

MONDAY AFTER THE 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

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Collect at St. Stephen on the Coelian Hill.
Station at the Four Holy Crowned Martyrs.

The circular church of the Proto-martyr Stephen is situated less than three hundred yards from the Basilica of the Four Holy Crowned Martyrs, which rises fortress-like on the hillside.

The relics of the titular saints are preserved in the crypt under the high altar. (There are three groups of four martyrs each in Roman History:

- Clement, Simpronianus, Claudius, and Nicostratus, buried *ad duas lauros* on the *Via Labicana*;
- a group of stone-cutters from Pannonia drowned in the river Save;
- and a group of four other martyrs from Albano)

The story of the judgment of Solomon, of which we find a representation even in the paintings at Pompeii, teaches that the Church herself, rather than the Synagogue, is the Mother of souls: the true Mother loves her children.

<div><div>INTROIT Psalms 53: 3-4</div><div>Deus, in nómine tuo salvum me fac, et in virtúte tua líbera me: Deus, exáudi oratiónem meam: áuribus pèrcipe verba oris mei. (Ps. 53: 5) Quóniam aliéni insurrexérunt in me: et fortes Quæsiérunt ánimam meam. Glória Patri et Filio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Deus, in nómine tuo salvum me fac, et in virtúte tua líbera me: Deus, exáudi oratiónem meam: áuribus pèrcipe verba oris mei.</div><div>COLLECT</div><div>Præsta, quæsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, observatiónes sacras ánnua devotióne recoléntes, et córpore tibi placeámus et mente. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.</div><div>LESSON Kings 3: 16-28</div><div>In diébus illis: Venérunt duæ mulíeres meretrices ad regem Salomónem, steterúntque coram eo, quarum una ait: Óbsecro, mi dómine: ego et múlíer hæc habitabámus in domo una, et péperi apud eam in cubículo. Tértia autem die postquam ego péperi, péperit et hæc: et erámus simul, nullúsque álius nobíscum in domo, excéptis nobis duábus. Mór্তুus est autem fílius mulíeris hujus nocte: dórmíens quippe opprèssit eum. Et consúrgens intempéstæ noctis siléntio, tultit fílium meum de látere meo ancíllæ tuæ dormiéntis, et collocávit in sinu suo: suum autem fílium, qui erat mór্তুus, pósuit in sinu meo. Cumque surrexíssem mane, ut darem lac filio meo, appáruit mór্তুus: quem diligéntius intuiens clara luce, deprehéndi non esse meum, quem genuíeram. Respondítque áltera múlíer Non est ita, ut dicis, sed fílius tuus mór্তুus est, meus autem vivit. E contráριο illa dicébat: Mentiris: fílius quippe meus vivit, et fílius tuus mór্তুus est. Atque in hunc modum contendébant coram rege. Tunc rex ait: Haec dicit Fílius meus vivit, et fílius tuus mór্তুus est. Et ista respóndit: Non, sed fílius tuus mór্তুus est, meus autem vivit. Dixit ergo rex: Affért mihi gládium. Cumque attulísset gládium coram rege: Divídite, inquit, infántem vivum in duas partes, et dat dimídiam partem uni, et dimídiam partem alteri. Dixit autem múlíer, cujus fílius erat vivus, ad regem - commóta sunt quippe víscera ejus super filio suo: - Óbsecro, dómine, date illi infántem virum, et nolíte interficere dum. E contráριο illa dicebat: Nec mihi nec tibi sit, sed diridátur. Respóndit rex et ait: Date huic infántem vivum, et non occidátur: hæc est enim mater ejus. Audívit itaque omnis Israel judícium, quod judicásset rex, et timuérunt regem, vidéntes sapiéntiam Dei esse in eo ad faciéndum judícium.</div><div>GRADUAL Psalms 30: 3</div><div>Esto mihi in Deum protectórem et in locum refúgii, ut salvum me fácias, (Ps. 70: 1) Deus, in te sperávi: Dómine, non confúndar in ætérnum.</div><div>TRACT Psalms 102: 10; 78: 8, 9</div><div>Dómine, non secúndum peccáta nostra, quæ fécimur nos: neque secúndum iniquitátes nostras retribuas nobis. (Ps. 78: 8-9) Dómine, ne memíneris iniquitátum nostrarum antiquarum: cito anticipet nos misericórdiæ tuæ, quia páuperes facti sumus nimis. (<i>Hic genuflectitur.</i>) Ádjuva nos, Deus, salutáris noster: et propter glóriam nóminis tui, Dómine, libera nos: et propítius esto peccátis nostris, propter nomen tuum.</div><div>GOSPEL John 2: 13-25</div><div>In illo témpore: Prope erat Pascha Judæórum, et ascéndit Jesus Jerosólymam: et invénit in templo vendéntes boves et oves et colúmbas, et nummulários sedéntes. Et cum fecísset quasi flagéllum de funículis, omnes ejécit de templo, oves quoque et boves, et nummulariórum effúdit æs et mensas subvértit. Et his, qui colúmbas vendébant, dixit: Auférte ista hinc, et nolíte fácere domum Patris mei domum negotiatiónis. Recordáti sunt vero discipuli ejus, quia scriptum est: Zelus domus tuæ comédit me. Respondérunt ergo Judæi, et dixerunt ei: Quod signum osténdis nobis, quia hæc facis? Respóndit Jesus et dixit eis: Sólvit templum hoc, et in tribus diébus excitábo illud. Dixérunt ergo Judæi: Quadraginta et sex annis ædificátum est templum hoc, et tu in tribus diébus excitábis illud? Ille autem dicébat de templo córporis sui. Cum ergo resurrexísset a mór্তুis, recordáti sunt discipuli ejus, quia hoc dicébat, et credidérunt Scriptúrae, et sermóni, quem dixit Jesus. Cum autem esset Jerosólymis in Pascha in die festo, multi credidérunt in nómine ejus, vidéntes signa ejus, quæ faciébat. Ipse autem Jesus non credébat semetípsum eis, eo quod ipse nosset omnes, et quia opus ei non erat, ut quis testimónium perhibéret de hómine: ipse enim sciébat, quid esset in hómine.</div><div>OFFERTORY Psalms 99: 1-2</div><div>Jubiláte Deo, omnis terra, servíte Dómino in lætítia: intráte in conspéctu ejus in exsultatióne: quia Dóminus ipse est Deus.</div><div>SECRET</div><div>Oblátum tibi, Dómine, sacrificium vivificet nos semper et múniat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.</div><div>PREFACE OF LENT</div><div>Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus: Qui corporáli jejúnio vítia cóprimis, mentem élevas, virtútem largiris et præmia: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adórant Dominatiónes, tremunt Potestátes. Cæli cælórumque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia exsultatióne concélebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces ut admítti júbeas, deprecámur, súpplíci confessiόne dicéntes:</div><div>COMMUNION Psalms 18: 13-14</div><div>Ab occúltis meis munda me, Dómine: et ab aliénis parce servo tuo.</div><div>POSTCOMMUNION</div><div>Sumptis, Dómine, salutáribus sacraméntis: ad redemptiόnis ætérnæ, quæsumus, proficiámus augméntum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.</div><div>PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE</div><div>Humiliáte cápita vestra Deo. Deprecatiónem nostram, quæsumus. Dómine, benígnus exáudi: et, quibus supplicándi præstas afféctum, tríbue restauratiónis auxílium. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.</div></div>	<div>Save me, O God, by Thy name, and in Thy strength deliver me: O God, hear my prayer: give ear to the words of my mouth. (Ps. 53: 5) For strangers have risen up against me: and the mighty have sought after my soul. 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. Save me, O God, by Thy name, and in Thy strength deliver me: O God, hear my prayer: give ear to the words of my mouth.</div> <div>We beseech Thee, O almighty God, grant that as year by year we devoutly keep these sacred fasts, we may please Thee both in body and mind. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.</div> <div>In those days there came two women that were harlots, to the king, and stood before him: And one of them said: I beseech thee, my lord, I and this woman dwelt in one house, and I was delivered of a child with her in the chamber. And the third day, after that I was delivered, she also was delivered, and we were together, and no other person with us in the house, only we two. And this woman's child died in the night: for in her sleep she overlaid him. And rising in the dead time of the night, she took my child from my side, while I thy handmaid was asleep, and laid it in her bosom: and laid her dead child in my bosom. And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold it was dead: but considering him more diligently when it was clear day, I found that it was not mine which I bore. And the other woman answered: It is not so as thou sayest, but thy child is dead, and mine is alive. On the contrary she said: Thou liest: for my child liveth, and thy child is dead. And in this manner they strove before the king. Then said the king: The one saith, My child is alive, and thy child is dead. And the other answereth: Nay, but thy child is dead, and mine liveth. The king therefore said: Bring me a sword. And when they had brought a sword before the king, Divide, said he, the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other. But the woman whose child was alive, said to the king, (for her heart was moved upon her child,) I beseech thee, my lord, give her the child alive, and do not kill it. But the other said: Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it. The king answered, and said: Give the living child to this woman, and let it not be killed, for she is the mother thereof. And all Israel heard the judgment which the king had judged, and they feared the king, seeing that the wisdom of God was in him to do judgment.</div> <div>Be Thou unto me O God, a Protector, and a place of refuge, to save me. (Ps. 70: 1) O God, in Thee have I hoped: O Lord, let me never be confounded.</div> <div>O Lord, repay us not according to the sins we have committed, nor according to our iniquities. (Ps. 78: 8-9) O Lord, remember not our former iniquities, let Thy mercies speedily prevent us; for we are become exceeding poor. (<i>Here kneel.</i>) Help us, O God, our Savior, and for the glory of Thy name, O Lord, deliver us: and forgive us our sins for Thy name's sake.</div> <div>At that time, the Pasch of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And he found in the temple them that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting. And when he had made, as it were, a scourge of little cords, he drove them all out of the temple, the sheep also and the oxen, and the money of the changers he poured out, and the tables he overthrew. And to them that sold doves he said: Take these things hence, and make not the house of my Father a house of traffic. And his disciples remembered, that it was written: The zeal of thy house hath eaten me up. The Jews, therefore, answered, and said to him: What sign dost thou shew unto us, seeing thou dost these things? Jesus answered, and said to them: Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. The Jews then said: Six and forty years was this temple in building; and wilt thou raise it up in three days? But he spoke of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen again from the dead, his disciples remembered, that he had said this, and they believed the scripture, and the word that Jesus had said. Now when he was at Jerusalem, at the Pasch, upon the festival day, many believed in his name, seeing his signs which he did. But Jesus did not trust himself unto them, for that he knew all men, And because he needed not that any should give testimony of man: for he knew what was in man.</div> <div>Sing joyfully to God all the earth, serve ye the Lord with gladness; come in before His presence with exceeding great joy: for the Lord, He is God.</div> <div>May the Sacrifice we offer up to Thee, O Lord, be ever our life and our protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.</div> <div>It is truly fitting and just, proper and beneficial, that we should always and everywhere, give thanks unto Thee, holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God. Who by this bodily fast, dost curb our vices, dost lift up our minds and bestow on us strength and rewards; through Christ our Lord. Through Whom the Angels praise Thy majesty, the Dominations adore, the Powers tremble: the heavens and the hosts of heaven, and the blessed Seraphim, together celebrate in exultation. With whom, we pray Thee, command that our voices of supplication also be admitted in confessing Thee saying:</div> <div>From my secret sins cleanse me, O Lord: and from those of others spare Thy servant.</div> <div>We have received the Sacraments of salvation, O Lord, and beg that an increase of eternal redemption for us may be their fruit. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.</div> <div>Bow your heads to God. Mercifully hear our supplication, we beseech Thee, O Lord: and to those to whom Thou givest the desire to pray, grant the help of Thy protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.</div>
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