

JULY 3, ST. IRENÆUS, BISHOP & MARTYR

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St. Irenæus, born at Smyrna in Asia Minor, was a pupil of the Martyr St. Polycarp, Bishop of that city, and himself a favorite disciple of St. John the Evangelist. Later he became Bishop of Lyons in Gaul, where, with many other Christians, he was put to death for the Faith in 202. In his writings, many of which are still extant, St. Irenæus bears eloquent testimony to the primacy in the Church of St. Peter's See. His words are memorable: "It is necessary that the whole Church - that is to say, all the faithful scattered throughout the world - be in agreement with this Church by reason of her primacy for the Apostolic tradition was ever preserved in her."

INTROIT Malachi 2: 6

Lex veritatis fuit in ore ejus, et iniquitas non est inventa in labiis ejus: in pace, et in æquitate ambulavit mecum, et multos avertit ab iniquitate. (Ps. 77: 1) Attendite, pópule meus, legem meam: inclináte aures vestram in verba oris mei. Glória Patri et Filio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Lex veritatis fuit in ore ejus, et iniquitas non est inventa in labiis ejus: in pace, et in æquitate ambulavit mecum, et multos avertit ab iniquitate.

COLLECT

Deus, qui beato Irenæo Máryri tuo atque Pontífici tribuísti, ut et veritate doctrínæ expugnáret hæreses, et pacem Ecclésiæ feliciter confirmáret: da, quæsumus, plebi tuæ in sancta religióne constántiam: et pacem tuam nostris concéde temporibus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE 2 Timothy 3: 14-17; 4: 1-5

Carissime: Pérmáne in iis, quæ didicísti, et crédita sunt tibi: sciens a quo didiceris; et quia ab infántia sacras litteras nosti, quæ te possunt instrúere ad salutem, per fidem, quæ est in Christo Jesu. Omnis Scriptúra divínus inspiráta útilis est ad docéndum, ad arguéndum ad corripiéndum, ad erudiéndum in justítia: ut perféctus sit homo Dei, ad ómne opus bonum instrúctus. Testíficor coram Deo, et Jesu Christo, qui judicatúrus est vivos et mórtuos per advéntum ipsíus, et regnum ejus: prædica verbum, insta oportúne, importúne: árgue, óbseca, íncrepa in omni patiéntia, et doctrina. Erit enim tempus, cum sanam doctrinam non sustinébunt, sed ad sua desidéria coacervábunt sibi magístros, pruriéntes áuribus, et a veritate quidem auditum avértent, ad fábulas autem converténtur. Tu vero vigila, in ómnibus labóra, opus fac Evangelistæ, ministérium tuum imple.

GRADUAL Psalms 121: 8

Propter fratres meos, et próximos meos loquébar pacem de te. (Ps. 36: 37) Custódi innocéntiam, et vide æquitátem: quóniam sunt reliquiæ hómini pacífico.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Ecclesiasticus 6: 35

Allelúja, allelúja. In multítudine presbyterórum prudéntium sta, et sapiéntiæ illórum ex corde conjúngere, ut omnem narratiónem Dei possis audíre. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 10: 28-33

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discipulis Suis: Nolíte timére eos qui occídunt corpus, ánimam autem non possunt occídere; sed pótius timéte eum qui potens est ánimam et corpus pérdere in gehénnam. Nonne duo pásseres asse véneunt: et unus ex illis non cadet super terram sine Patre vestro? Vestri autem capilli cápituli omnes numeráti sunt. Nolíte ergo timére: multis passéribus melióre estis vos. Omnis ergo qui confitébitur me coram homínibus, confitébor et ego eum coram Patre Meo, Qui in Cælis est. Qui autem negáverit me coram homínibus, negábo et ego eum coram Patre meo, Qui in Cælis est.

OFFERTORY

Ecclesiasticus 24: 44

Doctrínam quasi antelucánum illúmino ómnibus, et enarrábo illam usque ad longinquum.

SECRET

Deus, Qui credéntes in Te pópulos nullis sinis cóncuti terróribus: dignáre preces et hóstias Tibi plebis, suscipere; ut pax a Tua pietáte concéssa, Christianórum fines abs hoste fáciat esse secúros. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

COMMUNION

Ecclesiasticus 24: 47

Vidéte quóniam non soli mihi laborávi, sed ómnibus exquiréntibus veritátem.

POSTCOMMUNION

Deus, auctor pacis et amátor, quem nosse, vívere, cui servíre, regnáre est: prótege ab ómnibus impugnatióibus súpplices tuos: ut, qui in defénsiône tua confidimus, beáti Irenæi Máryris tui atque Pontíficis intercessióne, nullíus hostilitátis arma timeámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and in equity, and turned many away from iniquity. (Ps. 77: 1) Attend, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. 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 law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and in equity, and turned many away from iniquity.

O God, Who didst vouchsafe unto blessed Irenæus, Thy martyr and bishop; by his strenuous teaching of the truth, utterly to confute heresies, and happily to establish peace in Thy Church: unto us Thy people, grant, we beseech Thee, to be steadfast in the practice of our holy religion, and in all our days to enjoy that peace which is from 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.

Dearly Beloved: Continue thou in those things which thou hast learned and which have been committed to thee: knowing of Whom thou hast learned them; and because from thy infancy thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which can instruct thee to salvation by the faith which is in Jesus Christ. All Scripture, inspired by God, is profitable to teach, to reprove, to correct, to instruct in justice, that the man of God may be perfect, furnished to every good work. I charge thee, before God and Jesus Christ, Who shall judge the living and the dead by His coming, and His kingdom: Preach the word: be instant in season, out of season; reprove, entreat, rebuke in all patience and doctrine. For there shall be a time when they shall not endure sound doctrine: but according to their own desires, they will heap to themselves teachers having itching ears, and will indeed turn away their hearing from the truth, but will be turned unto fables. But be thou vigilant, labor in all things, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill thy ministry.

For my brethren and companions' sake, I spake peace concerning thee. (Ps. 36: 37) Keep innocence and behold justice, for the prosperity of the peaceable man continues.

Alleluia, alleluia. Stand in the multitude of the ancients that are wise, and join thyself from thy heart to their wisdom, that thou mayest hear every discourse of God. Alleluia.

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples, Fear ye not them that kill the body, and are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him that can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing, and not one of them shall fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: better are you than many sparrows. Every one therefore that shall confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father Who is in Heaven. But he that shall deny Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father Who is in Heaven.

I make my doctrine to shine forth to all as the morning light, and I will declare it afar off.

O God, Who suffererest not the nations that believe in Thee to be shaken by any fear, deign, we beseech Thee, to receive the prayers and sacrifices of the people consecrated to Thee, that peace, the gift of Thy loving-kindness, may render Christian countries safe from every enemy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

See ye, that I have not labored for myself only, but for all that seek out the truth.

O God, the author and lover of peace, to know Whom is to live, and to serve Whom is to reign, protect us Thy suppliants from all assaults, that we, who trust in Thy defense, by the intercession of blessed Irenæus, Thy martyr and bishop, may not fear the arms of any of our foes. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.