that time: As Jesus was speaking to the multitudes, behold His mother and His brethren stood without seeking to speak to Him; and one said to Him, Behold Thy mother and Thy brethren stand without, seeking Thee. But He answering him that told Him, said, Who is My mother, and who are My brethren? And stretching forth His hand toward His disciples, He said, Behold My mother and My brethren: for whosoever shall do the will of My father that is in heaven, he is My brother, and sister, and mother.

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

Be appeased, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and look upon the sacrifices here before Thee, and may they, by the intercession of Thy saints, benefit both our devotion and our 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.

Whosoever shall do the will of My Father Who is in Heaven, he is My brother, and sister, and mother, saith the Lord.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty God, that, by the intercession of Thy saints, we may obtain the effect of that salvation of which we through these mysteries have received a pledge. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.