

OCTOBER 7, MOST HOLY ROSARY OF THE BVM

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October 7 is the anniversary of the glorious victory won in 1571 by the Christian forces over the Turkish fleet at Lepanto. This triumph of the Cross over the Crescent was universally attributed to the powerful intercession of the Mother of God, whom Pope Pius V fervently invoked with her Rosary in his hand, and to whom the prayers of all Christendom were addressed. Two years after this great favor had been obtained, Gregory XIII instituted an annual feast of thanksgiving to be celebrated on the First Sunday of October in all churches where an altar in honor of the Blessed Virgin of the Rosary had been erected. From being a local festival, this celebration gradually spread and became general, until Leo XIII raised it to the rank of a double of the second class for the whole Church.

The devotion of the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary dates at least from the Twelfth Century. The glory of having spread this form of prayer with such extraordinary success is certainly due to the Dominican Order, and, owing to their zeal, the Rosary soon became the most popular devotion throughout the Christian world.

The Holy Rosary as it is now recited, and enriched with great indulgences, represents, after the Divine Office, what may be described as a popular Breviary of the Gospel. By meditating on the appropriate mysteries, it may be adapted to the Liturgical Cycle, and because it unites vocal with mental prayer the Rosary is regarded as the most beautiful and approved devotion of the Latin Church.

Commemoration of St. Mark, Pope: St. Mark, a Roman priest, was the right hand of Pope St. Sylvester, during the latter's pontificate, and finally succeeded him. St. Mark's term as Pope lasted only eight months, for he was called to his eternal reward in the year 336.

INTROIT

Gaudeámus ómnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beátæ Mariæ Vírginis: de cujus solemnitate gaudent Angeli, et colláudant Fílium Dei. (Ps. 44: 2) Eructávit cor meum verbum bonum: dico ego ópera mea Regi. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Gaudeámus ómnes in Dómino, diem festum celebrántes sub honóre beátæ Mariæ Vírginis: de cujus solemnitate gaudent Angeli, et colláudant Fílium Dei.

COLLECT

Deus, cujus Unigénitus, per vitam, mortem et resurrectionem suam nobis salutis aeternæ præmia comparávit: concéde, quæsumus; ut, hæc mystéria sanctíssimo beátæ Mariæ Vírginis Rosário recolentes, et imitémur quod cónitent, et quod promittunt, assequámur. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For St. Mark, Pope)

Gregem tuum, Pastor aetérne, placátus inténde: et, per beátum Marcum Summum Pontificem, perpétua protectióne custódi; quem totíus Ecclésiæ præstitisti esse pastórem. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

LESSON Proverbs 8: 22, 24, 32, 35

Dóminus possédit me in iníitio viárum suárum, ántequam quidquam fáceret a princípío. Ab aetérno ordináta sum, et ex antiquis ántequam terra fieret. Nondum erant abyssi, et ego jam concépta eram. Nunc ergo, audíte me: Beáti, qui custódiunt filii meas. Audíte disciplinam, et estóte sapiéntes, et nolíte abjícere eam. Beátus homo, qui audit me, et qui vígilat ad fores meas quotidie, et obsérvat ad postes óstíi mei. Qui me invénerit, invéniet vitam, et háuriet salutem a Dómino.

GRADUAL Psalms 44: 5, 11, 12

Propter veritátem, et mansuetúdinem, et justítiam: et dedúcet te mirábiliter dextera tua. Audi, filia, et vide, et inclína aurem tuam: quia concupívit Rex spécíem tuam. Allelúja, allelúja. Solémnitas gloriósæ Vírginis Mariæ ex sémíne Ábrahæ, orta de tribu Juda, clara ex stirpe David. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Luke 1: 26-38

In illo témpore: Missus est Ángelus Gábriel a Deo in civitátem Galilææ, cui nomen Názareth, ad Vírginem desponsátam viro, cui nomen Joseph, de domo David, et nomen Vírginis Mariæ. Et ingræssus Ángelus ad eam, dixit: Ave, grátia plena: Dóminus tecum: benedícta tu in muliéribus. Quæ cum audíisset, turbáta est in sermóne ejus, et cogitábat, qualis esset ista salutátio. Et ait Ángelus ei: Ne tímeas, María, invenisti enim grátiam apud Deum: ecce concípies in útero, et páries fílium, et vocábis nomen ejus Jesum. Hic erit magnus, et Fílius Altíssimi vocábitur, et dabit illi Dóminus Deus sedem David patris ejus: et regnábít in domo Jacob in aetérnum, et regnía ejus non erit finis. Dixit autem María ad Ángelum: Quómodo fiet istud, quóniam virum non cognóscó? Et respóndens Ángelus, dixit ei: Spíritus Sanctus supervéniet in te, et virtus Altíssimi obumbrábit tibi. Ideóque et quod nascétur ex te Sanctum, vocábitur Fílius Dei. Et ecce Elísabeth cognáto tua, et ipsa concépit fílium in senectúte sua: et hic mensis sextus est illi, quæ vocátur stérilis: quia non erit impossibile apud Deum omne verbum. Dixit autem María: Ecce ancílla Dómini, fiat mihi secúndum verbum tuum.

OFFERTORY Ecclesiasticus

24: 25, 39, 17

In me grátia omnis viæ et veritátis, in me omnis spes vitæ et virtútis: ego quasi rosa plantáta super rivos aquárum fructificávi.

SECRET

Fac nos quæsumus, Dómine, his munéribus offeréndis conveniénter aptári: et per sacratíssimi Rosárii mystéria sic vitam, passiónem, et glóriam Unigéniti tui recólere; ut ejus digni missiónibus efficiámur: qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For St. Mark, Pope)

Oblátis munéribus, quæsumus, Dómine, Ecclésiám tuam benígnus illúmina: ut, et gregis tui proficiat ubique succéssus, et grati fiant nómini tuo, te gubernánte, pastóres. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE BVM

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, aetérne Deus: Et te in Festivitate beátæ Mariæ semper Vírginis collaudáre, benedicere et prædicáre. Quæ et Unigénitum tuum Sancti Spíritus obumbratióne concépit: et virginitátis glória permanénte, lumen Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Angeli, adorant Dominatiónes, tremunt Potestátes. Cæli cælórumque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia exultatióne concélebrant. Cum et nostras voces ut admitti júbeas, deprecámur, súplici confessióne dicéntes:

COMMUNION

Ecclesiasticus 39: 19

Floréte flores, quasi lílium, et date odórem, et frondéte in grátiam, collaudáte cánticum et benedicíte. Dóminum in opéribus suis.

POSTCOMMUNION

Sanctíssimæ Genitrícis tuæ, cujus Rosárium celebrámus, quæsumus Dómine, præcibus adjuvémur: ut et mysteriórum, quæ cólimus, virtus percipiátur; et sacramentórum, quæ sumpsimus, obtineátur effectus: Qui vivis et regnas, cum Deo Patre in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(For St. Mark, Pope)

Refectióne sanctæ enutritam guberná, quæsumus, Dómine, tuam placátus Ecclésiám: ut, poténti moderatióne dirécta, et increménta libertátis accipiat et in religiónis integritate persístat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a feast in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary: on whose solemnity the angels rejoice and join in praising the Son of God. (Ps. 44: 2) My heart hath uttered a good word; I speak my works to the King. 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. Let us all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a feast in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary: on whose solemnity the angels rejoice and join in praising the Son of God.

God, Whose only-begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection hath purchased for us the rewards of eternal life: grant, we beseech Thee, that, meditating on the mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

O eternal Shepherd, do Thou look favorably upon Thy flock, which we beseech Thee to guard and keep for evermore through blessed Mark, Supreme Pontiff, whom Thou didst choose to be the chief shepherd of the whole Church. 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 Lord possessed me in the beginning of His ways, before He made anything, from the beginning. I was set up from eternity, and of old, before the earth was made. The depths were not as yet, and I was already conceived. Now, therefore, ye children, hear me: blessed are they that keep my ways. Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not. Blessed is the man that heareth me, and that watcheth daily at my gates; and waiteth at the posts of my doors. He that shall find me, shall find life, and shall have salvation from the Lord.

Because of truth, and meekness, and justice: and thy right hand shall conduct thee wonderfully. Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear; for the King hath desired thy beauty. Alleluia, alleluia. The solemnity of the glorious Virgin Mary, of the seed of Abraham, sprung from the tribe of Juda, of the noble line of David. Alleluia.

At that time, the Angel Gabriel was sent from God into a city of Galilee, called Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David: and the virgin's name was Mary. And the Angel being come in, said unto her: Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. Who having heard, was troubled at his saying and thought with herself what manner of salutation this should be. And the Angel said to her: Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found grace with God. Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a Son; and thou shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of David His father: and He shall reign in the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there shall be no end. And Mary said to the Angel, How shall this be done, because I know not man? And the angel answering said to her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee. And therefore also the Holy which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And behold thy cousin Elizabeth, she also hath conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her that is called barren; because no word shall be impossible with God. And Mary said: Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done to me according to thy word.

In me is all grace of the way and of the truth; in me is all hope of life and of virtue. Like a rose planted on the rivers I have borne fruit.

Grant us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to be fittingly prepared for the offering of these gifts, and, through the mysteries of the most holy Rosary, so to meditate upon the life, passion, and glory of Thine only-begotten Son and that we should become worthy of His promises. Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

In Thy loving kindness we beseech Thee, O Lord, be moved by the offering of our gifts and enlighten Thy Church: that Thy flock may prosper everywhere and the shepherds, under Thy guidance, may be rendered pleasing to Thy name. 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: and that we should praise and bless, and proclaim Thee in this feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, ever Virgin: Who also conceived Thine only-begotten Son by the Holy Spirit, and the glory of her virginity still abiding, gave forth to the world the everlasting Light, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Whom the Angels praise Thy Majesty, the Dominations worship it, the Powers stand in awe. The Heavens and the Heavenly hosts together with the blessed Seraphim in triumphant chorus unite to celebrate it. Together with them we entreat Thee, that Thou mayest bid our voices also to be admitted, while we say in lowly praise:

Send forth flowers, as the lily, and yield a smell, and bring forth leaves in grace, and praise with canticles, and bless the Lord in His works.

May we be assisted, we beseech Thee, O Lord, by the prayers of Thy most holy Mother, whose Rosary we celebrate, that the virtue of the mysteries we adore may be shared and the effect of the sacraments we have received may be obtained. Who liveth and reigneth with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Since Thy Church has been nourished by the sacred repast, govern her in Thy clemency, we beseech Thee, O Lord, so that under the guidance of Thy mighty rule she may enjoy greater freedom and abiding integrity of religion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.