

Acts 7: 55, 58, 59

VIDEO cælos apertos, et Jesum stantem a dextris virtutis Dei: Domine Jesu, accipe spiritum meum, et ne statuas illis hoc peccatum.

AUXILIENTUR nobis Domine, sumpta mysteria: et, intercedente beato Stephano martyre tuo, sempiterna protectione confirment. Per Dominum.

PRÆSTA, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut natus hodie Salvator mundi, sicut divinae nobis generationis est auctor; ita et immortalitatis sit ipse largitor. Qui Tecum vivit et regnat.

COMMUNION

I see the heavens opened, and Jesus standing on the right hand of the power of God: Lord Jesus, receive my spirit, and lay not this sin to their charge.

POSTCOMMUNION

May the mysteries we have received, O Lord, help us, and through the intercession of blessed Stephen, Thy Martyr, establish us by Thine everlasting protection. Through our Lord.

COMMEMORATION of Christmas

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that as the Saviour of the world, born on this day, is the Author of our heavenly birth, so He may also be to us the Giver of immortality: Who with Thee liveth and reigneth.

PROPER of the MASS

ST STEPHEN

FIRST MARTYR OF THE CHURCH

December 26

Psalm 118: 23, 86, 1

SEDERUNT principes, et adversum me loquebantur: et iniqui persecuti sunt me: adjuva me, Domine Deus meus, quia servus tuus exercebatur in tuis justificationibus. *Ps.* Beati immaculati in via, qui ambulant in lege Domini. *Gloria Patri.*

DA nobis, quæsumus, Domine, imitari quod colimus: ut discamus et inimicos diligere; quia ejus natalitia celebramus, qui novit etiam pro persecutoribus exorare Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum Filium tuum Qui tecum vivit et regnat.

CONCEDE, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut nos Unigeniti tui nova per carnem nativitas liberet: quos sub peccati jugo vetusta servitus tenet. Per eūmdem Dóminum.

Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59

IN diebus illis: Stephanus autem plenus gratia et fortitudine, faciebat prodigia et signa magna in populo. Surrexerunt autem quidam de synagoga quæ appellatur Libertinorum et Cyrenensium et Alexandrinorum et eorum, qui erant a Cilicia et Asia disputantes cum Stephano: et non

INTROIT

Princes sat, and spoke against me: and the wicked persecuted me: help me, O Lord my God, for Thy servant was employed in Thy justifications. *Ps.* Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. Glory be to the Father

COLLECT

GRANT us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, so to imitate what we revere, that we may learn to love even our enemies: for we celebrate the heavenly birthday of him who knew how to pray for his very persecutors to our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son: Who liveth and reigneth.

COMMEMORATION of Christmas

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that the new birth of Thine only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free, who are held by the old bondage under the yoke of sin. Through the same our Lord.

EPISTLE

In those days Stephen, full of grace and fortitude, did great wonders and signs among the people. Now there arose some, of that which is called the synagogue of the Libertines and of the Cyrenians and of the Alexandrians and of them that were of Cilicia and Asia, disputing with Stephen; and they were not able to resist the wis-

poterant resistere sapientiae et Spiritui quo loquebatur. Audientes autem haec, dissecabantur cordibus suis, et stridebant dentibus in eum. Cum autem esset Stephanus plenus Spiritu Sancto intendens in celum vidi gloriam Dei, et Iesum stantem a dextris Dei. Et ait: Ecce video cælos apertos et Filium hominis a dextris stantem Dei. Exclamantes autem voce magna continuerunt aures suas, et impetum fecerunt unanimiter in eum. Et ejientes eum extra civitatem lapidabant: et testes deposuerunt vestimenta sua secus pedes adulescentis, qui vocabatur Saulus. Et lapidabant Stephanum invocantem, et dicentem: Domine Iesu suscipe spiritum meum. Positis autem genibus, clamavit voce magna, dicens: Domine ne statuas illis hoc peccatum. Et cum hoc dixisset, obdormivit in Domino.

Psalm 118. 23, 86, 117

SEDERUNT principes, et adversum me loquebantur: et iniqui persecuti sunt me. Aduja me, Domine Deus meus: salvum me fac propter misericordiam tuam.

Acts 7: 56

ALLELUIA, alleluia. Video cælos apertos, et Iesum stantem a dextris virtutis Dei. Alleluia.

Matthew 23: 34-39

IN illo tempore: Dicebat Jesus Scribis et Pharisæis: Ecce ego mitto ad vos prophetas et sapientes, et scribas, ex illis occidetis et crucifigetis, et ex eis flagellabitis in synagogis vestris, et persecuemini de civitate in civitatem: ut veniat super vos omnis sanguis justus qui effusus est super terram, a sanguine Abel justi usque ad sanguinem Zacharia filii Barachia, quem occidistis inter templum et altare. Amen dico vobis, venient haec omnia super generationem istam. Jerusalem, Jerusalem,

dom and the spirit that spoke. Now, hearing these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed with their teeth at him. But Stephen being full of the Holy Ghost, looking up steadfastly to heaven, saw the glory of God and Jesus standing on the right hand of God. And he said: Behold I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God. And they crying out with a loud voice stopped their ears, and with one accord ran violently upon him. And casting him forth without the city, they stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, invoking and saying: Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And falling on his knees he cried with a loud voice, saying: Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep in the Lord.

GRADUAL

Princes sat, and spoke against me: and the wicked persecuted me. Help me, O Lord my God: save me for Thy mercy's sake.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia. I see the heavens opened, and Jesus standing on the right hand of the power of God. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

At that time Jesus said to the Scribes and Pharisees: Behold I send to you prophets and wise men and scribes, and some of them you will put to death and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city: that upon you may come all the just blood that hath been shed upon the earth, from the blood of Abel the just even unto the blood of Zacharias the son of Bacharias, whom you killed between the temple and the altar. Amen I say to you, all these things shall come upon this generation. Jerusalem,

quæ occidis prophetas et lapidas eos qui ad te missi sunt quoties volui congregare filios tuos quemadmodum gallina congregat pullos suos sub alas et noluiti? Ecce relinquetur vobis domus vestra deserta. Dico enim vobis non me videbitis amodo donec dicatis: Benedictus, qui venit in nomine Domini.

Acts 6: 5; 7: 58

ELEGERUNT Apostoli Stephanum Levitam, plenum fide et Spiritu Sancto: quem lapidaverunt Judæi orantem, et discentem: Domine Jesu accipe spiritum meum. Alleluia.

SUSCIBE, Domine, munera pro tuorum commemoratione Sanctorum: ut, sicut illos passio gloriosos effecit; ita nos devotio reddat innocuos. Per Dominum.

OBLATA, Domine, munera Unigeniti tui nativitate sanctifica: nosque a peccatorum nostrorum maculis emunda. Per Dominum.

VERE dignum et justum est, æquum et salutare, nos tibi semper, et ubique grátiás agere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, aéterne Deus: Quia per incarnati Verbi mystérium, nova mentis nostræ óculis lux tuæ claritatis infúlxit: ut, dum visibiliter Deum cognoscimus, per hunc in invisibili amorem rapiámur. Et ideo cum Angelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Domini nationib, cumque omni milítia coeléstis exércitus, hymnum gloriæ tuæ cónimus, sine fine dicentes:

Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered together thy children as the hen doth gather her chickens under her wings, and thou wouldst not? Behold your house shall be left to you desolate. For I say to you, you shall not see me henceforth, till you say: Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

OFFERTORY

The Apostles chose Stephen to be a Leelite, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost: whom the Jews stoned, invoking and saying: Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. Alleluia.

SECRET

Receive, O Lord, our gifts, in commemoration of Thy Saints: that as suffering made them glorious, so our devotion may render us innocent. Through our Lord.

COMMEMORATION of Christmas

Sanctify, O Lord, the gifts offered to Thee, by the new birth of Thine Only-begotten Son: and cleanse us from the stains of our sins. Through our Lord.

CHRISTMAS PREFACE

It is truly meet and just, right and availing unto salvation that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty and everlasting God. Because by the mystery of the Word made flesh the light of Thy glory hath shone anew upon the eyes of our mind: that while we acknowledge Him to be God seen by men, we may be drawn by Him to the love of things unseen. And therefore with angels and archangels, with thrones and dominions, and with all the heavenly hosts, we sing a hymn to Thy glory, saying without ceasing: