

Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church

A Catholic church is not a merely assembly room for the faithful, but a place that is set apart permanently and with great solemnity as a special place of God's presence, like the Temple in Jerusalem during the old covenant. Traditionally, the anniversary of the dedication of each church is marked with a special celebration, and in many parts of Europe this day was also the date for the principal village feast.

White

2 Cl. (Duplex 2 Cl.)

INTROIT: *Gen. 28:17*

Terribilis est locus iste : hic domus Dei est, et porta cæli : et vocabitur aula Dei. Ps. 83:2, 3: Quam dilecta tabernacula tua, Domine virtutum : concupiscit, et deficit anima mea in atria Domini. *℟.* Gloria.

*Terrible is this place : it is the house of God, and the gate of heaven : and it shall be called the court of God. Ps. 83:2, 3: How lovely are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts : my soul longeth and fainteth for the courts of the Lord. *℟.* Glory.*

COLLECT

Deus, qui nobis per singulos annos hujus sancti templi tui consecrationis reparas diem, et sacris semper mysteriis repræsentas incolumes : exaudi preces populi tui, et præsta, ut quisquis hoc templum beneficia petiturus ingreditur, cuncta se impetrasse lætetur. Per Dominum.

O God, who renewest unto us every year the day of the consecration of this thy holy temple, and bringest us always in safety to the celebration of these sacred mysteries : graciously hear the prayers of thy people, and grant that whosoever shall enter this temple to ask blessings of thee, may rejoice in obtaining all his requests. Through our Lord.

LESSON: *Apoc. 21:2-5.*

Lectio libri Apocalypsis beati Joannis Apostoli.

A lesson from the book of the Apocalypse of St John the Apostle.

In diebus illis : Vidi sanctam civitatem Jerusalem novam descendentem de cælo a Deo, paratam sicut sponsam ornatam viro suo. Et audivi vocem magnam de throno dicentem : Ecce tabernaculum Dei cum hominibus, et habitabit cum eis. Et ipsi populus ejus erunt, et ipse Deus cum eis erit eorum Deus : et absterget Deus omnem lacrimam ab oculis eorum : et mors ultra non erit, neque luctus, neque clamor, neque dolor erit ultra, quia prima abierunt. Et dixit qui sedebat in throno : Ecce nova facio omnia.

In those days: I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice from the throne, saying: Behold the tabernacle of God with men; and he will dwell with them; and they shall be his people, and God himself with them shall be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and death shall be no more, nor mourning, nor crying, nor sorrow shall be any more, for the former things are passed away. And he that sat on the throne said: Behold, I make all things new.

GRADUAL

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inæstimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est. *℟.* Deus, cui adstat Angelorum chorus, exaudi preces servorum tuorum.

*This place hath been made by God; it is a mystery beyond measure, it is free from all stain. *℟.* O God, before whom the choir of Angels standeth, give ear to the prayer of thy servants.*

ALLELUIA: Ps. 137:2

Adorabo ad templum sanctum tuum : et *I will worship towards thy holy temple, and I will
confitebor nomini tuo. give glory to thy name.*

ad libitum: SEQUENCE

Jerusalem et Sion filiæ,
cœtus omnis fidei curiæ,
Melos pangat jugis lætitiæ, alleluia.

*Ye daughters of Sion and Jerusalem,
The assembly of all the court of faith,
Shall not cease to proclaim the song of joy, alleluia.*

Christus enim desponsat hodie
Matrem nostram norma justitiæ,
Quam de lacu traxit miseriæ, Ecclesiam.

*For Christ is marrying today,
According to the rule of justice, our mother,
The Church, whom he pulled out of the pit of misery.*

In Spiritus Sancti clementia
Sponsa Sponsi lætatur gratia,
A reginis laudis cum gloria felix dicta.

*In the meekness of the Holy Ghost
The bride rejoiceth about the grace of the bridegroom,
The queens call her happy, with the glory of praise.*

Dos ut datur crescit lætitia,
Quæ dos quanta triplex potentia,
Tangens cælum, terras et stygia, justitia.

*When the dowry is given, the happiness increaseth.
What is the dowry, what threefold power has it?
[It is] Justice, touching heaven, earth and the
underworld.*

Mira loquor sed sana credere

*I speak things that are marvellous yet healthy to
believe,*

Fœderatam tam largo munere
De proprio produxit latere Deus homo.

*Joined to him through such a great gift,
The God and Man brought her fourth from his own
side.*

Formaretur ut sic Ecclesia
Figuravit in pari gloria
Adæ costis formata femina, hostis Eva.

*So the Church was shaped
That she was seen in equal glory
To Adam's rib, shaped into a woman, our enemy
Eve.*

Eva fuit noverca posteris :
Hæc est mater electi generis,
Vitæ portus, asylum miseris, et tutela.

*Eve was the [evil] stepmother of her descendants,
This is the mother of the elect race,
Harbour of life, refuge for the sorrowful, and protec-
tion.*

Pulchra, potens, partu mirabilis,
Ut luna sol fulget spectabilis,
Plus acie multo terribilis ordinata.

*Fair, mighty, of wondrous birth,
Shining comely like the moon and the sun,
More to fear than a well-ordered battle-line.*

Multiplex est singularis una,
Generalis et individua,
Omnis ævi sexus simul una parit turmas.

*At the same time she is manifold and single,
General and individual
She maketh her squadrons together of all ages and
sexes.*

Hæc signata Jordanis fluctibus;
 Hæc quæ venit e terræ finibus,
 Scientiam audire cominus Salomonis.

*It is her, who was prefigured by the floods of Jordan,
 It is her, who came from the end of the world
 To hear wisdom in Salomon's presence.*

Sic typicis descripta sensibus,
 Nuptiarum induta vestibus
 Cæli præstat hodie civibus Christo juncta.

*So she is described through the meaning of the types,
 Dressed in the garments for the wedding,
 Presides today, joined with Christ, over all citizens of
 heaven.*

O solemnis festum lætitiæ,
 Quo unitur Christus Ecclesiæ,
 In qua nostræ salutis nuptiæ celebrantur.

*O feast of solemn joy,
 In which Christ is joined to the Church,
 In which the weddings of our salvation are celebrated.*

Cœtus felix, dulce convivium,
 Lapsis ibi datur solatium,
 Desperatis offertur spatium respirandi.

*O happy union, sweet banquet,
 Where comfort is given to the fallen,
 And a space to breathe to the hopeless.*

Justis inde solvuntur præmia,
 Angelorum novantur gaudia,
 Lata nimis quod facit gratia caritatis.

*From thence the prizes are given to the just,
 The joy of the Angels is renewed,
 The grace of charity makes this [feast] far too large.*

Ab æterno fons sapientiæ
 Intuitu solius gratiæ
 Sic prævidit in rerum serie hæc futura.

*The fountain of wisdom from eternity,
 Seen through grace alone,
 Saw this future in the passing of things.*

Christus ergo nos suis nuptiis
 Recreatos veris divitiis
 Interesse faciat sociis electorum.

*Christ, who at his wedding
 Creates as anew with the true treasures
 May grant us to belong to the fellows of the elect.*

GOSPEL: Lk. 19:1-10

Sequentia sancti Evangelii secundum Lucam.

*Continuation of the holy Gospel according to
 St Luke.*

In illo tempore : Ingressus Jesus perambulabat Jericho. Et ecce, vir nomine Zachæus : et hic princeps erat publicanorum, et ipse dives : et quærebat videre Jesum, quis esset : et non poterat præ turba, quia statura pusillus erat. Et præcurrrens ascendit in arborem sycomorum, ut videret eum; quia inde erat transiturus. Et cum venisset ad locum, suspiciens Jesus vidit illum, et dixit ad eum : Zachæe, festinans descende; quia hodie in domo tua oportet me manere. Et festinans descendit, et excepit illum gaudens. Et cum viderent omnes, murmurabant, dicentes, quod ad hominem peccatorem divertisset. Stans autem Zachæus, dixit ad Dominum : Ecce dimidium bonorum meorum, Domine, do

At that time: Jesus entering in, walked through Jericho. And behold, there was a man named Zachæus, who was the chief of the publicans, and he was rich; and he sought to see Jesus who he was, and he could not for the crowd, because he was of low stature. And running before, he climbed up into a sycamore tree that he might see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus was come to the place, looking up, he saw him, and said to him: Zachæus, make haste and come down, for this day I must abide in thy house. And he made haste and came down, and received him with joy. And when all saw it, they murmured, saying that he was gone to be a guest with a man that was a sinner. But Zachæus standing, said to the Lord: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I

pauperibus : et si quid aliquem defraudavi, red-do quadruplum. Ait Jesus ad eum : Quia hodie salus domui huic facta est : eo quod et ipse filius sit Abrahæ. Venit enim Filius hominis quærere, et salvum facere, quod perierat.

give to the poor, and if I have wronged any man of anything, I restore him fourfold. Jesus said to him: This day is salvation come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

OFFERTORY: 1 Par. 29:17, 18; 2 Par. 7:8, 11, 2-3

Domine Deus, in simplicitate cordis mei lætus obtuli universa : et populum tuum, qui repertus est, vidi cum ingenti gaudio : *Deus Israel, custodi hanc voluntatem, Domine Deus. ✠ Fecit Salomon solemnitatem in tempore illo, fecit Salomon solemnitatem in tempore illo : et prosperatus est, et apparuit ei Dominus, Deus Israel. ✠ Majestas Domini ædificavit templum : videbant omnes filii Israel gloriam Domini descendentem super domum, et adoraverunt et collaudaverunt Dominum, dicentes : *Deus.

*O Lord God, in the simplicity of my heart, I have joyfully offered all these things : and I have seen with great joy thy people, which are present : *O God of Israel, keep this will. ✠ And Solomon kept the solemnity at that time, and Solomon kept the solemnity at that time : and he prospered, and the Lord, the God of Israel, appeared to him. ✠ The majesty of the Lord built the temple : all the children of Israel saw the glory of the Lord coming down upon the house, and they adored and praised the Lord, saying: *O God.*

SECRET

Annue quæsumus, Domine, precibus nostris : ut quicumque intra templi hujus, cujus anniversarium dedicationis diem celebramus, ambitum continemur, plena tibi atque perfecta corporis et animæ devotione placeamus : ut, dum hæc vota præsentia reddimus, ad æterna præmia, te adjuvante, pervenire mereamur. Per Dominum.

Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord, our petition : that we who are assembled within the precincts of this temple to celebrate the anniversary of its dedication, may be pleasing to thee by full and perfect devotion of body and soul); that while we offer thee these votive gifts we may by thy help merit to attain thine everlasting reward. Through our Lord.

PREFACE

For the Dedication of a Church

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutare, nos tibi semper et ubique gratias agere : Domine, sancte Pater, omnipotens æterne Deus : qui hanc orationis domum, quam ædificavimus, bonorum omnium largitor inhabitas, et Ecclesiam, quam ipse fundasti, incessabili operatione sanctificas. Hæc est enim vere domus orationis, visibilibus ædificiis adumbrata, templum habitationis gloriæ tuæ, sedes incommutabilis veritatis, sanctuarium æternæ caritatis. Hæc est arca, quæ nos mundi ereptos diluvio, in portum salutis inducit. Hæc est dilecta et unica sponsa, quam acquisivit Christus sanguine suo, quam vivificat Spiritu suo, cujus in sinu renati per gratiam tuam, lacte verbi pascimur, pane vitæ roboramur, misericordiæ tuæ subsidiis confortemur. Hæc fideliter in terris, Sponso adjuvante, militat, et perenniter in cælis, ipso

It is truly meet and just, right and salutary, that we should always, and in all places, give thanks to thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God. Who, being the giver of all good things, dost dwell in this house of prayer, which we have built, and doest sanctify through unceasing operation thy Church, which thou thyself hast founded. For this indeed is an house of prayer, expressed in the semblance of visible buildings, a temple for the indwelling of thy glory, the unchangeable seat of truth, the sanctuary of eternal charity. This is the ark that leadeth us, snatched from the deluge of the world, into the port of salvation. This is the beloved and only spouse, whom Christ bought by his own blood, whom he quickeneth with his Spirit: in whose bosom we are reborn through thy grace, nursed with the milk of thy word, strengthened with the Bread of Life, and warmed by the aid of thy mercy. She fighteth faithfully on earth,

coronante, triumphat. Et ideo cum Angelis et Archangelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus, cumque omni militia cælestis exercitus, hymnum gloriæ tuæ canimus, sine fine dicentes :

or: Common Preface

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutare, nos tibi semper, et ubique gratias agere : Domine sancte, Pater omnipotens, æterne Deus : per Christum Dominum nostrum. Per quem majestatem tuam laudant Angeli, adorant Dominationes, tremunt Potestates. Cæli, cælorumque Virtutes, ac beata Seraphim, socia exultatione concelebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces, ut admitti jubeas, deprecamur, supplicii confessione dicentes :

assisted by her spouse, and crowned by him, doth gain everlasting victory in heaven. And therefore with the Angels and Archangels, with the Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing an hymn to thy glory, evermore saying:

It is truly meet and just, right and salutary, that we should always, and in all places, give thanks to thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God, through Christ our Lord. Through whom the Angels praise thy majesty, the Dominions adore, the Powers tremble. The Heavens, and the Virtues of the heavens, and the blessed Seraphim, do celebrate with united joy. In union with whom, we beseech thee, that thou wouldst command our voices also to be admitted, with suppliant confession, saying:

COMMUNION: *Mt. 21:13, 7:8*

Domus mea domus orationis vocabitur, dicit Dominus : in ea omnis, qui petit, accipit : et qui quærit, invenit, et pulsanti aperietur.

My house shall be called the house of prayer, saith the Lord: every one that asketh therein, receiveth; and he that seeketh, findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened.

POST-COMMUNION

Deus, qui de vivis et electis lapidibus æternum majestati tuæ præparas habitaculum : auxiliare populo tuo supplicanti; ut, quod Ecclesiæ tuæ corporalibus proficit spatiis, spiritualibus amplificetur augmentis. Per Dominum.

O God, who, out of living and chosen stones, prepar-est to thy majesty an eternal abode, help thy suppliant people; that as thy Church is corporally enlarged, so it may be spiritually increased. Through our Lord.