

SEPTEMBER 5, ST. LAWRENCE JUSTINIAN, BISHOP & CONFESSOR

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St. Lawrence Justinian was the first Patriarch of his native city, Venice. Renouncing the prospect of a noble marriage, he entered the Canons of St. George in Alga. All his revenues were spent on the poor and the building of new monasteries. God made it known that the safety of the glorious Venetian state was due, not to the diplomatic skill of her doges, or her formidable galleys, but to the holiness and merits of her bishop. He was a true fore-runner of the ecclesiastical reform later carried out by the Council of Trent. He died on January 8, 1455, a model of humility and pastoral zeal. Innocent XII fixed his feast on this day, the anniversary of his episcopal consecration.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 45: 30

Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et princípem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum. (Ps. 131: 1) Meménto, Dómine, David et omnis mansuetúdinis ejus. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculórum. Amen. Státuit ei Dóminus testaméntum pacis, et princípem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii dignitas in aetérnum.

COLLECT

Da, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut beáti Lauréntii Confessoris tui atque Pontificis veneránda solémnitas, et devotiónem nobis áugeat, et salutem. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

LESSON

Ecclesiasticus 44:16-27: 45:3-20

Ecce sacérdo magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo, et invéntus est iustus: et in témpore iracúndiæ factus est reconciliátio. Non est invéntus similis illi, qui conservávit legem Excélsi. Ideo jurejurándo fecit illum Dóminus créscere in plebem suam. Benedictiónem ómnium géntium dedit illi, et testaméntum suum confirmávit super caput ejus. Agnóvit eum in benedictiónibus suis: conservávit illi misericórdiam suam: et invenit grátiam coram óculis Dómini. Magnificávit eum in conspéctu regum: et dedit illi corónam glóriæ. Státuit illi testaméntum aetérnum, et dedit illi sacerdotium magnum: et beatificávit illum in glória. Fungi sacerdotio, et habére laudem in nómine ipsíus, et offerre illi incensum dignum in odórem suavitátis.

GRADUAL Ecclesiasticus 44: 16

Ecce sacérdo magnus, qui in diébus suis plácuít Deo. (Ecclus 44: 20) Non est invéntus similis illi, qui conserváret legem Excélsi.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 109: 4

Allelúja, allelúja. Tu es sacérdo in aetérnum, secúndum órđinem Melchisedech. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 25: 14-23

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discíplis suis parábolam hanc: Homo péregre proficiscens vocávit servos suos, et trádidit illis bona sua. Et uni dedit quinque talénta, álii autem duo, álii vero unum, unicuque secúndum próprium virtútem, et proféctus est statim. Abiit autem, qui quinque talénta accéperat, et operátus est in eis, et lucrátus est ália quinque. Simíliter et, qui duo accéperat, lucrátus est ália duo. Qui autem unum accéperat, ábiens fodit in terram, et abscóndit pecúniám dómini sui. Post multum vero témporis venit dóminus servórum illórum, et pósuit ratiónem cum eis. Et accédens qui quinque talénta accéperat, óbtulit ália quinque talénta, dicens: Dómine, quinque talénta tradidisti mihi, ecce, ália duo lucrátus sum. Ait illi dóminus ejus: Euge, serve bone et fidéls, quia super pauca fuísti fidéls, super multa te constítuam: intra in gáudium dómini tui. Accéssit autem et qui duo talénta accéperat, et ait: Dómine, duo talénta tradidisti mihi, ecce, ália duo lucrátus sum. Ait illi dóminus ejus: Euge, serve bone et fidéls, quia super pauca fuísti fidéls, super multa te constítuam: intra in gáudium dómini tui.

OFFERTORY Psalms 88: 21-22

Invéni David servum meum, óleo sancto meo unxi eum: manus enim mea auxiliábitur ei, et bráchium meum confortábit eum.

SECRET

Sancti tui, quæsumus, Dómine, nos úbique lætificent: ut, dum eórum mérita recólimus, patrocínia sentiámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

COMMUNION Luke 12: 42

Fidéls servus et prudens, quem constítuit dóminus super familiam suam: ut det illis in témpore trítici mensúram.

POSTCOMMUNION

Præsta, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut, de percéptis munéribus grátias exhibéntes, intercedénte beáto Lauréntio Confessóre tuo atque Pontífice, benefícia potióra sumámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spirítus Sancti Deus, per ómnia saecula saeculórum.

The Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever. (Ps. 131: 1) O Lord, remember David and all his meekness. 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. The Lord made to him a covenant of peace, and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty God, that the august solemnity of Thy blessed confessor and bishop, Lawrence, may increase our devotion and promote 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.

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God, and was found just; and in the time of wrath was made a reconciliation. There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High. Therefore by an oath the Lord made him increase among his people. He gave him the blessing of all nations, and confirmed His covenant upon his head. He acknowledged him in His blessings: He preserved for him His mercy: and he found grace before the eyes of the Lord. He glorified him in the sight of kings, and gave him a crown of glory. He made an everlasting covenant with him; and gave him a great priesthood; and made him blessed in glory. To execute the office of the priesthood and to have praise in his name, and to offer to him worthy incense for an odor of sweetness.

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God. (Ecclus 44: 20) There was not any found like to him, who kept the law of the Most High.

Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art a priest according to the order of Melchisedech. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus spoke this parable to His disciples: A man going into a far country called his servants, and delivered to them his goods. And to one he gave five talents, and to another two, and to another one, to every one according to his proper ability: and immediately he took his journey. And he that had received the five talents, went his way, and traded with the same, and gained other five. And in like manner he that had received the two, gained other two. But he that had received the one, going his way digged into the earth, and hid his lord's money. But after a long time the lord of those servants came, and reckoned with them. And he that had received the five talents coming, brought other five talents, saying: Lord, thou didst deliver to me five talents, behold I have gained other five over and above. His lord said to him: Well done, good and faithful servant, because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. And he also that had received the two talents came and said: Lord, thou deliveredst two talents to me: behold I have gained other two. His lord said to him: Well done, good and faithful servant: because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

I have found David My servant, with My holy oil I have anointed him: for My hand shall help him, and My arm shall strengthen him.

May Thy saints, we beseech Thee, O Lord, everywhere make us joyful, that, while we venerate their merits, may experience their patronage. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

This is the faithful and wise steward, whom his lord setteth over his family: to give them their measure of wheat in due season.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that as we thank You for the favors we have received, we may, by the intercession of blessed Lawrence, Thy Confessor and Bishop, obtain still greater blessings. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.