MAY 13, ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

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St. Robert Bellarmine, of whom Pope Clement VIII said: "The Church of God had not his equal in learning," was born in 1542 at Montepulciano and died in 1621. He entered the Society of Jesus, was made a Cardinal, and distinguished himself by his teaching, preaching, writing, and defense of the rights of the Church. During St. Aloysius' last years, St. Robert was his spiritual director. He was beatified in 1923, canonized and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1931. He is the patron of catechetical instruction.

INTROIT Ecclesiasticus 15: 5

In médio Ecclésiæ apéruit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spíritu sapiéntiæ et intellectus: stolam glóriæ índuit eum. Allelúja, allelúja. (Ps. 91: 2) Bonum est confitéri Dómino: et psállere nómini tuo Altíssime. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. In médio Ecclésiæ apéruit os ejus: et implévit eum Dóminus spíritu sapiéntiæ et intellectus: stolam glóriæ índuit eum. Allelúja, allelúja.

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.

COLLECT

Deus, qui ad errórum insídias repelléndas et apostólicæ Sedis jura propugnánda, beátum Robértum Pontíficem tuum atque Doctórem mira eruditióne et virtúte decorásti: ejus méritis et intercessióne concéde; ut nos in veritátis amóre crescámus et errántium corda ad Ecclésiæ tuæ rédeant unitátem. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

O God, who didst adorn blessed Robert, Thy Bishop and Doctor, with marvelous learning and virtue to expose the deceptions of error and to defend the rights of the Apostolic see, grant that, by his merits and intercession, love for the truth may increase in us and the souls of the erring may return to the unity of Thy 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.

LESSON Wisdom 7: 7-14

Optávi, et datus est mihi sensus: et invocávi, et venit in me spíritus sapiéntiæ: et præpósui illam regnis et sédibus, et dívitias nihil esse duxi in comparatióne illius: nec comparávi illi lápidem pretiósum: quóniam omne aurum in comparatióne illius arena est exígua, et tamquam lutum æstimábitur argéntum in conspéctu illius. Super salútem et spéciem dilexi illam, et propósui pro luce habére illam: quóniam inextinguíbile est lumen illius. Venérunt autem mihi ómnia bona páriter cum illa, et innumerábilis honéstas per manus illius, et lætátus sum in ómnibus: quóniam antecedébat me ista sapiéntia, et ignorábam, quóniam horum ómnium mater est. Quam sine fictióne dídici et sine invídia communico, et honestátem illius non abscóndo. Infinítus enim thesáurus est homínibus: quo qui usi sunt, partícipes facti sunt amicítiæ Dei, propter disciplínæ dona commendáti.

I wished, and understanding was given me: and I called, and the spirit of wisdom came upon me; and I preferred her before kingdoms and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. Neither did I compare unto her any precious stone, for all gold in comparison of her is as a little sand, and silver in respect to her shall be counted as clay. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light, for her light cannot be put out. Now all good things came to me together with her, and innumerable riches through her hands. And I rejoiced in them all; for this wisdom went before me, and I knew not that she was the mother of them all; which I have learned without guile, and communicate without envy, and her riches I hide not; for she is an infinite treasure to men, which they that use, become the friends of God, being commended for the gifts of discipline.

GREATER ALLELUIA Daniel 12: 3

Allelúja, allelúja. Qui docti fúerint, fulgébunt quasi spléndor firmaménti.Allelúja. Qui ad justítiam erúdiant multos, quasi stellæ in perpétuas ætérnitátes. Allelúja.

Alleluia, alleluia. They that are learned shall shine as the brightness of the firmament. Alleluia. They that instruct many to justice, as stars for all eternity. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 5: 13-19

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

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.

OFFERTORY Psalms 72: 28

Mihi autem adhaerére Deo bonum est, pónere in Dómino Deo spem meam: ut annúntiem prænes prædicatiónes tuas in portis fíliæ Sion, Allelúja.

It is good for me to adhere to my God, to put my hope in my Lord, that I may declare all Thy praises in the gates of the daughter of Sion. Alleluia.

SECRET

Hóstias tibi, Dómine, in odórem suavitátis offérimus: et præsta; ut, beáti Robérti mónitis et exémplis edócti, per sémitam mandatórum tuórum dilatáto corde curámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

We offer this sacrifice unto Thee, O Lord, for an odor of sweetness; grant that, taught by the instruction and example of blessed Robert, we may with enlarged heart run the way of Thy commandments. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

PREFACE OF THE ASCENSION

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater ómnipotens, ætérne Deus: per Christum, Dóminum nostrum. Qui post resurrectiónem suam ómnibus discípulis suis maniféstus appáruit, et ipsis cernéntibus est elevátus in cælum, ut nos divinitátis suæ tríbueret esse partícipes. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatiónibus cumque omni milítia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus, sine fine dicéntes:

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:

COMMUNION Matthew 5: 14

Vos estis lux mundi: sic lúceat lux vestra coram homínibus, ut vídeant ópera vestra bona, et glorifícent Patrem vestrum qui in cælis est Allelúja.

You are the light of the world: so let your light shine before all men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father Who is in Heaven. Alleluia.

POSTCOMMUNION

Sacraménta, quæ súmpsimus, Dómine Deus noster, in nobis fóveant caritátis ardórem: quo beátus Robértus veheménter accénsus, pro Ecclésia tua se júgiter impendébat. Per Dóminum nostrum, Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

May the sacraments which we have received, O Lord, our God, inflame us with that fire of love which ardently consumed blessed Robert and led him to spend himself continually for Thy 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.