



Traditional Latin Mass Liturgy

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

21st July, 2024

MASS

Israel had made himself the enemy to the Church; and God, as he had warned him, punishes and disperses his children. The Church takes occasion, from the fulfilment of the divine judgments, to profess the humble confidence she has in her Spouse's aid.

INTROIT: Behold! God is my helper and the Lord is the support of my soul: turn out the evils upon mine enemies, and cut them off in thy truth, O Lord, my protector. Ps. O God, in thy name save me: and, in thy strength, deliver me. Glory, &c. Behold.

COLLECT: May the ears of thy mercy, O Lord, be opened to the prayers of thy suppliants: and, that thou mayest grant to thy petitioners the things they desire, make them to ask those that are agreeable to thee. Through, etc.

LESSON OF THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS: (I Cor. x. 6-13.) Brethren: Let us not covet evil things as they also coveted. Neither become ye idolaters, as some of them, as it is written: The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed fornication, and there fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ: as some of them tempted, and perished by the serpents.

Neither do you murmur: as some of them murmured, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to

them in figure: and they are written for our correction, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore he that thinketh himself to stand, let him take heed lest he fall. Let no temptation take hold on you, but such as is human.

And God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that which you are able: but will make also with temptation issue, that you may be able to bear it.

GRADUAL: O Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is thy name over the whole earth! *Ps.* For thy majesty is above the heavens.

ALLELUIA ALLELUIA: *Ps.* Rescue me, O my God, from mine enemies: and, from them that rise up against me, deliver me. Alleluia

SEQUEL OF THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN: (Luke xix. 41 — 47.) At that time: When he drew near Jerusalem, seeing the city, he wept over it, saying: *If thou also hadst known, and that in this thy day, the things that are to thy peace; but now they are hidden from thy eyes.*

For the days shall come upon thee, and thy enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and straiten thee on every side, And beat thee flat to the ground, and thy children who are in thee: and they shall not leave in thee a stone upon a stone: because thou hast not known the time of thy visitation.

And entering into the temple, he began to cast out them that sold therein, and them that bought. Saying to them: **It is written: My house is the house of prayer. But you have made it a den of thieves.** And he was teaching daily in the temple.

In the Offertory of today's Mass, the Church delights in the thought that her children, aided by the grace of her divine Spouse, are all care to keep the commandments (the justices) of their Lord.

It is this obedience of theirs which renders those judgments a joy and a sweetness to them, whereas for the synagogue, they were so fearful. The Secret is a prayer that God would grant us children of the Church the grace of assisting worthily at the holy Sacrifice, which really renews, each time it is offered, the work of our salvation.

OFFERTORY: The justices of the lord are right, rejoicing hearts; and his precepts are sweeter than honey and the honey-comb; and therefore doth thy servant observe them.

HOMILY

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. My dear brethren

The Jews, oppressed by the Romans, revolted, killed many of their enemies, and drove them out of Jerusalem. Knowing well that this would not be permitted to pass unavenged, the Jews armed themselves for a desperate resistance.

The Emperor Nero sent a powerful army under the command of Vespasian against the city of Jerusalem, which first captured the smaller fortresses of Judea, and then laid siege to the city. The want and misery of the inhabitants had already reached the highest pitch; for within the city ambitious men had caused conflicts; factions had been formed, daily fighting each other, and reddening the streets with blood, while the angry Romans stormed outside. Then a short time of respite was granted to the unfortunate Jews.

The Emperor Nero was murdered at Rome in the year of our Lord 68; his successor Galba soon died, and the soldiers placed their beloved commander Vespasian upon the imperial throne. He then left Jerusalem with his army, but in the year he sent his son Titus with a new army to Judea, with orders to capture the city at any price, and to punish its inhabitants.

It was the time of Easter, and a multitude of Jews had assembled from all provinces of the land, when Titus appeared with his army before the gates of Jerusalem, and surrounded the city.

The supply of food was soon exhausted, famine and pestilence came upon the city and raged terribly. In three days his soldiers built a wall of about ten miles in circumference, and thus the Saviour's prediction was fulfilled: Thy enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and straiten thee on every side.

The famine in this unfortunate city now reached its most terrific height; the wretched inhabitants searched the very gutters for food, and ate the most disgusting things. From the fourteenth of April when the siege commenced to the first of July, there were counted one hundred and fifty-eight thousand dead bodies; six hundred thousand others were thrown over the walls into the trenches to save the city from infection.

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SECRET: Grant us, O Lord, we beseech thee, frequently and worthily to celebrate these mysteries: for, as many times as this commemorative sacrifice is celebrated, so often is the work of our salvation performed. Through, etc

The Communion Anthem expresses the mystery of divine Union, which is realised in the Sacrament just received.

COMMUNION: He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, abideth in me, and I in him, saith the Lord.

POST-COMMUNION: May the participation of this thy sacrament, O Lord, we beseech thee, both purify us, and unite us. Through, etc.

All who could flee, fled; some reached the camp of the Romans in safety; Titus spared the helpless, but all who fell into his hands armed, were crucified. Flight offered no better security. The Roman soldiers had learned that many Jews had swallowed, gold to secure it from the avarice of the robbers, and therefore the stomachs of many were cut open.

Two thousand such corpses were found one morning in the camp of the Romans. While the Temple was ablaze, the attackers plundered it, and countless people who were caught by them were slaughtered.

There was no pity for age and no regard was accorded rank; children and old men, laymen and priests, alike were butchered; every class was pursued and crushed in the grip of war, whether they cried out for mercy or offered resistance.

Through the roar of the flames streaming far and wide, the groans of the falling victims were heard; such was the height of the hill and the magnitude of the blazing pile that the entire city seemed to be ablaze; and the noise - nothing more deafening and frightening could be imagined. The flames in an instant caught the whole of the inner temple, and totally consumed it, so that this prediction of our Lord was also fulfilled.

The Romans butchered all the inhabitants whom they met, and Titus having razed the ruins of the temple and city, ploughed it over, to indicate that this city was never to be rebuilt. During the siege one million one hundred thousand Jews lost their lives; ninety-seven thousand were sold as slaves, and the rest of the people dispersed over the whole earth.

Thus God punished the impenitent city and nation, over whose wretchedness the Saviour wept so bitterly, and thus was fulfilled the prediction made by Him long before. That as this prediction so also all other threats and promises of the Saviour will be fulfilled.

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The destruction of the city and temple of Jerusalem, the dispersion of the Jews, are historical facts which cannot be denied, and testify through all centuries to the truth of our Lord's word: Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. (Matt. XXIV. 35.)

The prophecies of our Lord, as well as his miracles, were many, and of great variety. They were not delivered with pomp and parade, but rose out of occasions, and seem to have resulted, for the most part, from his affectionate solicitude for those who then were, or might afterwards become, his disciples.

While the fulfilment of some of these predictions was confined to the term of his mission and the limits of his

country, the accomplishment of others extended to all nations, and to every future age of the world.

Jesus prophesied both the destruction of the temple and Jerusalem; therefore, it is necessary to discuss both prophecies in order to clearly understand the events that happened 40 years later. "Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. 'Do you see all these things?' he asked. 'I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down'" (Matt.24:1-8 NIV). See also Lk.21:5-6.



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