

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption."

WHILE THE SOUL is supplying in purgatory for the insufficiency of her expiations, the body she has quitted returns to the earth in virtue of the sentence pronounced against Adam and his race from the beginning of the world. But, with regard to the body as well as the soul, justice is full of love; its claims are a prelude to the glory which awaits the whole man. The humiliation of the tomb is the just punishment of original sin; but in this return of man to the earth from whence he sprang, St. Paul would have us recognize the sowing necessary for the transformation of the seed, which is destined to live again under very

different conditions. For "flesh and blood cannot possess the kingdom of God" [1 Cor. 15:50]; neither can corruptible members aspire to immortality. The body of the Christian, which St. Ignatius of Antioch calls the wheat of Christ, is cast into the tomb, as it were into the furrow, there to leave its own corruption, the form of the first Adam with its heaviness and infirmity; but by the power of the new Adam reforming it to His own likeness, it shall spring up all heavenly and spiritualized, agile, impassible, and glorious. Blessed be He, who willed to die for us in order to destroy death and to make His own victory ours!

"All that are in the graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God."

PURGATORY is not eternal. Its duration varies according to the sentence pronounced at each particular judgment. It may be prolonged for centuries in the case of the more guilty souls, or of those who, being excluded from the Catholic communion, are deprived of the suffrages of the Church, although by the divine mercy they have escaped hell. But the end of the world, which will be also the end of time, will close forever the place of temporary expiation. God will know how to reconcile His justice and His goodness in the purification of the last members of the human race, and to supply by the intensity of the expiatory suffering what may be wanting in duration. But, whereas a favorable sentence at the particular judgment admits of eternal beatitude being suspend-

ed and postponed, and leaves the bodies of the elect to the same fate as those of the reprobate; at the universal judgment, every sentence, whether for heaven or for hell, will be absolute, and will be executed immediately and completely. Let us, then, live in expectation of the solemn hour, when "the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God." He that is to come will come, and will not delay, as the Doctor of the Gentiles reminds us; His arrival will be sudden, as that of a thief, we are told, not only by St. Paul, but also by the prince of the apostles and the beloved disciple; and these in turn are but echoing the words of our Lord Himself: "As lightning cometh out of the east and appeareth even unto the west: so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

Commentaries from The Liturgical Year by Dom Prosper Guéranger (1805-1875)

Proper Prayers of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form All Souls Day



The First Mass

INTROIT (4 Esdr. 2. 34, 35)

RÉQUIEM ætérnam dona eis, Dómine: et lux perpétua lúceat eis. *Psalm.* Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion, et tibi reddétur votum in Jerúsalem: exáudi oratiónem meam, ad te omnis caro véniet. — Réquiem ætérnam ...

ETERNAL rest give unto them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them. *Ps. 64.* 2-3. A hymn, O God, becometh Thee in Sion; and a vow shall be paid to Thee in Jerusalem: hear my prayer; all flesh shall come to Thee. — Eternal rest ...

COLLECT

FIDÉLIUM, Deus, ómnium cón-ditor et redémptor: animábus famulórum famularúmque tuárum remissionem cunctórum tribue peccatórum; ut indulgéntiam, quam semper optavérunt, piis supplicatiónibus consequántur. Qui vivis et regnas cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus: per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

O GOD, the Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful: grant to the souls of Thy servants and handmaidens the remission of all their sins: that through pious supplications, they may obtain that pardon, which they have always desired: Who livest and reignest with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

EPISTLE

From the first Letter of Blessed Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians, 15. 51-57.

FRATRES: Ecce mystérium vobis dico: Omnes quidem resurgémus, sed non omnes immutábimur. In moménto, in ictu

BRETHREN: Behold, I tell you a mystery: we shall all indeed rise again, but we shall all not be changed. In a moment, in the

twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall rise again incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. And when this mortal hath put on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory: O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting? Now the sting of death is sin: and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who hath given us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

GRADUAL (4 Esdr. 2. 34, 35)

ETERNAL rest give unto them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them. (*Ps. 111. 7.*) The just shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear the evil hearing.

TRACT

ABSOLVE, O Lord, the souls of all the faithful departed from every bond of sin. And by the help of Thy grace may they be enabled to escape the avenging judgment. And enjoy the bliss of everlasting light.

SEQUENCE

THE DAY of wrath, that awful day, shall reduce the world to ashes, as David and the Sibyl prophesied

How great will be the terror, when the Judge shall come to examine all things rigorously!

The trumpet, with astounding blast, echoing over the sepulchers of the whole world, shall summon all before the throne.

Death and nature will stand aghast, when the creature shall rise again, to answer before his Judge.

óculi, in novíssima tuba: canet enim tuba, et mórtui resúrgent incorrúpti: et nos immutábitur. Opórtet enim corrúptibile hoc indúere incorruptiónem: et mortále hoc indúere immortalitátem. Cum autem mortále hoc indúerit immortalitátem, tunc fiet sermo, qui scriptus est: Absórpta est mors in victória. Ubi est, mors, victória tua? Ubi est, mors, stímulus tuus? Stímulus autem mortis peccátum est: virtus vero peccáti lex. Deo autem grátias, qui dedit nobis victóriam per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum.

RÉQUIEM aetérnam dona eis, Dómine: et lux perpétua luceat eis. In memória aetérna erit Justus: ab auditióne mala non timébit.

ABSOLVE, Dómine, animas ómnium fidélium defunctorum ab omni vínculo delictórum. Et grátia tua illis succurrénte, mereántur evádere iudícium ultiónis. Et lucis aetérnae beatitúdine pérfrui.

DIES IRE, dies illa,
Solvat sæc'lum in favilla:
Teste David cum Sibýlla.

Quantus tremor est futúrus,
Quando Iudex est ventúrus,
Cuncta stricte discussúrus!

Tuba, mirum spargens sonum,
Per sepúlchra regiónum,
Coget omnes ante thronum.

Mors stupébit, et natúra,
Cum resúrget creatúra,
Iudicánti responsúra.

SECRET

HÓSTIAS, quæsumus, Dómine, quas tibi pro animábus famulórum famularúmque tuárum famularúmque tuárum offérimus, propitiátus inténde: ut, quibus fidei christiánae méritum contulísti, dones et præmíum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum ...

MERCIFULLY regard, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the Sacrifice which we offer Thee for the souls of Thy servants and handmaidens: that to those to whom Thou didst grant the favor of the Christian Faith Thou wouldst also grant due reward. Through our Lord Jesus Christ ...

PREFACE OF THE DEAD

VERE dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, aetérne Deus, per Christum Dóminum nostrum. In quo nobis spes beáte resurrectiōis effúlsit: ut quos contrístat certa moriéndi conditio, eosdem consolétur futúre immortalitátis promissio. Tuis enim fidélibus, Dómine, vita mutátur, non tollitur: et dissolúta terréstris hujus incolátus domo, aetérna in cælis habitatio comparátur. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatió nibus, cumque omni militiá cœlestis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cānimus, sine fine dicéntes: — Sanctus.

IT is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to Thee, holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God, through Christ our Lord: in whom the hope of a blessed resurrection hath beamed upon us: so that those who are saddened by the certainty of dying may be consoled by the promise of a future deathless life. For to Thy faithful people, Lord, life is changed, not taken away; and when the home of this earthly sojourn is dissolved, an eternal dwelling is made ready in heaven. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing a hymn to Thy praise, evermore saying: — Sanctus.

COMMUNION (4 Esdr. 2. 35, 34)

LUX aetérna luceat eis, Dómine:
* Cum Sanctis tuis in aetérnum:
quia pius es. V. Réquiem aetérnam dona eis, Dómine: * et lux perpétua luceat eis: * Cum Sanctis tuis in aetérnum: quia pius es.

MAY light eternal shine upon them, O Lord, * With thy Saints for evermore, for Thou art gracious. V. Eternal rest give to them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them: * With thy Saints for evermore, for Thou art gracious.

POSTCOMMUNION

ANIMÁBUS, quæsumus, Dómine, famulórum, famularúmque tuárum orátio proficiat supplicántium: ut eas et a peccátis ómnibus éxuas, et tuæ redemptiōis faciás esse partícipes: Qui vivis et regnas cum Deo Patre in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus ...

MAY the prayer of Thy suppliant people, we beseech Thee, O Lord, avail the souls of Thy servants and handmaidens: that Thou mayest deliver them from all their sins and make them sharers in Thy Redemption: Who livest and reignest ...

Prostrate in supplication I implore Thee,
with a heart contrite as though crushed to
ashes; Oh! have a care of my last hour!

A mournful day that day shall be, when
from the dust shall arise

Guilty man, that he may be judged; spare
him, then, O God!

O tender Lord Jesus, give them eternal
rest. Amen.

GOSPEL

Continuation of the holy Gospel according to St. John, 5. 25-29.

AT THAT TIME: Jesus said to the multitudes
of the Jews, Amen, amen, I say unto you,
that the hour cometh, and now is, when the
dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God;
and they that hear shall live. For as the
Father hath life in Himself, so He hath
given to the Son also to have life in Himself;
and He hath given Him power to do judg-
ment, because He is the Son of man. Won-
der not at this, for the hour cometh wherein
all that are in the graves shall hear the voice
of the Son of God; and they that have done
good things shall come forth unto the
resurrection of life, but they that have done
evil, unto the resurrection of judgment.

OFFERTORY

O LORD Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver
the souls of all the faithful departed from
the pains of hell and from the bottomless
pit: deliver them from the lion's mouth, that
hell swallow them not up, that they fall not
into darkness, but let the standard-bearer
holy Michael lead them into that holy light;
which Thou didst promise of old to Abra-
ham and to his seed. We offer to Thee, O
Lord, sacrifices and prayers: do Thou
receive them in behalf of those souls of
whom we make memorial this day. Grant
them, O Lord, to pass from death to that
life, which thou didst promise of old to
Abraham and to his seed.

Oro supplex et acclínis,
Cor contritum quasi cinis,
Gere curam mei finis.

Lacrimósa dies illa,
Qua resúrget ex favilla

Judicándus homo reus.
Huic, ergo, parce Deus:

Pie Jesu Dómine,
Dona eis requiem. Amen.

IN ILLO TÉMPORE: Dixit Jesus
turbis Judæórum: Amen,
amen dico vobis, quia venit
hora, et nunc est, quando
mórtui áudient vocem Fílii
Dei: et qui audierint, vivent.
Sicut enim Pater habet vitam
in semetípso, sic dedit et Fílio
habére vitam in semetípso: et
potestátem dedit ei júdicium
 fácere, quia Fílius hóminis est.
Nolíte mirári, hoc, quia venit
hora, in qua omnes, qui in
monuméntis sunt, áudient
vocem Fílii Dei: et procédent,
qui bona fecerunt, in resurrec-
tiónem vitæ: qui vero mala
egérunt, in resurrectionem
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DÓMINE Jesu Christe, Rex
glóriæ, libera ánimas ómnium
fidélium defunctórum de
pœnis inférni et de profundo
lacu: libera eas de ore leónis,
ne absórbeat eas tártarus, ne
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nifer sanctus Míchael repræ-
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mábus illis, quarum hódie
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Dómine, de morte transire ad
vitam. * Quam olim Abráhæ
promísísti et sémini ejus.

Liber scriptus proferétur,
In quo totum continétur,
Unde mundus judicétur.

Judex ergo cum sedébit,
Quidquid latet, apparébit:
Nil unúltum remanébit.

Quid sum miser tunc dictúrus?
Quem patrónum rogáturus
Cum vix Justus sit secúrus?

Rex treméndæ majestátis,
Qui salvándos salvás gratis,
Salve me, fons pietátis.

Recordáre, Jesu pie,
Quod sum causa tuæ viæ:
Ne me perdas illa die.

Quærens me, sedísti lassus:
Redemísti, crucem passus:
Tantus labor non sit cassus.

Juste Judex ultiónis,
Donum fac remissiόνis,
Ante diem ratiónis.

Ingemísco, tamquam reus:
Culpa rubet vultus meus:
Supplicánti parce, Deus.

Qui Mariám absolvísti,
Et latrónem exaudísti,
Mihi quoque spem dedísti.

Preces meæ non sunt dignæ;
Sed tu bonus fac benígne,
Ne perénni cremer igne.

Inter oves locum præsta.
Et ab hædis me sequéstra,
Státuens in parte dextra.

Confutátis maledíctis,
Flammis ácribus addíctis,
Voca me cum benedíctis.

The written book shall be brought forth,
containing all for which the world must be
judged.

When, therefore, the Judge shall be
seated, whatsoever is hidden shall be
brought to light; nought shall remain
unpunished.

What then shall I, unhappy man, allege?
Whom shall I invoke as protector? when
even the just shall hardly be secure.

O King of awful majesty, who of Thy
free gift savest them that are to be saved,
save me, O fount of mercy!

Remember, O loving Jesus, 'twas for my
sake Thou camest on earth: let me not,
then, be lost on that day.

Seeking me Thou satest weary; Thou
redeemdst me by dying on the cross: let
not such suffering be all in vain.

O righteous Awarder of punishment,
grant me the gift of pardon before the
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I groan as one guilty, while I blush for
my sins: Oh! spare Thy suppliant, my
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Thou didst absolve Mary Magdalen, and
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then, Thou hast also given hope.

My prayers deserve not to be heard; but
Thou art good: grant, in Thy kindness,
that I may not burn in the unquenchable
fire.

Give me a place among Thy sheep,
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When the reprobate, covered with
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