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Common of Saints, Ritual Masses, Masses for Various Needs, Votive Masses and Masses for the Dead

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS



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THE COMMON OF MARTYRS

713 READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

1

Zechariah was stoned to death in the court of the LORD's temple.

A reading from the second Book of Chronicles

24:18-22

The princes of Judah forsook the temple of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and began to serve the sacred poles and the idols; and because of this crime of theirs, wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem.

Although prophets were sent to them to convert them to the LORD, the people would not listen to their warnings.

Then the spirit of God possessed Zechariah, son of Jehoiada the priest.

He took his stand above the people and said to them: "God says, 'Why are you transgressing the LORD's commands, so that you cannot prosper?

Because you have abandoned the LORD, he has abandoned you."

But the people conspired against him, and at the king's order they stoned him to death in the court of the LORD's temple.

Thus King Joash was unmindful of the devotion shown him by Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, and slew his son.

And as he was dying, he said, "May the Lord see and avenge."

The word of the Lord.

2

I am suffering it with joy in my soul because of my devotion to him.

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

6:18, 21, 24-31

Eleazar, one of the foremost scribes, a man of advanced age and noble appearance, was being forced to open his mouth to eat pork.



Over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

3:12-17

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.

And over all these put on love,

that is, the bond of perfection.

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one Body.

And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

For Widows

12

The real widow, who is all alone, has set her hope on God.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

5:3-10

D eloved:

D Honor widows who are truly widows.

But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let these first learn to perform their religious duty to their own family and to make recompense to their parents, for this is pleasing to God.

The real widow, who is all alone,

has set her hope on God

and continues in supplications and prayers night and day.

2. CONFERRAL OF INFANT BAPTISM

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

756

FIRST OPTION

Give us water to drink (Exodus 17:2).

A reading from the Book of Exodus

17:3-7

In their thirst for water, the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "Why did you ever make us leave Egypt? Was it just to have us die here of thirst with our children and our livestock?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? A little more and they will stone me!" The Lord answered Moses, "Go over there in front of the people, along with some of the elders of Israel, holding in your hand, as you go, the staff with which you struck the river. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb. Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink." This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel. The place was called Massah and Meribah, because the children of Israel quarreled there and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD in our midst or not?"

777 RESPONSORIAL PSALM

FIRST OPTION

16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11

- R). (see 5a) You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;
 - I say to the LORD, "My Lord are you."
- O Lord, my allotted portion and my cup, you it is who hold fast my lot.
 - R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- I bless the LORD who counsels me; even in the night my heart exhorts me.

- I set the LORD ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.
 - R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- You will show me the path to life, fullness of joys in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.
 - R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.

SECOND OPTION

24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6

- R). (see 6) Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
- The LORD's are the earth and its fullness;

the world and those who dwell in it. For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

- R). Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
- Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?
 - or who may stand in his holy place?

- He whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain.
 - R). Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
- He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,

a reward from God his savior. Such is the race that seeks for him, that seeks the face of the God of

Jacob.

R). Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

863

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT



They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

2:1-11

Then the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews

from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem.

At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd,

but they were confused

because each one heard them speaking in his own language.

They were astounded, and in amazement they asked,

"Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his own native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites,

inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God."

GOSPEL

937

FIRST OPTION

Christ bore our diseases.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

8:14-17

Tesus entered the house of Peter, and saw Peter's mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. Jesus touched her hand, the fever left her, and she rose and waited on him.

When it was evening, people brought Jesus many who were possessed by demons, and he drove out the spirits by a word and cured all the sick, to fulfill what had been said by Isaiah the prophet:

He took away our infirmities and bore our diseases.

The Gospel of the Lord.

SECOND OPTION

They will lay hands on the sick and they will recover.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

16.15-20

Tesus appeared to the Eleven and said to them: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned.

These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons,

they will speak new languages.

They will pick up serpents with their hands,

and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them.

They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God.

But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Let us condemn him to a shameful death.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

2:1a, 12-22

The wicked said among themselves, thinking not aright: "Let us beset the just one, because he is obnoxious to us; he sets himself against our doings,

Reproaches us for transgressions of the law and charges us with violations of our training.

He professes to have knowledge of God and styles himself a child of the LORD.

To us he is the censure of our thoughts; merely to see him is a hardship for us.

Because his life is not like that of others, and different are his ways.

He judges us debased;

he holds aloof from our paths as from things impure.

He calls blest the destiny of the just and boasts that God is his Father.

Let us see whether his words be true; let us find out what will happen to him.

For if the just one be the son of God, he will defend him and deliver him from the hand of his foes.

With revilement and torture let us put the just one to the test that we may have proof of his gentleness and try his patience.

Let us condemn him to a shameful death;

for according to his own words, God will take care of him."

These were their thoughts, but they erred;

for their wickedness blinded them,

And they knew not the hidden counsels of God; neither did they count on a recompense of holiness nor discern the innocent souls' reward.

II. THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY

The following readings for the votive Mass of the Holy Name of Mary may also be used in the votive Mass for the Blessed Virgin Mary.

FIRST READING

FIRST OPTION

God sent his Son, born of a woman.

4:4-7

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

Prothers and sisters:
When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

As proof that you are sons,
God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,
crying out, "Abba, Father!"
So you are no longer a slave but a son,

and if a son then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord.

OR

SECOND OPTION

He chose us in him before the foundation of the world.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him.

In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved.

In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ.

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