

Altar Book
for the Use of
Saint Stephen's
Anglican Church

The Order for Holy Communion
Being that Rite authorised in 1662
according to the Use of
Saint Stephen's Anglican Church
and
The Collects, Epistles, and Gospels
for the Church Year

All Saints, 2020

Altar Book

Volume II

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The Kalendar

About the Kalendar

Who is a saint? The primitive church recognized the Apostles and certain major biblical figures as saints. Over the next few centuries, the authority to recognize a person as a saint lay with the local bishop, primate, or patriarch, depending on the jurisdiction. The veneration of the saint—the saint’s *cultus*—remained local until it was recognized by the Pope, at which point it was extended universally, to the entire church. There were issues, however, of people being accorded as saints who were unworthy of the honour. By the end of the eleventh century, the popes began to restrict episcopal authority, and to establish processes by which a person’s worthiness was evaluated before being elevated to sainthood. In 1588, Pope Sixtus V established the Sacred Congregation for Rites, which oversaw the canonization process. The Roman Church continues to follow a very formal process for canonization. The Anglican Church, perhaps because of Calvinist influences during its formation, does not venerate saints the way the Roman Church does, and so there is no need to document miracles attributable to the saint’s intercession. Anglican Church jurisdictions, therefore, identify “saints” in national convocations or synods. Each jurisdiction has its own kalendar¹, which includes saints from the primitive church, pre-Congregational saints, and locally recognized saints (many of whom are shared across jurisdictions).

The feast of a saint is traditionally observed on the saint’s *dies natalis*, that is, the day of the saint’s death, or birth into heavenly life. For the earliest saints—saints of the primitive church, and pre-Congregational saints—these dates are not known, and so the observances are based on tradition. (Sometimes the date is derived from the dedication of a church or basilica.²) When multiple observances fell on the same day, if one saint was of particularly great importance, the other saints might be permanently deferred to the following day. And if a particularly important saint’s observance conflicted with a yet more important observance (or if it fell during Lent, for example, which would preclude any significant commemoration), then the saint might be commemorated on the date of some other life event—such as a consecration or the translation of relics. In a number of cases, the dates chosen differed from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. (This is especially true of dates established after the Great Schism: Eastern and Western jurisdictions often commemorate saints on different days.)

This kalendar is a compilation of a number of different jurisdictional kalendars. The focus is, naturally, on Anglican jurisdictions, but many such jurisdictions draw heavily from various versions of the General Roman Calendar. Church kalendars have gone through several cycles of expansion and contraction. The Tridentine kalendar, promulgated by decree of the Council of Trent (held between 1545 and 1563), contained over 250 observances, including vigils and octaves. The kalendar

1 The word “kalendar” comes from the Latin *kalendae*, the “calends”, or the first of the month. In liturgical usage, the spelling with a ‘k’ is preferred.

2 For example, the feast of Saint John before the Latin Gate, commemorating the saint’s miraculous survival of being thrown in a vat of boiling oil, was first observed in the late 8th century, but the wall containing the Latin Gate was built 200 years after Saint John’s time. The date of the feast, May 6, is in all likelihood the date of the dedication of the small church built in the saint’s honour, on the traditional site of his attempted martyrdom. Similarly, the feast of Saint Peter in Chains, August 1, is the date on which the basilica San Pietro in Vincoli was dedicated. The church claims to have the chains as relics.

provided by Archbishop Cranmer in the first *Book of Common Prayer* in 1549 was limited to events in the lives of Jesus and Mary; apostles and evangelists; and a handful of other occasions. The original 1662 kalendar was similarly sparsely populated, but by the mid-1800s, there were scores of additional observances. The American 1928 kalendar reverted to the limited kalendar of 1549.

This kalendar includes observances from a number of different sources. All of the commemorations in the 1549, 1662, and 1928 *Books of Common Prayer* are included, as are most of the commemorations from the following:

- W. H. Frere’s *Blackletter Saints’ Days*, which provides propers for commemorations in the English *Proposed 1928 Book of Common Prayer*;
- *Anglican Altar Services*;
- *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* (1963, 2003, and, minimally, 2018);
- the *Anglican Service Book*;
- the ACA/APA Ordo kalendars.

Not all commemoration from these have been included. For example, the entry for Saint Serf in the *Oxford Dictionary of Saints* says “[h]is Legend is a farrago of wild impossibilities.” Saints with similarly vague or implausible biographies have been omitted. (This includes a number of saints, such as Marnan, Cynog ap Brychan, Congar and Devenic, who were noted without collects or lessons in *Anglican Altar Services*.) In addition to the above sources, a number of other prayer books, missals, and breviaries have been consulted as sources for collects, Epistles, and Gospels.

In many cases, multiple collects are provided, and multiple (sets of) readings. They have been marked with their sources (see the Sources at the end of this volume), so that you can read the lessons that were originally associated with a given collect. (Note that this is not necessary, and in any case, some sources provided collects without lessons; and the lessons from some sources have been omitted for reasons of space.) When a collect in one source appears with minor modifications in another source, the marker for the second source is enclosed in parentheses. Note that the list of source markers is not comprehensive; the same collect (and readings) may be found in additional sources. When sources provide basically the same readings (differing only by the addition or omission of a few verses), the most inclusive version of the reading is usually provided; the differences are left unremarked.

To deal with multiple observances contending for a single day, the Roman Church developed an extremely complex hierarchy of precedence, reaching a maximum of seven different levels in the General Roman Calendar of 1954. In comparison, the 1549 and original 1662 kalendars had only three, and most current Anglican jurisdictions have only four. In these schemes, observances of lesser rank are transferred to the next available open day, or, in some circumstances, simply omitted that year. It was the complexity of determining which feast day was to be observed, and thus which lessons, antiphons, and responsories were to be read, that led in part to Cranmer’s complaint that “the number and hardness of the rules called the Pie³, and the manifold changings of the service, was the cause, that to turn the book only, was so hard and intricate a matter, that many times, there was more business to find out what should be read, than to read it when it was found out.”

In this volume, propers have been prepared for a number of saints—those propers being a collect, an Epistle, and a Gospel. Other saints have only a collect appointed; for the rest, their feast has simply been noted, and if you wish to commemorate that saint, then you should use an appropriate set of

3 Pronounced as two syllables, “pee-ay”—as in “Pie Jesu”, the beginning of the concluding couplet of the *Dies iræ*, and related to the word “pious”—and not like the baked good. The quote is from the preface to the 1549 *Book of Common Prayer*.

propers from the Common of Saints. It is also possible to acknowledge a saint's feast day in concert with a more important day (such as a Sunday). In that case, the collect of the principal observance is read first, and the collect of the commemoration is read second. (A seasonal collect, such as those for Advent and Lent, would then be read third, instead of second.) The Epistle and Gospel should always match the collect which is read first.

Observances in this kalendar are listed in the order of precedence given in the legend below. Where there are multiple observances of the same rank, they are listed chronologically. (No distinction is made between observances with a full set of propers and those with a collect only.) For dates, preference has been given to the saint's *dies natalis*, but alternate dates of longstanding tradition are also indicated.

Legend

PRINCIPAL FEASTS

Major Feasts of Our Lord

Saints and Other Feast Days with Full Propers

Saints and Other Feast Days with only a Proper Collect (*)

Commemorations

[Civil commemorations]

January

- 1 A **The Circumcision of Christ, or The Holy Name**
- 2 b Basil the Great of Caesarea, and Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops and Doctors, 379, 390
Seraphim of Sarov, Monk, Spiritual Guide, 1833
- 3 c
- 4 d Elizabeth Seton, Founder the American Sisters of Charity, 1821
- 5 e
- 6 f **EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD**
- 7 g
- 8 A Lucian of Antioch, Priest and Martyr, 312 (*)
- 9 b *Adrian (Hadrian) of Canterbury, Abbot, 710*
- 10 c William Laud, Archbishop, 1645
- 11 d
- 12 e Benedict Biscop, 690 (*)
Ælred of Rievaulx, Abbot, 1167
Marguerite Bourgeoys, Educator, 1700
- 13 f Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop, Doctor, c. 367
George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends (the Quakers), 1691
- 14 g Kentigern (Mungo), Bishop of Glasgow, 614
Sava the Enlightener, First Archbishop of the Serbian Church, 1236
- 15 A *Paul of Thebes, the First Hermit, c. 342*
- 16 b
- 17 c Antony of Egypt (Anthony the Great), Abbot, Father of All Monks, 356
- 18 d **The Confession of Saint Peter (Saint Peter's Chair at Rome)**
Prisca, Roman Martyr, n.d.
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (through January 25) (*)
- 19 e Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1023
Henry of Finland, Bishop, Missionary, 1156
- 20 f Fabian, Bishop of Rome, Martyr, 250
Sebastian, Martyr, 288 (*)
Richard Rolle of Hampole, Spiritual Writer, 1349
- 21 g Agnes, Roman Martyr, c. 304
- 22 A Vincent of Saragossa, Spanish Deacon and Martyr, c. 304
- 23 b Phillips Brooks, Bishop of Massachusetts, 1893
- 24 c Saint Timothy, Companion of Saint Paul
Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, Doctor, and Jane Frances de Sales, Monastic, 1622, 1641
- 25 d **The Conversion of Saint Paul**
- 26 e Saint Timothy and Saint Titus, Companions of Saint Paul
Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, 155
- 27 f Lydia of Thyatira, Dorcas, and Phoebe, Witnesses to the Faith
The Translation of John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Doctor, 407

- 28 g The Translation of Thomas Aquinas, Doctor, 1369 (March 7)
 29 A *Gildas of Wales, Abbot, c. 570*
Andrei Rublëv, Monk and Iconographer 1427/30
 30 b Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs (*)
 The Beheading of King Charles I, Martyr, 1649
 31 c

The civil commemoration of the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr, is on the third Monday of January.

Isaac the Great (Sahak Parthev), 439, is commemorated on the Saturday before Sexagesima. (*)

February

- 1 d Bride (Bridget, Brigid), Abbess of Kildare, 525
 2 e **THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE, COMMONLY CALLED THE
 PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
 3 f Blaise (Blase, Blasius), Holy Helper, 316
 Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary to Denmark and Sweden, Apostle of the North, 865
 The Dorchester Chaplains (The Four Chaplains: Lieutenant George Fox, Lieutenant Alexander D. Goode,
 Lieutenant Clark V. Poling, and Lieutenant John P. Washington), 1943
 4 g Cornelius the Centurion
Gilbert of Sempringham, Abbot and Martyr 1190
 5 A Agatha of Sicily, Martyr, c. 251
 The Martyrs of Japan, 1597
Roger Williams and Anne Hutchinson, Prophetic Witnesses, 1683, 1643
 6 b Saint Titus, Companion of Saint Paul
Dorothy (Dorothea) of Caesarea, c. 311
 7 c *Romuald, Abbot, 1015/27*
 8 d
 9 e Teilo, Bishop of Llandaff, c. 560
 10 f Scholastica, Sister of Benedict of Nursia, 543
 11 g *Finnian of Moville, Bishop, 589*
Cædmon, Poet, 684
 12 A
 13 b Absalom Jones, Abolitionist, 1818
 14 c Valentine, Priest and Martyr, 269
 Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869, 885
 15 d *Sigfrid, Bishop, Apostle of Sweden, 11th century*
 Thomas Bray, Priest and Missionary, Founder of the SPCK and the SPG, 1730
 16 e
 17 f *Finan of Lindisfarne, Bishop, 661*
 18 g *Simeon, Bishop and Martyr, 107or 117*
Colmán of Lindisfarne, Bishop, 675
 Martin Luther, Reformer, 1546
 19 A
 20 b Missionaries and Martyrs
 Frederick Douglass, Prophetic Witness, 1895

- 21 c
- 22 d Saint Peter's Chair at Antioch
Margaret of Cortona, Monastic, 1297
- 23 e Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c. 155 (January 26)
Peter Damian, Bishop, Doctor, 1072/73
- 24 f **Saint Matthias the Apostle**
- 25 g *Ethelbert (Æthelberht), King and Confessor, 616*
- 26 A
- 27 b George Herbert, Priest, 1633
Gregory of Narek (Grigor Narekatsi), Doctor, c. 1003/11
- 28 c *Oswald of York, Archbishop, Abbot, Confessor, 992*

March

- 1 d David, Bishop of Menevia, Patron Saint of Wales, c. 589
- 2 e Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, 672
- 3 f Non (Nonnita), Mother of David, 6th century
John and Charles Wesley, Evangelists and Hymn Writers, 1781, 1788
- 4 g *Adrian of May Island, Abbot, and Companions, Martyrs, 875*
Casimir, Confessor, 1484
- 5 A *Piran, Abbot, c. 480*
- 6 b *Baldred (Balthere) of Tynninghame, Scottish Hermit, 757*
- 7 c Perpetua and her Companions, Carthaginian Martyrs, c. 203
Thomas Aquinas, Doctor, 1274
- 8 d *Felix, Bishop, Apostle to the East Angles, 647/48*
Duthac, Bishop, 1065
John of God, Worker among the Sick and Poor, 1550
- 9 e Gregory of Nyssa, Bishop, Teacher of the Faith, c. 395
Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869, 885 (February 14)
- 10 f Harriet Ross Tubman, Social Reformer, 1913
The Forty Martyrs of Sebaste, 320
Kessog, Bishop in Perthshire, 520
- 11 g
- 12 A Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Doctor, 604
- 13 b
- 14 c
- 15 d
- 16 e *Boniface (Curetán) of Ross, Bishop, fl. 690–710*
- 17 f Joseph of Arimathea
Patrick, Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland, 461?
- 18 g Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor, 386
Edward, King and Martyr, 978
- 19 A Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 20 b Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, 687
Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Nonjuror, Hymn Writer, 1711
- 14 21 c Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, c. 547
Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1566
- 3 22 d James de Koven, Priest, 1879
- 23 e Gregory the Illuminator, Bishop, Missionary of Armenia, c. 331
- 11 24 f *Gabriel the Archangel*
Walter Hilton of Thurgarton, Augustinian Canon, Mystic, 1396
- 25 g **The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 19 26 A *Richard Allen, First Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, 1831*
- 8 27 b
- 28 c
- 26 29 d Woolo (Gwynllyw), King in South Wales, 529
John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet, 1866
- 5 30 e
- 31 f John Donne, Priest and Poet, 1631

April

- 13 1 g *Gilbert of Caithness, Bishop, 1245*
- 2 2 A
- 3 b Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1253
Reginald Heber, Bishop, 1826
- 10 4 c Ambrose of Milan, Bishop, Confessor, Doctor, 397
Martin Luther King Jr., Pastor, Civil Rights Leader, 1968
Isidore, Archbishop of Seville, Confessor, Doctor, 636
- 5 d *Vincent Ferrer, 1419*
- 18 6 e
- 7 7 f *Brynach of Brecon, Confessor, 6th century*
Tikhon, Patriarch of Russia, Confessor, 1925
- 8 g William Augustus Muhlenberg, Priest, 1877
- 15 9 A Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran Pastor and Martyr, 1945
- 4 10 b William Law, Priest, Spiritual Writer, 1761
William of Ockham, Friar, Philosopher, Teacher of the Faith, 1347
- 11 c Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, Doctor, 461 (November 10)
- 12 12 d George Augustus Selwyn, Bishop of Lichfield, First Bishop of New Zealand, 1878
William Forbes, Bishop, 1634
- 1 13 e
- 14 f Justin Martyr, c. 165 (June 1)
- 9 15 g Damien, Priest and Leper, and Marianne Cope, Religious, of Molokai, 1889, 1918
Padarn, Bishop in South Wales, c. 550
- 16 A *Magnus of Orkney, Martyr, 1115*
- 17 17 b *Donnán, Abbot and Martyr, 617*

- 6 18 c
- 19 d Alphege (Ælfheah), Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1012
- 20 e *Maelrubha (Máel Ruba) of Applecross, Abbot, 722*
- 21 f Anselm of Canterbury, Archbishop, Doctor, 1109
- 22 g Beuno of Wales, Abbot, 640
- 23 A George, Martyr, Patron Saint of England, Holy Helper, 303
- 24 b The Translation of Wilfrid, Archbishop of York, 709/10
Mellitus, Bishop of London, First Bishop at St Paul's, 624
Adalbert (Vojtěch) of Prague, Bishop, 997
- 25 c **Saint Mark the Evangelist**
- 26 d *Robert Hunt, Priest, First Chaplain at Jamestown, 1608*
- 27 e *Christina Rossetti, Poet, 1894*
- 28 f
- 29 g Catherine of Siena, Doctor, 1380
- 30 A

May

- 1 b **Saint Philip and Saint James, Apostles**
- 2 c Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, Doctor, 373
- 3 d The Finding of the Holy Cross
- 4 e Monica (Monnica) of Hippo, Mother of Augustine of Hippo, 386
Martyrs of the Reformation Era
- 5 f The Conversion of Augustine of Hippo, Bishop in Africa, Doctor, 386 (August 28)
Asaph of Wales, Bishop, 596
- 6 g Saint John Evangelist before the Latin Gate
- 7 A Stanislaus, Bishop in Poland, 1079 (*)
Agathius (Acacius), of Byzantium, Holy Helper, c. 303
- 8 b Dame Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer, after 1416
The Apparition of Saint Michael (September 29)
- 9 c Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop, Doctor, 390
- 10 d *John of Ávila, Apostle of Andalusia, Doctor, 1569*
- 11 e
- 12 f *Thomas Rattray, Bishop, 1743*
- 13 g
- 14 A *Boniface of Tarsus, Martyr, 307*
- 15 b
- 16 c
- 17 d
- 18 e
- 19 f Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988

- 20 g Alcuin (Ealhwine) of York, Deacon, Abbot of Tours, 804
The First Council of Nicaea, 325
Bernardine of Siena, 1444
- 21 A Helena (Protector of the Holy Places) and Constantine, Equal to the Apostles, c. 330, 337
- 22 b
- 23 c *William of Perth (or Rochester), 1201*
- 24 d David I, King of Scotland, 1153 (*)
 John and Charles Wesley, Evangelists and Hymn Writers, 1791, 1788
Vincent of Lérins, c. 445
- 25 e Aldhelm, Abbot of Malmesbury, Bishop of Sherborne, 709
 The Venerable Bede of Jarrow, Doctor, 735
Urban I, Bishop of Rome, 320
Gregory VII, Bishop of Rome, 1085
- 26 f Augustine of Canterbury, First Archbishop, Apostle to the English, 604
John Calvin, Reformer, 1564
Philip Neri, Confessor, 1595
- 27 g *Bertha (Adelberga) and Ethelbert (Æthelberht), Queen and King of Kent, after 601, 616*
- 28 A *Lanfranc, Prior of Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1089*
- 29 b *The Restoration of King Charles II, 1660*
- 30 c Joan of Arc, Martyr, 1431
 [Memorial Day (Decoration Day)]
- 31 d **The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth (July 2)**
Petronilla, 1st or 3rd century

The civil observance of Memorial Day is on the last Monday of May. (*)

The first Book of Common Prayer, 1549, is commemorated on a weekday following Whitsunday.

June

- 1 e Justin Martyr, 165
Nicomede, Martyr at Rome, 1st century
- 2 f The Martyrs of Lyons, 177
Erasmus (Elmo) of Formia, Martyr, Holy Helper, c. 303
- 3 g The Martyrs of Uganda, 1885–1887
- 4 A *Petroc, Abbot of Padstow, c. 564*
- 5 b Boniface, Bishop of Mainz, Martyr, 754
- 6 c *Norbert, Archbishop of Magdeburg, 1134*
- 7 d
- 8 e
- 9 f Ephrem of Edessa, Deacon, Hymn Writer, Doctor, 373
 Columba, Abbot of Iona, 597
- 10 g
- 11 A **Saint Barnabas the Apostle**
- 12 b *Ternan, Bishop in Scotland, 5th century?*

- 13 c Anthony of Padua, Priest, Friar, Doctor, 1231
G. K. Chesterton, Apologist and Writer, 1936
- 14 d Basil the Great of Cæsarea, Bishop in Cappadocia, Doctor, 379
- 15 e Evelyn Underhill, Spiritual Writer, 1941
Vitus (Guy), Martyr, Holy Helper, c. 303
- 16 f Joseph Butler and George Berkeley, Bishops and Theologians, 1752, 1753
- 17 g *Botolph (Botwulf), Abbot, 680*
- 18 A
- 19 b
- 20 c *The Translation of Edward, King and Martyr, 1001*
- 21 e
- 22 e Alban, Proto-Martyr of Britain, 209, or c. 251, or 304
- 23 f Etheldreda (Æthelthryth), Queen and Abbess of Ely, c. 678 (October 17)
Paulinus of Nola, Bishop, 431
- 24 g **The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist**
- 25 A *Moluag, Bishop of Lismore, 592*
- 26 b Robert Leighton, Bishop, 1684
- 27 c *Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop, Doctor, 444*
- 28 d Irenæus, Bishop of Lyons. Teacher of the Faith, c. 202
- 29 e **Saint Peter the Apostle**
- 30 f

The Feast of Corpus Christi is observed on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday.

July

- 1 g The Most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
Julius and Aaron of Caerleon, Martyrs, c. 304
Henry Venn, John Venn, and Henry Venn the younger, Priests, Evangelical Divines, 1797, 1813, 1873
- 2 A **The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth**
- 3 b *Peblig (Publicius), Confessor, early 5th century*
- 4 c The Translation of Martin (November 11)
[Independence Day]
- 5 d
- 6 e *Palladius, Bishop, c. 457/61*
Sexburga (Seaxburh) of Ely, 699
Jan Hus, Prophetic Witness and Martyr, 1415
Thomas More, Scholar, and John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, Reformation Martyrs, 1535
- 7 f The Translation of Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1220 (December 29)
Boisil, Prior of Melrose, c. 661/64
- 8 g *Elizabeth of Portugal, Queen, 1336*
- 9 A *Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1228*
- 10 b
- 11 c The Translation of Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, late 8th century

- 12 d
- 13 e Silas, Companion of Saint Paul
- 14 f *Samson Occom, 1792*
- 15 g Swithun, Bishop of Winchester, c. 863, translated 971
Vladimir, Russian King, 1015
Bonaventure, Bishop, Confessor, Doctor 1274
- 16 A Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury, 1099
- 17 b William White, Bishop of Pennsylvania, 1836
- 18 c
- 19 d Gregory of Nyssa, Bishop, and his sister Macrina, Deaconess, Teachers of the Faith, c. 395, c. 379
- 20 e Margaret of Antioch in Pisidia (Marina the Great Martyr), Holy Helper, 304
- 21 f *Lawrence of Brindisi, O.F.M.Cap., Doctor, 1619*
- 22 g **Saint Mary Magdalene**
- 23 A John Cassian, Abbot at Marseilles, c. 435
Bridget of Sweden, Abbess of Vadstena, 1373
- 24 b Thomas à Kempis, Priest, 1471
- 25 c **Saint James the Great, Apostle**
Christopher, Martyr, Holy Helper, c. 251
- 26 d Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 27 e William Reed Huntington, Priest, 1909
Pantaleon (Panteleimon), Martyr, Holy Helper, 305
- 28 f Samson of Wales, Bishop, c. 565
Johann Sebastian Bach, 1750
- 29 g Martha and Mary of Bethany
Olaf, King and Martyr, 1030
- 30 A Peter Chrysologus, Bishop of Ravenna, Doctor, c. 450 (*)
William Wilberforce, 1883
- 31 b Joseph of Arimathea (March 17)
Germanus, Bishop of Auxerre, 442/48
Ignatius of Loyola, Confessor, Founder of The Society of Jesus, 1556

August

- 1 c Saint Peter in Chains
Lammas
The Holy Maccabees
Alphonsus Liguori, Doctor, Founder of the Redemptorists, 1787
- 2 d
- 3 e *Nicodemus*
- 4 f *Jean-Baptiste Vianney, Curé d'Ars, Spiritual Guide, 1859*
- 5 g Oswald, King of Northumbria Martyr, 641/42
- 6 A **The Transfiguration of Our Lord**

- 7 b The Name of Jesus
John Mason Neale, Priest and Hymn Writer, 1866
Catherine Winkworth, Poet, 1878
- 8 c Dominic, Priest and Confessor, Founder of the Order of Preachers, 1221
Cyriacus (Cyril), Martyr, Holy Helper, c. 303
- 9 d
- 10 e Lawrence (Laurence), Deacon at Rome, Martyr, 258
- 11 f *Blane, Missionary, c. 590*
John Henry Newman, Priest and Tractarian, 1890
- 12 g Clare (Claire) of Assisi, 1253
- 13 A Hippolytus of Rome, 235 (*)
Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore, Teacher of the Faith, 1667
Florence Nightingale, Nurse, Social Reformer, 1910
- 14 b Jonathan Myrick Daniels, Seminarian, Witness for Civil Rights, 1965
- 15 c **Saint Mary, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ (The Falling-Asleep of the Blessed Virgin Mary or The Dormition of the Theotokos)**
- 16 d Holy Women of the Old Testament
Joachim, Father of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 17 e
- 18 f Helena, Protector of the Holy Places, Mother of Constantine, c. 330
- 19 g
- 20 A Bernard of Clairvaux, Abbot, Doctor, 1153
William and Catherine Booth, Founders of the Salvation Army, 1912, 1890
- 21 g *Jane Frances de Chantal, 1641 (January 24)*
- 22 c
- 23 d
- 24 e **Saint Bartholomew the Apostle**
- 25 f Ebba (Aebbe the Elder), Abbess of Coldingham, 683
Louis IX, King of France, Confessor, 1270
- 26 g Thomas Gallaudet, Priest and Apostle to the Deaf, and Henry Winter Syle, Priest, 1902, 1890
- 27 A Monica of Hippo, Mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387 (May 4)
- 28 b Augustine of Hippo, Bishop in Africa, Doctor, 430
- 29 c The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist
- 30 d *John Bunyan, Spiritual Writer, 1688*
Charles Chapman Grafton, Bishop and Confessor, 1912
- 31 e Aidan of Lindisfarne, Bishop, 651

September

- 1 f Giles (Aedigius) of Provence, Abbot, Holy Helper, c. 710
- 2 g The Martyrs of New Guinea, 1942
Stephen of Hungary, King and Confessor, 1038
- 3 A The Consecration of Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Doctor, 590 (March 12)

- 4 b
- 5 c
- 6 d
- 7 e *Evurtius (Enurchus), Bishop of Orleans, c. 340*
- 8 f The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Søren Kierkegaard, Teacher and Philosopher, 1855
- 9 g *Ciarán of Clonmacnoise, Abbot, c. 549*
Peter Claver, S.J., 1654
- 10 A
- 11 b Deiniol, Bishop of Bangor, 584
- 12 c John Henry Hobart, Bishop of New York, Founder of General Theological Seminary, 1830
- 13 d Cyprian of Carthage, Bishop, Martyr, 258
The Repose of John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Doctor, 407 (January 27)
- 14 e **Holy Cross Day (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)**
- 15 f
- 16 g Ninian, Bishop in Galloway, c. 432
Edward Pusey, Priest, 1882
- 17 A Lambert, Bishop of Maastricht, Martyr, c. 705
Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, Doctor, 1179
- 18 b
- 19 c Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690
- 20 d *Eustace (Eustachius), Martyr, Holy Helper, 118*
- 21 e **Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**
- 22 f
- 23 g *Adamnan (Adomnán), Abbot of Iona, 704*
- 24 A *The Apparition of Our Lady of Walsingham, 1061*
- 25 b Cadoc of Wales, Abbot, 580
Sergius of Radonezh (Sergii Radonezhsky), Abbot of Holy Trinity, Moscow, Teacher of the Faith, 1392
Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 1626
Finnbarr (Fionnbharra) of Caithness, Bishop, 623
- 26 c *Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs, c. 287 or c. 303*
- 27 d Vincent de Paul, Confessor, 1660
- 28 e *Wenceslas, King of Bohemia, 935*
- 29 f **Saint Michael and All Angels**
- 30 g Jerome, Presbyter, Doctor, 420

The civil observance of Labour Day is on the first Monday of September.

October

- 1 A Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, 533
- 2 b Holy Guardian Angels
Thomas of Hereford, Bishop, 1282

- 3 c Thérèse of Lisieux of the Child Jesus, Doctor, 1897
- 4 d Francis of Assisi, Friar and Confessor, 1226
- 5 e
- 6 f Faith of Aquitaine, Martyr, c. 3rd–4th century
William Tyndale, 1536
Bruno, 1101
- 7 g
- 8 A
- 9 b Denis (Denys), Bishop of Paris, Martyr, Holy Helper, c. 250/58/70
Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, Philosopher, Scientist, 1253
- 10 c *Paulinus of York, Archbishop*, 644
- 11 d Philip the Deacon
Kenneth (Canice), Abbot, 600
James the Deacon, Companion of Paulinus, after 671
Ethelburga, Abbess of Barking, after 686
- 12 e Wilfrid, Archbishop of York, 709 (April 24)
- 13 f Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066, translated 1163
- 14 g *Callistus (Callixtus)*, c. 222/23
- 15 A Teresa of Ávila, Doctor, 1582
- 16 b Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London, and Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester, Martyrs, 1555
Hedwig of Silesia, 1243
- 17 c Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr, c. 108 or 135–140
The Translation of Etheldreda (Æthelthryth), Queen and Abbess of Ely, 679
- 18 d **Saint Luke the Evangelist**
- 19 e Frideswide of Oxford, Abbess, 727
Peter of Alcántara, 1562
- 20 f
- 21 g *Hilarion the Great, Abbot and Anchorite*, 371
Ursula and her Companions, Martyrs, 383
- 22 A
- 23 b James of Jerusalem, Brother of Our Lord, Martyr
- 24 c Raphael the Archangel
- 25 d Crispin and Crispinian, Martyrs, c. 285/86
Tabitha (Dorcas) of Joppa
- 26 e Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons, 889
Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Scholar and Reformer, 1902
Cedd, Abbot of Lastingham, Bishop of the East Saxons, 664
- 27 f
- 28 g **Saint Simon and Saint Jude, Apostles**
- 29 A
- 30 b *John Wycliffe (Wyclif), Priest, Prophetic Witness, Reformer*, 1384
- 31 c All Hallows Eve (Vigil of All Saints) (*)
Reformation Day (*)

Reformation Day is often commemorated as Reformation Sunday, the last Sunday in October.

The Feast of Christ the King is celebrated on the last Sunday in October.

November

- 1 d **ALL SAINTS' DAY**
- 2 e All Souls' Day
- 3 f Winifred (Gwenffrewi) of Wales, Abbess, c. 7th century
Richard Hooker, Priest, Anglican Apologist, Teacher of the Faith, 1600
- 4 g *Saints of the Old Testament*
Charles Borromeo, 1584
- 5 A *Elizabeth and Zechariah, Parents of Saint John the Baptist*
Cybi of North Wales, Abbot, 555
[Guy Fawkes Day (Papists' Conspiracy)]
- 6 b Leonard, Abbot, 559
Illtud of Wales, Abbot, early 6th century
William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, Teacher of the Faith, 1944
- 7 c Willibrord, Bishop of Utrecht, Apostle to the Frisians, 739
- 8 d Anglican Saints and Worthies (Saints, Martyrs, and Doctors of the Church of England)
Tysilio of Wales, Abbot, 640
Gervadius (Gerardine) of Moray, c. 934
- 9 e Margery Kempe, Mystic, after 1438
- 10 f Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, Doctor, 461
- 11 g Martin, Bishop of Tours, Confessor, 397
[Remembrance Day (Armistice Day, Veterans Day)]
- 12 A All Saints of Wales
Machar, Bishop and Confessor, 6th century
- 13 b *Britius (Brice), Bishop of Tours, 444*
- 14 c Dyfrig (Dubricius), Bishop of Llandaff, c. 550
The Consecration of Samuel Seabury, first American Bishop, 1784, (d. 1796)
- 15 d *Machutus (Malo), Bishop, 621*
Albertus Magnus (Albert the Great), Bishop of Cologne, Doctor, 1280
- 16 e Margaret, Queen of Scotland, 1093
Edmund of Abingdon, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1240
- 17 f Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680
Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200
Gertrude the Great, c. 1302
Gregory Thaumaturgus, Bishop and Confessor, c. 270
- 18 g *Fergus, Bishop and Confessor, c. 730*
- 19 A Elizabeth of Hungary, 1231
Mechthild, Beguine of Magdeburg, Mystic, 1282/94
- 20 b Edmund, King of East Anglia, Martyr, 869/70
- 21 c William Byrd, John Merbecke, and Thomas Tallis, Musicians, 1623, c. 1585, 1585
Columbán, Bishop, 615
- 22 d Cecilia, Martyr at Rome, 3rd century
C. S. Lewis, Apologist and Spiritual Writer, 1963
- 23 e Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr, 99
- 24 f
- 25 g Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr, Holy Helper, c. 305
Isaac Watts, Hymn Writer, 1748

- 26 A Sojourner Truth, Prophetic Witness, 1883
- 27 b
- 28 c
- 29 d
- 30 e **Saint Andrew the Apostle**

Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November.

December

- 1 f
- 2 g
- 3 A Birinus, Bishop of Dorchester (Oxon), Apostle of Wessex, 649
Francis Xavier, Missionary to the Far East, 1552
- 4 b Clement of Alexandria, Teacher of the Faith, c. 215
John of Damascus, Monk, Doctor, c. 749
Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637
Barbara the Great Martyr, Holy Helper, late 3rd to early 4th century
- 5 c *Sabas, Archbishop, 532*
- 6 d Nicholas, Bishop of Myra in Lycia, 343
- 7 e The Consecration of Ambrose of Milan, Bishop, Confessor, Doctor, 397
- 8 f *Richard Baxter, Pastor and Writer, Puritan Divine, 1691*
- 9 g *Prophets of the Old Testament*
- 10 A *Karl Barth, Pastor and Theologian, and Thomas Merton, Contemplative and Writer, 1968, 1968*
- 11 b
- 12 c
- 13 d Lucy, Sicilian Martyr, 304
- 14 e John of the Cross, Poet, Doctor, 1591
- 15 f *Drostan of Deer, Abbot, early 7th century*
- 16 g
- 17 A Dorothy Sayers, Apologist and Spiritual Writer, 1957
The Raising of Lazarus
- 18 b
- 19 c
- 20 d
- 21 e **Saint Thomas the Apostle**
- 22 f
- 23 g
- 24 A Christmas Eve
- 25 b **CHRISTMAS DAY**
- 26 c **Saint Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr**
- 27 d **Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist**

- 28 e **The Holy Innocents**
29 f Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1170
30 g
31 A *Sylvester I, Bishop of Rome, 335*

The Proper of Saints

Saint Andrew the Apostle

[November 30]

:: *Andrew is one of the original twelve disciples. He is the brother of Peter. According to Orthodox tradition, the apostolic successor to Andrew is the Patriarch of Constantinople. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland.*

The Collect

ALmighty God, who didst give such grace unto thy holy Apostle Saint Andrew, that he readily obeyed the calling of thy Son Jesus Christ, and followed him without delay: Grant unto us all, that we, being called by thy holy Word, may forthwith give up ourselves obediently to fulfil the holy commandments; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

The Epistle. Romans 10:9–21. §†

IF thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the Gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by

hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world. But I say, Did not Israel know? First Moses saith, I will provoke you to jealousy by them that are no people, and by a foolish nation I will anger you. But Esaias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me. But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.

The Gospel. Matthew 4:18–22. §†

JESUS, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him. And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Birinus, Bishop of Dorchester (Oxon), Apostle of Wessex

[December 3]

:: Birinus (600–649) was the first Bishop of Dorchester. He converted the Kingdom of Wessex to Christianity, earning him the title of “Apostle to the West Saxons”. December 3 is the date of Birinus’s death. This date, or, quixotically, December 5, is the date observed by the Roman Church and some Anglo-Catholic jurisdictions. (December 5 is also the date given in Butler’s Lives of the Saints.) Equally quixotically, September 4 is the date observed by the Anglican Church.

The Collect

WE beseech thee, O Lord, to pour thy grace on all who go to other lands, publishing the Word of salvation; that, following the patient labours of Saint Birinus, who brought to us the Gospel from beyond the sea, they may gather many believers into the fold of thy holy

Church; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Romans 10:12–18. ♦

THERE is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:13–16. ♦

YE are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Francis Xavier, Missionary to the Far East

[December 3]

:: *Francis Xavier (1506–1552) was a Basque missionary from Navarre (Spain). He was a companion of Ignatius of Loyola, and a co-founder of the Society of Jesus. For his missionary work, he is known as the “Apostle of the Indies” and “Apostle of Japan”.*

The Collect

GOD of all nations: Raise up, we beseech thee, in this and every land, evangelists and heralds of thy kingdom, that like thy servant Francis Xavier we may proclaim the unsearchable riches of our Saviour Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 9:16–23. ◇

FOR though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me. What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel. For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; to them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

AND he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Clement of Alexandria, Teacher of the Faith

[December 4]

:: Clement of Alexandria (c. 150–c. 215) was an early theologian and teacher, whose pupils included Origen and Alexander of Jerusalem. Some jurisdictions commemorate Clement on December 5.

The Collect

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy Confessor and Doctor, Saint Clement of Alexandria: Enrich it evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up teachers therein who may set forth thy truth as well by sound doctrine as by holiness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servant Clement of Alexandria: Enrich it evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses, who by their life and doctrine may set forth to all men the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆(◆)

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of unsearchable wisdom, who didst give thy servant Clement grace to understand and teach the truth as it is in Jesus Christ, the source of all truth: Grant to thy Church the same grace to discern thy Word wherever truth is found; through Jesus Christ our unfailing light, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Wisdom 7:7–14. ♦

WHEREFORE I prayed, and understanding was given me: I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her before sceptres and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. Neither compared I unto her any precious stone, because all gold in respect of her is as a little sand, and silver shall be counted as clay before her. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light: for the light that cometh from her never goeth out. All good things together came to me with her, and innumerable riches in her hands. And I rejoiced in them all, because wisdom goeth before them: and I knew not that she was the mother of them. I learned diligently, and do communicate her liberally: I do not hide her riches. For she is a treasure unto men that never faileth: which they that use become the friends of God, being commended for the gifts that come from learning.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:51–52. ♦

JESUS saith unto his disciples, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

HAPPY is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her.

NOW when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me. And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. And they that heard it said, Who then can be saved? And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

GRACE and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to

knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel. John 6:57–63. ♦

AS the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever. These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum. Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you? What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before? It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Preface of Baptism

Saint John of Damascus, Monk, Doctor

[December 4]

:: John of Damascus (c. 675–749) was an early monk and priest. Born and raised in Damascus, he was a prolific writer and translator, and the author of numerous hymns. December 4 is the date of John's death. He was commemorated on March 27 in the GRC between 1890 and 1969. He is also known as John Damascene.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who hast enriched thy Church with the singular learning and holiness of thy servant John: Grant us to hold fast the true doctrine of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and to fashion our lives according to the same, to the glory of thy great Name and the benefit through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

CONFIRM our minds, O Lord, in the mysteries of the true faith, set forth with power by thy servant John of Damascus; that we, with him, confessing Jesus to be true God and true Man, and singing the praises of the risen Lord, may, by the power of the resurrection, attain to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ♦▲ ☒

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 15:12–20. ☒

NOW if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: and if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: and if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

The Gospel. John 5:24–27. ☒

JESUS saith, Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, 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 hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; and hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.

Preface of Easter

Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon
Founder of the Little Gidding Community

[December 4]

:: Nicholas Ferrar (1592–1637) was a scholar, courtier, and deacon, and a friend of George Herbert. He converted his household in the village of Little Gidding (Huntingdonshire) into a religious community. December 4 is the date of Ferrar's death. The Episcopal Church commemorates Ferrar on December 1 or December 2.

The Collect

LORD God, make us worthy of thy perfect love; that, with thy deacon Nicholas Ferrar and his household, we may rule ourselves according to thy Word, and serve thee with our whole heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. Galatians 6:7–10. ◇

BE not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ◇

JESUS saith: the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man

that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Barbara of Nicomedia, Holy Helper

[December 4]

:: *Barbara (late 3rd to early 4th century) was an early Greek saint and martyr, and she is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death. In the Eastern Orthodox Church she is known as “Great Martyr Barbara”. In some jurisdictions Barbara is commemorated with Catherine of Alexandria and Margaret of Antioch on November 24; see November 25 (the commemoration of Catherine) for a joint collect.*

Propers of a Martyr

Saint Sabas, Archbishop

[December 5]

:: *Sabas, or Sabbas the Sanctified (439–532), was a Cappadocian-Syrian monk and priest, who founded the monastery Mar Saba overlooking the Didrikson Valley halfway between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Nicholas, Bishop of Myra in Lycia

[December 6]

:: *Nicholas (270–343) was a bishop in Myra in Asia Minor (modern-day Demre, Turkey). He may have attended the First Council of Nicaea in 325, and according to legend, he slapped the heretic Arius during a heated debate.*

The Collect

O GOD, who art ever glorified in the miracles wrought through thy saints: Give us a true devotion to those, both known and unknown, who have been the channels of thy grace in word and power to us thine unworthy servants; that we may praise thee for all the signs and wonders done in the name of thy holy Servant Jesus Christ our Lord and God. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who in thy love didst give to thy servant Nicholas of Myra a perpetual name for deeds of kindness both on land and seas: Grant, we pray thee, that thy Church may never cease to

work for the happiness of children, the safety of sailors, the relief of the poor, and the help of those tossed by tempests of doubt and grief; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest and reignest with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst enkindle the flame of thy love in the heart of thy servant Nicholas: Grant to us, thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in his triumph, we may profit by his example; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

OALMIGHTY God, who in thy love didst give to thy servant Nicholas of Myra a perpetual name for deeds of kindness both on land and sea: Grant, we pray thee, that thy Church may never cease to work for the happiness of children, the safety of sailors, the relief of the poor, and the help of those tossed by tempests of doubt or grief; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 12:7–11. ♦

THE manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: but all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

The Gospel. John 14:12–14. ♦

JESUS saith, Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Hebrews 13:7–8, 15–17. ♦

REMEMBER them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

The Gospel. John 14:12–14. ♦

JESUS said unto his disciples: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 John 4:7–14. ☒

BELOVED, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the

world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

The Gospel Mark 10:13–16. ☒

THEY brought young children to Jesus, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

Preface of a Saint

**The Consecration of Saint Ambrose of Milan,
Bishop, Confessor, Doctor**
[December 7]

:: Ambrose (c. 340–397) was Bishop of Milan and an influential theologian. He is noted for introducing hymnody from the Eastern Church into the West. Several notable hymns are credited to Ambrose (including the Te Deum), and he is said to have introduced antiphonal singing, a method of chanting where one side of the choir alternately responds to the other. Ambrose's death is April 4, but because this date is often in Lent, his feast is in many jurisdictions transferred to December 7, the date of his consecration.

The Collect

O GOD, who didst give to thy servant Ambrose grace eloquently to proclaim thy righteousness in the great congregation, and fearlessly to bear reproach for the honour of thy Name: Mercifully grant to all bishops and pastors such excellency in preaching, and fidelity in ministering thy Word, that thy people may be partakers with them of

the glory that shall be revealed through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 2:7–18. ◇

YE that fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; and go not aside, lest ye fall. Ye that fear the Lord, believe him; and your reward shall not fail. Ye that fear the Lord, hope for good, and for everlasting joy and mercy. Look at the generations of old, and see; did ever any trust in the Lord, and was confounded? or did any abide in his fear, and was forsaken? or whom did he ever despise, that called upon him? For the Lord is full of compassion and mercy, longsuffering, and very pitiful, and forgiveth sins, and saveth in time of affliction. Woe be to fearful hearts, and faint hands, and the sinner that goeth two ways! Woe unto him that is fainthearted! for he believeth not; therefore shall he not be defended. Woe unto you that have lost patience! and what will ye do when the Lord shall visit you? They that fear the Lord will not disobey his Word; and they that love him will keep his ways. They that fear the Lord will seek that which is well, pleasing unto him; and they that love him shall be filled with the law. They that fear the Lord will prepare their hearts, and humble their souls in his sight, Saying, We will fall into the hands of the Lord, and not into the hands of men: for as his majesty is, so is his mercy.

The Gospel Luke 12:35–44. ◇

LET your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in

the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all? And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.

Preface of a Saint

Richard Baxter, Pastor and Writer, Puritan Divine

[December 8]

:: Richard Baxter (1615–1691) was a Puritan church leader, poet, hymn writer, and theologian. He was also a prominent leader of the Nonconformists. December 8 is the date of Baxter's death. The Church of England commemorates Baxter on June 14.

Propers of a Saint

Prophets of the Old Testament

[December 9]

:: Nevi'im ("Prophets") is the second main division of the Tanakh (the Jewish Bible, being the Christian Old Testament). In addition to the historical books, it includes the Latter Prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel) and the Twelve Minor Prophets. Readings from these books are often used in lieu of Epistle lessons, or as optional third lessons at major feasts.

Propers of a Saint

Karl Barth, Pastor and Theologian, and Thomas Merton, Contemplative and Writer

[December 10]

:: Karl Barth (1886–1968) was a Swiss Reformed theologian and prominent member of the Confessing Church. He was the principal author of the Barmen Declaration (Barmer Erklärung), rejecting the influence of Nazism on German Christianity. Thomas Merton (1915–1968) was a French-born American Trappist monk and a prolific writer. He is particularly noted for the mystical nature of his writings. Both men died on December 10.

Saint Lucy, Sicilian Martyr

[December 13]

:: Lucy of Syracuse (283–304) was a martyr who died during the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian. She was turned in to the authorities by a jilted suitor, and she suffered various mutilations and attempted executions before being killed with a sword.

The Collect

O GOD, who didst endue blessed Lucy, thy Virgin, with grace to witness a good confession, and to suffer gladly for thy name: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to follow her steadfastness that we may attain to the glorious fellowship of thy Saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst give to thy servant Lucy boldness to confess the Name of our Saviour Jesus Christ before the rulers of the world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

LOVING God, who for the salvation of all didst give Jesus Christ as light to a world in darkness: Illumine us, as thou didst thy daughter Lucy, with the light of Christ, that, by the merits of his passion, we may be led to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 10:17—11:2. ♦

HE that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth. Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly:

and indeed bear with me. For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

The Gospel. Luke 12:4–9. ♦

JESUS said unto his disciples: Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God: but he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Revelation 19:5–8. ♦

AND a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

The Gospel. John 1:9–13. ♦

THAT was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power

to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Preface of a Saint or of a Martyr

Saint John of the Cross, Poet, Doctor

[December 14]

:: John of the Cross (1542–1591) was a Carmelite friar and priest. He was originally a converso, that is, a Jewish convert. He was a mystic, and a major figure in the Spanish Counter-Reformation. December 14 is the date of John's death. He was commemorated on November 24 in the GRC between 1738 and 1969.

The Collect

JUDGE eternal, throned in splendour, who didst give John of the Cross strength of purpose and faith that sustained him even through the dark night of the soul: Shed thy light on all who love thee, in unity with Jesus Christ our Saviour; who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Song of Solomon 3:1–4. ◇

BY night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not. I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets, and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not. The watchmen that go about the city found me: to whom I said, Saw ye him whom my soul loveth? It was but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth: I held him, and would not let him go, until I had brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me.

The Gospel. John 16:12–22. ◇

I HAVE yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He

shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you. A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father.

Then said some of his disciples among themselves, What is this that he saith unto us, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me: and, Because I go to the Father? They said therefore, What is this that he saith, A little while? we cannot tell what he saith.

Now Jesus knew that they were desirous to ask him, and said unto them, Do ye enquire among yourselves of that I said, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me? Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

Preface of God the Son

Saint Drostan of Deer, Abbot

[December 15]

:: Drostan (d. early 7th century) was the founder and first abbot of the monastery of Old Deer in Aberdeenshire. He is one of the twelve “Brethren of Saint Columba”, having sailed with the saint from Ireland to Scotland around 563. There is little consensus for the date of Drostan’s commemoration. The Aberdeen Breviary (1510), the first Scottish breviary, gives December 15 as his commemoration. The Church of Scotland commemorates Drostan on July 12; other dates cited are December 14 and July 11.

Propers of an Abbot

Dorothy Sayers, Apologist and Spiritual Writer

[December 17]

:: Dorothy Sayers (1893–1957) is widely known for her mystery novels, perhaps less so for her translation of Dante’s Divine Comedy. But she was also an author of well-received works on topics ranging from the doctrine of the Trinity to the three Creeds (Apostles’, Nicene, and Athanasian). She was offered—but turned down—a Lambeth doctorate in divinity by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Collect

INCARNATE God, who didst grant the grace of eloquence unto thy servant Dorothy to defend thy truth unto a distressed Church, and to proclaim the importance of Christian principles for the world; grant unto us thy same grace that, aided by her prayers and example, we too may have the passionate conviction to teach right doctrine and to teach doctrine rightly; We ask this in thy name, who livest and reignest with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Wisdom 7:7–14. ◇

WHEREFORE I prayed, and understanding was given me: I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her before sceptres and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. Neither compared I unto her any precious stone, because all gold in respect of her is as a little sand, and silver shall be counted as clay before her. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light: for the light that cometh from her never goeth out. All good things together came to me with her, and innumerable riches in her hands. And I rejoiced in them all, because wisdom goeth before them: and I knew not that she was the mother of them. I learned diligently, and do communicate her liberally: I do not hide her riches. For she is a treasure unto men that never faileth: which they that use become the friends of God, being commended for the gifts that come from learning.

AFTER these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he himself. There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples. Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.

But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea. And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes. As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread. Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught. Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken. Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise. This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.

So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?

He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.

Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me. Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?

This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

Preface of God the Son

The Raising of Lazarus

[December 17]

:: *The raising of Lazarus was one of the pivotal moments in the life of our Lord. This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Thomas the Apostle

[December 21]

:: *Thomas is one of the original twelve disciples. He was called Didymus, or “twin”, although there’s no indication whose twin he was. His more common nickname is “Doubting Thomas”, since, when told of Jesus’ resurrection, he doubted the disciples’ report, saying, “Except I shall see on his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.” Some jurisdictions have moved Thomas’s commemoration to July 3, the date on which the Syrian Church commemorates the transfer of his relics from India to Edessa.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who for the *more** confirmation of the faith didst suffer thy holy Apostle Thomas to be doubtful in thy Son’s resurrection: Grant us so perfectly, and without all doubt, to believe in thy Son Jesus Christ, that our faith in thy sight may never be reproved. Hear us, O Lord, through the same Jesus Christ, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and for evermore. *Amen.* §†

The Epistle. Ephesians 2:19–22. §

NOW therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

¶ *Or the following Epistle, as in the 1928 BCP:*

The Epistle. Hebrews 10:35—22:1. †

CAST not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto

* The 1928 BCP has “greater”.

perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

The Gospel. John 20:24–29. §†

THOMAS, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury

[December 29]

:: *Thomas Becket (1119/20–1170) was Archbishop of Canterbury and, before that, Lord Chancellor to Henry II. Becket and the king had a falling out, and he was assassinated in his cathedral by four knights acting on Henry's infamous outburst, "Will no one rid me of this turbulent priest?" December 29 is the date of Becket's death. July 7, the date of his translation in 1220, was a common commemoration until it was suppressed in 1536 during the Reformation.*

The Collect

O GOD, by whose grace and power thy holy Martyr Thomas triumphed over suffering, and despised death: Grant, we beseech thee, that enduring hardness, and waxing valiant in fight we may with

him receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, our strength and our salvation, who didst call thy servant Thomas Becket to be a shepherd of thy people and a defender of thy Church; Keep thy household from all evil and raise up among us faithful pastors and leaders who are wise in the ways of the gospel; through Jesus Christ, the shepherd of our souls, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. Hebrews 5:1–9. ♦

FOR every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron. So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; and being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.

The Gospel. John 10:11–16. ♦

I AM the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The

hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. 2 Esdras 2:42–48. ☒

IESDRAS saw upon the mount Sion a great people, whom I could not number, and they all praised the Lord with songs. And in the midst of them there was a young man of a high stature, taller than all the rest, and upon every one of their heads he set crowns, and was more exalted; which I marvelled at greatly. So I asked the angel, and said, Sir, what are these? He answered and said unto me, These be they that have put off the mortal clothing, and put on the immortal, and have confessed the name of God: now are they crowned, and receive palms. Then said I unto the angel, What young person is it that crowneth them, and giveth them palms in their hands? So he answered and said unto me, It is the Son of God, whom they have confessed in the world. Then began I greatly to commend them that stood so stiffly for the name of the Lord. Then the angel said unto me, Go thy way, and tell my people what manner of things, and how great wonders of the Lord thy God, thou hast seen.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:16–22. ☒

JESUS said unto his disciples: Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; and ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or

what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Preface of a Bishop or of a Martyr

Saint Sylvester I, Bishop of Rome

[December 31]

:: *Sylvester (d. 335) was Pope from 314 until his death. The Donation of Constantine, a forged Roman Imperial decree, describes interactions between the Pope and the Emperor, but Sylvester's fame is due to his association in Germany with New Year's Eve, his dies natalis.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Basil the Great of Caesarea and Saint Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops and Doctors

[January 2]

:: *Basil of Caesarea (330–379) was the bishop of Caesarea Mazaca in Cappadocia, Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey). He was a prominent theologian and an ardent supporter of the Nicene Creed. He was the author of The Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great, and of the Rule of our Holy Father, Basil, which was a major influence on Benedict and his rule. Gregory of Nazianzus (329–390) also known as “the Theologian”, was Archbishop of Constantinople. Like Basil, he defended Trinitarian doctrine against the encroachment of Arianism. Basil and Gregory, along with Gregory of Nyssa, are known as the Cappadocian Fathers. January 2, the date of Basil's death, is the date preferred by the Anglican Church, and the modern GRC. June 14, the date of his consecration, is the date used by the Episcopal Church, and the GRC from the 13th century until 1969. Note that Gregory of Nazianzus is not commemorated on June 14; he has an independent commemoration on May 9. In addition, these two saints are commemorated together with John Chrysostom on January 30, the Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who hast revealed to thy Church thine eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace that, like thy bishops Basil of Caesarea and Gregory of Nazianzus, we may continue steadfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; who livest and reignest for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

WHEREFORE I prayed, and understanding was given me: I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her before sceptres and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. Neither compared I unto her any precious stone, because all gold in respect of her is as a little sand, and silver shall be counted as clay before her. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light: for the light that cometh from her never goeth out. All good things together came to me with her, and innumerable riches in her hands. And I rejoiced in them all, because wisdom goeth before them: and I knew not that she was the mother of them.

THEN said they unto Jesus, Who art thou? And Jesus saith unto them, Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning. I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. They understood not that he spake to them of the Father. Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. As he spake these words, many believed on him. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Saint Seraphim of Sarov, Monk, Spiritual Guide

[January 2]

:: *Seraphim of Sarov (1754/55–1833) was a monk of the Sarov monastery in the Nizhny Novgorod Oblast of Russia. Seraphim was a hermit for much of his life, and he was known for his acts of self-denial.*

Propers of a Monastic

Elizabeth Seton, Founder of the American Sisters of Charity

[January 4]

:: *Elizabeth Seton (1774–1821) founded the first American congregation of religious sisters, the Sisters of Charity, with the assistance of the Sulpician Fathers. In 1809, Seton established Saint Joseph’s Academy and Free School, the first free parochial school for girls in the United States. This school laid the foundation for the Catholic parochial school system in the United States.*

The Collect

GIVE us grace, O God, to love thee in all things and above all things, that following the example of thy servant Elizabeth Ann Seton we might express our love for thee in the service of others; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. 2 Esdras 2:15–24. ◇

MOTHER, embrace thy children, and bring them up with gladness, make their feet as fast as a pillar: for I have chosen thee, saith the Lord. And those that be dead will I raise up again from their places, and bring them out of the graves: for I have known my name in Israel. Fear not, thou mother of the children: for I have chosen thee, saith the Lord. For thy help will I send my servants Esau and Jeremy, after whose counsel I have sanctified and prepared for thee twelve trees laden with divers fruits, And as many fountains flowing with milk and honey, and seven mighty mountains, whereupon there grow roses and lilies, whereby I will fill thy children with joy. Do right to the widow, judge for the fatherless, give to the poor, defend the orphan, clothe the naked, Heal the broken and the weak, laugh not a lame man to scorn, defend the maimed, and let the blind man come into the sight

of my clearness. Keep the old and young within thy walls. Wheresoever thou findest the dead, take them and bury them, and I will give thee the first place in my resurrection. Abide still, O my people, and take thy rest, for thy quietness still come.

The Gospel. Luke 14:15–23. ◇

AND when one of them that sat at meat with Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God. Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: and sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Lucian of Antioch, Priest and Martyr

[January 8]

:: Lucian of Antioch (c. 240–312) was a presbyter, theologian, and martyr. He is credited with a critical recension of the Septuagint and the Greek New Testament, later used to establish the textus receptus. January 7 is the date of Lucian's death, but the 19th-century version of the 1662 kalendar commemorates him on January 8. In the Byzantine Church, he is commemorated on October 15.

O GOD, by whose grace and power thy holy Martyr Lucian triumphed over suffering, and despised death: Grant, we beseech thee, that enduring hardness, and waxing valiant in fight we may with him receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

Propers of Epiphany

Saint Adrian (Hadrian) of Canterbury, Abbot

[January 9]

:: *Adrian of Canterbury (before 637–710) was, according to the Venerable Bede, a Berber native of North Africa. Having served as an abbot in Naples, he was offered the archbishopric of Canterbury by Pope Vitalian. He turned the offer down repeatedly, eventually recommending his friend Theodore of Tarsus for the position, but he travelled with Theodore to Canterbury, where he became the abbot of the monastery of Saints Peter and Paul (reorganized as Saint Augustine’s by Dunstan) at Canterbury. January 9 is the date of Adrian’s death, and also of his re-interment in the monastery after its renovation.*

Propers of a Monastic

William Laud, Archbishop

[January 10]

:: *William Laud (1573–1645) was Archbishop of Canterbury, and an advocate of the religious reforms of Charles I. The so-called “Laudian” liturgical practices were precursors to current High Church practices. During the Civil War, Laud was accused of treason by the Long Parliament. His trial ended without a verdict, so Parliament passed a bill of attainder, and Laud was beheaded on Tower Hill.*

The Collect

A CCEPT, O Lord, our thanksgiving this day for thy servant William Laud; and grant unto us such constancy and zeal in thy service, that we may obtain with him and thy servants everywhere a good confession and the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

K EEP us, O Lord, constant in faith and zealous in witness, that, like thy servant William Laud, we may live in thy fear, die in thy favour, and rest in thy peace; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our

Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. Hebrews 12:5–14. ☒

AND ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; and make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:32–39. ☒

JESUS said: Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth

after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

Preface of a Saint or of a Bishop

Saint Benedict Biscop

[January 12]

:: *Benedict Biscop (c. 628–690) was an Anglo-Saxon abbot and founder of Monkwearmouth-Jarrow Priory, the first ecclesiastical building in Britain to be built in stone. Benedict was an avid bibliophile, amassing a collection of over 250 titles (mostly service books). The library at Jarrow was internationally renowned for its collection of manuscripts, and it was here that Bede wrote his famous works. (Note that “Biscop” is pronounced “bishop”.)*

The Collect

O GOD, the author of all virtues, by whose gift thy blessed Abbot Benedict Biscop chose the heavenly vision before the fleeting glories of this world: Grant that we may learn by his example to despise the things of earth and to seek after the things which are eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

Propers of Epiphany

Saint Ælred of Rievaulx, Abbot

[January 12]

:: *Ælred of Rievaulx (1110–1167) was an English Cistercian monk and abbot of Rievaulx. He was the author of several influential books on spirituality. One of them, Speculum caritatis (The Mirror of Charity) was reportedly written at the request of Bernard of Clairvaux. De spirituali amicitia (Spiritual Friendship) is considered to be his greatest work; it is a Christian counterpart to Cicero’s De amicitia (Concerning Friendship).*

The Collect

POUR thou into our hearts, we beseech thee, O God, the Holy Spirit’s gift of love, that we, clasping each other’s hand, may share the joy of friendship, human and divine, and with thy servant Ælred draw many into thy community of love; through Jesus Christ the Righteous, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

GRANT to thy people, Almighty God, a spirit of mutual affection, that following the example of thy servant Ælred, we might know the love of Christ in loving one another, and might rejoice in the gift of thine eternal goodness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who ceapest not alike to teach and succour the children of thy Church: Grant, we pray thee, that as thou hast given Saint Ælred unto thy faithful people to be the minister of their everlasting salvation, so they may by thy mercy be enabled both to perceive and to know the things that they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* β

The Epistle. Philippians 2:1–4. ☒

IF there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

The Gospel. John 15:9–17. ☒

AS the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the

servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. These things I command you, that ye love one another.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Mark 12:28–34a. ☒

ONE of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked Jesus, Which is the first commandment of all? And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he: and to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God.

Preface of a Saint or of an Abbot

Marguerite Bourgeoys, Educator

[January 12]

:: *Marguerite Bourgeoys (1620–1700) was a French nun and founder of the Congregation of Notre Dame of Montreal. The convent was dedicated to educating young girls, the poor, and children of First Nations.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop, Doctor

[January 13]

:: Hilary (c. 310–c. 367) was Bishop of Poitiers. Because of his advocacy of Trinitarianism, he was referred to as the “Hammer of the Arians” and the “Athanasius of the West”. In some jurisdictions where the Octave of the Epiphany is observed, Hilary’s commemoration is transferred to January 14. Hilary gives his name to the winter term (beginning in January) at the Universities of Oxford and Dublin, a practice derived from the usage of the Courts of England and Wales, and the Courts of Ireland.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who gavest to thy servant Hilary great gifts of learning and teaching, and faithfulness in bearing witness to thy truth: Grant to thy Church a continuance of such gifts, with grace to use the same to thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servant Saint Hilary: Enrich it evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses, who by their life and doctrine may set forth to all men the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY, everlasting God, whose servant Hilary steadfastly confessed thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to be Very God and Very Man: Grant that we may hold fast to this faith, and evermore magnify his holy Name; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD our God, who didst raise up thy servant Hilary to be a champion of the catholic faith: Keep us steadfast in that true faith which we professed at our baptism, that we may rejoice in having thee for our Father, and may abide in thy Son, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit; thou who livest and reignest for ever and ever. *Amen.* ♦

THEN shall the righteous man stand in great boldness before the face of such as have afflicted him, and made no account of his labours. When they see it, they shall be troubled with terrible fear, and shall be amazed at the strangeness of his salvation, so far beyond all that they looked for. And they repenting and groaning for anguish of spirit shall say within themselves, This was he, whom we had sometimes in derision, and a proverb of reproach: We fools accounted his life madness, and his end to be without honour: How is he numbered among the children of God, and his lot is among the saints!

¶ *Or this:*

I CHARGE thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

ALSO I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God: but he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God.

And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven. And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, do not be anxious how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: for the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

Preface of a Doctor

George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends (the Quakers) [January 13]

:: *George Fox (1624–1691) was an English dissenter. Like Martin Luther, Fox did not originally intend to create a splinter group from the Established Church, but in the end he founded the Society of Friends (the Quakers), which had a significant influence in Colonial America. In one of his letters, Fox pointed out that Abel, Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and David were all keepers of sheep or cattle, so having a learned education was not a necessary qualification for ministry.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Kentigern (Mungo), Bishop of Glasgow [January 14]

:: *Kentigern (518–614) was a Welsh missionary in the Scottish Kingdom of Strathclyde. “Mungo” is a nickname, probably from the Welsh *fy nghu* (“my dear one”). January 13 is the date of Kentigern’s death, but his commemoration is commonly transferred to January 14 to avoid a conflict with Hilary.*

The Collect

O GOD, who by the preaching of thy blessed servant Saint Kentigern didst cause the light of the Gospel to shine in these islands: Lead us by its brightness to become sons of a new birth, growing into thine image from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. ♦

The Epistle. 1 Thessalonians 2:2b–10. ♦

WE were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention. For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile: but as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but

God, which trieth our hearts. For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God is witness: nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children: so being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us. For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God.

The Gospel. Matthew 28:16–20. ♦

THEN the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Propers of a Bishop

**Saint Sava the Enlightener,
First Archbishop of the Serbian Church**

[January 14]

:: Sava the Enlightener (1174–1236) was a Serbian prince and Orthodox monk who became the first Archbishop of the autocephalous Serbian Church. Sava's elevation to Archbishop by Patriarch Manuel I of Constantinople in Nicaea was intended to support the recognition of Serbia as an independent kingdom. January 14 is the date of Sava's death, but it should be noted that this is Old Style (the Eastern Church follows the Julian calendar), and the New Style date is January 27. Nevertheless, the Australian Church commemorates Sava on January 14.

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Paul of Thebes, the First Hermit

[January 15]

:: *Paul of Thebes (c. 227–c. 342) fled to the Theban desert as a young man during the persecutions of Emperors Decius and Valerian, and he remained there as a hermit for the rest of his life. He is regarded as the first Christian hermit.*

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Antony of Egypt (Anthony the Great), Abbot, Father of all Monks

[January 17]

:: *Antony the Great (c. 251–356) was an Egyptian monk who exerted a profound influence on Christian monasticism, largely through his biography written by Athanasius of Alexandria. He wasn't the first monk or hermit, but he was one of the first to go into the wilderness to find solitude.*

The Collect

O GOD, at whose call the blessed Abbot Antony left the haunts of men to enter on the solitary way: Grant to us in our day the grace of perseverance; that neither faltering, nor stumbling, nor looking back, we may press toward the goal for the prize of our high calling in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD Jesu Christ, who saidst to thy disciples, Be ye perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect: Give us grace so to follow thy blessed Saint Antony in the way of perfection, that we may count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of thee; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by thy Holy Spirit didst enable thy servant Antony to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil: Give us grace, with pure hearts and minds, to follow thee, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒(♦)

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 2:1–3. ♦♦

MY son, if thou come to serve the Lord, prepare thy soul for temptation. Set thy heart aright, and constantly endure, and make not haste in time of trouble. Cleave unto him, and depart not away, that thou mayest be increased at thy last end.

The Gospel. Matthew 19:16–21. ♦♦

BEHOLD, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Philippians 3:7–14. ♦

HOWBEIT what things were gain to me, these have I counted loss for Christ. Yea verily, and I count all things to be loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I suffer the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may gain Christ, and be found in him, not having a righteousness of mine own, even that which is of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming conformed unto his death; if by any means I may attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have already obtained, or am already made perfect: but I press on, if so be that I may apprehend that

for which also I was apprehended by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself yet to have apprehended: but one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel. Luke 12:32–34. ♦

FEAR not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Peter 5:6–11. ☒

HUMBLE yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

The Gospel. Mark 10:17–22. ☒

WHEN Jesus was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God. Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy

father and mother. And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth. Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

Preface of Pentecost

The Confession of Saint Peter (Saint Peter's Chair at Rome)

[January 18]

:: The Confession of Saint Peter is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles. In this case, it's Peter's response to Jesus' question, "Whom say ye that I am?" When Peter confesses that Jesus is the Christ, Jesus blesses him and gives him the hypocorism "Peter" ("rock"). The Feasts of the Chairs of Saint Peter honour actual physical chairs associated with Peter: one in Rome (January 18) and one in Antioch (February 22); the chairs are no longer extant, but they have come to symbolize his primacy in the Church in those two cities.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY Father, who didst inspire Simon Peter, first among the apostles, to confess Jesus as Messiah and Son of the living God: Keep thy Church stedfast upon the rock of this faith, so that in unity and peace we may proclaim the one truth and follow the one Lord, our Saviour Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. 1 Peter 5:1–4. ☒

THE elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

For the Epistle. Acts 4:8–13. ☒

THEN Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, if we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:13–20. ☒

WHEN Jesus came into the coasts of Cæsarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.

Saint Prisca, Roman Martyr

[January 18]

:: *Prisca (n.d.) was a young Roman woman during the reign of Emperor Claudius who refused to renounce her faith and sacrifice to Apollo. She survived various tortures and attempted executions before finally being beheaded.*

The Collect

O GOD, who didst endue blessed Prisca, thy Virgin, with grace to witness a good confession, and to suffer gladly for thy name: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to follow her stedfastness that we may attain to the glorious fellowship of thy Saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 51:10–12. ♦

I CALLED upon the Lord, the Father of my Lord, that he would not leave me in the days of my trouble, and in the time of the proud, when there was no help. I will praise thy name continually, and will sing praises with thanksgiving; and so my prayer was heard: For thou savedst me from destruction, and deliveredst me from the evil time: therefore will I give thanks, and praise thee, and bless thy name, O Lord.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:28–33. ♦

JESUS said: Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

Propers of a Martyr

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

[January 18 through January 25]

:: *The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on the Feast of the Confession of Saint Peter and concludes on the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul.*

The Collect

GRACIOUS Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Saviour. *Amen.* †

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY Father, whose blessed Son before his passion prayed for his disciples that they might be one, even as thou and he are one: Grant that thy Church, being bound together in love and obedience to thee, may be united in one body by the one Spirit, that the world may believe in him whom thou didst send, the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ‡

¶ *Or this:*

VOUCHSAFE, we beseech thee, Almighty God, to grant to the whole Christian people unity, peace, and true concord, both visible and invisible; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ③

Propers of Epiphany

Saint Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester

[January 19]

:: *Wulfstan (d. 1023) was successively Bishop of London, Bishop of Worcester, and ultimately Archbishop of York. He was a prolific writer in Old English; he was involved in the reform of the English Church (in terms of both faith and administration) and also the reform of law codes under Æthelred II and Cnut.*

The Collect

BLESSED Lord, who through days of change and turmoil didst preserve Saint Wulfstan strong in his simplicity, humanity, and piety: Multiply in thy Church rulers and leaders of like character, faithful to themselves, to their brethren, and to thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O ALMIGHTY God, who by thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast led captivity captive, and given gifts unto men: Multiply among us faithful pastors, who, like thy holy Bishop Wulfstan, will hearten those that are held in bondage, and bring them into the glorious liberty of thy true children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦(♦)

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst call thy servant Wulfstan to feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us, we pray thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Nehemiah 5:4–8. ♦♦

THERE were also that said, We have borrowed money for the king's tribute, and that upon our lands and vineyards. Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and, lo, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants, and some of our daughters are brought unto bondage already: neither is it in our power to redeem them; for other men have our lands

and vineyards. And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words. Then I consulted with myself, and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them. And I said unto them, We after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye even sell your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? Then held they their peace, and found nothing to answer.

The Gospel. Mark 13:9–11. ♦

TAKE heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them. And the gospel must first be published among all nations. But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Luke 4:16–21. ♦

JESUS came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

Saint Henry of Finland, Bishop, Missionary

[January 19]

:: *Henry of Finland (d. 1156) was a medieval English clergyman who travelled to Sweden, ostensibly to become Archbishop of Uppsala; but because of the local civil war, he was diverted to Finland, where he was martyred. January 20 is said to be the date of his death, but he has traditionally been commemorated on January 19.*

Propers of a Bishop or of a Missionary

Saint Fabian, Bishop of Rome, Martyr

[January 20]

:: *Fabian (d. 250) was elected Pope under miraculous circumstances: a dove is said to have descended on his head to mark him as the choice of the Holy Spirit (he was not otherwise a leading contender for the office). Fabian was one of the earliest victims of the persecutions of Emperor Decius, although he probably died in prison rather than by execution.*

The Collect

WE beseech thee, O Lord, to grant us after the example of Saint Fabian, thy martyr, constancy in thy faith and truth; that, being grounded in divine love, we may be moved from its perfection by no temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

WE beseech thee, O Lord, to grant us, after the example of blessed Fabian, thy Bishop and Martyr, constancy in thy faith and truth; that we may be grounded in divine love and moved from its perfection by no temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who dost support and defend us with the glorious witness of thy blessed martyr Fabian: Grant us to go forward in his footsteps, and ever to rejoice in fellowship with him; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Hebrews 11:33–40. ♦♦

THROUGH faith the saints subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: and others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:42–47. ♦

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Luke 6:20–23a. ♦

JESUS lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your

name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven.

Preface of a Bishop

Saint Sebastian, Martyr

[January 20]

:: *Sebastian (c. 256–288) was a captain in the Praetorian Guards under Emperors Diocletian and Maximian. When his faith was discovered, Diocletian ordered that he be shot with arrows. Contrary to popular belief, and despite the vast quantity of art depicting this incident, Sebastian did not die: he was nursed back to health by Irene. Sebastian subsequently accosted Diocletian, who was astonished to see Sebastian alive, and ordered him cudgelled to death and thrown into the sewer.*

The Collect

O GOD, fill us with that spirit of courage which gave thy martyr Sebastian strength to offer his life in faithful witness; and help us to learn from him to cherish thy law and to obey thee rather than men; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.* ρ

Propers of a Martyr

Richard Rolle of Hampole, Spiritual Writer

[January 20]

:: *Richard Rolle (c. 1300–1349) was a hermit, mystic, and writer. He wrote extensively in both English and Latin. Two of his best known works are Incendium Amoris (The Fire of Love), an account of his mystical experiences; and The Form of Living, an English guide to life as an anchorite, written for Margaret Kirby. September 30 is the date of Rolle's death, but the Church of England commemorates him on January 20, and the Episcopal Church on September 28, together with Margery Kempe and Walter Hilton.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Agnes, Roman Martyr

[January 21]

:: *Agnes (c. 291–c. 304) was a young girl of a noble Roman family who, during the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian, suffered various tortures and attempted executions before being beheaded at the age of thirteen.*

The Collect

O GOD, who as on this day didst cause thy blessed Virgin Agnes to attain unto the heavenly palm of martyrdom: Grant us, we

beseech thee, so to follow her example that we may be accounted worthy to be admitted into thy presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost choose the weak things of the world to confound the strong: Mercifully grant that we who celebrate the simplicity of thy child-martyr Saint Agnes may, by thy grace, be pure in heart, firm in faith, and resolute in action, willing to offer ourselves a living sacrifice unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, with whom thy meek ones go forth as the mighty: Grant us so to cherish the memory of thy blessed martyr Agnes, that we may share her pure and steadfast faith in thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost choose those whom the world deemeth powerless to put the powerful to shame: Grant us so to cherish the memory of thy youthful martyrs Agnes and Cecilia, that we might share their pure and steadfast faith in thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 51:1–3, 7–8. ♦♦

I will thank thee, O Lord and King, and praise thee, O God my Saviour: I do give praise unto thy name: For thou art my defender and helper, and has preserved my body from destruction, and from the snare of the slanderous tongue, and from the lips that forge lies, and has been mine helper against mine adversaries: And hast delivered me, according to the multitude of thy mercies and greatness of thy name,

from the teeth of them that were ready to devour me, and out of the hands of such as sought after my life, and from the manifold afflictions which I had; They compassed me on every side, and there was no man to help me: I looked for the succour of men, but there was none. Then thought I upon thy mercy, O Lord, and upon thy acts of old, how thou deliverest such as wait for thee, and savest them out of the hands of the enemies.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:8–12. ♦♦

BLESSED are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Song of Solomon 2:10–13. ◇

MY beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land; the fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

The Gospel. Matthew 18:1–6. ◇

AT the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, and said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Vincent of Saragossa, Spanish Deacon and Martyr

[January 22]

:: *Vincent of Saragossa (3rd century–c. 304) was a deacon who was martyred during the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian. Vincent is regarded as the proto-martyr of Spain.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst strengthen thy blessed Martyr Vincent with the virtue of constancy in faith and truth: Grant us in like manner for love of thee to despise the prosperity of this world, and to fear none of its adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power thy holy Martyr Vincent triumphed over suffering and despised death: Grant, we beseech thee, that enduring hardness, and waxing valiant in fight, we may with him receive the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦(♦)

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, whose deacon Vincent, upheld by thee, was not terrified by threats nor overcome by torments: Strengthen us, we beseech thee, to endure all adversity with invincible and steadfast faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

I RECKON that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

THE disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household? Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops. And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

ONE of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed

them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The Gospel. Luke 12:4–12. ☒

AND I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God: but he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God. And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven. And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: for the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

Preface of a Saint

Phillips Brooks, Bishop of Massachusetts

[January 23]

:: *Phillips Brooks (1835–1893) was the long-time rector of Boston’s Trinity Church. He was also briefly bishop of Massachusetts. He is particularly remembered as the lyricist of “O Little Town of Bethlehem”.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the source and perfection of all virtues, who didst inspire thy servant Phillips Brooks both to do what is right and to preach what is true: Grant that all ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may afford to thy faithful people, by word and

example, the instruction which is of thy grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O EVERLASTING God, who didst reveal truth to thy servant Philip Brooks, and didst so form and mould his mind and heart that he was able to mediate the truth with grace and power: Grant, we pray, that all whom thou dost call to preach the Gospel may steep themselves in the Word, and confirm their lives to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. Ephesians 3:14–21. ☒

FOR this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. *Amen.*

The Gospel. Matthew 24:24–27. ☒

THERE shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh

out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Timothy, Companion of Saint Paul

[January 24]

The Collect

:: Timothy was from Lystra in Asia Minor. He met Paul during the latter's second missionary journey, and two of Paul's Epistles are addressed to him. According to the apocryphal Acts of Timothy, he was stoned in 97 at the age of 80, after interrupting a procession in honour of the goddess Diana to preach the gospel. From the 13th century until 1969, Timothy was commemorated alone on January 24, the day before the Conversion of Saint Paul. (In the Eastern Orthodox Church, the date is January 22.) In 1969, his commemoration was combined with that of Titus on January 26, the day after the Conversion of Saint Paul.

The Collect

O GOD, eternal and only wise, who by the labours of Saint Timothy didst establish and comfort thy people concerning their faith: Grant us grace that like him we may fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, who didst call Saint Timothy to endure hardship, as a good soldier of thy Son: Strengthen us in like manner to stand firm in adversity, that we may obtain salvation with eternal glory; through the grace of Christ Jesus our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 6:11–16. ♦

BUT thou, O man of God, flee these things; and beloved: follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and

before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; that thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

The Gospel. Luke 14:25–33. ♦

AND there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them, If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 1:1–7. ♦

PAUL, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in

my prayers night and day; greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; when I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lots, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also. Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of self-control.

The Gospel. John 10:7–10. ♦

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they ought have it more abundantly.

Preface of Apostles

**Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, Doctor,
and Jane Frances de Chantal, Monastic**

[January 24]

:: Frances de Sales (1567–1622) was Bishop of Geneva and author of works on spiritual direction, such as Introduction to the Devout Life and Treatise on the Love of God, both of which have mystical aspects. De Sales died on December 28, the feast of the Holy Innocents, so between 1666 and 1969 his commemoration was transferred to January 29. The modern observance is January 24, the date of his translation from Lyon to Annecy. De Sales was spiritual advisor to Jane Frances de Chantal (1572–1641), who under de Sales's direction founded the Congregation of the Visitation, which accepted women rejected by other orders due to poor health or age. December 13 is the date of de Chantal's death, but she was originally commemorated in the GRC on August 21. In the 1969 GRC she was moved to December 12, to avoid a conflict with Lucy, but later she was displaced, and moved to August 12.

The Collect

MOST Gracious God, who hast bidden us to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly before thee; Teach us, like thy servants Francis and Jane, to see and to serve Christ in all people; that we may know him to be the giver of all good things, through the same, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Micah 6:6–8. ◇

WHEREWITH shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

The Gospel. John 17:1–26. ◇

THESE words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: as thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus

Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may

believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

Preface of a Doctor or of a Saint

The Conversion of Saint Paul

[January 25]

:: *Having built a career on persecuting Christians, Paul was struck blind while travelling to Damascus. In a vision, Jesus berated Paul for persecuting him and his followers, and directed him to the home of Ananias, who would restore his sight. This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles.*

The Collect

O GOD, who, through the preaching of the blessed Apostle Saint Paul, hast caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world: Grant, we beseech thee, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may shew forth our thankfulness unto thee for the same, by following the holy doctrine which he taught; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

For the Epistle. Acts 9:1–22. §†

AND Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound

unto Jerusalem. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus. And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight

forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God. But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests? But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

The Gospel. Matthew 19:27–29. §†

PETER answered and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Timothy and Saint Titus, Companions of Saint Paul

[January 26]

:: Timothy and Titus were originally commemorated separately: Timothy on January 23 (since the 13th century), and Titus on February 6 (since 1845). In 1969, their commemorations were combined on January 26, the day after the Conversion of Saint Paul. Some jurisdictions include Silas on this date, while others commemorate him separately on July 13.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who didst call Timothy and Titus to do the work of evangelists and teachers, and didst make them strong to endure hardship: Strengthen us to stand fast in adversity, and to live godly and righteous lives in this present time, that with sure confidence

we may look for our blessed hope, the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 1:1–8. ☒

PAUL, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, to Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day; greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; when I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also. Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God.

¶ *Or this:*

The Epistle. Titus 1:1–5. ☒

PAUL, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; in hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; but hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour; to Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. For this cause left I thee in Crete, that

thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee.

The Gospel. John 10:1–10. ☒

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Preface of Pentecost

Saint Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr

[January 26]

:: Polycarp (69–155) was a presbyter of Smyrna on the Aegean coast of Anatolia (modern-day Turkey). According to Jerome, Polycarp was a disciple of John the Evangelist. He was martyred for refusing to burn incense to the Roman Emperor. February 23 is the date of Polycarp's death, according to Eusebius. However, January 26 seems to have been the date of his earliest commemoration. (Butler's Lives of the Saints lists January 26 as his commemoration, even while listing February 23 as his dies natalis.)

The Collect

FULFIL our petitions, O Lord, we beseech the, and receive us as a whole-burnt-offering acceptable unto thee, together with the

blessed Polycarp thy Martyr and Bishop, whose passion this day we commemorate; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD God, who failest none that hath his strength from thee: Grant us, after the pattern of thy holy Martyr Polycarp, the faith that shall serve thee in tranquil days and fail not at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst give thy servant Polycarp boldness to confess the Name of our Saviour Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we likewise may ever be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for his sake; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the maker of heaven and earth, who didst give to thy venerable servant, the holy and gentle Polycarp, boldness to confess Jesus Christ as King and Saviour, and steadfastness to die for his faith: Give us grace, after his example, to share the cup of Christ and rise to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 2:8–14. ♦

REMEMBER that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel: wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: if

we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: if we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself. Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.

The Gospel. John 17:11–17. ◇

NOW I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Revelation 2:8–11. ◆✠

UNTO the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive; I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

JESUS said unto his disciples: Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; and ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

¶ *Or this:*

THEN came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom. But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.

Preface of a Bishop or of a Martyr

Saint Lydia of Thyatira, Saint Dorcas (Tabitha), and Saint Phoebe, Witnesses to the Faith

[January 27]

:: Lydia is mentioned as a “seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira” who heard Paul preach and was baptized by him. Dorcas (the Greek equivalent of the Aramaic Tabitha, meaning “gazelle”) was a highly respected disciple living in Joppa. When she died, her family and friends summoned Peter, who was staying in nearby Lydda. Peter arrived in due course and raised Dorcas from the dead. Phoebe was a deacon in the church of Cenchreae, a village outside Corinth. Paul sent her as his emissary to the Church in Rome. As disciples of the early church, the three are commemorated two days after Paul (and one day after the modern commemoration of Paul’s disciples Timothy and Titus). Dorcas (Tabitha) also has her own commemoration on October 25, and in some jurisdictions Lydia is commemorated on May 21. This collect originally commemorated Lydia alone.

The Collect

ETERNAL God, who gives good gifts to all people, and who teaches us to have the same spirit of generosity: Give unto us, we pray thee, hearts that are always open to hear thy word, that following the example of thy servants Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, we may show hospitality to all who are in any need or trouble, through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Acts 16:11–15. ◇

THEREFORE loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis; and from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days. And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither. And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

IT came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, and certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, and Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.

Preface of Pentecost

**The Translation of Saint John Chrysostom,
Bishop of Constantinople, Doctor**

[January 27]

:: John Chrysostom (c. 347–407) was called “golden-mouthed” because of his eloquence in preaching and public speaking. The Eastern Orthodox Church uses the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom as its normal Eucharistic liturgy. John Chrysostom is generally commemorated on January 27, the date of the translation of his relics from Comana to Constantinople. John died on September 14, so in some jurisdictions, the Repose of John Chrysostom is observed on September 13, to avoid a conflict with Holy Cross Day. He is also commemorated on January 30, as one of the Three Great Hierarchs of the Eastern Orthodox Church, which also commemorates him independently on November 13, the date of his accession to the archbishopric of Constantinople.

The Collect

GRANT, O Lord, we beseech thee, to all that minister in holy things the spirit of wisdom and courage wherewith Saint John Chrysostom ceased not to preach thy word, to reason with sinners, and to overcome manifold afflictions for the love of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst illuminate the minds and warm the hearts of the faithful by the heavenly doctrine and example of Saint John Chrysostom: Call us by thy merciful grace to the knowledge of the truth, and put thy words in our mouth, that we may declare the unsearchable riches of Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◆

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst give grace to thy servant John, eloquently to declare thy righteousness in the great congregation, and fearlessly to bear reproach for the honour of thy Name: Mercifully grant unto all bishops and pastors such excellency in preaching, and fidelity in ministering thy Word, that thy people may be partakers with them of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Jeremiah 1:4–9. ♦♦♦

THE word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou earnest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:14–19. ♦♦

YE are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach

men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Luke 21:12–15. ♦

THEY shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. And it shall turn to you for a testimony. Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

Preface of a Doctor

The Translation of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Doctor [January 28]

See March 7.

Saint Gildas of Wales, Abbot [January 29]

:: *Gildas (c. 500–c. 570) was a British monk known for his polemic sermon De Excidio et Conquestu Britanniae (On the Ruin and Conquest of Britain), which documents the acts of his secular and religious contemporaries. Despite the condemnatory tone of the work, it is one of the few near-contemporaneous sources for the history of this period. Gildas also figures in various Arthurian legends, although Gildas never mentions Arthur in any of his writings. (Gildas does say he was born in the same year as the Battle of Badon Hill, in which Arthur was supposed to have been the victor, so his failure to mention Arthur is telling.)*

Propers of a Monastic

Andrei Rublëv, Monk and Iconographer [January 29]

:: *Andre Rublëv (1360s–1427/30) is one of the greatest iconographers of all time. He was one of the painters of the Assumption Cathedral in Vladimir, and of the Trinity Cathedral in the Trinity Lavra of Saint Sergius (to the northeast of Moscow). He also painted the frescoes in the Saviour Cathedral in Moscow's Andronikov Monastery. His greatest work is a revision of the icon known as "The Hospitality of Abraham". By removing Abrahams and Sarah from the picture, and concentrating on the three guests, he transformed the scene into a representation of the Holy Trinity.*

Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs

[January 30]

:: During the eleventh century, disputes raged in Constantinople about which of the Three Hierarchs was the greatest: Basil the Great (feast day January 1), Gregory the Theologian (feast day January 25), or John Chrysostom (feast day November 13). The controversy ended when the three hierarchs appeared in a vision to John the Bishop of Euchaita (June 14) in 1084 and said that they were equal before God: “There are no divisions among us, and no opposition to one another.” They directed that their common commemoration should be celebrated on a single day, so Bishop John chose January 30 for their joint Feast.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, we honour before thee the three great torch-bearers of the triune Godhead, thy saints Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom, who have enlightened the world with the rays of their divine doctrines, and who with godly knowledge have watered all creation in clear and mighty streams. Among them, there are no divisions, and no opposition to one another. Let it be so with us, that we may worship thee in unity of mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all glory, dominion, and honour, now and always and unto the ages of ages. *Amen.* ¶

Propers of a Doctor

The Beheading of King Charles I, Martyr

[January 30]

:: Charles I (1600–1649), of the House of Stuart, was a supporter of high church Anglican ecclesiastics such as Richard Montagu and William Laud. Towards the end of the English Civil War, he was captured by Oliver Cromwell’s army, tried for treason, and executed.

The Collect

O SOVEREIGN God, who didst grace thy servant Charles Stuart with nobility and fortitude, so that he was content to forfeit his throne, and life itself, for the cause of apostolic order in the Church: Bestow on us, we beseech thee, the like grace, that we, being steadfast in all adversity, may persevere unto the end, and attain with him the

crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ the faithful witness, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Δ

¶ *Or this:*

KING of Kings and Lord of Lords, whose faithful servant Charles prayed for those who persecuted him and died in the living hope of thine eternal kingdom: Grant us by thy grace so to follow his example that we may love and bless our enemies, through the intercession of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.* ʀ

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who through the victory of martyrdom didst exalt thine anointed servant Charles from a corruptible to an incorruptible crown: Give us grace, we pray thee, so to imitate his example, that we may be worthy to be aided by his prayers; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* (β)

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY Father, who by the Apostle of thy dear Son hast taught us to obey God rather than man: Mercifully grant that, as thy servant King Charles was faithful unto death in defence of thy Church, so all kings and rulers may constantly endeavour to govern thy people in accordance with thy Holy Word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ☤

The Epistle. 1 Peter 2:13–22. §μ

SUBMIT yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the King, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evil-doers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well-doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: as free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of

God. Honour all men; Love the brotherhood; Fear God; Honour the King. servants be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. For this is thank-worthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory is it, if when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently; this is acceptable with God. For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps; who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.

The Gospel. Matthew 21:33–41. §μ

THERE was a certain householder which planted vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a wine-press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country. And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants, more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the Heir, come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:12–16. Δ

FIGHT the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before

many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; that thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:34–39. Δ

THINK not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Isaac the Great

[The Saturday before Sexagesima]

:: Isaac the Great (354–439), also known as Sahak Parthev (Isaac the Parthian) was the Patriarch (or Catholicos) of the Armenian Apostolic Church. The Kingdom of Armenia was the first nation to adopt Christianity as the state religion (in the early 4th century). According to tradition, the Church traces its founding to the Apostles Bartholomew and Thaddeus of Edessa (the latter being identified with Jude or Judas Thaddaeus). To preserve Armenian culture and national unity, which were threatened by the division of Armenia between Persia and the Byzantine Empire, Isaac enlisted Mesrop Mashtots to create an Armenian alphabet. The two then proceeded to translate the Bible, beginning with the Book of Proverbs: “To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding” (Proverbs 1:2). Isaac the Great is the patron saint of Isaac the lectern eagle at Saint Stephen's. The Feast of Sahak Parthev is a moveable feast tied to the beginning of Great Lent. Specifically, it occurs on the Saturday before Sexagesima Sunday.

BE mindful, Lord, of thy holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, and bless it with shepherds who will lead it as Saint Isaac the Great led the ancient Church in Armenia: Causing an alphabet to be created, and the Holy Bible to be translated into the tongue of the people, that they might know wisdom and instruction, and perceive the words of understanding; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all glory, dominion, and honour, now and always and unto the ages of ages. *Amen.* ¶

Propers of a Saint

Saint Bride (Bridget, Brigid), Abbess of Kildare

[February 1]

:: Bride (c. 451–525) was an early Irish nun and foundress of several monasteries of nuns, including that of Kildare. Her name is the same as an important Celtic goddess, Brigit, who is patroness of the pagan festival Imbolc (February 1), so many aspects of the goddess have found their way into Bride's Legend. Bride is one of the patron saints of Ireland, along with Columba and, most notably, Patrick.

The Collect

ETERNAL Father, who willest thy children to seek the kingdom of thy dear Son as their chief treasure, and the good that is above all good: Grant us the single heart of blessed Bride, thy Virgin, to count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of the same Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, whose servant Brigid, kindled with the flame of thy love, became a shining light in thy Church: Grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, and walk before thee as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 10:17—11:2. ♦

HE that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth. Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me. For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:44–46. ♦

THE kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 1:26–31. ◇

FOR ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: but God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: that no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: that, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

The Gospel. Matthew 6:25–33. ◇

THEREFORE I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Preface of a Saint or of an Abbess

**The Presentation of Christ in the Temple,
Commonly called The Purification
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

[February 2]

:: In accordance with Jewish law, Mary took the infant Jesus to redeem him as her first-born son, and also to be purified after child-birth. While there, both Simeon and the prophetess Anna recognized Jesus as the Christ. This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. §†

BEHOLD, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts.

AND when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; (As it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy

servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Preface of Epiphany

Saint Blaise (Blase, Blasius), Holy Helper [February 3]

:: Blaise (d. 316) was a physician and Bishop of Sebastea in historical Armenia (modern Sivas, Turkey). The governor of Cappadocia began persecuting Christians at the command of Emperor Licinius, and Blaise was among the many who were martyred. Blaise is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, who didst give to thy servant Blaise boldness to confess the Name of our Saviour Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer

gladly for the sake of the same our Lord Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen. Δ

For the Epistle. Exodus 32:7–14. Δ

THE Lord said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves: they have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. And the Lord said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people: now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation. And Moses besought the Lord his God, and said, Lord, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand? Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever. And the Lord repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people.

The Gospel. Luke 10:1–9. Δ

AFTER these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the

Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: and heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.

Propers of a Saint

**Saint Anskar of Sweden, Archbishop of Hamburg,
Missionary to Denmark and Sweden, Apostle of the North**
[February 3]

:: *Anskar (801–865) was Archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen. With the approval of Pope Gregory IV, Anskar took up the task of evangelising Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, earning the title “Apostle of the North”.*

The Collect

WE beseech thee, O Lord, to pour thy grace on all who go to other lands, publishing the word of salvation; that, following the patient labours of thy servant Anskar, who carried the message of thy Gospel beyond the sea, they may gather many believers into the fold of thy holy Church; through the merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who willest that all men should be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth: Send forth, we pray thee, labourers into thy harvest that, following the example of thy blessed Saint Anskar, they may preach the Word with boldness and gather many believers into the fold of thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we thank thee for thy servant Anskar, whom thou didst call to preach The Gospel to the people of Scandinavia: Raise up, we pray thee, in this and every land, heralds and evangelists of thy kingdom, that thy Church may make known the unsearchable riches of Christ, and may increase with the increase of God; through the same thy son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and Everlasting God, who didst send thy servant Anskar as an apostle to the people of Scandinavia, and didst enable him to lay a firm foundation for their conversion, though he did not see the results of his labours: Keep thy Church from discouragement in the day of small things, knowing that when thou hast begun a good work thou wilt bring it to a fruitful conclusion; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ◇▲

The Epistle. Hebrews 10:35–39. ◇◆

CAST not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

The Gospel. Mark 16:15–18. ◇

AND he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they

drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Matthew 28:18–20. ♦

JESUS spake unto the eleven disciples, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Propers of a Bishop

The Dorchester Chaplains (The Four Chaplains: Lieutenant George Fox, Lieutenant Alexander D. Goode, Lieutenant Clark V. Poling, and Lieutenant John P. Washington)

[February 3]

:: *Four Chaplains Day commemorates the sacrifice of the four U. S. Army chaplains aboard the SS Dorchester, which was sunk by a German submarine in the Atlantic in 1943. The chaplains, all lieutenants, included a Methodist pastor, a Jewish rabbi, a Roman Catholic priest, and a Reformed Church in America minister. They calmed frightened soldiers and sailors, aided in the evacuation of the ship, and helped guide wounded men to safety. They finally gave up their own life jackets when supplies ran out. Written at the request of one of the priests of the parish, who has a mission to a group of World War II reenactors.*

The Collect

O LORD Jesu Christ, whose hast taught us that a man hath no greater love than to lay down his life for another: Grant us so to follow the example of the Four Chaplains of the SS Dorchester, whose unity of faith in thee transcended any earthly differences, and who gave their lives without regard for station or creed, that we may all be united by our faith in thee, and that we may bear witness to that faith before all nations; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen. ¶

I BESEECH you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

I AM the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I

call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. These things I command you, that ye love one another.

Preface of a Martyr

Saint Cornelius the Centurion

[February 4]

:: Cornelius was one of the first Gentiles to be converted. In a vision an angel told Cornelius to send to Joppa to entreat Peter to visit him; Peter, meanwhile, had a vision telling him not to call unclean that which God has cleansed. During their meeting, the Holy Spirit descended on all present. Some versions of the GRC commemorate Cornelius on February 2, notwithstanding the fact that this is the Feast of the Purification. The Orthodox Church commemorates Cornelius on September 9. Other jurisdictions commemorate him on September 13, September 16, or October 20.

The Collect

O GOD, who by thy Spirit didst call Cornelius the Centurion to be the first Christian among the Gentiles: Grant to thy Church in every nation a ready mind and will to proclaim thy love to all who turn to thee with unfeigned hope and faith; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by thy Spirit didst call Cornelius the Centurion to be the first Christian among the Gentiles: Grant to thy Church, we beseech thee, such a ready will to go where thou dost send and to do what thou dost command, that under thy guidance it may welcome all who turn to thee in love and faith, and proclaim the Gospel to all nations; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

AND the apostles and brethren that were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him, saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them. But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying, I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descended, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me: upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. And I heard a voice saying unto me, Arise, Peter; slay and eat. But I said, Not so, Lord: for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth. But the voice answered me again from heaven, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. And this was done three times: and all were drawn up again into heaven. And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Caesarea unto me. And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house: and he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter; who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved. And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning. Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost. Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God? When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

JESUS must needs go through Samaria. Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour.

There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink. (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.) Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water. The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water? Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle? Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

¶ *Or this:*

JESUS went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in

thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out. And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Gilbert of Sempringham, Abbot and Martyr

[February 4]

:: *Gilbert of Sempringham (c. 1085–1190) was the founder of the Gilbertine Order. He had originally asked for help from the Cistercians, but the Abbot of Cîteaux declined his request because Gilbert wanted to include women in his order. He wound up founding a double monastery of canons regular and nuns; the order eventually grew to twenty-six convents, monasteries, and missions.*

Propers of a Martyr

Saint Agatha of Sicily, Martyr

[February 5]

:: *Agatha (c. 231–c. 251) was born in Sicily to a rich and noble family. She refused the advances of the Roman prefect Quintianus, so he reported her to the authorities. She endured various tortures but eventually died in prison.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst strengthen thy holy Martyr Saint Agatha with the virtue of constancy in faith and truth: Grant us for love of thee to despise the prosperity of this world, and to fear none of its adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst strengthen thy martyr Agatha with constancy and courage: Grant us for the love of thee to make no peace with oppression, to fear no adversity, and to have no tolerance for those who wouldst use their power to abuse or exploit;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 1:26–31. ◇

FOR ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: but God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: that no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: that, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

The Gospel. Luke 12:4–8. ◇

AND I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God.

Preface of a Saint or of a Martyr

The Martyrs of Japan

[February 5]

:: *The 26 Martyrs of Japan were the first of several groups of Christians martyred in Japan, mostly during the 17th century. The 26 Martyrs, the first of these groups, were crucified on February 5, 1597. Other groups include the 205 Martyrs (1598–1632), the 16 Martyrs (1633–1637), and the 188 Martyrs (1603–1639).*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power thy holy martyrs in Japan triumphed over suffering and despised death: Grant, we beseech thee, that enduring hardness, and waxing valiant in fight, we may with the noble army of martyrs receive the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD our Father, who art the source of strength to all thy saints, and who didst bring the holy martyrs of Japan through the suffering of the cross to the joys of eternal life: Grant that we, encouraged by their example, may hold fast to the faith we profess, even unto death itself; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. Galatians 2:19–20. ☒

FOR I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

The Gospel. Mark 8:34–38. ☒

WHEN Jesus had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Preface of Holy Week

Roger Williams and Anne Hutchinson, Prophetic Witnesses

[February 5]

:: *Roger Williams (1603–1683) was a Puritan minister, theologian, and author. He established Providence Plantations as a haven for people persecuted for their religious beliefs. He advocated for the separation of church and state, fair dealings with Native Americans, and the abolition of slavery. Anne Hutchinson (1591–1643) was a spiritual advisor and religious reformer. She was banished from Boston and subsequently established the settlement of Portsmouth with encouragement from Roger Williams. She later moved to Split Rock (now The Bronx), where she and members of her household were massacred by members of the Siwanoy Indian tribe. Hutchinson's descendants include Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, George H. W. Bush, and George W. Bush.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Titus, Companion of Saint Paul

[February 6]

:: *Titus was a Greek gentile converted by Paul. He became Paul's secretary and interpreter, accompanying him on several of his missions. According to tradition, he was consecrated as Bishop of the Island of Crete, where he died of old age. Titus was not added to the GRC until 1845. In 1969, his commemoration was combined with that of Timothy on January 26, the day after the Conversion of Saint Paul.*

The Collect

O GOD, who by thine Apostle Saint Paul didst consecrate thy servant Titus a Bishop in the Church, that he might set in order things that were wanting: Give grace, we humbly beseech thee, to the Bishops and Pastors of thy flock, that they may supply in every place faithful stewards of thy mysteries, who shall constantly affirm sound doctrine and shew themselves patterns of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

BLESSED Lord, who didst charge Saint Titus to speak the things that accord with sound doctrine and to offer himself a pattern of good works: Grant to all thy people to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present age, that they may with sure confidence look for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

PAUL, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; in hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; but hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour; To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee.

AFTER these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire.

¶ *Or this:*

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he

putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers. This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.

Preface of Apostles

Saint Dorothy (Dorothea) of Caesarea

[February 6]

:: Dorothy (d. c. 311) was a 4th-century martyr who was executed at Caesarea Mazaca, in central Anatolia, Turkey. She is considered a victim of the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian, although he had actually stepped down before she was executed.

Propers of a Saint

Saint Romuald, Abbot

[February 7]

:: Romuald (c. 951–c. 1025/27) was the founder of the Camaldolese order. He developed his own Rule, drawing on Benedictine, Cluniac, and Iberian Peninsular traditions. June 19 is the date of Romuald's death. From 1595 to 1969, he was commemorated on February 7, the date of the translation of his relics to Fabriano in 1481.

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Teilo, Bishop of Llandaff

[February 9]

:: Teilo (c. 500–c. 560) was a Welsh monk, bishop, and founder of monasteries. (He was also known by his Cornish name Eliud.) Teilo was Bishop of Llandaff, and a cousin, friend, and disciple of David.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Lord, who didst encourage the Church by the example of thy holy Bishop and Confessor Saint Teilo: Grant unto us thy servants that, remembering the victory of his faith, we too may learn to overcome the world and to glorify thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

THAT which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

NO man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light. The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness. Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness. If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.

Probers of a Bishop

Saint Scholastica, Sister of Saint Benedict of Nursia

[February 10]

:: Scholastica (c. 480–543) was the twin sister of Benedict. According to Benedictine tradition, Scholastica established a hermitage not far from Monte Cassino, which became the first convent of Benedictine nuns.

The Collect

BLESSED be thou, O Heavenly Father, for thy holy Virgin Saint Scholastica, who sought in this life to walk before thee with a perfect heart and now with all the redeemed rejoiceth eternally; through the merits and grace of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and

reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

HELP us, O God, to love one other as sisters and brothers, and to balance discipline with love, and rules with compassion, according to the example shown by thy saints Scholastica and Benedict. All this we ask for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Isaiah 61:10–11, 5:5. ♦

I WILL greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:44–46. ♦

THE kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

THE multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, and laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

NO man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Saint Finnian of Moville, Bishop

[February 11]

:: *Finnian (c. 495–589) was an Irish missionary. He founded an abbey at Maigh Bhile (Movilla or Moville), where his most distinguished pupil was Columba. Some jurisdictions commemorate Finnian on September 10.*

Propers of a Bishop

Caedmon, Poet

[February 11]

:: *Caedmon (657–684) was a farm hand at Whitby Abbey, who, according to the Venerable Bede, who learned “the art of song” in a dream. He became a zealous monk and an accomplished poet, but the only known surviving work is Caedmon’s Hymn, one of the earliest attested examples of Old English, and one of the earliest Old English poems.*

Propers of a Saint

Absalom Jones, Abolitionist

[February 13]

:: *Absalom Jones (1746–1818) was the first African American ordained to the priesthood in the Episcopal Church (1802).*

The Collect

SET us free, O heavenly Father, from every bond of prejudice and fear; that, honouring the steadfast courage of thy servant Absalom Jones, we may show forth in our lives the reconciling love and true freedom of the children of God, which thou hast given us in thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Isaiah 42:5–9. ☒

FEAR not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him. Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that

have ears. Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former things? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified: or let them hear, and say, It is truth.

The Gospel. John 15:12–15. ☒

THIS is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Valentine, Priest and Martyr

[February 14]

:: Valentine (226–269) was a clergyman who ministered to persecuted Christians in Rome. He was arrested for evangelization and taken to Emperor Claudius Gothicus (Claudius II), who took a liking to Valentine—until Valentine tried to convert him, too. Claudius condemned Valentine to be beaten with clubs and beheaded.

The Collect

ALmighty God, by whose grace and power thy holy Martyr Valentine triumphed over suffering and despised death: Grant, we beseech thee, that enduring hardness and waxing valiant in fight, we may with him receive the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALmighty and everlasting God, who didst strengthen thy blessed martyr Valentine with the virtue of constancy in faith and truth: Grant us in like manner for love of thee to despise the prosperity of this world, and to fear none of its adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ☩

WHEN the righteous fled from his brother's wrath, wisdom guided him in right paths, shewed him the kingdom of God, and gave him knowledge of holy things, made him rich in his travels, and multiplied the fruit of his labours. In the covetousness of such as oppressed him she stood by him, and made him rich. She defended him from his enemies, and kept him safe from those that lay in wait, and in a sore conflict she gave him the victory; that he might know that goodness is stronger than all. When the righteous was sold, she forsook him not, but delivered him from sin: she went down with him into the pit, And left him not in bonds, till she brought him the sceptre of the kingdom, and power against those that oppressed him: as for them that had accused him, she shewed them to be liars, and gave him perpetual glory.

THINK not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Saint Cyril and Saint Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs

[February 14]

:: Cyril (826–869) and Methodius (815–885) were Byzantine theologians and missionaries who evangelized the Slavs, earning them the title “Apostles to the Slavs”. They devised the Glagolitic alphabet, which they used to transcribe Old Church Slavonic. February 14 is the date of Cyril’s death; Methodius died on April 6. The two were commemorated in the Tridentine kalendar on March 9, and then on July 5 or 7 in 19th- and early 20th-century versions of the GRC. Modern western kalendars generally use February 14. The observance in the Orthodox Church is May 11 Old Style, commemorating the “Day of the Bulgarian Script” (or May 24, using the Gregorian calendar instead of the Julian calendar).

The Collect

O GOD, who by the preaching of thy servants Cyril and Methodius didst cause the light of the Gospel to shine in Slavonic lands: Lead thy people by its brightness to become sons of a new birth, growing into thine image from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we thank thee for thy servants Cyril and Methodius, whom thou didst call to preach The Gospel to the Slavic People. Raise up, we pray thee, in this and every land, heralds and evangelists of thy kingdom, that thy Church may make known the unsearchable riches of Christ, and may increase with the increase of God; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who by the power of the Holy Spirit didst move thy servants Cyril and his brother Methodius to bring the light of the Gospel to a hostile and divided people: Overcome, we pray thee, by the love of Christ, all bitterness and contention among us, and make us one united family under the banner of the Prince of Peace; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

IN Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: and came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. for through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

THEN the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

FOR this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, if ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: how that by revelation he made known unto me

the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; that the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

The Gospel. Mark 16:15–20. ☒

AND he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Sigfrid, Bishop, Apostle of Sweden

[February 15]

:: *Sigfrid (10th–11th century) was an English missionary who devoted his life to the Christianization of Sweden.*

Proper of a Bishop

Thomas Bray, Priest and Missionary, Founder of the SPCK and the SPG

[February 15]

:: *Thomas Bray (1656/56–1730) was an English clergyman and abolitionist who helped establish the Church of England in Maryland. He also founded the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (SPCK) and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (SPG).*

O GOD, who dost ever hallow and protect thy Church: Raise up therein through thy Spirit good and faithful stewards of the mysteries of Christ, as thou didst in thy servant Thomas Bray; that by their ministry and example thy people may abide in thy favour and walk in the way of truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of compassion, who didst open the eyes of thy servant Thomas Bray to see the needs of the Church in the New World, and didst lead him to found societies to meet those needs: Make the Church in this land diligent at all times to propagate the Gospel among those who have not received it, and to promote the spread of Christian knowledge; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Isaiah 52:7–10. ☒

HOW beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Gospel. Luke 10:1–9. ☒

AFTER these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. Therefore said he unto them, The

harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: and heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.

Preface of Pentecost

Saint Finan of Lindisfarne, Bishop

[February 17]

:: *Finan (d. 661) was an Irish monk who was trained at Iona Abbey in Scotland, and who became the second Bishop of Lindisfarne. He converted King Sigebert of Essex and King Peada of the Middle Angles, and he consecrated Cedd as Bishop of the East-Saxons. Some jurisdictions commemorate Finan on February 9.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Simeon, Bishop and Martyr

[February 18]

:: *Simeon son of Clopas (d. 107 or 117) was the second Bishop of Jerusalem, succeeding James the Just. He was executed during the reign of Emperor Trajan. In the Eastern Church, Simeon is commemorated on April 27.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Colmán of Lindisfarne, Bishop

[February 18]

:: *Colmán (605–675) was an Irish missionary who became Bishop of Lindisfarne. He resigned his bishopric when King Oswiu's Synod of Whitby chose to calculate the date of Easter using the First Ecumenical Council's method instead of Colmán's preferred Celtic method. He returned to Ireland with many of Lindisfarne's relics (including the bones of Aidan), and founded a monastery at "Magh Eó", the plain of yew trees—known as Mayo Abbey.*

Propers of a Bishop

Martin Luther, Reformer

[February 18]

:: Martin Luther (1483–1546) was a theologian, priest, and Augustinian monk who sought unsuccessfully to reform the Roman Catholic Church. February 18 is the date of Luther's death. Some jurisdictions commemorate Luther on October 31, the date of his Ninety-five Theses. The Australian and Canadian Churches commemorate him on this latter date, along with "other continental reformers" or "saints of the reformation era".

The Collect

O GOD, our refuge and our strength: Thou didst raise up thy servant Martin Luther to reform and renew thy Church in the light of thy word. Defend and purify the Church in our own day and grant that, through faith, we may boldly proclaim the riches of thy grace, which thou hast made known in Jesus Christ our Saviour; who with thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Isaiah 55:6–11. ☒

SE EK ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

The Gospel. John 15:1–11. ☒

I AM the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that

beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

Preface of Trinity Sunday

Missionaries and Martyrs

[February 20]

:: *The kalendar is full of commemorations of missionaries and martyrs, but these are only the smallest fraction of those missionaries and martyrs whose names are known only to God.*

The Collect

O ETERNAL Lord God, who by the noble fortitude of missionaries and martyrs hast caused thy Word to grow mightily and to prevail: Pour thy Spirit upon the Church in the land that, by the service and sacrifice of our faith, thy saving health may be known among the nations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Romans 8:35–39. ♦

WHO shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or

sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Gospel. John 12:24–26. ♦

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

Propers of a Martyr

Frederick Douglass, Prophetic Witness

[February 20]

:: Frederick Douglass (1818–1895) was an American abolitionist, orator, and statesman. He joined the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and became a licensed preacher.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, we bless thy Name for the witness of Frederick Douglass, whose impassioned and reasonable speech moved the hearts of people to a deeper obedience to Christ: Strengthen us also to speak on behalf of those in captivity and tribulation, continuing in the way of Jesus Christ our Liberator; who with thee and the Holy Ghost dwelleth in glory everlasting. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Isaiah 32:11–18. ♦

TREMBLE, ye women that are at ease; be troubled, ye careless ones: strip you, and make you bare, and gird sackcloth upon your

loins. They shall lament for the teats, for the pleasant fields, for the fruitful vine. Upon the land of my people shall come up thorns and briers; yea, upon all the houses of joy in the joyous city: because the palaces shall be forsaken; the multitude of the city shall be left; the forts and towers shall be for dens for ever, a joy of wild asses, a pasture of flocks; until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest. Then judgment shall dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness remain in the fruitful field. And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

The Gospel. John 8:30–32. ◇

AS Jesus spake these words, many believed on him. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Peter's Chair at Antioch

[February 22]

:: Peter is recognized as the first Bishop of Rome, but in the Eastern Church, he is also recognized as the first patriarch of Antioch. This city was the site of a momentous meeting between Peter and Paul: Paul rebuked Peter for his disdain for converted Gentiles. Paul may not have changed Peter's mind, but when Peter was in Joppa, about to receive a delegation from Cornelius the Centurion, he had a vision where the voice of the Lord said to him, "What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common." The Feasts of the Chairs of Saint Peter honour actual physical chairs associated with Peter: one in Rome (January 18) and one in Antioch (February 22); the chairs are no longer extant, but they have come to symbolize his primacy in the Church in those two cities.

The Collect

O GOD, who didst bestow upon thy blessed Apostle Saint Peter the keys of the kingdom in heaven, and didst appoint unto him the priesthood for the binding and the loosing of sin: Grant, we beseech thee, that by the help of his intercession we may be delivered from the

bonds of all our iniquities; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.* α

The Epistle. 1 Peter 1:1–7. α

PETER, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:13–19. α

WHEN Jesus came into the coasts of Cæsarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my

church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Propers of an Apostle

Margaret of Cortona, Monastic

[February 22]

:: *Margaret of Cortona (1247–1297) was an Italian penitent of the Third Order of Saint Francis. To recruit nurses for a hospital at Cortona, she instituted a congregation of Tertiary Sisters known as le poverelle (“the poor little ones”).*

The Collect

O GOD, as thy servant Margaret of Cortona found a home where her repentance led to a life of prayer, service, and leadership, Grant that thy people may evermore dwell in that place where estrangement yields to reconciliation, through Jesus Christ, who is himself the goal of all our seeking and the answer to our desires, unto whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Zephaniah 3:11–15. ◇

IN that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against me: for then I will take away out of the midst of thee them that rejoice in thy pride, and thou shalt no more be haughty because of my holy mountain. I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD. The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid. Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he

hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more.

The Gospel. Luke 7:36–50. ◇

AND one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat. And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, and stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner. And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on. There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged. And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little. And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven. And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is

this that forgiveth sins also? And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr

[February 23]

See January 26.

Peter Damian, Bishop, Doctor

[February 23]

:: *Peter Damian (c. 1007–1072/73) was a Benedictine monk and cardinal from Ravenna. He was also a diplomat, serving as papal legate to France, Florence, and Germany on different missions.*

Propers of a Doctor

Saint Matthias the Apostle

[February 24]

:: *Matthias is one of the original twelve disciples. He was chosen by the eleven apostles to replace Judas Iscariot. Tradition says he proselytized in Cappadocia, on the coasts of the Caspian Sea, and in northern Africa. Matthias died of old age in Jerusalem. Some jurisdictions, following the 1969 GRC, have moved Matthias's commemoration to May 14, to avoid the possibility of it falling during Lent.*

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, who into the place of the traitor Judas didst choose thy faithful servant Matthias to be of the number of the twelve Apostles: Grant that thy Church, being alway preserved from false Apostles, may be ordered and guided by faithful and true pastors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

For the Epistle. Acts 1:15–26. §†

IN those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. For he was numbered with us,

and had obtained part of this ministry. Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood. For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take. Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen, That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place. And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven Apostles.

The Gospel. Matthew 11:25–30. §†

AT that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight. All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Ethelbert (Æthelberht), King and Confessor

[February 25]

:: *Ethelbert (c. 550–616) was King of Kent, and the first English king to convert to Christianity, following the arrival of Augustine. February 24 is the date of Ethelbert's death. His commemoration is on February 25 to avoid a conflict with Matthias. He is also commemorated on May 27 with his wife Bertha.*

Propers of a Monarch

George Herbert, Priest

[February 27]

:: *George Herbert (1593–1633) was a Welsh-born metaphysical poet, order, and priest. He is best known for his poetry collection, The Temple, and his guide to rural ministry, A Priest to the Temple or, The County Parson His Character and Rule of Holy Life.*

The Collect

O ETERNAL Lord God, who boldest all souls in life: We beseech thee to shed forth upon thy whole Church in paradise and on earth the bright beams of thy light and thy peace; and grant that we, following the good examples of thy servant George Herbert, and of all those who loved and served thee here, may at the last enter with them into thine unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O UR God and King, who didst call thy servant George Herbert from the pursuit of worldly honours to be a pastor of souls, a poet, and a priest in thy temple: Give unto us the grace, we beseech thee, joyfully to perform the tasks thou givest us to do, knowing that nothing is menial or common that is done for thy sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒(♦)

The Epistle. 1 Peter 5:1–4. ☒

THE elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: feed the flock of God which is among you,

taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:1–10. ☒

SEEING the multitudes, Jesus went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: and he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Gregory of Narek (Grigor Narekatsi), Doctor

[February 27]

:: *Gregory of Narek (c. 950–1003/11) was an Armenian mystical poet, monk, and theologian. He is best known for his Book of Lamentations, a major work of mystical literature. October 7 is the date of Gregory's death, but in the Western Church he is commemorated on February 27. In the Armenian Apostolic Church, he is commemorated with several others on the Feast of the Holy Translators, on the second Saturday in October (feasts in the Armenian Church are often moveable feasts—even saints' days).*

Propers of a Doctor

Saint Oswald of York, Archbishop, Abbot, Confessor

[February 28]

:: *Oswald (d. 992) was Bishop of Worcester and Archbishop of York. He reformed or founded a number of monasteries, including Ramsey Abbey. He died while washing the feet of the poor at Worcester. February 29 is actually the date of Oswald's death, so he is commemorated on February 28.*

Propers of a Monastic

Saint David, Bishop of Menevia, Patron Saint of Wales

[March 1]

:: *David (c. 500–c. 589) was Bishop of Mynydd (Latin “Menevia”, now St David’s) in Wales. He was a renowned teacher and preacher, and he founded monastic settlements and churches throughout Wales. He was the author of a fairly severe Monastic Rule. David is the patron saint of Wales.*

The Collect

O GOD, who didst grant long life to thy servant David, and reward his rich sowing in Wales with an abundant harvest: Let his last words still call us to perseverance, and stir us to unwearied devotion; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who in thy providence didst choose thy servant David to be the Apostle to the Welsh people, that he might cause the light of the Gospel to shine in the world: Grant us so to walk in that light, that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O ALMIGHTY God, who in thy providence didst choose thy servant David to be an apostle to the people of Wales, to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of thee: Grant us so to walk in that light, that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through the merits of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

A LMIGHTY God, who didst call thy servant David to be a faithful and wise steward of thy mysteries for the people of Wales: Mercifully grant that, following his purity of life and zeal for the Gospel of Christ, we may, with him, praise thee both here on earth and also in thy everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and

reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen. ◇(✠)

The Epistle. Ephesians 2:4–10. ◇

GOD, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: that in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Revelation 22:1–5. ◆

AND he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

The Gospel. Matthew 9:35–38. ◆◆

JESUS went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they

fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Thessalonians 2:1–12. ☒◇

FOR yourselves, brethren, know our entrance in unto you, that it was not in vain: but even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention. For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile: but as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God is witness: nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children: so being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us. For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God. Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe: as ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children, that ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

The Gospel. Mark 4:26–29. ☒◇

JESUS said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; and should sleep, and rise night and day, and the

seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

Preface of a Bishop

Saint Chad, Bishop of Lichfield

[March 2]

:: *Chad (d. 672) was a prominent Anglo-Saxon churchman. He was abbot of several monasteries, Bishop of the Northumbrians, and then Bishop of the Mercians and Lindsey People (Lichfield).*

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, who from the first-fruits of the English nation unto Christ didst call Saint Chad to be an evangelist and bishop of his own people: Give us grace so to follow his peaceable temper, humble spirit, and prayerful life, that we may truly commend unto others the religion which we ourselves profess; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦(♦)

¶ *Or this:*

A LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst enkindle the flame of thy love in the heart of thy servant Chad: Grant to us, thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in his triumph, we may profit by his example; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

A LMIGHTY God, whose servant Chad, for the peace of the Church, relinquished cheerfully the honours that had been thrust upon him, only to be rewarded with equal responsibility: Keep us, we pray thee, from thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought to think, and ready at all times to step aside for others, that the cause of Christ may be advanced and thy blessed kingdom enlarged; in the name

of him who washed his disciples' feet, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. ☒

¶ *Or this:*

HEAVENLY Father, whose son our Lord Jesus Christ didst take the form of a servant for the sake of his brothers and sisters: Strengthen us with the prayers and example of thy servant Chad, who became the least of all to minister to all; through the same Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with three and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 9:11–12. ◇◇

IF we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ.

The Gospel. Mark 10:42–45. ◇◇

JESUS called his disciples to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: and whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Philippians 4:10–13. ☒◇

BUT I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all

things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

The Gospel. Luke 14:1–14. ✠◇

AND it came to pass, as he went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched him. And, behold, there was a certain man before him which had the dropsy. And Jesus answering spake unto the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath day? And they held their peace. And he took him, and healed him, and let him go; and answered them, saying, Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day? And they could not answer him again to these things.

And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them, When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him; and he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room. But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee. For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: and thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot

recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

Preface of a Saint or of a Bishop

Saint Non (Nonnita), Mother of Saint David

[March 3]

:: Non (5th century–6th century) was the mother of David. Very little is known about Non, or about the circumstances of David's birth. Non may have been married to a local chieftain named Sant, or she may have been violated by him, and married him afterwards. At what point she became a nun at Ty Gwyn ("the white house") near Whitesands Bay in Pembrokeshire is also unclear. In some jurisdictions she is commemorated on the second Sunday after Midsummer's Day.

The Collect

ETERNAL Father, who by the mother hood of blessed Mary hast crowned the calling of women: We praise thee for Saint Non and all godly matrons, who have kept thy Son's sayings in their hearts, and taught their children the same, to thine honour and glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Revelation 22:1–4. ♦

AND he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

The Gospel. John 4:10–14. ♦

JESUS said unto the woman of Samaria, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water. The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water? Art thou greater

than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle? Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

Probers of a Saint

John and Charles Wesley, Evangelists and Hymn Writers

[March 3]

See May 24.

Saint Adrian of May Island, Abbot, and Companions, Martyrs

[March 4]

:: *Adrian (d. 875) was an Irish monk and missionary to Scotland. He built a series of monasteries and hermitages on the Isle of May and along the coast of Fife. He and his companions took refuge on the Isle of May to avoid the invading Danes, but they were subsequently slaughtered by marauding Vikings. Some jurisdictions commemorate Adrian on December 3.*

Probers of a Martyr

Saint Casimir, Confessor

[March 4]

:: *Casimir (1458–1484) was a prince of the Kingdom of Poland and of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. He was known for his piety, devotion to God, and generosity towards the sick and the poor. He died at the age of 25, possibly of tuberculosis.*

Probers of a Saint

Saint Piran, Abbot

[March 5]

:: *Piran (d. c. 480) was a Cornish abbot and saint of Irish origin. Saint Piran's Day, and Perrantide, the week leading up to it, are popular holidays in Cornwall.*

Probers of a Monastic

Saint Baldred (Balthere) of Tynninghame, Scottish Hermit

[March 6]

:: *Baldred (d. 757) was a Northumbrian hermit and abbot. He is said to have founded a monastery at Tynninghame, and to have resided in St Baldred's Cave on Seacliff Beach in East Lothian, Scotland.*

Propers of a Confessor

Saint Perpetua and her Companions, Carthaginian Martyrs

[March 7]

:: *Perpetua (c. 182–c. 203) was a Carthaginian noblewoman; Felicity (d. 203) was a slave. The two were among a group of catechumens who were martyred in Carthage. March 7 is the traditional date of Perpetua's commemoration. Her feast was moved to March 6 in the 1908 GRC to avoid a conflict with Thomas Aquinas, whose feast had been added on March 7 in the Tridentine kalendar. When Aquinas's commemoration was moved to January 28 (the date of his translation) in the 1969 GRC to escape the restrictions of Lent, Perpetua's commemoration reverted to its ancient date. Perpetua's companion Felicity is sometimes mentioned explicitly in the kalendar.*

The Collect

O GOD, who didst give a splendid courage to the Martyrs Perpetua and Felicitas, when leaving their babes, they went with bright and flashing eyes into the arena, and thus, with their companions, most nobly met their death: Grant that we may be worthy to climb the ladder of their sacrifice, and to be received into the garden of peace; through the same Jesus Christ thy son, who reigneth over the white host of martyrs, with the and thy Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst endue thy holy Martyrs Perpetua and Felicitas with grace to witness a good confession and to suffer gladly for thy name: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to follow their steadfastness that we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, with whom thy meek ones go forth as the mighty: Grant us so to cherish the memory of thy

blessed martyrs Perpetua and her companions, that we may share their pure and steadfast faith in thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the King of Saints, who didst strengthen thy servants Perpetua and Felicitas and their companions to make a good confession, staunchly resisting, for the cause of Christ, the claims of human affection, encouraging one another in their time of trial: Grant that we who cherish their blessed memory may share their pure and stedfast faith, and win with them the palm of victory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒(◇)

For the Epistle. Revelation 7:13–17. ◇◇

ONE of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The Gospel. John 16:20–22. ◇◇

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into

the world. And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Hebrews 10:32–39. ☒

BUT call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used. For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:9–14. ☒

THEY shall deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations.

Preface of a Martyr

Saint Thomas Aquinas, Doctor

[March 7]

:: *Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274) was a Dominican friar, philosopher, and influential theologian. Perhaps his greatest contribution to Christian philosophy is his Summa Theologica. March 7 is the date of Aquinas's death. The 1969 GRC moved his commemoration to January 28, the date of his translation, to move his feast day out of Lent.*

The Collect

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servant Saint Thomas Aquinas: Enrich it evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses, who by their life and doctrine may set forth to all men the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast enriched thy Church with the singular learning and holiness of thy servant Thomas: Grant us to hold fast the true doctrine of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and to fashion our lives according to the same, to the glory of thy great Name and the benefit of thy holy Church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast enriched thy Church with the singular learning and holiness of thy servant Thomas Aquinas: Enlighten us more and more, we pray thee, by the disciplined thinking and teaching of Christian scholars, and deepen our devotion by the example of saintly lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Wisdom 7:7–14. ♦ ☒

WHEREFORE I prayed, and understanding was given me: I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her before sceptres and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. Neither compared I unto her any precious stone,

because all gold in respect of her is as a little sand, and silver shall be counted as clay before her. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light: for the light that cometh from her never goeth out. All good things together came to me with her, and innumerable riches in her hands. And I rejoiced in them all, because wisdom goeth before them: and I knew not that she was the mother of them. I learned diligently, and do communicate her liberally: I do not hide her riches. For she is a treasure unto men that never faileth: which they that use become the friends of God, being commended for the gifts that come from learning.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:13–19. ♦

YE are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

¶ *Or this lesson:*

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ☒

JESUS saith: the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but

cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of Trinity Sunday

Saint Felix, Bishop, Apostle to the East Angles

[March 8]

:: *Felix of Burgundy, or of Dunwich (d. 647/48), was the first Bishop of the East Angles. Originally from the Frankish kingdom of Burgundy, he was given a see at Dommoc (probably Dunwich, on the Suffolk coast) by King Sigebert of East Anglia.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Duthac, Bishop

[March 8]

:: *Duthac (1000–1065) was a native Scot who was educated in Ireland. He is the patron saint of Tain in Ross-shire, Scotland.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint John of God, Worker among the Sick and Poor

[March 8]

:: *John of God (1495–1550), born João Duarte Cicade, was a Portuguese soldier turned health-care worker in Spain. He experienced a religious conversion in 1537 while listening to a sermon by John of Avila. John eventually devoted himself to caring for the medical needs of the poor, and he organized his followers into the Order of Hospitallers, later known as the Brothers Hospitallers of Saint John. (This Order is officially entrusted with the medical care of the pope.)*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Gregory of Nyssa, Bishop, Teacher of the Faith

[March 9]

:: *Gregory (c. 335–c. 395) was Bishop of Nyssa, and with Gregory of Nazianzus and Basil of Caesarea was one of the Cappadocian Fathers. The Episcopal Church commemorates Gregory on March 9 (the date given in Butler’s Lives of the Saints). The Anglican Church commemorates Gregory on July 19, together with his sister Macrina. The Eastern and Roman Churches (particularly the Benedictines) commemorate Gregory on January 10.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, whose servant Gregory steadfastly confessed thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to be Very God and Very Man: Grant that we may hold fast to this faith, and evermore magnify his holy Name; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast revealed to thy Church thine eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace that, like thy bishop Gregory of Nyssa, we may continue steadfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; who livest and reignest now and forever. *Amen.* ☒♦

The Epistle. Wisdom 7:22–28. ☒

FOR wisdom, which is the worker of all things, taught me: for in her is an understanding spirit, holy, one only, manifold, subtil, lively, clear, undefiled, plain, not subject to hurt, loving the thing that is good, quick, irresistible, ready to do good, kind to man, stedfast, sure, free from care, having all power, overseeing all things, and going through all understanding, pure, and most subtil, spirits. For wisdom is more moving than any motion: she passeth and goeth through all things by reason of her pureness. For she is the breath of the power of God, and a pure influence, flowing from the glory of the Almighty: therefore can no defiled thing fall into her. For she is the brightness of the everlasting

light, the unspotted mirror of the power of God, and the image of his goodness. And being but one, she can do all things: and remaining in herself, she maketh all things new: and in all ages entering into holy souls, she maketh them friends of God, and prophets. For God loveth none but him that dwelleth with wisdom.

The Gospel. John 5:19–24. ☒

JESUS said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth, the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel. For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: that all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. John 14:23–26. ☒◇

JESUS answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Preface of Trinity Sunday

Saint Cyril and Saint Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs

[March 9]

See February 14.

Harriet Ross Tubman, Social Reformer

[March 10]

:: Harriet Tubman (c. 1822–1913) was a former slave turned abolitionist. She was nicknamed “Moses” for her efforts in guiding escaping slaves along the Underground Railroad. Some jurisdictions commemorate Amelia Bloomer, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Ross Tubman on July 20.

The Collect

O GOD, whose Spirit guideth us into all truth and maketh us free: Strengthen and sustain us as thou didst thy daughter Harriet Tubman. Give us vision and courage to stand against oppression and injustice and all that worketh against the glorious liberty to which thou callest all thy children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen. ◇

The Epistle. James 2:14–17. ◇

WHAT doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

The Gospel. Luke 11:5–10. ◇

JESUS said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? and he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in

bed; I cannot rise and give thee. I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth. And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Preface of Baptism

The Forty Martyrs of Sebaste

[March 10]

:: *The Forty Martyrs of Sebaste (d. 320) were a group of Roman soldiers martyred near the city of Sebaste in Lesser Armenia (present-day Sivas in Turkey). They were victims of the persecutions during the reign of Emperor Licinius.*

Propers of a Martyr

Saint Kessog, Bishop in Perthshire

[March 10]

:: *Kessog (c. 460–520) was an Irish missionary who worked in Scotland. For a time he made his headquarters on Monk's Island in Loch Lomond.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Doctor

[March 12]

:: *Gregory I (c. 540–604) was the Pope who sent Augustine to convert the pagan Anglo-Saxons in England. He was responsible for a general revision of the Pre-Tridentine Mass (including moving the “Our Father” to immediately after the Canon and just before the Fraction). He also is credited with standardizing plainchant, now known as Gregorian Chant. March 12 is the date of Gregory's death. Because this date is always in Lent, the Second Vatican Council transferred his feast to September 3, the commemoration of his episcopal consecration (590).*

The Collect

O GOD, who didst call Saint Gregory to the office of a bishop, that he might rule in thy Church with pastoral care: Grant that after his example we may burn with a love of souls; and labour that the praises of Jesus may be sung in heathen lands; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who gavest thy servant Saint Gregory a great apostleship in the Church, and among manifold cares an earnest longing to convert the English people: Renew in us thy grace that we also, forsaking the world's honour, may serve thee as thou wilt appoint, and labour that thy praises may be sun in all lands; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, who didst raise up in Gregory a servant of the servants of God, by whose labour the English people were brought into the knowledge of the Catholic and Apostolic faith: Preserve in thy Church evermore a thankful remembrance of his zeal and devotion; that thy people, being fruitful in every good work, may receive with him and thy servants everywhere the crown of glory that fadeth not away; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, who didst raise up Gregory of Rome to be a servant of the servants of God, and didst inspire him to send missionaries to preach the Gospel to the English people: Preserve in thy Church the catholic and apostolic faith they taught, that thy people, being fruitful in every good work, may receive the crown of glory that fadeth not away; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ✠♦

The Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 47:8–11. ♦♦

IN all his works he praised the Holy One most high with words of glory; with his whole heart he sung songs, and loved him that made him. He set singers also before the altar, that by their voices they might make sweet melody, and daily sing praises in their songs. He beautified their feasts, and set in order the solemn times until the end, that they

might praise his holy name, and that the temple might sound from morning. The Lord took away his sins, and exalted his horn for ever: he gave him a covenant of kings, and a throne of glory in Israel.

The Gospel. Luke 12:35–40. ♦♦

LET your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations or of a Doctor

Saint Boniface (Curetán) of Ross, Bishop

[March 16]

:: *Boniface (fl. 690–710) was a Scoto-Pictish Bishop of Ross. Some jurisdictions commemorate Boniface on March 14.*

Propers of a Bishop

Joseph of Arimathæa

[March 17]

:: *Joseph of Arimathæa was the rich follower of Jesus who provided the tomb in which Jesus was buried. The traditional Roman calendar celebrated Joseph on March 17 (the date given in Butler's and Baring-Gould's respective Lives of the Saints), while the Eastern churches commemorate him on July 31. The Episcopal Church and some other Anglican jurisdictions commemorate him on July 31 or August 1, or even February 22.*

The Collect

OMERCIFUL God, by whose servant Joseph the body of our Lord and Saviour was committed to the grave with reverence

and godly fear: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy faithful people grace and courage to serve and love Jesus with unfeigned devotion all the days of their life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ✠

¶ *Or this:*

MERCIFUL God, whose servant Joseph of Arimathæa with reverence and godly fear did prepare the body of our Lord and Saviour for burial, and did lay it in his own tomb: Grant, we beseech thee, to us thy faithful people, grace and courage to love and serve Jesus with sincere devotion all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For The Epistle. Proverbs 4: 10–18. ☒

HEAR, O my son, and receive my sayings; And the years of thy life shall be many. I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths. When thou goest, thy steps shall not be hampered; And when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble. Take fast hold of instruction: let her not go: Keep her; for she is thy life. Enter not into the path of the wicked, And go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, do not go on it, Turn away from it, and pass on. For they sleep not, except they have done mischief; And their sleep is taken away, unless they cause some to fall. For they eat the bread of wickedness, And drink the wine of violence. But the path of the just is as the shining light, That shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

The Gospel. Luke 23:50–56. ☒

BEHOLD, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just: (the same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) he was of Arimathæa, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God. This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never

man before was laid. And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on. And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Patrick, Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland

[March 17]

:: Patrick (c. 390–461?) was born in Roman Britain and spent his career in Ireland. He is the primary patron saint of Ireland, along with Brigit of Kildare and Columba.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who in thy providence didst choose thy servant Patrick to be the apostle of the Irish people, that he might bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of thee: Grant us faithfully to walk in that light, and shew forth thy glory before the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. ◇(◇ ✱ ◇)

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who in thy providence didst choose thy servant Patrick to be the Apostle of the Irish people, that he might cause the light of the Gospel to shine in the world: Grant us so to walk in that light, that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆(◇ ✱ ◇)

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 9:16–23. ◇

FOR though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me. What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the

gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel. For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; to them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:43–48. ◇

YE have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Revelation 22:1–5. ◆

AND he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:16–23. ♦

JESUS said unto his disciples: Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; and ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved. But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Thessalonians 2:2–12. ☒☒

WE were bold in our God to speak unto you The Gospel of God with much contention. For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile: but as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. For neither at any time used we flattering Words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God is witness: nor of

men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children: so being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not The Gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us. For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you The Gospel of God. Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves! among you that believe: as ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth; his children, that ye would walk worthy of God, who hath' called you unto his kingdom and glory.

The Gospel. Matthew 28:16–20. ☒◆

THEN the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Preface of an Apostle

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor

[March 18]

:: Cyril (c. 313–386) was Bishop of Jerusalem. He is known for his catechetical lectures—lectures given to catechumens in Jerusalem being prepared for baptism.

The Collect

ALmighty God, who hast enriched thy Church with the singular learning and holiness of thy servant Cyril: Grant us to hold fast

the true doctrine of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and to fashion our lives according to the same, to the glory of thy great Name and the benefit of thy holy Church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

STRENGTHEN, O Lord, we beseech thee, the bishops of thy Church in their special calling to be teachers and ministers of the Sacraments, that they, like thy servant Cyril of Jerusalem, may effectively instruct thy people in Christian faith and practice; and that we, taught by them, may enter more fully into the celebration of the Paschal mystery; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 47:8–10. ☒

IN all his works David praised the Holy One most high with words of glory; with his whole heart he sung songs, and loved him that made him. He set singers also before the altar, that by their voices they might make sweet melody, and daily sing praises in their songs. He beautified their feasts, and set in order the solemn times until the end, that they might praise his holy name, and that the temple might sound from morning.

The Gospel. Luke 24:44–48. ☒

JESUS said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, and said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things.

Proper of a Doctor or of a Bishop

Saint Edward, King and Martyr

[March 18]

:: Edward (c. 962–978) was supported in his claim to the throne by Archbishops Dunstan of Canterbury and Oswald of York. His veneration derives from the miracles said to have occurred after his assassination. As of the 13th century, June 20 was observed as the date of Edward's translation. The Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia commemorates an additional translation on September 3, the date the saint's relics passed into their possession.

Proper of a Monarch

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

[March 19]

:: Joseph, of the House of David, was a carpenter and the spouse of Mary. He has been commemorated on March 19 since the tenth century.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY Father, who didst entrust thy Holy One, the child of blessed Mary, to the care and guardianship of Saint Joseph: Hallow our homes, we beseech thee, by thy Holy Spirit, that parents and children may dwell together in the unity of thy love; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst call blessed Joseph to be the faithful guardian of thine only-begotten Son, and the spouse of his virgin Mother: Give us grace to follow his example in constant worship of thee and obedience to thy commands, that our homes may be sanctified by thy presence, and our children nurtured in thy fear and love; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who from the family of thy servant David didst raise up Joseph to be the guardian of thine incarnate Son and the spouse of his virgin mother: Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and

his obedience to thy commands; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* ☒◆

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 45:2–5. ◆

GOD made him like to the glorious saints, and magnified him, so that his enemies stood in fear of him. By his words he caused the wonders to cease, and he made him glorious in the sight of kings, and gave him a commandment for his people, and shewed him part of his glory. He sanctified him in his faithfulness and meekness, and chose him out of all men. He made him to hear his voice, and brought him into the dark cloud, and gave him commandments before his face, even the law of life and knowledge, that he might teach Jacob his covenants, and Israel his judgments.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Isaiah 63:7–9, 16. ◆

I WILL mention the loving kindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his loving-kindnesses. For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour. In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old. Doubtless thou art our father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not: thou, O LORD, art our father, our redeemer; thy name is from everlasting.

The Gospel. Matthew 1: 18–25. ◆◆

NOW the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband,

being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: and knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Romans 4:13–18. ☒◆

FOR the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect: because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression. Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, (as it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

¶ *Or this:*

AND it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying, Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in? Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle. In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not me an house of cedar? Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel: and I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth. Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime, and as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house.

And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: but my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.

The Gospel. Luke 2:41–52. ☒◆

NOW Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Preface of Saint Joseph or of Epiphany

Saint Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne

[March 20]

:: Cuthbert (c. 634–687) was an Anglo-Saxon monk, bishop, and hermit. He travelled widely preaching, ministering to the people, and healing, earning him the name “Wonder Worker of Britain”. In some jurisdictions, Cuthbert is commemorated on August 31 or September 4.

O GOD, who didst call thy blessed Saint Cuthbert from following the flock to be a Shepherd of thy people: Mercifully grant that, as he sought out the erring, even in remote places, so we, caring for the careless and the lost, may, after his example, win souls unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇(✠)

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst call thy blessed Saint Cuthbert from following the flock to be a Shepherd and Bishop of souls: Inspire all Bishops and Pastors to tend their flocks after his pattern with gentleness and strength; that thy people may be shepherded with the holy love of our Redeemer Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◆

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst enkindle the flame of thy love in the heart of thy servant Cuthbert: Grant to us, thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in his triumph, we may profit by his example; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆

For the Epistle. Ezekiel 34:11–14. ◆◆

THUS saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold

be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel.

The Gospel. Matthew 18:11–14. ♦♦

JESUS said unto his disciples: For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

Preface of a Bishop

**Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells,
Nonjuror, Hymn Writer**

[March 20]

:: *Thomas Ken (1637–1711) was considered the most eminent of the English non-juring bishops. He is also one of the fathers of modern English hymnody.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we give thee thanks for the purity and strength with which thou didst endow thy servant Thomas Ken; and we pray that by thy grace we may have a like power to hallow and conform our souls and bodies, to the purpose of thy most holy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst give to thy servant Thomas Ken grace and courage to bear witness to the truth before rulers and kings: Give us also thy strength that, following his example, we may constantly defend what is right, boldly reprove what is evil, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who

liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. Philippians 4:4–9. ☒

REJOICE in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice, Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

The Gospel. Luke 6:17–23. ☒

JESUS came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judæa and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases; and they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all.

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for,

behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

Propers of a Saint

Saint Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino

[March 21]

:: Benedict of Nursia (c. 480–c. 547) is the author of the Rule of Benedict, which is one of the most influential religious rules in the Western Church. He founded a dozen monasteries in the vicinity of Subiaco, and then the great Benedictine monastery of Monte Cassino. The 1969 GRC moved Benedict's commemoration to July 11 (which may be the date of his earthly birth) to avoid the restrictions of Lent.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who on this day didst deliver blessed Benedict from the burden of the flesh: Hereafter grant unto us thine unworthy servants to have our share in the company of the blessed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, whose precepts are the wisdom of a loving Father: Enable us, after the teaching and example of thy servant Saint Benedict, to walk as one family in the excellent paths of obedience, that thy blessing may prosper the works of our hands, and thine ears be open unto our prayers; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 44:10–15. ♦♦

THESE were merciful men, whose righteousness hath not been forgotten. With their seed shall continually remain a good inheritance, and their children are within the covenant. Their seed standeth fast, and their children for their sakes. Their seed shall remain for ever, and their glory shall not be blotted out. Their bodies are buried in peace; but their name liveth for evermore. The people will tell of their wisdom, and the congregation will shew forth their praise.

The Gospel. Luke 12:32–34. ♦

FEAR not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Matthew 19:27–29. ♦

THEN answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Propers of a Monastic

Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury

[March 21]

:: Thomas Cranmer (1489–1556) was Archbishop of Canterbury during the reigns of Henry VIII, Edward VI, and, for a short time, Mary I. He was responsible for the first two editions (1549 and 1552) of the Book of Common Prayer. He was imprisoned by Mary for treason and heresy. When he was burned at the stake, he extended his hand into the fire to punish it for having signed previous recantations.

The Collect

MERCIFUL God, who through the work of Thomas Cranmer didst renew the worship of thy Church by restoring the language of the people, and through his death didst reveal thy power in human weakness: Grant that by thy grace we may always worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and

Advocate, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. Romans 11:13–24. ◇

FOR I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: if by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them. For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead? For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches. And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: for if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again. For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

The Gospel. Luke 2:25–35. ◇

AND, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the

temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

Preface of God the Son

James de Koven, Priest

[March 22]

:: James de Koven (1830–1879) was a priest, educator, and leader of Anglican Ritualism. March 19 is the date of de Koven's death, but he is commemorated on March 22 to avoid a conflict with Joseph.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and Everlasting God, the source and perfection of all virtues, who didst inspire thy servant James De Koven to do what is right and to preach what is true: Grant that all ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may afford to thy faithful people, by word and example, the knowledge of thy grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast enriched thy Church with the singular learning and holiness of thy servant James De Koven: Grant us to hold fast the true doctrine of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and to

fashion our lives according to the same, to the glory of thy great Name and the benefit of thy holy Church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 2:10–15, 19. ☒

THEREFORE I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: if we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: if we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself. Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers. Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ☒

JESUS saith: the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Propers of a Saint

Saint Gregory the Illuminator, Bishop, Missionary of Armenia

[March 23]

:: *Gregory the Illuminator (c. 257–c. 331) was the first official head of the Armenian Apostolic Church. As a result of his missionary work, Armenia became the first nation to adopt Christianity as the state religion. Gregory is celebrated on March 23 in the Episcopal Church. In the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Churches, he is celebrated on September 30, the date given in Butler's Lives of the Saints, although he is sometimes transferred to October 1 to avoid a conflict with Jerome. The Armenian Christian Church commemorates Gregory on June 9.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we thank thee for thy servant Gregory, whom thou didst call to preach The Gospel to the people of Armenia: Raise up, we pray thee, in this and every land, heralds and evangelists of thy kingdom, that thy Church may make known the unsearchable riches of Christ, and may increase with the increase of God; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who willest to be glorified in they saints, and didst raise up thy servant Gregory the Illuminator to be a light to the world, and to preach the Gospel to the people of Armenia: Shine, we pray thee, in our hearts, that we also in our generation may show forth thy praise, who hast called us out of darkness into thy marvellous light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Acts 17:22–31. ☒

PAUL stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples

made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; and hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; that they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: for in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:11–16. ☒

BLESSED are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Proprs of a Bishop or of a Missionary

Saint Gabriel the Archangel

[March 24]

:: *Gabriel (Gavri'el, "God is my strength") is the angel who appears to Mary at the Annunciation. He also appears to Daniel to explain his visions. His commemoration is the day before the Annunciation. Gabriel is one of the four archangels, and in modern practice he is usually commemorated with Michael and Raphael on September 29.*

Propers of a Saint

Walter Hilton of Thurgarton, Augustinian Canon, Mystic

[March 24]

:: *Walter Hilton (c. 1340/45–1396) was an Augustinian mystic. Among his numerous writings, the most important are The Scale of Perfection and The Epistle on the Mixed Life. In some jurisdictions he is commemorated on September 28, together with Margery Kempe and Richard Rolle.*

Propers of a Saint

The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

[March 25]

:: *This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles. The date is nine months to the day before the Nativity. March 25 is also, according to some medieval computations, the actual date of the crucifixion, meaning that Jesus was crucified on the anniversary of his conception. According to some scholars, then, the date of the Annunciation fixed the date of Christmas, and not the other way around. (According to Luke, the shepherds were "abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night", which they would not have been doing "in the bleak midwinter", pace Christina Rossetti.)*

The Collect

WE beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts; that, as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross and passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

For the Epistle. Isaiah 7:10–14. §†

MOREOVER, the Lord spake again unto Ahaz, saying, Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord. And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? Therefore the

Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

The Gospel. Saint Luke 1:26–38. §†

AND in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Preface of Our Lady or of Epiphany

**Richard Allen, First Bishop of
the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church**

[March 26]

:: Richard Allen (1760–1831) was the founder of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church.

Saint Woolo (Gwynllyw), King in South Wales

[March 29]

:: Woolo (c. 450–529), also known as Woolos, or in Welsh, Gwynllyw, was King of Bwynllwg in south Wales. According to legend, he was a colleague of King Arthur. Inspired by a dream, Woolo abandoned his kingship and founded a hermitage on Stow Hill in Newport, South Wales. After his death, the hermitage became a shrine, a church, and eventually Saint Woolos Cathedral (Newport Cathedral), the seat of the Bishop of Monmouth.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who dost choose thine elect out of every nation, and dost shew forth thy glory in their lives: Grant, we pray thee, that following the good example of thy servant Saint Woolo, we may be fruitful in good works to the praise of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Wisdom 6:24b—7:1, 5–8, 14a. ♦

AWISE king is the upholding of the people. Receive therefore instruction through my words, and it shall do you good. I myself also am a mortal man, like to all, and the offspring of him that was first made of the earth, For there is no king that had any other beginning of birth. For all men have one entrance into life, and the like going out. Wherefore I prayed, and understanding was given me: I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her before sceptres and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. For she is a treasure unto men that never faileth: which they that use become the friends of God.

The Gospel. Luke 10:23–24. ♦

JESUS turned him unto his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: for I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet

[March 29]

:: *John Keble (1792–1866) was a priest and poet, and one of the leaders of the Oxford Movement. He is the author of The Christian Year, a book of poems for the Sundays and feast days of the church year. A number of his poems have been used as the texts of hymns.*

The Collect

O ETERNAL Lord God, who boldest all souls in life. We beseech thee to shed forth upon thy whole Church in paradise and on earth the bright beams of thy light and thy peace; and grant that we, following the good examples of thy servant John Keble, and of all those who loved and served thee here, may at the last enter with them into thine unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

GRANT, O God, that in all time of our testing we may know thy presence and obey thy will; that, following the example of thy servant John Keble, we may accomplish with integrity and courage that which thou givest us to do, and endure that which thou givest us to bear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒♦

The Epistle. Romans 12:9–21. ☒♦

LET love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:1–12. ✠◇

SEEING the multitudes, Jesus went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: and he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Preface of a Saint

John Donne, Priest and Poet

[March 31]

:: John Donne (1572–1631) was a Roman Catholic who converted to the Church of England. He became the Dean of Saint Paul's Cathedral in London. He was also a pre-eminent metaphysical poet.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who in this wondrous world dost manifest thy power and beauty: Open the eyes of all men to see, as did thy

servant John Donne, that whatsoever has any being is a mirror wherein we may behold thee, the root and fountain of all being; through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, the root and fountain of all being: Open our eyes to see, with thy servant John Donne, that whatsoever hath any being is a mirror in which we may behold thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of eternal glory, whom no one living can see and yet whom to see is to live; grant that with thy servant John Donne, we may see thy glory in the face of thy Son, Jesus Christ, and then, with all our skill and wit, offer thee our crown of prayer and praise, until by his grace we stand in that last and everlasting day, when death itself will die, and all will live in thee, who with the Holy Ghost and the same Lord Jesus Christ art one God in everlasting light and glory. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Wisdom 7:24—8:1. ☒◇

FOR wisdom is more moving than any motion: she passeth and goeth through all things by reason of her pureness. For she is the breath of the power of God, and a pure influence flowing from the glory of the Almighty: therefore can no defiled thing fall into her. For she is the brightness of the everlasting light, the unspotted mirror of the power of God, and the image of his goodness. And being but one, she can do all things: and remaining in herself, she maketh all things new: and in all ages entering into holy souls, she maketh them friends of God, and prophets. For God loveth none but him that dwelleth with wisdom. For she is more beautiful than the sun, and above all the order of stars: being compared with the light, she is found before it. For after this cometh night: but vice shall not prevail against wisdom. Wisdom

reacheth from one end to another mightily: and sweetly doth she order all things.

The Gospel. John 5:19–24. ☒◇

THEN answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel. For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: that all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Preface of Epiphany

Saint Gilbert of Caithness, Bishop

[April 1]

:: *Gilbert (d. 1245) was Bishop of Caithness and the founder of Dornoch Cathedral. He also established several hospices for the poor.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Richard, Bishop of Chichester

[April 3]

:: *Richard (1197–1253) was Bishop of Chichester. He was an ascetic, wearing a hair shirt and keeping a vegetarian diet. April 3 is the date of Richard's death, but some jurisdictions commemorate him on June 16.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who pouredst thy grace richly upon Saint Richard, and madest him a true overseer of thy Church in this

land: Grant unto the clergy, after his example, not seeking their own advancement, to spend themselves for their people's sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst set blessed Richard to be a Bishop in the Church, that he might feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us, we beseech thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆(◆)

¶ *Or this:*

WE Thank thee, Lord God, for all the benefits thou hast given us in they Son Jesus Christ, our most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother, and for all the pains and insults he hath borne for us; and we pray that, following the example of thy saintly bishop Richard of Chichester, we may see Christ more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. Philippians 2:12–18. ◇

WHEREFORE, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and disputings: that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain. Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all. For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me.

JESUS lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 47:8–11a. ♦

IN all his works he praised the Holy One most high with words of glory; with his whole heart he sung songs, and loved him that made him. He set singers also before the altar, that by their voices they might make sweet melody, and daily sing praises in their songs. He beautified their feasts, and set in order the solemn times until the end, that they might praise his holy name, and that the temple might sound from morning. The Lord took away his sins, and exalted his horn for ever.

The Gospel. Matthew 25:14–21. ♦

THE kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have

gained beside them five talents more. His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Philippians 4:10–13. ☒

BUT I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Matthew 24:31–40. ☒

HE shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Reginald Heber, Bishop

[April 3]

:: *Reginald Heber (1783–1826) was Bishop of Calcutta. He was also a noted author and hymn writer, his most famous hymn being “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”, sung to the tune NICEA.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Ambrose of Milan, Bishop, Confessor, Doctor

[April 4]

:: *Ambrose (c. 340–397) was Bishop of Milan, and an influential theologian. Ambrose promoted antiphonal chant, a style of chanting in which one side of the choir responds alternately to the other. He also is the author of several hymns, such as Aeterne rerum conditor, Veni redemptor gentium and the Te Deum. Ambrose’s death is April 4, but because this date is often in Lent, his feast is in many jurisdictions transferred to December 7, the date of his consecration.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who calledst Ambrose from the governor’s chair to the episcopal throne, and madest him the intrepid champion of thy faithful people: Mercifully grant that, as he feared not to rebuke princes, so we with like courage may avow the faith which we believe; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

REPLENISH the Church, O Lord God, with the spirit of boldness, to judge righteous judgement; with the spirit of sound learning, to interpret thy truth; with the spirit of worship to magnify thy mercy in the beauty of holiness: and appoint unto her fathers and teachers like Saint Ambrose to guide the whole Christian people into the way of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst give grace to thy servant Ambrose, eloquently to declare thy righteousness in the great congregation, and fearlessly to bear reproach for the honour of thy Name: Mercifully grant

unto all bishops and pastors such excellency in preaching, and fidelity in ministering thy Word, that thy people may be partakers with them of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 2:7–11, 16–18. ♦♦

YE that fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; and go not aside, lest ye fall. Ye that fear the Lord, believe him; and your reward shall not fail. Ye that fear the Lord, hope for good, and for everlasting joy and mercy. Look at the generations of old, and see; did ever any trust in the Lord, and was confounded? or did any abide in his fear, and was forsaken? or whom did he ever despise, that called upon him? For the Lord is full of compassion and mercy, long-suffering, and very pitiful, and forgiveth sins, and saveth in time of affliction.

They that fear the Lord will seek that which is well-pleasing unto him; and they that love him shall be filled with the law. They that fear the Lord will prepare their hearts, and humble their souls in his sight, saying, We will fall into the hands of the Lord, and not into the hands of men: for as his majesty is, so is his mercy.

The Gospel. Luke 12:42–44. ♦♦

JESUS said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 47:8–11. ♦

IN all his works he praised the Holy One most high with words of glory; with his whole heart he sung songs, and loved him that made him. He set singers also before the altar, that by their voices they might make sweet melody, and daily sing praises in their songs. He beautified their feasts, and set in order the solemn times until the end, that they

might praise his holy name, and that the temple might sound from morning. The Lord took away his sins, and exalted his horn for ever: he gave him a covenant of kings, and a throne of glory in Israel.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:42–47. ♦

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Preface of a Doctor

Martin Luther King, Jr, Pastor, Civil Rights Leader

[April 4]

:: Martin Luther King, Jr (1929–1968) was a Baptist minister and civil rights activist. April 4 is the date of King's death (his dies natalis). Some jurisdictions commemorate him on January 15, the date of his birth, the source of the federal holiday on the third Monday of January. See also Martin Luther King, Jr Day in Propers for National and Civil Commemorations.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who by the hand of Moses thy servant didst lead thy people out of slavery, and didst make them free at last: Grant that thy Church, following the example of thy prophet Martin Luther King, may resist oppression in the name of thy love, and may strive to secure for all thy children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* ☒ ♦

THE LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

JESUS said, I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also. Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love ye your enemies, and do

good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

Preface of Baptism

Saint Isidore, Archbishop of Seville, Confessor, Doctor

[April 4]

:: *Isidore (c. 560–636) was Archbishop of Seville. Because of his Etymologiae, an etymological encyclopedia, he has been adopted as the patron saint of the internet.*

Propers of a Doctor

Vincent Ferrer

[April 5]

:: *Vincent Ferrer (1350–1419) was a Valencian Dominican friar and preacher. His missionary work took him to England, Scotland, Ireland, Aragon, Castile, France, Switzerland, and Italy.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Brynach of Brecon, Confessor

[April 7]

:: *Brynach (6th century) was a Welsh monk and abbot. He founded several oratories, and the monastery at Nevern, in Pembrokeshire.*

Propers of a Saint

Tikhon, Patriarch of Russia, Confessor

[April 7]

:: *Tikhon (1865–1925) was the eleventh Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, the head of the Russian Orthodox Church. Previously he had been Bishop of the Aleutian Islands and Alaska, at which time he became a naturalized America citizen.*

Propers of a Bishop

William Augustus Muhlenberg, Priest

[April 8]

:: *William Augustus Muhlenberg (1796–1877) was a priest and educator. He is considered the father of church schools in the United States, and he founded St Luke's Hospital in New York City.*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst enkindle the flame of thy love in the heart of thy servant William Augustus Muhlenberg: Grant to us, thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in his triumph, we may profit by his example; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

OPEN the eyes of thy Church, O Lord, to the plight of the poor and neglected, the homeless and destitute, the old and the sick, or the lonely and those who have none to care for them. Give unto us the vision and compassion with which thou didst so richly endow thy servant William Augustus Muhlenberg, that we may labour tirelessly to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇(✠)

The Epistle. Ephesians 4:11–16. ✠◇

AND he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

JESUS went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, and said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves. And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them. And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the Son of David; they were sore displeased, and said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

Preface of a Saint

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran Pastor and Martyr

[April 9]

:: Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906–1945) was a Lutheran pastor, theologian, and anti-Nazi dissident. He was a founding member of the Confessing Church, which stood against the Nazi takeover of the Landeskirche (the historical established Protestant Churches of Germany). He was imprisoned and hanged at the Flossenbürg concentration camp, just two weeks before it was liberated by U. S. forces, and a month before the surrender of Nazi Germany.

The Collect

EMBOLDEN our lives, O Lord, and inspire our faiths, that we, following the example of thy servant Dietrich Bonhoeffer, might embrace thy call with undivided hearts; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, with liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

GRACIOUS God, the Beyond in the midst of our life, who gavest grace to thy servant Dietrich Bonhoeffer to know and to teach the truth as it is in Jesus Christ, and to bear the cost of following him: Grant that we, strengthened by his teaching and example, may receive thy word and embrace its call with an undivided heart; through Jesus

Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* Δ(☒)

For the Epistle. Proverbs 3:1–7. ☒◇

MY son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: so shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ☒◇

JESUS saith: the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of a Saint

William Law, Priest, Spiritual Writer

[April 10]

:: William Law (1686–1761) was a priest who lost his positions because he was a non-juror: he refused to take the required oath of allegiance to King George I, of the House of Hanover. Law was the author of two significant works on practical divinity: A Practical Treatise upon Christian Perfection, and A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life. April 9 is the date of Law's death, but he is commonly commemorated on April 10.

The Collect

O GOD, by whose grace thy servant William Law, enkindled with the fire of thy love, became a burning and shining light in thy Church: Grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, and may ever walk before thee as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we give thee thanks for the purity and strength with which thou didst endow thy servant William Law; and we pray that by thy grace we may have a like power to hallow and conform our souls and bodies, to the purpose of thy most holy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, whose servant William Law taught us to hear and follow your call to a holy life, grant that we, loving thee above all things and in all things, may seek thy purpose and shape our actions to thy will, that we may grow in all virtue and be diligent in prayer all the days of our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory now and forever. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Philippians 3:7–14 .☒♦

BUT what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel. Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21. ✠◇

TAKE heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: that thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou,

when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; that thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Preface of a Saint

William of Ockham, Friar, Philosopher, Teacher of the Faith
[April 10]

:: *William of Ockham (c. 1287–1347) was a Franciscan friar, scholastic philosopher, and theologian. He is most famous for his problem-solving principle that “entities should not be multiplied without necessity”, that is, one should always choose the simplest solution, or the one with the fewest assumptions.*

Propers of a Doctor

Saint Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, Doctor
[April 11]

See November 10.

**George Augustus Selwyn, Bishop of Lichfield,
First Bishop of New Zealand**
[April 12]

:: *George Selwyn (1809–1878) was an English priest who became the first Anglican Bishop of New Zealand. When the territory was divided into multiple dioceses, Selwyn was styled Primate or Metropolitan of New Zealand. Near the end of his life, he returned to Britain to serve as Bishop of Lichfield.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we thank thee for thy servant George Augustus Selwyn, whom thou didst call to preach The Gospel to the people of New Zealand: Raise up, we pray thee, in this and every land, heralds and evangelists of thy kingdom, that thy Church may make known the unsearchable riches of Christ, and may increase

with the increase of God; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇(✠)

The Epistle. Ephesians 2:11–18. ✠

WHEREFORE remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; that at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: but now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: and came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. for through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:7–16. ✠

AS ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat. And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. And when ye come into an house, salute it. And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you. And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more

tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city. Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

Propers of a Bishop

William Forbes, Bishop

[April 12]

:: *William Forbes (1585–1634) was the first Bishop of Edinburgh. The see was erected for Forbes after Charles I was pleased by Forbes's preaching at his coronation.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Justin Martyr

[April 14]

See June 1.

**Damien, Priest and Leper,
and Marianne Cope, Religious, of Molokai**

[April 15]

:: *Father Damien (1840–1889) was missionary in the Kingdom of Hawai'i, where he ministered to the needs of the inhabitants of the leper colony Kalaupapa. In the course of his ministry, Damien himself contracted and died of leprosy. Mother Marianne Cope (1838–1918), a member of the Sisters of Saint Francis, assisted Damien in his ministry. In 1885, King Kalākaua awarded Cope with the Cross of a Companion of the Royal Order of Kapiolani for her care of his people.*

The Collect

BIND up the wounds of thy children O God, and help us, following the example of thy servants Damien and Marianne, to be bold and loving in service to all who are shunned for the diseases they suffer, that thy grace may be poured forth upon all; through Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Isaiah 57:14–19. ◇

CAST ye up, cast ye up, prepare the way, take up the stumblingblock out of the way of my people. For thus saith the

high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. For I will not contend for ever, neither will I be always wroth: for the spirit should fail before me, and the souls which I have made. For the iniquity of his covetousness was I wroth, and smote him: I hid me, and was wroth, and he went on frowardly in the way of his heart. I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him and to his mourners. I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the LORD; and I will heal him.

The Gospel. Matthew 11:1–6. ◇

AND it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities. Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, and said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: the blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Padarn, Bishop in South Wales

[April 15]

:: Padarn (d. c. 550) was an abbot-bishop who founded St Padarn's Church in Ceredigion, Wales. Padarn appears in Arthurian legends as the saint who Christianized King Arthur, thus enabling him to defeat the Anglo-Saxons at the battle of Mount Badon.

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Magnus of Orkney, Martyr

[April 16]

:: *Magnus Erlendsson (1080–1115) was Earl of Orkney. He refused to fight in a Viking raid in Anglesey, Wales, because of his religious convictions. After a falling out with his cousin Haakon, with whom he jointly ruled the earldom of Orkney, Magnus was executed after first praying for the souls of his executioners.*

Propers of a Martyr

Saint Donnán, Abbot and Martyr

[April 17]

:: *Donnán of Eigg (d. 617) was an Irish priest who attempted to introduce Christianity to the Picts of northwest Scotland. He was martyred on Eigg, an island in the Inner Hebrides.*

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Alphege (Ælfheah), Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr

[April 19]

:: *Alphege (c. 953–1012) was the Anglo-Saxon Bishop of Winchester and later Archbishop of Canterbury. He was captured by Viking raiders and then executed when he refused to allow himself to be ransomed.*

The Collect

O GOD, who crownedst Saint Alphege with the glory of martyrdom: Grant unto his successors, and the people under them, to serve thee faithfully in their generation, that they may with him rejoice in thy eternal service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst crown Saint Alphege thy Bishop with the glory of martyrdom: Grant unto his successors, and the people under them, to serve thee faithfully in their generation, that they may with him rejoice in thy eternal service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who dost support and defend us with, the glorious witness of thy blessed martyr Alphege: Grant us to go forward in his

footsteps, and ever to rejoice in fellowship with him; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LOVING God, whose martyr bishop Alphege of Canterbury suffered violent death because he refused to permit a ransom to be extorted from his people: Grant, we pray thee, that all pastors of thy flock may pattern themselves on the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life for the sheep; through him who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Daniel 12:1–3. ♦♦

AND at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

The Gospel. Mark 8:34–38. ♦♦

WHEN Jesus had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

For the Epistle. Revelation 7:13–17. ☒

ONE of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The Gospel. Luke 12:4–12. ☒

AND I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God: but he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God. And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven. And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: for the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

Saint Maelrubha (Máel Ruba) of Applecross, Abbot

[April 21]

:: *Maelrubha (642–722) was an Irish monk who founded the monastic community of Applecross in Ross—one of the best attested early monasteries in Scotland. The Scottish version of his name is Maol Rubha or MaRuibhe; the “Rubha” portion of his name is Latinized as “Rufus”. April 21 is the date of Maelrubha’s death, and the date of his commemoration in Ireland; but some jurisdictions commemorate him on April 20, to avoid a conflict with Anselm. Other jurisdictions, particularly in Scotland, commemorate him on August 27, possibly because of a conflation with Rufus of Capua, a deacon who was the father of a girl raised to life by Apollinaris of Ravenna, and who was martyred with Carpophorus (Carponius) during the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian.*

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Anselm of Canterbury, Archbishop, Doctor

[April 21]

:: *Anselm (1033/34–1109), also called Anselm of Aosta, after his monastery, and Anselm of Bec, after another of his monasteries, was a Benedictine monk, abbot, and theologian who became Archbishop of Canterbury. He argued for the primacy of Canterbury over York, and was successful during his lifetime. (Pope Paschal II later reversed his ruling and restored York’s independence.) Anselm was so highly regarded as a writer that he has been called “the father of scholasticism”.*

The Collect

A CCEPT, O Lord, our thanksgiving for thy servant Anselm, who in his life bore faithful witness to the truth; and humbly we beseech thee to raise up in every generation wise and holy teachers able to bring forth out of their treasure things both old and new: in Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, eternal and only-wise, who didst choose Saint Anselm to be a chief doctor and interpreter of the apostolic faith: Send down thy Holy Spirit upon they people, that they may seek so to learn Christ as ever to be found in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servant Anselm: Enrich us evermore, we beseech thee, with thy

heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses who by their life and doctrine will set forth the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst raise up thy servant Anselm to teach the Church of his day to understand its faith in thine eternal Being, perfect justice, and saving mercy: Provide thy Church in every age with devout and learned scholars and teachers, that we may be able to give a reason for the hope that is in us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒(♦)

¶ *Or this:*

GRACIOUSLY enlighten thy Church, we beseech thee, O Lord; that being illumined by the teaching of blessed Anselm thy confessor and Bishop, it may attain unto eternal gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* μ

For the Epistle. Wisdom: 10:10–12. ♦♦

WHEN the righteous fled from his brother's wrath, wisdom guided him in right paths, shewed him the kingdom of God, and gave him knowledge of holy things, made him rich in his travels, and multiplied the fruit of his labours. In the covetousness of such as oppressed him she stood by him, and made him rich. She defended him from his enemies, and kept him safe from those that lay in wait, and in a sore conflict she gave him the victory; that he might know that goodness is stronger than all.

The Gospel. Luke 21:9–13. ♦♦

WHEN ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by. Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and

kingdom against kingdom: and great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven. But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. And it shall turn to you for a testimony.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Romans 1: 16–20. ♦

FOR I am not ashamed of The Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his. eternal power and Godhead.

The Gospel. John 7: 16–18; 8:12. ♦

JESUS answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. He that speaketh of himself seeketh his. own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him. Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Romans 5:1–11. ✠♦

THEREFORE being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by

faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

The Gospel. Matthew 11:25–30. ☒◇

AT that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight. All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Preface of Epiphany or of a Doctor

Saint Beuno of Wales, Abbot

[April 22]

:: Beuno (d. 640) was a Welsh abbot and confessor. He was abbot at Clynnog Fawr on the Llŷn peninsula. April 21 is the date of his death, but he is commemorated on either April 20 or April 22 to avoid a conflict with Anselm.

The Collect

ENABLE us, O Lord, with Saint Beuno and all thy blessed servants to bring the talents and graces of thy giving unto the sole service of thy Church, the body of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Philippians 3:7–11. ♦

WHAT things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

The Gospel. Luke 18:28–30. ♦

THEN Peter said, Lo, we have left all, and followed thee. And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake, who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.

Propers of a Monastic

Saint George, Martyr, Patron Saint of England, Holy Helper

[April 23]

:: *George (d. 303) was a Cappadocian Greek soldier and member of the Praetorian Guard for Emperor Diocletian. He was martyred for refusing to renounce his Christian faith. He is the patron saint of England, his cult having been brought back to England during the crusades, and he is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.*

The Collect

O LORD, who hast called us to fight under the banner of thy Cross against the evil of the world, the flesh, and the devil: Give grace to our countrymen, that, clothed in purity and equipped with thine armour, they may follow thee as thou goest forth conquering and to conquer; and by faithfulness in the warfare of well-doing may share thy final triumph, and hail thee as King of kings and Lord of lords, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast made us heirs of all the victories of faith: Arm us, like Saint George, with such trust in the truth that is invisible, that we may seek no rest from its demands, and have no fear in its service; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of hosts, who didst so kindle the flame of love in the heart of thy servant George that he bore witness to the risen Lord by his life and by his death: Grant us the same faith and power of love that we, who rejoice in his triumphs, may come to share with him the fullness of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ƿ

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who makest us to rejoice in the merits and intercession of blessed George thy martyr: Mercifully grant that we who ask for

thy benefits through him, may obtain them by the gift of thy grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* μ

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD God of hosts who didst give grace to thy servant George to lay aside the fear of man and to confess thee even unto death: Grant, we pray thee, that we and all our countrymen who bear office in the world, may think lightly of earthly place and honour and rather seek to please [*Jesus*^{*}] the Captain of our salvation who hath chosen us to be his soldiers, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be thanks and praise from all the armies of thy saints, now and for evermore. *Amen.* ③

For the Epistle. Revelation 19:11–21. ◇

AND I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; that ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. And I

* The Name of Jesus is not in the original version of this collect.

saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

The Gospel. Luke 11:20–23. ♦

JESUS said: But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you. When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: but when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils. He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 2:8–10, 3:10–12. ♦

REMEMBER that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel: wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

I AM the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Preface of a Saint

The Translation of Saint Wilfrid, Archbishop of York

[April 24]

:: Wilfrid (c. 633–709/10) was the son of a Northumbrian nobleman who studied at Lindisfarne, Canterbury, Gaul, and Rome. Returning to Northumbria, he became abbot of the newly founded monastery at Ripon. Later he founded an episcopal see in West Sussex, where he converted the inhabitants of the Kingdom of Sussex. He later held the see at York. April 24 is either the date of Wilfrid's death or of his translation, and it is the first date associated with his cultus (starting in the 7th and 8th centuries). However, October 12 (another possible date of his death) is the more common commemoration, probably due to conflicts with Lent and Easter.

The Collect

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst set blessed Wilfrid to be a Bishop in the Church, that he might feed thy sheep by his word and guide them by his example: Grant us, we beseech thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 3:14–16. ♦

THESE things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: but if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to

behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

The Gospel. Mark 13:33–37. ♦

JESUS said unto his disciples: Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

Propers of a Bishop

**Mellitus, Bishop of London,
First Bishop at Saint Paul's
[April 24]**

:: Mellitus (d. 624) was the first bishop of London in the Saxon period, and the third Archbishop of Canterbury. He was a member of the original Gregorian mission sent to England to convert the Anglo-Saxons.

Propers of a Bishop

**Adalbert (Vojtěch) of Prague, Bishop
[April 24]**

:: Adalbert (c. 956–997) was a Bohemian missionary and Bishop of Prague. He also worked in Hungary and Poland, and he is said to be the composer of the oldest Czech and Polish hymns. April 23 is the date of Adalbert's death, but where the feast is observed in English-speaking jurisdictions, it is transferred to April 24, to avoid a conflict with George.

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Mark the Evangelist

[April 25]

:: Mark is the author of what is generally accepted to be the primary of the synoptic Gospels. He is also said to have founded the Church of Alexandria in Egypt. His representation as one of the four living creatures of Revelation 4:7 is the form of a winged lion.

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, who hast instructed thy holy Church with the heavenly doctrine of thy Evangelist Saint Mark: Give us grace, that, being not like children carried away with every blast of vain doctrine, we may be established in the truth of thy holy Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

The Epistle. Ephesians 4:7–16. §†

U NTO every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

I AM the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

Preface of Apostles

Robert Hunt, Priest, First Chaplain at Jamestown

[April 26]

:: *Robert Hunt (c. 1568/70–1608) was a vicar in the Church of England, and the first chaplain of the first successful English colony in the New World, at Jamestown, Virginia.*

Propers of a Saint

Christina Rossetti, Poet

[April 27]

:: *Christina Rossetti (1830–1894) was a poet, responsible for the lyrics of two of the most well-known Christmas carols: “In the Bleak Midwinter” and “Love Came Down at Christmas”.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Catherine of Siena, Doctor

[April 29]

:: Catherine of Siena (1347–1380) was a lay member of the Dominican Order. She was also a mystic and prominent author, most notably of a treatise called The Dialogue of Divine Providence. April 29 is the date of Catherine's death, but many jurisdictions commemorate her on April 30.

The Collect

GRACIOUSLY hear us, O god of our salvation, that, as we rejoice in the feast of thy servant Catherine, so of thy mercy we may be taught the spirit of loving devotion; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we who keep the heavenly birthday of thy holy Virgin Saint Catherine may be conformed to the pattern of her hidden life with thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst enkindle the flame of thy love in the heart of thy servant Catherine: Grant to us thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in her triumph, we may profit by her example; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

EVERLASTING God, who didst so kindle the flame of holy love in the heart of blessed Catherine of Siena, as she meditated on the passion of thy Son our Saviour, that she devoted her life to the poor and the sick, and to the peace and unity of the Church: Grant that we also may share in the mystery of Christ's death, and rejoice in the revelation of his glory; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

KINDLE the flame of holy love in our hearts, O God, that we being strengthened by the example of your servant Catherine of Siena, may dedicate ourselves to the service of the poor and the sick, and to the peace and unity of thy Church. Grant that with her, we also may share in the mystery of Christ's death, and rejoice in the revelation of his glory; who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 1:3–7. ◇◇

BLESSED be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation. And our hope of you is stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:44–46. ◇◇

THE kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 John 1:5—2:2. ✠◇

THIS then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we

say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Gospel. Luke 12:22–31. ☒◇

JESUS said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment. Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Preface of a Doctor or of a Saint

Saint Philip and Saint James, Apostles

[May 1]

:: Philip and James were among the original twelve disciples. Philip preached in Greece, Syria, and Phrygia. He was martyred in Hierapolis in Phrygia. James is called "the Less" to distinguish him from James the Great, also known as James the son of Zebedee (and brother of John the Apostle). James the Less is also identified as the brother of our Lord.

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, whom truly to know is everlasting life; Grant us perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life: that, following the steps of thy holy Apostles, Saint Philip and Saint James, we may stedfastly walk in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

The Epistle. James 1:1. §†

JAMES, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted: But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

AND Jesus said unto his disciples, Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my Name, I will do it.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, Doctor

[May 2]

:: Athanasius (c. 296/98–373) was a prominent theologian and chief defender of Trinitarianism against Arianism. The Athanasian Creed, also known as the Quicumque vult, is attributed to him; it is a more emphatic declaration of the mystery of the Trinity than the Apostles' or Nicene Creeds. Once prescribed to be said thirteen times during the year, the Athanasian Creed is almost never used these days; when it is, it is generally used on Trinity Sunday.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that, like as Saint Athanasius contended with constancy for the integrity of the faith: So we may both believe in our hearts and confess with our lips the true nature of thy Consubstantial and Incarnate Word, even Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that, like as blessed Athanasius contended earnestly for the faith of thy Consubstantial and Incarnate Word, so we may both believe in our hearts and confess with our mouth the Godhead of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY, everlasting God, whose servant Athanasius steadfastly confessed thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to be Very God and Very Man: Grant that we may hold fast to this faith, and evermore magnify his holy Name; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

UPHOLD thy Church, O God of truth, as thou didst uphold thy servant Athanasius, to maintain and proclaim boldly the catholic faith against all opposition, trusting solely in the grace of thine eternal Word, who took upon himself our humanity that we might share in his divinity; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

OLORD, who didst establish thy servant Athanasius, through wisdom, in thy truth: Grant that we, perceiving the humanity

and divinity of thy Son Jesus Christ, may follow in his footsteps and ascend the way to eternal life; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY everlasting God, who raised up the blessed Athanasius as an outstanding champion of thy Son's divinity: Mercifully grant that, rejoicing in his teaching and his protection, we may never cease to grow in knowledge and love of thee; through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ρ

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 4:5–14. ◇◆

WE preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. So then death worketh in us, but life in you. We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.

¶ *Or this:*

WHOSOEVER believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

YE are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

¶ *Or this:*

WHEN they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come. The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household? Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that

preach ye upon the housetops. And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

Preface of a Doctor

The Finding of the Holy Cross

[May 3]

:: According to tradition, the Cross on which Jesus was crucified was discovered by Helena Augusta, the mother of Constantine. The original commemoration was on September 14, but it was transferred to May 3 in the seventh or eighth century. The older name for this feast is The Invention of the Cross (from the Latin invenire, meaning “to find”).

The Collect

O GOD, who by a wonderful mercy didst make the instrument of shameful death the means of our salvation: Out of weakness make us strong to take up the Cross, that we may be numbered among the redeemed who follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth, even thy Son Jesus Christ, who once was slain, but now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Galatians 6:12–14. ♦

BRETHREN, as many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh. But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

THEN said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Preface of the Cross

**Saint Monica (Monnica) of Hippo,
Mother of Saint Augustine of Hippo**

[May 4]

:: Monica (c. 331/32–387) was the mother of Augustine. She is said to have been born in Thagaste (present-day Souk Ahras, Algeria), and she was probably a Berber (“Monnica” is a Berber name). Her son was rather wayward in his youth, and she prayed earnestly, and successfully, for his conversion. May 4 was established as her commemoration in about the 13th century. The 1969 revision of the GRC moved her feast to August 27 in order to be proximate to the commemoration of her son, and the Church of England and the Episcopal Church followed suit. (The May 4 date is proximate to the date on which Augustine’s conversion is often commemorated.)

The Collect

GRANT, O Lord, we beseech thee that, as thy faithful servant Monica, continuing in love and abounding in prayer, was heard of thee, and answered by the conversion of her son Augustine: So we in our intercession may never falter in love or weary in asking; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst graciously hear the prayers of blessed Monica for the conversion of Augustine her son: Grant that we in our intercession may likewise never falter in love nor be wearied in asking; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst enkindle the flame of thy love in the heart of thy servant Monica: Grant to us, thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in her triumph, we may profit by her example; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

OLORD, who through spiritual discipline didst strengthen thy servant Monica to persevere in offering her love and prayers and tears for the conversion of her husband and of Augustine their son: Deepen our devotion, we beseech thee, and use us in accordance with thy will to bring others, even our own kindred, to acknowledge Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord; who with thee and the Holy Ghost lives and reigns, One God, forever and ever. *Amen.* ☒(♦)

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 5:3–5. ♦♦

HONOUR widows that are widows indeed. But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God. Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day.

The Gospel. Matthew 7:7–11. ♦♦

ASK, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

¶ *Or these lessons:*

HANNAH was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore. And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head. And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli marked her mouth. Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken. And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee. And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD. Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto. Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him. And she said, Let thine handmaid find grace in thy sight. So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad.

And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before the LORD, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the LORD remembered her. Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD.

AND it came to pass the day after, that Jesus went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people. Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a

dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother. And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people. And this rumour of him went forth throughout all Judæa, and throughout all the region round about.

Preface of Baptism

Martyrs of the Reformation Era

[May 4]

:: This feast coincides with a Roman Catholic commemoration of Reformation-era martyrs (several Carthusian monks were executed at Tyburn on this date), giving this feast the makings of an ecumenical commemoration.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and Most Merciful God, give to thy Church that peace which the world cannot give, and grant that those who have been divided on earth may be reconciled in heaven, and share together in the vision of thy glory; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

2 Corinthians 4:5–12. ◇

FOR we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. We are troubled on every side, yet

not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. So then death worketh in us, but life in you.

The Gospel. John 12:20–26 ◇

AND there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast: the same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus. Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus. And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

Preface of the Holy Spirit

The Conversion of Saint Augustine of Hippo, Bishop in Africa, Doctor

[May 5]

:: *Augustine of Hippo (354–430) probably converted in August or September of 386. He was baptised the following year on April 24 at an Easter Vigil. The Augustinians celebrate his conversion on the original date, but other jurisdictions transfer it to May 5, well beyond the range of possible dates for Easter.*

See August 28.

Saint Asaph of Wales, Bishop

[May 5]

:: *Asaph (d. 596) succeeded Kentigern as Bishop of Llanelwy, which Kentigern founded at the confluence of the Clwyd and Elwy rivers in northeast Wales while he was exiled from Strathclyde. Asaph was the second bishop, and the first Welshman to hold the see.*

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst set blessed Asaph to be a Bishop in the Church, that he might feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us, we beseech thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Hebrews 13:7–8, 15–17. ♦

REMEMBER them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

The Gospel. Mark 4:26–32. ♦

JESUS said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; and should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth: but when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.

Saint John Evangelist before the Latin Gate

[May 6]

:: This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles. The feast of Saint John before the Latin Gate, commemorating the saint's miraculous survival of being thrown in a vat of boiling oil, was first observed in the late 8th century, but the wall containing the Latin Gate was built 200 years after John's time. The date of the feast, May 6, is in all likelihood the date of the dedication of the small church built in the saint's honour, on the traditional site of his attempted martyrdom.

The Collect

GRANT, we beseech thee, O merciful god, that, like thy holy Apostle and Evangelist Saint John, we may by thee be delivered unharmed from all the malice of the enemy: and also be made ready to receive from thee a revelation of that divine glory wherein though with thy Son and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, world without end.

Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

MERCIFUL Lord, we beseech thee to cast thy bright beams of light upon thy Church, that it being enlightened by the doctrine of thy blessed Apostle and Evangelist Saint John, may so walk in the light of thy truth, that it may at length attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Song of the Three Holy Children 16–18. ♦*

IN a contrite heart and an humble spirit let us be accepted. Like as in the burnt offerings of rams and bullocks, and like as in ten thousands of fat lambs: so let our sacrifice be in thy sight this day, and grant that we may wholly go after thee: for they shall not be confounded that put their trust in thee. And now we follow thee with all our heart, we fear thee, and seek thy face.

* Also known as the *Prayer of Azariah*.

FATHER, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Wisdom 5:1–5. ♦

THEN shall the righteous man stand in great boldness before the face of such as have afflicted him, and made no account of his labours. When they see it, they shall be troubled with terrible fear, and shall be amazed at the strangeness of his salvation, so far beyond all that they looked for. And they repenting and groaning for anguish of spirit shall say within themselves, This was he, whom we had sometimes in derision, and a proverb of reproach: We fools accounted his life madness, and his end to be without honour: How is he numbered among the children of God, and his lot is among the saints!

The Gospel. John 21:19b–23. ♦

THEN said Jesus unto Peter, Follow me. Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me. Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?

Preface of Apostles

Saint Stanislaus, Bishop in Poland

[May 7]

:: Stanislaus of Szczepanów (1030–1079) was Bishop of Kraków. He was martyred by King Bolesław II. May 7 is the date assigned to Stanislaus's commemoration when Pope Clement VIII added him to the kalendar at the turn of the 17th century. In Poland, Stanislaus has been commemorated on May 8 since 1254, that date having been supposed to be the saint's death. In 1969, the commemoration was moved to April 11, which is now considered to be the date of his death in 1079.

The Collect

WE beseech thee, O Lord, to grant us after the example of Saint Stanislaus, thy martyr, constancy in thy faith and truth; that, being grounded in divine love, we may be moved from its perfection by no temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

Propers of a Bishop

Agathius (Acacius) of Byzantium, Holy Helper

[May 7]

:: Agathius (d. 303) was a Cappadocian Greek centurion of the imperial army. He was martyred in Perinthus, Thrace. He is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.

Propers of a Saint

Dame Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer

[May 8]

:: Julian of Norwich (1343–after 1416) was an anchoress and mystic who documented her visions or “shewings” in a series of texts. Her most notable work is *Revelations of Divine Love*.

The Collect

LORD God, who in thy compassion didst grant to the Lady Julian many revelations of thy nurturing and sustaining love: Move our hearts, like hers, to seek thee above all things, for in giving us thyself thou givest us all; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒(☎)

HAVING therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and having an high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.

THE hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

Preface of Epiphany

The Apparition of Saint Michael

[May 8]

:: There are several legends of apparitions of the Archangel Michael across Europe. He is said to have appeared to Saint Aubert, Bishop of Avranches, at Mont Saint-Michel off the coast of Normandy. He also appeared over the mausoleum of Hadrian in answer to Pope Gregory I's prayers for relief from the plague; Gregory renamed the mausoleum "Castel Sant'Angelo". This particular feast commemorates the Archangel's apparition to the Lombards on Monte Gargano in southeast Italy, presaging their victory over the Greek Neapolitans.

See September 29.

Saint Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop, Doctor

[May 9]

:: Gregory of Nazianzus (c. 329–390) was Archbishop of Constantinople and a prominent theologian. January 25 is the date of Gregory's death, and the date of his primary commemoration in the Eastern Orthodox Church. However, this date conflicts with the Conversion of Saint Paul. In the 1960 GRC, Gregory's commemoration was moved to May 9, the octave of the commemoration of Athanasius, to acknowledge his inheritance of Athanasius's mantle as the principal defender of the orthodox faith. In addition to this individual commemoration, Gregory is commemorated with Basil the Great of Caesarea and John Chrysostom on January 30, the Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs, and with Basil on January 2.

The Collect

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servant Gregory Nazianzus: Enrich it evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses, who by their life and doctrine may set forth to all men the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY, everlasting God, whose servant Gregory steadfastly confessed thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to be Very God and Very Man: Grant that we may hold fast to this faith, and evermore magnify his holy Name; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast revealed to thy Church thine eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace that, like thy bishop Gregory of Nazianzus, we may continue stedfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of thee, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; who livest and reignest for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 39:5–10. ♦

HE will give his heart to resort early to the Lord that made him, and will pray before the most High, and will open his mouth in

prayer, and make supplication for his sins. When the great Lord will, he shall be filled with the spirit of understanding: he shall pour out wise sentences, and give thanks unto the Lord in his prayer. He shall direct his counsel and knowledge, and in his secrets shall he meditate. He shall shew forth that which he hath learned, and shall glory in the law of the covenant of the Lord. Many shall commend his understanding; and so long as the world endureth, it shall not be blotted out; his memorial shall not depart away, and his name shall live from generation to generation. Nations shall shew forth his wisdom, and the congregation shall declare his praise.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:13–16. ♦

YE are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Wisdom 7:7–14. ☒

I CALLED upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her before sceptres and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. Neither compared I unto her any precious stone, because all gold in respect of her is as a little sand, and silver shall be counted as clay before her. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light: for the light that cometh from her never goeth out. All good things together came to me with her, and innumerable riches in her hands. And I rejoiced in them all, because wisdom goeth before them: and I knew not that she was the

mother of them. I learned diligently, and do communicate her liberally: I do not hide her riches. For she is a treasure unto men that never faileth: which they that use become the friends of God, being commended for the gifts that come from learning.

The Gospel. John 8:25–32. ☒

THEN said they unto him, Who art thou? And Jesus saith unto them, Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning. I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. They understood not that he spake to them of the Father. Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. As he spake these words, many believed on him. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Preface of a Doctor

Saint John of Ávila, Apostle of Andalusia, Doctor

[May 10]

:: *John of Ávila (1499–1569) was a priest, scholastic author, and mystic. His missionary work in Andalusia earned him the title “Apostle of Andalusia”, but his pleas for reform and his denunciation of the behaviour of the aristocracy landed him in prison at the hands of the Inquisition. He was eventually found innocent of the charges of “exaggerating the dangers of wealth” and “closing the gates of heaven to the rich”. He was a significant influence on Theresa, also of Ávila, and John of God.*

Preface of a Doctor

Thomas Rattray, Bishop

[May 12]

:: *Thomas Rattray (1684–1743) was the Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church. He was a non-juror, and the author of The Ancient Liturgy of the Church of Jerusalem.*

Saint Boniface of Tarsus, Martyr

[May 14]

:: Boniface of Tarsus (d. 307) was a Roman slave who was sent by his mistress Aglaida (or Aglae) to Tarsus to collect some relics in order to help them her more about Christianity. Upon arriving at Tarsus, Boniface declared himself a Christian to the authorities, whereupon he was subjected to various tortures before being beheaded. His body returned to Aglaida sufficed as relics from the Holy Land. Because German tradition holds that there is a cold spell around May 11–May 14 (the dates vary by locale), he is commemorated as an Ice Saint, along with Mamertus (May 11), Pancras (May 12) and Servatius (May 13).

Preface of a Martyr

Saint Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury

[May 19]

:: Dunstan (909–988) was successively Abbot of Glastonbury Abbey, Bishop of Worcester, Bishop of London, and finally Archbishop of Canterbury. As Archbishop, Dunstan instituted several reforms in the English Church: he forbade simony and nepotism in church appointments; and he required parish priests to be qualified, and to minister to the secular as well as religious needs of their parishioners.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who didst raise up Saint Dunstan to be a true ruler of thy flock, a restorer of monastic life, and a faithful counsellor of kings: Mercifully grant that thy Church may never lack gifted rulers, nor this people leaders fearing thee and working righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst raise up Saint Dunstan to restore the discipline of the Church and to be a faithful counsellor of kings: Grant that neither thy Church nor this people may lack gifted rulers, fearing thee and working righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

GOD, who dost ever hallow and protect thy Church: Raise up therein through thy Spirit good and faithful stewards of the mysteries of Christ, as thou didst in thy servant Dunstan; that by their

ministry and example thy people may abide in thy favour and walk in the way of truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of truth and beauty, who didst richly endow thy bishop Dunstan with skill in music and the working of metals, and with gifts of administration and reforming zeal: Teach us we beseech thee, to see in thee the source of all our talents, and move us to offer them for the adornment of worship and the advancement of true religion; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

DIRECT thy Church, O Lord, into the beauty of holiness, that, following the good example of thy servant Dunstan, we may honour thy Son Jesus Christ with our lips and in our lives; to the glory of his Name, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 5:1–11. ◇

FOR we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: if so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (for we walk by faith, not by sight:) we are

confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

The Gospel. Matthew 19:23–26. ♦

THEN said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Hebrews 7:23–27. ♦

THEY truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: but this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:42–47. ♦

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had

known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 44:1–7. ✠✧

LET us now praise famous men, and our fathers that begat us. The Lord hath wrought great glory by them through his great power from the beginning. Such as did bear rule in their kingdoms, men renowned for their power, giving counsel by their understanding, and declaring prophecies: Leaders of the people by their counsels, and by their knowledge of learning meet for the people, wise and eloquent are their instructions: Such as found out musical tunes, and recited verses in writing: Rich men furnished with ability, living peaceably in their habitations: All these were honoured in their generations, and were the glory of their times.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:42–47. ✠✧

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Preface of the Dedication of the Church

Saint Alcuin (Ealhwine) of York, Deacon, Abbot of Tours

[May 20]

:: Alcuin of York (c. 735–804) was a Northumbrian deacon and scholar. While at the court of Charlemagne, he was credited with perfecting or restoring Carolingian miniscule, an easily read manuscript hand using a mixture of upper- and lower-case letters. He spent the last years of his life as Abbot of Marmoutier Abbey in Tours. Alcuin's death is May 19, but his feast is commonly transferred to May 20 to avoid a conflict with Dunstan.

The Collect

O ETERNAL Lord God, who boldest all souls in life: We beseech thee to shed forth upon thy whole Church in paradise and on earth the bright beams of thy light and thy peace; and grant that we, following the good examples of thy servant Alcuin, and of all those who loved and served thee here, may at the last enter with them into thine unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

A LMIGHTY God, who in a rude and barbarous age didst raise up thy deacon Alcuin to rekindle the light of learning: Illumine our minds, we pray thee, that amid the uncertainties and confusions of our own time we may shew forth thine eternal truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

A LMIGHTY God, who didst raise up thy servant Alcuin as a beacon of learning: Shine in our hearts, we pray, that we may also show forth thy praise in our own generation, for thou hast called us out of darkness and into thy marvellous light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 39:1–9. ☒◇

HE that giveth his mind to the law of the most High, and is occupied in the meditation thereof, will seek out the wisdom of all the ancient, and be occupied in prophecies. He will keep the sayings

of the renowned men: and where subtil parables are, he will be there also. He will seek out the secrets of grave sentences, and be conversant in dark parables. He shall serve among great men, and appear before princes: he will travel through strange countries; for he hath tried the good and the evil among men. He will give his heart to resort early to the Lord that made him, and will pray before the most High, and will open his mouth in prayer, and make supplication for his sins. When the great Lord will, he shall be filled with the spirit of understanding: he shall pour out wise sentences, and give thanks unto the Lord in his prayer. He shall direct his counsel and knowledge, and in his secrets shall he meditate. He shall shew forth that which he hath learned, and shall glory in the law of the covenant of the Lord. Many shall commend his understanding; and so long as the world endureth, it shall not be blotted out; his memorial shall not depart away, and his name shall live from generation to generation.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ☒◇

JESUS saith: the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of a Saint

The First Council of Nicaea

[May 20]

:: *The First Council of Nicaea was convened by Emperor Constantine I in 325. It was the first attempt to attain an ecumenical consensus on important theological matters. It settled the divine nature of God the Son and his relationship to God the Father (ὁμοούσιος [“homousios”], “consubstantial”, rather than ὁμοιούσιος [“homoiousios”], “of similar substance”); it established a uniform method for computing the date of Easter, independent of the Jewish calendar; and it created the original version of the Nicene Creed.*

Propers of the Dedication of the Church

Saint Bernardine of Siena

[May 20]

:: *Bernardine of Siena (1380–1444) was an Italian priest and Franciscan missionary. He is referred to as the “Apostle of Italy” for his efforts to revive the faith during the 15th century. He was briefly the Vicar General of the Franciscan Order, but he resigned in order to resume his itinerary of preaching.*

Preface of a Saint

Saint Helena (Protector of the Holy Places) and Constantine, Equal to the Apostles

[May 21]

:: *Helena (c. 246/48–c. 330) was the wife (or possibly common-law wife) of Emperor Constantius Chlorus, and as such, Empress of the Roman Empire. Constantius divorced her, but nevertheless their son Constantine (c. 272–337) was proclaimed emperor after his father’s death. Constantine was the first Roman Emperor to convert to Christianity, doing so after seeing a vision of the Cross with the inscription In Hoc Signo Vinces before a crucial victory over his rival Maxentius. Helena converted at the same time as her son, and made it her mission to find the relics of the True Cross (see May 3). The two are commemorated as “Equal to the Apostles” in the Eastern Orthodox Church on May 21, while in other jurisdictions Helena is commemorated alone on this date and styled “Protector of the Holy Places”. Helena is commemorated on her own in the Roman Church on August 18.*

The Collect

MOST Merciful God, who didst vouchsafe to bless thy servant Helena with such grace and devotion to thee that she didst venerate the very footsteps of our Saviour; grant unto us the same grace that, aided by her prayers and example, we too may evermore behold thy glory in the cross of thy Son; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

IN the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it.

AS they led Jesus away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus. And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck. Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us. For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry? And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death.

Saint William of Perth (or Rochester)

[May 23]

:: William of Perth (d. 1201) was a Scottish baker who was accustomed to setting aside every tenth loaf for the poor. He took a vow to visit the holy places and set off with his adopted son (whom he had found abandoned on the threshold of a church). They got as far as Rochester, and were intending to proceed to Canterbury and perhaps thence to Jerusalem, but his adopted son led him astray and killed him with an eye to robbery. He was honoured as a martyr because he was on a pilgrimage to holy places.

Preface of a Saint

Saint David I, King of Scotland

[May 24]

:: David I (c. 1084–1153) was the youngest son of Malcolm III and Margaret of Wessex. David and his older brother Alexander are called the “Sons of Margaret”. David was instrumental in the diocesan reorganization of Scotland, and he was a defender of Scotland’s independence from the Archbishop of York and the Archbishop of Canterbury. May 24 is the date of David’s death, but some jurisdictions commemorate him on January 11.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who dost choose thine elect out of every nation, and dost shew forth thy glory in their lives: Grant, we pray thee, that following the example of thy servant King David, we may be fruitful in good works to the praise of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

Propers of a Monarch

John and Charles Wesley, Evangelists and Hymn Writers

[May 24]

:: John Wesley (1703–1791) and his brother Charles Wesley (1707–1788) were clerics and hymnographers who were leaders of the Methodist movement. Of the two, Charles was less inclined to break from the Church of England. While Charles was on a mission to Georgia in the colonies, he published a Collection of Psalms and Hymns, which was the first Anglican hymnal published in America, and the first of many hymn-books he published. His brother John was similarly prolific as a hymn writer. Charles’s grandson was the prominent English composer Samuel Sebastian Wesley. John Wesley died on March 2, and his brother Charles died on March 29, but the Anglican Church generally commemorates the brothers on May 24, while the Episcopal Church commemorates them on March 3.

The Collect

O GOD of mercy, enlighten the hearts of thy faithful people, and grant us after the example of thy servants, John and Charles

Wesley, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

LORD God, who didst inspire thy servants John and Charles Wesley with burning zeal for the sanctification of souls and didst endow them with eloquence in speech and song: Kindle in thy Church, we beseech thee, such fervour, that those whose faith has cooled may be warmed, and that those who have not known thy Christ may turn to him and be saved; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ✠(◇)

For the Epistle. Isaiah 49:5–6. ✠◇

AND now, saith the LORD that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and my God shall be my strength. And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

The Gospel. Luke 9:2–6. ✠◇

JESUS sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. And he said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece. And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart. And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them. And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every where.

Preface of Pentecost

Saint Vincent of Lérins

[May 24]

:: *Vincent of Lérins (d. c. 445) was a Gallic monk at the Lérins Abbey on Île Saint-Honorat, in the Mediterranean off the coast from Cannes. He was the author of Commonitory, which provided a general rule to distinguish Catholic truth from heresy.*

Preface of a Saint

Saint Aldhelm, Abbot of Malmesbury, Bishop of Sherborne

[May 25]

:: *Aldhelm (c. 639–709) was Abbot of Malmesbury and the first Bishop of Sherborne, when that diocese was separated from the diocese of Winchester. Aldhelm wrote a considerable amount of poetry and prose, including some poems in Old English.*

The Collect

O GOD, who hast made man's lips to extol thee, and acceptest the art of his hand and voice: We praise thee for the example of thy servant Aldhelm as a leader of the minds of men and a sweet singer of the divine praises: beseeching thee to continue to the Church in this land a full supply of saintly men, skilled as in Christian learning, so also in works of beauty and sacred song; to the glory of thy holy name in Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast formed man's lips and hands to minister to thy praise: We thank thee for thy servant Aldhelm, whose ministry brought many souls to thee; beseeching thee to continue a full supply of saintly men, skilled as in Christian learning so also in sacred song, to the glory of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Ephesians 5:18–20. ♦♦

BE not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

WHO then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

¶ *Or this:*

WHEN he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest. And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples. And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.

Preface of Pentecost or of a Bishop

The Venerable Bede of Jarrow, Doctor

[May 25]

:: Bede (672/73–735) was a Benedictine monk at the Monkwearmouth-Jarrow Abbey in Tyne and Wear, England. (Monkwearmouth-Jarrow is a double house, comprising Saint Peter's, Monkwearmouth, on the River Wear, and Saint Paul's, Jarrow, on the River Tyne.) Bede is noted for his Ecclesiastical History of the English People, and for his work on the computus, the science of calculating calendar dates, in particular the date of Easter. He also popularized the practice of dating forward from the birth of Christ (anno Domini). May 26 is the date of Bede's death. Because this is the commemoration of Augustine of Canterbury, Western Churches generally commemorate him on May 25. The Orthodox Church commemorates him on May 27, as did the GRC from 1899 to 1969 (to avoid a conflict with Gregory VII on May 25).

The Collect

GRANT, O Lord, we beseech thee, that, as the Venerable Bede, living his whole life in retirement from the world, never ceased his diligence in prayer and study: So we, laying aside all discontent and idleness, may cheerfully perform the work which thou givest us to do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the light of our fathers, the rock of their whole strength: Grant us, with thy servant Saint Bede, all diligence to study the noble works thou didst in their days, that we may discern and trust thy power in our own; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast enriched thy Church with the singular learning and holiness of thy servant Bede: Grant us to hold fast the true doctrine of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and to fashion our lives according to the same, to the glory of thy great Name and the benefit of thy holy Church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

HEAVENLY Father, who didst call thy servant Bede, while still a child, to devote his life to thy service in the disciplines of religion and scholarship: Grant that as he laboured in the Spirit to bring the riches of thy truth to his generation, so we, in our various vocations, may strive to make thee known in all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast enriched thy Church with the learning and holiness of thy servant Bede: Grant us to find in Scripture and disciplined prayer the image of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and to fashion our lives according to his likeness, to the glory of thy great Name and the benefit of thy holy Church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Isaiah 63:7–9. ♦♦

I WILL mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and

the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses. For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour. In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.

The Gospel. John 20:30–31. ♦♦

MANY other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: but these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Malachi 3: 16–18. ♦

THEN they that feared the LORD spake one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. Then once more shall ye discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Wisdom 7:15–22. ☒♦

GOD hath granted me to speak as I would, and to conceive as is meet for the things that are given me: because it is he that leadeth unto wisdom, and directeth the wise. For in his hand are both we and our words; all wisdom also, and knowledge of workmanship. For he hath given me certain knowledge of the things that are, namely, to know how the world was made, and the operation of the elements: The

beginning, ending, and midst of the times: the alterations of the turning of the sun, and the change of seasons: The circuits of years, and the positions of stars: The natures of living creatures, and the furies of wild beasts: the violence of winds, and the reasonings of men: the diversities of plants and the virtues of roots: And all such things as are either secret or manifest, them I know. For wisdom, which is the worker of all things, taught me: for in her is an understanding spirit holy, one only, manifold, subtil, lively, clear, undefiled, plain, not subject to hurt, loving the thing that is good quick, which cannot be letted, ready to do good.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ◇ ☒ ◇

JESUS said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them. Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of a Doctor

Saint Urban I, Bishop of Rome

[May 25]

:: *Urban I (d. 230) was Bishop of Rome during the generally peaceful reign of Emperor Alexander Severus. His predecessor, Callixtus I, had been martyred, but modern consensus is that Urban died of natural causes, not martyrdom.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Gregory VII, Bishop of Rome

[May 25]

:: *Gregory VII (c. 1015–1085) was one of the great reforming popes, whose dispute with Henry IV, the Holy Roman Emperor, led to his excommunicating the emperor no less than three times. The Investiture Controversy, as it was called, centred on the primacy of papal authority and the new canon law governing the election of the pope by the College of Cardinals.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Augustine, First Archbishop of Canterbury, Apostle to the English

[May 26]

:: *Augustine of Canterbury (d. 604) was the first Archbishop of Canterbury, and the “Apostle to the English”, having been sent by Pope Gregory the Great on a mission to Britain to convert King Æthelberht of Kent.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who of thy tender mercy didst send thy servant Augustine to preach the Gospel to our fathers: Grant to us their children both to follow the holy doctrine which he taught, and with courage and love to declare thy name unto the heathen; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst strengthen Saint Augustine to bring the English people, by his travail, unto the faith and grace of Christ: Grant to thy servants in this age a like courage that, by the pure witness of faith and well-doing, thy knowledge and Name may be enlarged upon the earth; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who in thy providence didst choose thy servant Augustine to be an apostle to the people of England, to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of thee: Grant us so to walk in that light, that we may come

at last to the light of everlasting life; through the merits of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD our God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst call thy servant Augustine to preach the Gospel to the English people: We pray that all whom thou dost call and send may do thy will, bide thy time, and see thy glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇(☒)

The Epistle. Philippians 2:12–16. ◇◇

WHEREFORE, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and disputings: that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

The Gospel. Luke 10:1–9. ◇◇

AFTER these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking

such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: and heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 5:17–20. ◇ ☒

IF any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; to wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:31–33. ◇

ANOTHER parable put Jesus forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof. Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened. All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Luke 5:1–11. ☒

AND it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon Jesus to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, and saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them,

and were washing their nets. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship. Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: and so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men. And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

John Calvin, Reformer

[May 26]

:: *John Calvin (1509–1564) was a French theologian, pastor, and reformer in Geneva during the Protestant Reformation. Calvin provided shelter to exiles who fled England during the reign of Mary Tudor. Calvin was a significant influence on English divines such as Martin Bucer, Peter Martyr, and Jan Laski, and Scottish divine John Knox. May 27 is the date of Calvin's death; various jurisdictions transfer his commemoration either to May 26 (the Church of England) or to May 28 (the Episcopal Church), to avoid a conflict with the Venerable Bede.*

Propers of a Saint

Philip Neri, Confessor

[May 26]

:: *Philip Neri (1515–1595) was a priest and the founder of a society of secular clergy called the Congregation of the Oratory.*

Propers of a Confessor

Saint Bertha (Adelberga) and Saint Ethelbert (Æthelberht), Queen and King of Kent

[May 27]

:: *Bertha (c. 565–601 or after) and Ethelbert (c. 550–616) were Queen and King of Kent. Ethelbert was the first English king to convert to Christianity. His wife was the Christian daughter of Charibert, King of the Franks, and it may have been her influence which led to Pope Gregory I's decision to send Augustine as a missionary to England. February 24 is the date of Ethelbert's death, but he is commemorated on his own on February 25 to avoid a conflict with Matthias. The date of Bertha's death is unknown.*

Propers of a Monarch

Saint Lanfranc, Prior of Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury

[May 28]

:: *Lanfranc (1005/10–1089) was an Italian jurist who renounced his career to become a Benedictine monk. He served as prior of Bec Abbey, and later as Archbishop of Canterbury following the conquest of England by William the Conqueror. May 24 is the date of Lanfranc's death, but when his commemoration was added to the kalendar after the Council of Trent, it was assigned to May 28.*

Propers of a Bishop

The Restoration of King Charles II

[May 29]

:: *Charles II (1630–1685) was received in London on May 29, 1660, his thirtieth birthday, after the death of Oliver Cromwell and the fall of the English Commonwealth. Charles re-established the Church of England; the Act of Uniformity 1662 made the use of the Book of Common Prayer compulsory.*

Propers of a Monarch

Saint Joan of Arc, Martyr

[May 30]

:: *Joan of Arc (1412–1431) was a military leader during the Lancastrian phase of the Hundred Years' War. She was tried for heresy and burned at the stake. May 30 is the date of Joan's death. Some jurisdictions commemorate her on May 11. The French civic holiday in her honour is the second Sunday in May. Joan is one of the nine secondary patron saints of France (the others being the Archangel Michael, Denis, Martin of Tours, King Louis IX, Remi, Thérèse de Lisieux, Petronilla, and Radegund; the Virgin Mary is the primary patron saint).*

The Collect

O GOD, who didst endue thy servant Saint Joan with singular courage to withstand her enemies in the evil day: Grant us grace

that, enduring hardness and waxing valiant in fight, we may with her receive the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. ♦

For the Epistle. Wisdom 8:9–15. ♦

I PURPOSED to take wisdom to me to live with me, knowing that she would be a counsellor of good things, and a comfort in cares and grief. For her sake I shall have estimation among the multitude, and honour with the elders, though I be young. I shall be found of a quick conceit in judgment, and shall be admired in the sight of great men. When I hold my tongue, they shall bide my leisure, and when I speak, they shall give good ear unto me: if I talk much, they shall lay their hands upon their mouth. Moreover by the means of her I shall obtain immortality, and leave behind me an everlasting memorial to them that come after me. I shall set the people in order, and the nations shall be subject unto me. Horrible tyrants shall be afraid, when they do but hear of me; I shall be found good among the multitude, and valiant in war.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:24–27. ♦

THEN said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Propers of a Martyr

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elisabeth

[May 31]

See July 2.

Saint Petronilla

[May 31]

:: *Petronilla (1st or 3rd century) was an early Roman martyr. Her fictitious 6th-century Acta describes her as a daughter of Peter, who refused marriage to a Count Flaccus; he threatened to have her killed, but she died after three days' fasting.*

Propers of a Saint

The First Book of Common Prayer

[A Weekday following Whitsunday]

:: *The first Book of Common Prayer was introduced on Whitsunday, June 9, 1549. This event is commemorated on a weekday following Whitsunday. LFF63 fixes the commemoration on June 10. Archbishop Cranmer himself is sometimes included in the commemoration.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who didst guide thy servant Thomas Cranmer, with others, to render the worship of thy Church in a language understood of the people: Make us ever thankful for this our heritage, and help us so to pray in the Spirit and with the understanding also, that we may worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, whose servant Thomas Cranmer, with others did restore the language of the people in the prayers of thy Church: Make us always thankful for this heritage; and help us so to pray in the Spirit and with the understanding, that we may worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. Acts 2:38–42. ♦ ☒

THEN Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and

to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying. Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

The Gospel. Matthew 6:5–15. ◇

WHEN thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask them. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: but if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. John 4:21–24. ☒

JESUS saith unto the woman of Samaria, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at

Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Preface of the Holy Spirit

Saint Justin Martyr

[June 1]

:: Justin (100–165) was an early Christian apologist and a foremost exponent of the Divine Word or Logos. He started a school in Rome during the reign of Antoninus Pius. He was denounced during the reign of Marcus Aurelius, tried by the prefect Junius Rusticus, and beheaded. The Byzantine Church has commemorated Justin on June 1 since at least the 9th century. He was commemorated on April 14 (the day after his death) in the GRC between 1882 and 1969, but it was restored to the June date to avoid conflicts with Easter observances. Note that the saint is most commonly referred to as “Justin Martyr”, rather than “Justin, Martyr at Rome”.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who didst call Saint Justin Martyr to bear open witness to the certainty of those things wherein he had been instructed: Make us fearless to contend for the faith once for all delivered to thy Church, and sealed by the death of her Saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst give thy servant Justin boldness to confess the Name of our Saviour Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we likewise may ever be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for his sake; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst find thy martyr Justin wandering from teacher to teacher, seeking the true God, and didst reveal to him the sublime wisdom of thine eternal Word: Grant that all who seek thee, or a deeper knowledge of thee, may find and be

found by thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

O God, who hast given thy Church wisdom and revealed deep and secret things: Grant that we, like thy servant Justin and in union with his prayers, may find thy Word an abiding refuge all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ, who with the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth with thee, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who through the foolishness of the Cross didst marvellously teach blessed Justin Martyr the excellent knowledge of Jesus Christ: Grant, at his intercession, that repelling the errors which beset us, we may attain unto steadfastness in the faith; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* μ

The Epistle. 1 Peter 4:13. ♦

DEARLY beloved: Rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

THERE is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops. And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

IF ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

¶ *Or this:*

FOR the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: but we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

JESUS cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

Saint Nicomede, Martyr at Rome

[June 1]

:: *Nicomede (Nicomedes) was a martyr in ancient Rome. September 15 is the presumed date of his death, and June 1 is the date of the dedication of his church. Both dates were included in the Sarum Rite kalendar, but only the June date was carried over as a lesser holy day (black-letter day) in the Book of Common Prayer.*

Proprs of a Martyr

The Martyrs of Lyons

[June 2]

:: *In 177, a small company of Christians was living under the guidance of Pothinus, the elderly Bishop of Lyons, when persecutions resumed. Various members of the company were subjected to various torments, and the remainder were subjected to a spectacle in the amphitheater. Blandina, a slave, was the last to succumb to the torments.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, with whom thy meek ones go forth as the mighty: Grant us so to cherish the memory of thy blessed martyrs Blandina and her companions, that we may share their pure and steadfast faith in thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

GRANT, O Lord, we beseech thee, that we who keep the feast of the holy martyrs Blandina and her companions may be rooted and grounded in love of thee, and may endure the sufferings of this life for the glory that shall be revealed in us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. I Peter 1: 3–9. ♦ ☒

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye

greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:24–27. ♦

THEN said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Mark 8:34–38. ☒

WHEN Jesus had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Preface of a Martyr

Saint Erasmus (Elmo) of Formia, Martyr, Holy Helper

[June 2]

:: *Erasmus (d. c. 303) was Bishop of Formia. He was tried and tortured at Antioch before Emperor Diocletian, but he managed to escape. He was then arrested and tried by Emperor Maximian (co-emperor with Diocletian), and subjected to additional tortures which eventually brought about his death. He is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.*

Propers of a Martyr

The Martyrs of Uganda

[June 3]

:: *The Martyrs of Uganda (d. 1885–87) were a group of Anglican and Roman converts in the historical kingdom of Buganda (now Uganda), who were killed on orders of the King. June 3 marks the end of a spate of executions (May 25 through June 3) in 1886, but there were a total of 45 converts who were martyred between 1885 and 1887. Some jurisdictions commemorate the Ugandan Martyrs on October 29, the date of the execution in 1885 of James Hannington, Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who didst call thy faithful servants James Hannington and his companions to be witnesses and martyrs in the land of Africa, and by their labours and suffering didst raise up a people for thine own possession: Shed forth, we beseech thee, thy Holy Spirit upon thy Church in all lands, that by the sacrifice and service of many, thy holy Name may be glorified and thy blessed kingdom enlarged; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, by whose providence the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church: Grant that we who remember before thee the blessed martyrs of Uganda, may, like them, be steadfast in our faith in Jesus Christ, to whom they gave obedience, even to death, and by their sacrifice brought forth a plentiful harvest; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒♦

CALL to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used. For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:9–14. ✠✧

THEN shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Preface of Holy Week

Saint Petroc, Abbot of Padstow

[June 4]

:: Petroc (d. c. 564) was a British prince who became Abbot of Padstow. He founded a monastery and school at the mouth of the river Camel on the north Cornish coast. It came to be called Petrocs-Stow (Petroc's Place), now Padstow.

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Boniface, Bishop of Mainz, Martyr

[June 5]

:: *Boniface (c. 675–754) was an Anglo-Saxon missionary who was made Archbishop of Mainz by Pope Gregory III. He helped organize and regulate the Frankish Church, earning him the title “Apostle to the Germans”. He and his retinue were slain by a group of armed robbers during a mission to Frisia.*

The Collect

O LORD Jesu Christ, who callest to thee whom thou willest, and sendest them whither thou dost choose: We thank thee for calling thy servant Boniface to preach the Gospel to the Northern people, and to lay down his life for the faith; and we humbly pray thee to raise up among us those who will go forth to destroy the strongholds of idolatry and build up thy Church in heathen lands; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦(♦)

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst call thy faithful servant Boniface to be a witness and martyr in the land of Germany, and by his labours and suffering didst raise up a people for thine own possession: Shed forth, we beseech thee, thy Holy Spirit upon thy Church in all lands, that by the sacrifice and service of many, thy holy Name may be glorified and thy blessed kingdom enlarged; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ♦(✠)

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 4:5–10. ♦♦

FOR we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. We are troubled on every side, yet

not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:16–23. ♦♦

BEHOLD, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; and ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved. But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Acts 20:18–28. ♦ ☒

YE know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: and how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not

knowing the things that shall befall me there: save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify The Gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

The Gospel. Matthew 28:16–20. ♦

THEN the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Luke 24:44–53. ☒

JESUS said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, and said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his

name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

Preface of a Bishop

Saint Norbert, Archbishop of Magdeburg

[June 6]

:: Norbert of Xanten (c. 1074–1134) led a hedonistic life as a young man, but he became more devout after a near-fatal accident while riding his horse (in a scenario much like that of Paul’s conversion, a thunderbolt struck at his horse’s feet, and Norbert was thrown to the ground, where he lay unconscious for nearly an hour). He founded the Premonstratensian order of canons regular, and he was appointed Archbishop of Magdeburg by Pope Honorius II.

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Ephrem of Edessa, Deacon, Hymn Writer, Doctor

[June 9]

:: Ephrem (c. 306–373) was a prolific Syriac-language hymnographer and theologian. Ephrem died of the plague while ministering to its victims. June 9 is the date of Ephrem’s death. In the Byzantine Church he is commemorated on January 28. From 1920 to 1969 he was commemorated on June 18 in the GRC. In some jurisdictions he is commemorated on June 10.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who hast enriched thy Church with the singular learning and holiness of thy Deacon Ephrem: Grant us to hold fast the true doctrine of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and to fashion our lives according to the same, to the glory of thy great Name and the benefit of thy holy Church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

POUR out upon us, O Lord, that same Spirit by which thy deacon Ephrem rejoiced to proclaim in sacred song the mysteries of faith;

and so gladden our hearts that we, like him, may be devoted to thee alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒(◇)

For the Epistle. Proverbs 3:1–7. ☒◇

MY son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: so shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ☒◇

JESUS saith: the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of a Saint or of a Doctor

Saint Columba, Abbot of Iona

[June 9]

:: Columba (521–597) was an Irish abbot and missionary who played an important role in the spreading of Christianity in Scotland. He founded Iona Abbey on an island in the Inner Hebrides, and he is believed to be the author of several Latin hymns. In Irish his name is Colm Cille, and in Scots Gaelic, Calum Cille, both meaning “church dove”.

The Collect

UPLIFT us, O Lord, by the Holy Spirit to glorify us in thy Saints with a thankful remembrance of Saint Columba, Apostle of Scotland: That we, who have received from our fathers the age-long tradition of faith and piety, may continue firm in our loyalty to thee, and be carried along the heavenly way to the promised home of the blessed, where though livest and reignest with our Saviour and the same Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose providence thy servant Saint Columba proclaimed in the British Isles the truth of thy salvation: We beseech thee in all thy mercy to keep us steadfast in this faith, and to order our days in thy holy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by the preaching of thy blessed servant Columba didst cause the light of the Gospel to shine in Scotland: Grant, we beseech thee that, having his life and labours in remembrance, we may show our thankfulness to thee by following the example of his zeal and patience; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒(◇)

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 4:1–5. ◇◇

I CHARGE thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will

come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

The Gospel. Mark 6:30–34. ♦

THE apostles gathered themselves together unto Jesus, and told him all things, both what they had done, and what they had taught. And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat. And they departed into a desert place by ship privately. And the people saw them departing, and many knew him, and ran afoot thither out of all cities, and outwent them, and came together unto him. And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Matthew 28:16–20. ♦

THEN the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 3:11–23. ☒♦

FOR other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold,

silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain. Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

The Gospel. Luke 10:17–20. ✠✧

THE seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Barnabas the Apostle

[June 11]

:: Barnabas was one of Paul's companions, and he participated with Paul in the Council of Jerusalem. Tradition holds that he was martyred at Salamis, Cyprus, and he is traditionally identified as the founder of the Cypriot Orthodox Church.

O LORD God Almighty, who didst endue thy holy Apostle Barnabas with singular gifts of the Holy Ghost: Leave us not, we beseech thee, destitute of thy manifold gifts, nor yet of grace to use them alway to thy honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

For the Epistle. Acts 11:22–30. §†

TIDINGS of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord. Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch. And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judæa: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

The Gospel. John 15:12–16. §†

THIS is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his Lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. Ye

have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my Name, he may give it you.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Ternan, Bishop in Scotland

[June 12]

:: *Ternan (5th century?) was one of the pioneering missionaries in Scotland. He is known as the “Bishop of the Picts”. He established a small monastery in Banchory, a town in Aberdeenshire, Scotland.*

Propers of a bishop

Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest, Friar, Doctor

[June 13]

:: *Anthony of Padua (1195–1231) was a Portuguese priest and friar of the Franciscan Order. Born in Lisbon, he was renowned as a preacher. When he was appointed Provincial superior of the Franciscans in northern Italy, he took up residence in Padua.*

The Collect

O GOD, who didst endow thy servant Anthony with clarity of faith and holiness of life: Grant us, we beseech thee, to keep with steadfast minds the faith which he taught, and in his fellowship to be made partakers of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* **Δ**

For the Epistle. Isaiah 61:1–3. Δ

THE Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; to appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the

garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

The Gospel. Luke 10:1–9. ▲

AFTER these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: and heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.

Propers of a Doctor

G. K. Chesterton, Apologist and Writer

[June 13]

:: Gilbert Keith Chesterton (1874–1936) was a writer, philosopher, and lay theologian. Known best for his short stories about Father Brown, Chesterton also wrote theological works such as *Orthodoxy* and *The Everlasting Man*. His 1906 biography of Charles Dickens was largely responsible for a resurgence of interest in that author's works.

Propers of a Saint

**Saint Basil the Great of Caesarea,
Bishop in Cappadocia, Doctor**

[June 14]

:: Basil (330–379) was the Bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia, Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey). He was an influential theologian and proponent of the Nicene Creed. He is one of the Cappadocian fathers, along with Gregory of Nazianzus and Gregory of Nyssa. June 14 is the date of Basil's consecration, and it is the date used by the Episcopal Church, and the GRC from the 13th century until 1969. The Anglican Church and the modern GRC use January 2, the date of Basil's death. (Gregory of Nazianzus is also commemorated on that date.) Basil and Gregory, along with John Chrysostom, are commemorated on January 30, the Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs.

The Collect

GRANT, O Lord, that as through thy servant Basil thou hast enabled thy Church to grow in the knowledge of thy Holy Spirit: So we may learn the hidden mysteries which through the selfsame Spirit, thou revealest, and speak them forth to others with his holy wisdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, whose precepts are the wisdom of a loving Father: Enable us, after the teaching and example of thy servant Saint Basil, to walk as one family in the excellent paths of obedience, that thy blessing may prosper the works of our hands, and thine ears be open unto our prayers; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY, everlasting God, whose servant Basil steadfastly confessed thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to be Very God and Very Man: Grant that we may hold fast to this faith, and evermore magnify his holy Name; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast revealed to thy Church thine eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace that, like thy bishop Basil of Caesarea, we may

continue stedfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of thee, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; who livest and reignest for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒◆▲

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 2:6–13. ◆◆ ☒◆▲

HOWBEIT we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: but we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the world unto our glory: which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, Neither have entered into the heart of man, The things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

The Gospel. Mark 10:23–31. ◆◆

JESUS looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. And they were astonished out of measure, saying among themselves, Who then can be saved? And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee. And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, but he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life. But many that are first shall be last; and the last first.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Luke 10:22–24. ☒☒

JESUS said, All things are delivered to me of my Father; and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him. And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: for I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

Preface of Trinity Sunday

Evelyn Underhill, Spiritual Writer

[June 15]

:: *Evelyn Underhill (1875–1941) was a writer known for her numerous works on spiritual practice and Christian mysticism. Her magnum opus is *Mysticism: A Study of the Nature and Development of Man's Spiritual Consciousness*.*

The Collect

O GOD, Origin, Sustainer, and End of all creatures: Grant that thy Church, taught by thy servant Evelyn Underhill, may continually offer to thee all glory and thanksgiving, and attain with thy saints to the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast promised us by our Saviour Jesus Christ; who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* ☒☒

FOR wisdom is more moving than any motion: she passeth and goeth through all things by reason of her pureness. For she is the breath of the power of God, and a pure influence flowing from the glory of the Almighty: therefore can no defiled thing fall into her. For she is the brightness of the everlasting light, the unspotted mirror of the power of God, and the image of his goodness. And being but one, she can do all things: and remaining in herself, she maketh all things new: and in all ages entering into holy souls, she maketh them friends of God, and prophets. For God loveth none but him that dwelleth with wisdom. For she is more beautiful than the sun, and above all the order of stars: being compared with the light, she is found before it. For after this cometh night: but vice shall not prevail against wisdom. Wisdom reacheth from one end to another mightily: and sweetly doth she order all things.

THE woman of Samaria saith unto Jesus, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Saint Vitus (Guy), Martyr, Holy Helper

[June 15]

:: *Vitus (c. 290–c. 303) was a young boy from southern Italy who refused his father’s attempts to force him to renounce his faith. He survived various tortures ordered by Emperor Diocletian, but he eventually died of his injuries. There seems to be no explanation why he is also known as “Guy”. Vitus is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.*

Propers of a Martyr

Joseph Butler and George Berkeley, Bishops and Theologians

[June 16]

:: *Joseph Butler (1692–1752) was a theologian, apologist, and philosopher. He was Bishop of Bristol and Dean of St Paul’s (simultaneously) before becoming Bishop of Durham. His most significant work is *Analogy of Religion, Natural and Revealed*, which was an argument against deism. George Berkeley (1685–1753) was an Irish philosopher and cleric. He lived for a while in Middletown, near Newport, Rhode Island, and he founded a college in Bermuda training ministers and missionaries. He ended his career as Bishop of Cloyne in the Church of Ireland. June 16 is the date of Butler’s death. Berkeley died on January 14. Some jurisdictions commemorate both bishops on Butler’s dies natalis. The following collect originally commemorated Butler only.*

The Collect

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servants Joseph Butler and George Berkeley: Enrich us evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses who by they life and doctrine will set forth the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by thy Holy spirit dost give to some the word of wisdom, to others the word of knowledge, and to other the word of faith: We praise thy Name for the gifts of grace manifested in thy servant Joseph Butler, and we pray that thy Church may never be destitute of such gifts; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ☒

WHEREFORE I prayed, and understanding was given me: I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her before sceptres and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. Neither compared I unto her any precious stone, because all gold in respect of her is as a little sand, and silver shall be counted as clay before her. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light: for the light that cometh from her never goeth out. All good things together came to me with her, and innumerable riches in her hands. And I rejoiced in them all, because wisdom goeth before them: and I knew not that she was the mother of them. I learned diligently, and do communicate her liberally: I do not hide her riches. For she is a treasure unto men that never faileth: which they that use become the friends of God, being commended for the gifts that come from learning.

The Gospel. Luke 10:25–28. ☒

BEHOLD, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live

Propers of a Doctor or of a Bishop

Saint Botolph (Botwulf), Abbot

[June 17]

:: Botolph of Thorney (d. 680) was an English abbot who founded a monastery in Suffolk. The town of Boston, Lincolnshire, was originally named after him: “Botolphston”, meaning either “Botolph’s stone” or “Botolph’s town”. This name was carried over to Boston, Massachusetts. In Scotland, Botolph is commemorated on June 25; his translation is December 1.

The Translation of Edward, King and Martyr

[June 20]

:: *Edward (c. 962–978) was supported in his claim to the throne by Archbishop Dunstan of Canterbury and Archbishop Oswald of York. His veneration derives from the miracles said to have occurred after his assassination. As of the 13th century, he was also commemorated on June 20, the date of his translation in 1001. The Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia commemorates an additional translation on September 3, the date the saint's relics passed into their possession.*

Propers of a Monarch

Saint Alban, Proto-Martyr of England

[June 22]

:: *Alban (d. 209, or c. 251, or 304) was the first British martyr. Along with Julius and Aaron, he was beheaded in the Roman city of Verulamium (modern-day St Albans).*

The Collect

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that as at the beginning of the conversion of this land Saint Alban did gloriously confirm the faith by winning a martyr's crown: So in these latter days there may never be lacking those who for Christ's sake love not their lives unto the death; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, in whose sight the death of thy saints is precious, and who gavest grace to thy blessed Martyr Saint Alban to glorify thee by his death: Grant that we, following his faith and constancy, may receive with him the crown of righteousness laid up for them that love thy Son's appearing; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALmighty God, by whose grace and power thy holy martyr Alban triumphed over suffering, and despised death: Grant, we beseech thee, that enduring hardness, and waxing valiant in fight, we may with the noble army of martyrs receive the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power thy holy martyr Alban triumphed over suffering and was faithful even unto death: Grant us, who now remember him with thanksgiving, to be so faithful in our witness to thee in this world, that we may receive with him the crown of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒(◇)

The Epistle. 1 Peter 1:3–9. ◇

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:19–22. ◇

WHEN they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

WHEN the righteous fled from his brother's wrath, wisdom guided him in right paths, shewed him the kingdom of God, and gave him knowledge of holy things, made him rich in his travels, and multiplied the fruit of his labours. In the covetousness of such as oppressed him she stood by him, and made him rich. She defended him from his enemies, and kept him safe from those that lay in wait, and in a sore conflict she gave him the victory; that he might know that goodness is stronger than all. When the righteous was sold, she forsook him not, but delivered him from sin: she went down with him into the pit, And left him not in bonds, till she brought him the sceptre of the kingdom, and power against those that oppressed him: as for them that had accused him, she shewed them to be liars, and gave him perpetual glory.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:24–27. ♦

THEN said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 John 3:13–16. ✠✧

MARVEL not, my brethren, if the world hate you. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. Hereby perceive we the love of God, because

he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:34–42. ☒◇

THINK not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Etheldreda (Æthelthryth), Queen and Abbess of Ely [June 23]

See October 17.

Saint Paulinus of Nola, Bishop [June 23]

:: Paulinus (354–431) was a Roman writer and senator who was suffect consul and governor of Campania. However, after the assassination of Emperor Gratian, he abandoned his career and became a Christian. After the death of his wife Therasia of Nola (who was already a Christian), he became Bishop of Nola in Campania. He is credited with introducing bells into Christian worship; he also helped resolve the disputed election of Pope Boniface I. June 22 is the date of Paulinus's death, but his commemoration is transferred to June 23 to avoid a conflict with Alban.

The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

[June 24]

:: This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles. The date is determined by the dates established for the Annunciation and the Nativity.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, by whose providence thy servant John Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of they Son our Saviour, by preaching of repentance: Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and after his example constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

For the Epistle. Isaiah 40:1–11. §†

COMFORT ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be

not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

The Gospel. Luke 1:57–80. §†

ELISABETH'S full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son. And her neighbours and her cousins heard how the Lord had shewed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her. And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father. And his mother answered and said, Not so; but he shall be called John. And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name. And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called. And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is John. And they marvelled all. And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God. And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judæa. And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, What manner of child shall this be! And the hand of the Lord was with him. And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; The oath which he sware to our father Abraham, That he would grant unto us,

that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life. And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

Preface of Advent

Saint Moluag, Bishop of Lismore

[June 25]

:: *Moluag (c. 510-592) was an Irish missionary to Scotland and a contemporary of Columba. He evangelized the Picts, and founded monasteries on the Isle of Lismore, and at Rosemarkie and Mortlach, which later became the sees of the Isles, Ross, and Aberdeen.*

Propers of a Bishop

Robert Leighton, Bishop

[June 26]

:: *Robert Leighton (1611–1684) was a Scottish prelate and scholar. He was Bishop of Dunblane and later Archbishop of Glasgow.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop, Doctor

[June 27]

:: *Cyril (c. 376–444) was Patriarch of Alexandria and a prolific writer. June 27 is the date of Cyril's death, as observed by the Coptic Orthodox Church. His commemoration was only added to the General Roman Calendar in 1882, at which time it was fixed on February 9. The 1969 GRC moved his feast to June 27, to align with eastern tradition.*

Propers of a Doctor or of a Bishop

Saint Irenæus, Bishop of Lyons, Teacher of the Faith

[June 28]

:: *Irenæus (c. 130–c. 202) was a Greek missionary born in Smyrna (now İzmir, Turkey) who worked in southern France. He was appointed Bishop of Lugdunum (now Lyon), and he was the author of a number of works, most notably Against Heresies, an attack against gnosticism.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who of old through thy servant Irenæus didst hand on the faith and extend thy Church: Keep it true to the apostolical tradition and fervent to win new peoples for thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servant Saint Irenæus: Enrich it evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses, who by their life and doctrine may set forth to all men the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst uphold thy servant Irenæus with strength to maintain the truth against every blast of vain doctrine: Keep us, we beseech thee, stedfast in thy true religion, that in constancy and peace we may walk in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ♦ ☒

The Epistle. Malachi 2:5–7. ♦

MY covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name. The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity. For the priest's lips should keep knowledge,

and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ♦

JESUS saith: the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5. ♦

DEARLY beloved: Continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; and that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn

away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:28–33. ♦

JESUS said: Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 2:22b–26. ♦ ☒

FOLLOW righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes. And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

The Gospel. Luke 11:33–36. ♦ ☒

NO man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light. The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness. Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness. If thy whole body

therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.

Preface of Epiphany

**Saint Peter the Apostle
(Saint Peter and Saint Paul)**

[June 29]

:: Peter is one of the original twelve disciples. Long-standing tradition was for Peter and Paul to receive ancillary commemorations on the major commemorations of the other saint. But modern practice is for Paul to be commemorated equally with Peter on this date (i.e., as the Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul).

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst give to thy Apostle Saint Peter many excellent gifts, and commandest him earnestly to feed thy flock: Make, we beseech thee, all Bishops and Pastors diligently to preach thy holy Word, and the people obediently to follow the same, that they may receive the crown of everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

¶ *Or this, including the commemoration of Saint Paul:*

A LMIGHTY God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified thee by their martyrdom: Grant that thy Church, instructed by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by thy Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, which is Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ‡

For the Epistle. Acts 12:1–11. §†

A BOUT that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.) And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending

after Easter to bring him forth to the people. Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands. And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me. And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision. When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him. And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:13–19. §†

WHEN Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt

bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

¶ *Or for the co-commemoration of Saint Paul:*

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 4:1–8. ‡

I CHARGE thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Ezekiel 34:11–16. ‡

THUS saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed

upon the mountains of Israel. I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord GOD. I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

The Gospel. John 21:15–19. ‡

SO when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Corpus Christi

[The Thursday after Trinity Sunday]

:: The feast of Corpus Christi was proposed by Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274) in order to create a feast focused solely on the Holy Eucharist, free of the sombre atmosphere of Maundy Thursday, which commemorates the establishment of the Holy Eucharist in the context of the Passion of Christ.

The Collect

O LORD Jesu Christ, who in a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of thy passion: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to

venerate the sacred mysteries of thy Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* †µ

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 11:23–29. µ

BRETHREN: I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

The Gospel. John 6:55–58. µ

AT that time: Jesus said unto the multitudes of the Jews: My flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.

The Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ

[July 1]

:: *This feast originated in Spain in the 16th century, and is a reminder of the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus.*

ALMIGHTY everlasting God, who didst ordain thine only-begotten Son to be the Redeemer of the world, and didst will to be reconciled unto us by his Blood: grant us, we beseech thee, so to venerate with solemn worship the price of our salvation, and so to be defended by its virtue from the evils of this present life upon earth, that we may enjoy the everlasting fruit thereof in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ρ

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst appoint thine only-begotten Son to be the Redeemer of the world, and didst vouchsafe to be appeased by his Blood: Grant, we beseech thee, that by our solemn service, we may so venerate the Price of our redemption, and by its power be so defended from the evils of this present life on earth, that we may enjoy its fruit for evermore in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ρ

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by the Precious Blood of thine only-begotten Son hast redeemed the whole world, preserve in us the work of thy mercy, so that, ever honouring the mystery of our salvation, we may merit to obtain its fruits; through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ρ

The Epistle. Hebrews 9:11-15. ρ

CHRISt being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of

goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

The Gospel. John 19:30–35a. μ

AT that time: when Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: but one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true.

Saint Julius and Saint Aaron of Caerleon, Martyrs

[July 1]

:: Julius and Aaron (both d. 304) were citizens of Caerleon who were martyred during the same persecutions which claimed Alban, proto-martyr of England. Some jurisdictions commemorate them on June 22 with Alban.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power thy holy Martyrs Julius and Aaron triumphed over suffering, and despised death: Grant, we beseech thee, that enduring hardness, and waxing valiant in fight, we may with them receive the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

THE souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, And their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself. As gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign for ever.

BEWARE ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. There is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops. And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God.

Henry Venn, John Venn, and Henry Venn the Younger, Priests, Evangelical Divines

[July 1]

:: *Henry Venn (1725–1797) was an English evangelical minister and one of the founders of the Clapham Sect, an influential evangelical group within the Church of England. His son John (1759–1813), rector of Clapham, followed in his footsteps as a priest and a proponent of the Clapham Sect. Henry the younger (1796–1873) continued the family tradition of entering the priesthood and supporting the Clapham Sect. He was also a founding member of the Church Missionary Society. (His son John was a logician and philosopher, and the inventor of the Venn diagram.) The date of their commemoration is the date of John's dies natalis.*

Propers of a Saint

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

[July 2]

:: *This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles. July 2 is the ancient commemoration of the Visitation, dating from 1389. In 1969, the commemoration was moved to May 31, to provide a better story flow between the Annunciation (March 25) and the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (June 24).*

The Collect

O GOD, who didst lead the Blessed Virgin Mary to visit Elisabeth, to their exceeding joy and comfort: Grant unto thy people, that as Mary did rejoice to be called the Mother of the Lord, so they may ever rejoice to believe the incarnation of thine only-begotten Son; to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.* ✠✠(✠)

¶ *Or this:*

FATHER in heaven, by whose grace the virgin Mother of thine incarnate Son was blessed in bearing him, but still more blessed in keeping thy word: Grant us who honour the exaltation of her lowliness to follow the example of her devotion to thy will; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ✠

¶ *Or this:*

O CHRIST, our God Incarnate, whose virgin Mother was blessed in bearing thee, but still more blessed in keeping thy word: Grant

us, who honour the exaltation of her lowliness, to follow the example of her devotion to thy will; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* 6

For the Epistle. 1 Samuel 2:1–3. ♦♦

MY heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation. There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Zechariah 2:10–13. ♦

SING and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD. And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee. And the LORD shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again. Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

The Gospel. Luke 1:39–47. ♦♦♦

MARY arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; and entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth. And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: and she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things

which were told her from the Lord. And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

Preface of Our Lady

Saint Peblig (Publicius), Confessor

[July 3]

:: *Peblig (b. c. 363–early 5th century) was the third son of Magnus Maximus (Macsen Wledig), emperor of the western portion of the Roman Empire (Britain, Gaul, and Spain), and Elen (Helen), a founder of churches in Wales. Peblig established the church of Llanbeblig just outside the town of Caernarfon, serving as abbot until his death. He is said, along with his mother and brother Cystennin, to have introduced into Wales the Celtic form of monasticism established originally in Gaul.*

Propers of a Confessor

The Translation of Saint Martin

[July 4]

See November 11.

Saint Palladius, Bishop

[July 6]

:: *Palladius (d. 457/61) was the first bishop in Ireland, preceding Patrick. Born in Gaul, he was sent to Britain to aid in the fight against Pelagianism. He spent time in Ireland, but was expelled by the King of Leinster. He then travelled to Scotland, where he died in the Mearns in Scotland.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Sexburga (Seaxburh) of Ely

[July 6]

:: *Sexburga (d. c. 699) was Queen of Kent (wife of King Eorcenberht). She founded abbeys at Milton Regis and Minster-in-Sheppey. After her husband's death, she moved to the double monastery at Ely, where she succeeded her sister Etheldreda (Æthelthryth) as abbess.*

Propers of a Saint

Jan Hus, Prophetic Witness and Martyr

[July 6]

:: *Jan Hus (c. 1372–1415) was a Czech theologian and philosopher. He was a reformer, and the movement he inspired, Hussitism, was a predecessor to Protestantism in Bohemia, and a precursor to the Bohemian Reformation.*

Propers of a Martyr

Thomas More, Scholar, and John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, Reformation Martyrs

[July 6]

:: *Thomas More (1478–1535) was a philosopher and humanist, and notably the author of Utopia. He was Lord High Chancellor of England. After refusing to take the Oath of Supremacy, he was convicted of treason and executed. John Fisher was Bishop of Rochester and Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. July 6 is the date of More's death. In some jurisdictions, both men are commemorated on June 22, the date of Fisher's death.*

Propers of a Martyr

The Translation of Saint Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury

[July 7]

:: *In 1220, in the 50th jubilee year of his death, Becket's remains were removed from a hastily-prepared crypt under the floor of the eastern crypt of the cathedral to a shrine in the recently completed Trinity Chapel.*

See December 29.

Saint Boisil, Prior of Melrose

[July 7]

:: *Boisil (d. 661/64) was Prior of Melrose Abbey, an offshoot of Lindisfarne. July 7 is the date of Boisil's death. In the earliest calendars, Boisil is commemorated on February 23 (as noted by Butler's Lives of the Saints). More modern kalendars commemorate him on July 7, with his translation being commemorated on June 8. The Bollandists commemorate him on September 9.*

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Elizabeth of Portugal, Queen

[July 8]

:: *Elisabeth of Portugal (1271–1336) was born into the royal house of Aragon. As wife of King Denis of Portugal, she was Queen Consort. Following Denis's death, she retired to a monastery of the Poor Clares (which she had founded, and which is now known as the Monastery of Santa Clara-a-Velha in Coimbra) and became a tertiary of the Franciscan Order. July 4 is the date of Elizabeth's death and the date chosen when she was added to the GRC in 1625. In 1694, Innocent XII moved her feast to July 8, to avoid a conflict with the Octave of Saints Peter and Paul. In 1969, following the abolition of the Octave in 1955, her feast was returned to July 4. In the US, her memorial has been transferred to July 5 to avoid a conflict with Independence Day.*

Propers of a Monarch

Saint Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury

[July 9]

:: Stephen Langton (c. 1150–1228) was Archbishop of Canterbury. The dispute between King John and Innocent III over his election was a major factor in the crisis which produced Magna Carta in 1215. Cardinal Langton is also credited with having divided the Bible into the standard modern arrangement of chapters used today.

Propers of a Bishop

The Translation of Saint Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino

[July 11]

:: Benedict of Nursia (c. 480–c. 543) is the author of the Rule of Benedict, which is one of the most influential religious rules in the Western Church. He founded a dozen monasteries in the vicinity of Subiaco, and then the great Benedictine monastery of Monte Cassino. March 21 is the date of Benedict's death. Some jurisdictions commemorate him on July 11, the date of his translation in 1001, either as an alternative (to avoid conflicts with Lent), or in addition to his dies natalis.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we give thee thanks for the purity and strength with which thou didst endow thy servant Benedict; and we pray that by thy grace we may have a like power to hallow and conform our souls and bodies to the purpose of thy most holy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and Everlasting God, whose precepts are the wisdom of a loving Father: Give us grace, following the teaching and example of thy servant Benedict, to walk with loving and willing hearts in the school of the Lord's service; let thine ears be open unto our prayers; and prosper with thy blessing the work of our hands; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

GRACIOUS God, whose service is perfect freedom and in whose commandments there is nothing harsh nor burdensome, grant that we with thy servant Benedict, may listen with attentive minds, pray

with fervent hearts, and serve thee with willing hands so that we live at peace with one another and in obedience to thy Word, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. Acts 2:44–47. ◇

AND all that believed were together, and had all things common; and sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favour with all the people.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Proverbs 2:1–9. ☒◇

MY son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints. Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path.

The Gospel. Luke 14:26–33. ◇ ☒◇

IF any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether

he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Silas, Companion of Saint Paul

[July 13]

:: Silas accompanied Paul on his first and second missionary journeys. According to tradition, he died in Macedonia. Some jurisdictions commemorate Silas on January 26, along with Paul's other companions, Timothy and Titus.

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the head corner-stone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be mad an holy temple acceptable unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Acts 16:25–33. ♦

AT midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. Then he

called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

The Gospel. John 12:20–26. ♦

THERE were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast: the same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus. Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus. And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

Propers of an Apostle

Samson Occom

[July 14]

:: *Samson Occom (1723–1792) was a Presbyterian cleric. He was a member of the Mohegan nation, from near New London, Connecticut. He was one of the foremost missionaries to Native American communities.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Swithun, Bishop of Winchester

[July 15]

:: *Swithun (d. 863) was an Anglo-Saxon bishop of Winchester. July 2 is the date of Swithun's death. July 15, the date on which he is commemorated, is the date of the translation of his relics to the Old Minster in Winchester in 971—the occasion of many miracles.*

GRANT, O merciful God, that as Saint Swithun served thee and his generation with the devotion of his whole heart, so there may never be lacking in thy Church faithful intercessors, labouring fervently in prayer, that thy just judgments fall not on us, and that our land may yield her increase; through the merits of thy blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

MOST gracious God, who didst glorify the Church by the life and labours of thy holy Bishop Saint Swithun: Send down, we beseech thee, showers of blessing upon thy people, that they may grow in grace, and in the knowledge and love of thee, and of thy Son Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. James 5:16–18. ♦♦

CONFESS your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:43–45. ♦♦

YE have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Vladimir, Russian King

[July 15]

:: *Vladimir Sviatoslavich (c. 958–1015) was Prince of Novgorod, Grand Prince of Kiev, and ruler of Kievan Rus'. He converted to Christianity and converted his kingdom.*

Propers of a Monarch

Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Confessor

[July 15]

:: *Bonaventure (1221–1274) was a Franciscan and scholastic theologian. He was the seventh Minister General of the Order of Friars Minor, and he was also Cardinal Bishop of Albano. He is known as the “Seraphic Doctor”. July 15 is the date of Bonaventure’s death. In the late 15th and early 16th centuries, his commemoration was on the second Sunday in July. With the establishment of the Tridentine Kalendar in 1568, his commemoration was fixed on July 14. The 1969 GRC moved his commemoration to July 15.*

Propers of a Bishop or of a Confessor

Saint Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury

[July 16]

:: *Osmund (d. 1099) was a Norman noble and clergyman who served as Lord Chancellor after the Norman conquest of England. He was consecrated the second Bishop of Salisbury (Old Sarum) by Archbishop Lanfranc. December 4 is the date of Osmund’s death (he died in the night between December 3 and December 4, 1099), but he is commemorated on July 16, the date of his translation from Old Sarum to New Salisbury.*

The Collect

O GOD of grace, who didst turn the thoughts of thy servant Saint Osmund from the cares of this world to the right ordering of thy worship: We humbly beseech thee that thy people, ever standing in the old paths and guided by the Holy Spirit, may offer unto thee an acceptable sacrifice of prayer and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Revelation 14:1–3a, 6–7. ♦

AND I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I

heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: and they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders. And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

The Gospel. John 4:19–24. ♦

THE woman of Samaria saith unto Jesus, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Propers of a Bishop

William White, Bishop of Pennsylvania

[July 17]

:: *William White (1748–1836) was the first and fourth Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the United States. He was the second bishop consecrated in the United States, after Samuel Seabury. He also served as Chaplain of the Continental Congress and subsequently as Chaplain of the Senate.*

The Collect

O GOD, who dost ever hallow and protect thy Church: Raise up therein through thy Spirit good and faithful stewards of the mysteries of Christ, as thou didst in thy servant William White; that by their ministry and example thy people may abide in thy favour and walk

in the way of truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD, who in a time of turmoil and confusion didst raise up thy servant William White, and didst endow him with wisdom, patience, and a reconciling temper, that he might lead thy Church into ways of stability and peace: Hear our prayer, we beseech thee, and give us wise and faithful leaders, that through their ministry thy people may be blessed and thy will be done; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☆(◇)

For the Epistle. Jeremiah 1:4–10. ☆◇

THE word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

The Gospel. John 21:15–17. ☆◇

SO when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou

me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

Preface of a Saint

**Saint Gregory of Nyssa, Bishop,
and his sister Saint Macrina, Deaconess, Teachers of the
Faith**

[July 19]

:: Gregory of Nyssa (c. 335–c. 395) was Bishop of Nyssa and an erudite theologian. Along with his elder brother Basil of Caesarea and Gregory of Nazianzus he is one of the Cappadocian Fathers. His sister Macrina (c. 330–379) became a nun and devoted her life to the study of Scripture and other sacred writings. The Episcopal Church commemorates Gregory on March 9, the date given in Butler’s Lives of the Saints. The Anglican Church commemorates Gregory and Macrina on July 19, the date of Macrina’s death. The Eastern and Roman Churches (particularly the Benedictines) commemorate Gregory on January 10.

The Collect

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servants Gregory and Macrina: Enrich it evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses, who by their life and doctrine may set forth to all men the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or for Macrina alone:*

MERCIFUL God, who didst call thy servant Macrina to reveal in her life and teaching the riches of thy grace and truth: Grant that we, following her example, may seek after thy wisdom and live according to the way of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

WHEN I was yet young, or ever I went abroad, I desired wisdom openly in my prayer. I prayed for her before the temple, and will seek her out even to the end. Even from the flower till the grape was ripe hath my heart delighted in her: my foot went the right way, from my youth up sought I after her. I bowed down mine ear a little, and received her, and gat much learning. I profited therein, therefore will I ascribe glory unto him that giveth me wisdom. For I purposed to do after her, and earnestly I followed that which is good; so shall I not be confounded. My soul hath wrestled with her, and in my doings I was exact: I stretched forth my hands to the heaven above, and bewailed my ignorances of her. I directed my soul unto her, and I found her in pureness: I have had my heart joined with her from the beginning, therefore shall I not be foresaken. My heart was troubled in seeking her: therefore have I gotten a good possession. The Lord hath given me a tongue for my reward, and I will praise him therewith.

ALL things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

**Saint Margaret of Antioch in Pisidia,
(Marina the Great Martyr), Holy Helper**

[July 20]

:: Margaret of Antioch (289–304) was the daughter of a pagan priest who disowned her when she became a Christian. She was turned over to the authorities during the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian; she suffered various tortures before being beheaded. She is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death. The Eastern Orthodox and Byzantine Churches commemorate Margaret (known as Marina) on July 17. In some jurisdictions she is commemorated with Catherine of Alexandria and Barbara of Nicomedia on November 24; see November 25 (the commemoration of Catherine) for a joint collect.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost enkindle the flame of thy love in the hearts of thy saints: Grant to our minds the same faith and power of love: that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may profit by their examples; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst endue blessed Margaret thy Virgin with grace to witness a good confession and to suffer gladly for thy name: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to follow her stedfastness that we may attain to the glorious fellowship of thy Saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Romans 8:15–18. ♦♦

YE have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:16–17. ♦

BLESSED are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Matthew 13:44–46. ♦

THE kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, O.F.M.Cap, Doctor

[July 21]

:: *Lawrence of Brindisi (1559–1619) was a priest and theologian, and a member of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin. He served a term as vicar general of the Order, and then as papal nuncio to Bavaria and Spain.*

Propers of a Doctor

Saint Mary Magdalene

[July 22]

:: *Mary Magdalene was commemorated in the 1549 BCP, but was removed in the 1552 BCP. She was not restored to the Anglican calendar until almost 400 years later.*

The Collect

MERCIFUL Father, give us grace, that we never presume to sin through the example of any creature, but if it shall chance us at any time to offend thy divine majesty, that then we may truly repent, and lament the same, after the example of Mary Magdalene, and by lively faith obtain remission of all our sins; through the only merits of thy Son our Saviour Christ. *Amen.* ∞

¶ *Or this:*

MOST merciful Father, who by thy beloved Son didst open in Jerusalem a healing fountain for sin and for uncleanness, whereby Mary Magdalene was wonderfully turned from shame to the love of her Saviour: We beseech thee that thy Church, continually fulfilling the ministry of his most precious Blood, may cleanse and heal a multitude of souls, and guide them to the same Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O ALMIGHTY God, whose blessed Son did sanctify Mary Magdalene, and call her to be a witness to his Resurrection: Mercifully grant that by thy grace we may be healed of all our infirmities, and serve thee in the power of his endless life; who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦(✠♦)

For the Epistle. Proverbs 31:10–31. ∞

WHO can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night. She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of the snow for her household:

for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant. Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

The Gospel. Luke 7:36–50. ∞

ONE of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat. And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner. And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on. There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto

him, Thou hast rightly judged. And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little. And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven. And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also? And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 5:14–18. ♦♦

FOR the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: and that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Judith 9:1, 11–14. ☒

JUDITH fell upon her face, and put ashes upon her head, and uncovered the sackcloth wherewith she was clothed; and about the time that the incense of that evening was offered in Jerusalem in the house of the Lord Judith cried with a loud voice, and said, Thy power standeth not in multitude nor thy might in strong men: for thou art a

God of the afflicted, an helper of the oppressed, an upholder of the weak, a protector of the forlorn, a saviour of them that are without hope. I pray thee, I pray thee, O God of my father, and God of the inheritance of Israel, Lord of the heavens and earth, Creator of the waters, king of every creature, hear thou my prayer: And make my speech and deceit to be their wound and stripe, who have purposed cruel things against thy covenant, and thy hallowed house, and against the top of Sion, and against the house of the possession of thy children. And make every nation and tribe to acknowledge that thou art the God of all power and might, and that there is none other that protecteth the people of Israel but thou.

The Gospel. John 20:11–18. ♦♦ ☒

MARY stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre, and seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him. And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou ave borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint John Cassian, Abbot at Marseilles

[July 23]

:: *John Cassian (c. 360–c. 435) was a monk and theologian noted for his role in bringing the ideas and practices of Christian monasticism to the early medieval West.*

The Collect

HOLY God, whose beloved Son Jesus Christ didst bless the pure in heart: Grant that we, together with thy servant John Cassian and in union with his prayers, may ever seek the purity with which to behold thee as thou art; one God in Trinity of persons now and for ever.

Amen. ◇

For the Epistle. 2 Kings 2:9–15. ◇

IT came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; and he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over. And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha.

And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

The Gospel. John 1:1–14 ◇

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Preface of Lent

Saint Bridget of Sweden, Abbess of Vadstena

[July 23]

:: Bridget of Sweden (c. 1303–1373) was a mystic and saint, and the founder of the Bridgettines, an order of nuns and monks. July 23 is the date of Bridget's death. She is commemorated in Sweden on October 7, the date of her canonization in 1391. In the modern GRC, she is transferred to October 8.

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Thomas à Kempis

[July 24]

:: *Thomas à Kempis (c. 1380–1471) was a German-Dutch canon regular and the author of The Imitation of Christ, one of the most popular and best known Christian devotional books. July 25 is the date of Thomas's death, but he is commemorated on July 24 to avoid a conflict with James the Great.*

The Collect

O ETERNAL Lord God, who boldest all souls in life: We beseech thee to shed forth upon thy whole Church in paradise and on earth the bright beams of thy light and thy peace; and grant that we, following the good examples of thy servant Thomas, and of all those who loved and served thee here, may at the last enter with them into thine unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

HOLY Father, who hast nourished and strengthened thy Church by the inspired writings of thy servant Thomas à Kempis: Grant that we may learn from him to know what is necessary to be known, to love what is to be loved, to praise what highly pleaseth thee, and always to seek to know and follow thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* Δ ☒ ♦

The Epistle. Philippians 4:4–9. ☒ ♦

REJOICE in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice, Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any

praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

The Gospel. Luke 6:17–23. ✠◇

JESUS came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judæa and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases; and they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all.

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

Preface of a Saint

Saint James the Great, Apostle

[July 25]

:: James is one of the original twelve disciples. He and his brother John the Apostle were the sons of Zebedee and Salome. James is called “the Great” to distinguish him from James “the Less”. James and John were also nicknamed Boanerges, or “Sons of Thunder”. According to tradition, James was beheaded at the order of King Herod Agrippa.

The Collect

GRANT, O merciful God, that as thine holy Apostle Saint James, leaving his father and all that he had, without delay was obedient unto the calling of thy Son Jesus Christ, and followed him; so we,

forsaking all worldly and carnal affections, may be evermore ready to follow thy holy commandments; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

For the Epistle. Acts 11:27—13:3. §†

IN these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judæa: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul. Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also.

The Gospel. Matthew 20:20–28. §†

THEN came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom. But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father. And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren. But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief

among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Christopher, Martyr, Holy Helper

[July 25]

:: *Christopher (d. c. 251) was, according to tradition, a Canaanite convert to Christianity. While in Lycia, the king had him beheaded for refusing to sacrifice to pagan gods. Christopher is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary

[July 26]

:: *The 1969 GRC moved Joachim from August 16 to this date, to be co-commemorated with his wife.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who didst confer such grace on Saint Anne that of her should be born the mother of thine only-begotten Son: Purify and illuminate all whom thou hast made parents, that they may bring up their children in the knowledge of thy truth, and dwell with them in honour and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

OLORD God, who in the deep counsels of thy mercy didst entrust to Saint Anne the preparation of the Blessed Virgin for her most holy calling: Bestow upon all mothers such godliness and grace as shall draw their children unto pure and virtuous living; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this, commemorating both Anne and Joachim:*

ALMIGHTY God, heavenly Father, who settest the solitary in families: We thankfully remember before thee this day the parents

of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and we humbly entrust to thy never-failing care the homes in which thy people dwell; that we may be made very members of the heavenly family of thy Son Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

Amen. ♦(✠)

The Epistle. 1 Peter 1:9–12. ♦

RECEIVE the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Proverbs 31:10–12, 25–31. ♦

WHO can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

BLESSED be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Genesis 17:1–8. ☒

WHEN Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

The Gospel. Luke 1:26–33. ☒

IN the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And

when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Preface of a Saint

William Reed Huntington, Priest

[July 27]

:: *William Reed Huntington (1838–1909) was a priest and author, and rector of All Saints Church, Worcester, Massachusetts. His essay, “The Church Idea, An Essay toward Unity”, was the inspiration for the Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral. July 26 is the date of Huntington’s death, but he is commemorated by the Episcopal Church on July 27.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the source and perfection of all virtues, who didst inspire thy servant William Reed Huntington both to do what is right and to preach what is true: Grant that all ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may afford to thy faithful people, by word and example, the instruction which is of thy grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

OLORD our God, we thank thee for instilling in the heart of thy servant William Reed Huntington a fervent love for thy Church and its mission in the world; and we pray that, with unflagging faith in thy promises, we may make known to all people thy blessed gift of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ✠♦

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: that in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.

JESUS said, Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. And I have declared unto

them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

Preface of Baptism

Pantaleon (Pantaleímon), Martyr, Holy Helper

[July 27]

:: *Pantaleon (c. 275–305) was raised as a Christian, but he fell away from his faith after the death of his mother. He became physician to Emperor Maximian, but by the time Diocletian became emperor, Pantaleon had recovered his faith. He was denounced to the emperor, who sought unsuccessfully to convince Pantaleon to renounce his faith. After suffering various tortures and attempted executions, Pantaleon was eventually beheaded. He is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.*

Propers of a Martyr

Saint Samson of Dol, Wales, Bishop

[July 28]

:: *Samson of Dol (c. 485–c. 565) was a Welsh monk who became abbot of the island monastery of Caldey off the coast of Dyfed, Pembrokeshire. He travelled to Cornwall, the Scilly Isles, Guernsey, and Brittany, where he founded the monastery of Dol.*

The Collect

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst set blessed Samson to be a Bishop in the Church, that he might feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us, we beseech thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Malachi 2:5–7. ♦

MY covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name. The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity. For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

JESUS said unto his disciples: Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

Propers of a Bishop

Johann Sebastian Bach

[July 28]

:: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) was one of the most prolific composers of church music—not only of the Baroque era, but of any era. Many of his Lutheran chorale harmonizations (often found in his cantatas) are present in hymnals of all denominations.

The Collect

SOUND out thy majesty, O God, and call us to thy work, so that like thy servant Johann Sebastian Bach, we might present our lives and our works to thy glory alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Colossians 2:2–6. ♦

THAT their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words. For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him.

AND there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Mary and Saint Martha of Bethany

[July 29]

:: Mary is usually commemorated along with Martha (although the Tridentine kalendar did not include Mary). Some more recent kalendars also include their brother Lazarus. Some jurisdictions commemorate Mary and Martha on July 30.

The Collect

MERCIFUL Saviour, who didst love Mary, and Martha, and Lazarus, blessing their home with thy sacred presence: Help us, we beseech thee, to choose that better part which shall not be taken away from us, that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of thee, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◆

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who bestowest divers gifts and graces upon thy saints: We give thee humble thanks for the examples of thy servants Mary and Martha, the friends of our Saviour Jesus Christ; and we pray thee to give us grace to love and serve thee and others for his sake, who with

thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, heavenly Father, whose Son Jesus Christ enjoyed rest and refreshment in the home of Mary and Martha of Bethany: Give us the will to love thee, open our hearts to hear thee, and strengthen our hands to serve thee in others for his sake; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒♦

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 4:6–7. ♦

GOD, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

¶ *Or this:*

For The Epistle. Proverbs 31:10, 26–31. ♦

WHO can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; And in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, And eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, But thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: But a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; And let her own works praise her in the gates.

¶ *Or this:*

The Epistle. Romans 12:9–13. ☒♦

LET love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; not slothful in

business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

The Gospel. Luke 10:38–42. ♦♦ ✧♦

NOW it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And the Lord answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art concerned and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Preface of Epiphany

Saint Olaf, King and Martyr

[July 29]

:: *Olaf II Haraldsson (c. 995–1030) was King of Norway, where he led the Christianization of his people. He was forced from his throne, and died in an attempt to take it back.*

Propers of a Monarch

Peter Chrysologus, Bishop of Ravenna, Doctor

[July 30]

:: *Peter Chrysologus (c. 380–c. 450) was Bishop of Ravenna, where he was known as the “Doctor of Homilies” for his theologically rich sermons. December 2 was thought to be the date of Chrysologus’s death, and when his commemoration was added to the GRC between 1729 and 1969, it was assigned to December 4. The actual date of his death has been determined to be July 31, and his commemoration is now on July 30, to avoid a conflict with Ignatius of Loyola.*

Propers of a Doctor

William Wilberforce

[July 30]

:: *William Wilberforce (1759–1833) was a politician, philanthropist, and abolitionist. July 29 is the date of Wilberforce's death, but he is commemorated on July 30 to avoid a conflict with Mary and Martha of Bethany. In some jurisdictions he shares a commemoration with anti-slavery campaigners such as Olaudah Equiano (c. 1745—1797) and Thomas Clarkson (1760—1846).*

The Collect

LET thy continual mercy, O Lord, enkindle in thy Church the never-failing gift of love, that, following the example of thy servant William Wilberforce, we may have grace to defend the poor, and maintain the cause of those who have no helper; for the sake of him who gave his life for us, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever.

Amen. ☒☎

The Epistle. Galatians 3:23–29. ☒☎

BEFORE faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

The Gospel. Matthew 25:31–40. ☒☎

WHEN the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then

shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Preface of a Saint

Joseph of Arimathæa

[July 31]

See March 17.

Saint Germanus (German), Bishop of Auxerre

[July 31]

:: Germanus (c. 378–c. 442/48) was a Welsh noble who became Bishop of Auxerre, having left a career as a high-ranking government official to devote his life to promoting the Church and protecting his flock. He built a monastery dedicated to Cosmas and Damian on the banks of the Yonne. Germanus's principal commemoration is July 31, although Wales transfers the feast to August 3 (the date given in *Butler's Lives of the Saints*), to avoid a conflict with Ignatius of Loyola. In some jurisdictions, he is commemorated with his friend Bishop Lupus of Troyes. In other jurisdictions he is commemorated on October 1, the date of his translation from Ravenna to Auxerre.

The Collect

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst set blessed German to be a Bishop in the Church, that he might feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us, we beseech thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

GOD, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: that in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

The Gospel. John 15:4–8. ♦

JESUS said unto his disciples: Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

Propers of a Bishop

**Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Confessor,
Founder of The Society of Jesus**

[July 31]

:: Ignatius of Loyola (1491–1556) was a Spanish-Basque priest and theologian. Ignatius was the principal founder and first Superior General of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits).

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, from whom all good things come: Thou didst call Ignatius of Loyola to the service of thy Divine Majesty and to

find thee in all things. Inspired by his example and strengthened by his companionship, may we labour without counting the cost and seek no reward other than knowing that we do thy will; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst call Ignatius of Loyola to the service of thy Divine Majesty and to seek thee in all things; Give us also the grace to labour without counting the cost and to seek no reward other than knowing that we do thy will; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1. ☒◇

WHETHER therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved. Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

The Gospel. Luke 9:57—62. ☒◇

AND it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto Jesus, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head. And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God. And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house. And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Saint Peter in Chains

[August 1]

:: This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles. In Acts chapter 12, Herod imprisons Peter and intends to have him killed. As Peter is sleeping in a prison cell between two guards, an angel appears, breaks the chains, and leads Peter to safety. August 1 is the date of the dedication of the basilica San Pietro in Vincoli in Rome, which claims to have the chains in question as relics.

The Collect

O GOD, who didst cause thy holy Apostle Peter to be freed from his chains and to depart without hurt: Loose us, we beseech thee, from the bonds of those sins which by our frailty we have committed: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst deliver thine Apostle Peter from his bonds and suffer him to depart unhurt: Vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to deliver us from the bonds of our sins, and of thy mercy preserve us from all evil; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ρ

For the Epistle. Acts 12:1–11. ♦

ABOUT that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.) And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people. Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. And, behold, the angel of the

Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands. And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me. And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision. When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him. And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:13–19. ♦

WHEN Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Propers of an Apostle

Lammas

[August 1]

:: *Lammas* (from the Anglo-Saxon hlaf-mas, “loaf-mass”) celebrates the blessing of the First Fruits of the harvest.

The Collect

O LORD, who by thy mercy hast brought us to the beginning of harvest and to the memory of Saint Peter’s deliverance: Let his counsel prevail among us; that, girding up the loins of our minds as of our bodies, we set our hope perfectly on the grace that is brought to us by the revelation of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD Jesu Christ, who hast taught us that man doth not live by bread alone: Feed us, we humbly beseech thee, with the true Bread that cometh down from heaven, even thyself, O blessed Saviour; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast made heaven and earth and all that is in them: We humbly beseech thee to bless and hallow these first-fruits of *wheat**, and to multiply them abundantly for us who offer them; and grant such seasonable weather that this year’s harvest may be plentiful, and we, rejoicing in thy gifts, may pay our thanks to thy divine majesty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ☩

* Or *corn*, or any other crop, as appropriate.

For the Epistle. Proverbs 3:5–10. ♦

TRUST in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of

all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:24–30. ♦

ANOTHER parable put Jesus forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Exodus 23:15–16, 19a. ♦

THOU shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:) and the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field. The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the Lord thy God.

The Gospel. Matthew 6:28a–34. ♦

CONSIDER the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so

clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Preface of the Season

The Holy Maccabees

[August 1]

:: *Antiochus IV Epiphanes arrested a Jewish woman (possibly named Hannah or Miriam) and attempted to force her and her seven sons to eat pork. When they refused, he tortured and killed the sons one by one. Hannah and her seven sons are held as precursors to Christian martyrs. Tradition says their remains were housed in the church of San Pietro in Vincoli (Saint Peter in Chains), hence the date of their commemoration.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Doctor, Founder of the Redemptorists

[August 1]

:: *Alphonsus Liguori (1696–1787) was a bishop, spiritual writer, scholastic philosopher, and theologian. He was the founder of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, known as the Redemptorists. August 1 is the date of Liguori's death. From 1839–1969 the GRC transferred his commemoration to August 2.*

Propers of a Doctor

Saint Nicodemus

[August 3]

:: *Nicodemus was a Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin. He met secretly with Jesus shortly after the cleansing of the temple, and he supplied the mixture of myrrh and aloes used in Jesus' burial.*

Propers of a Saint

Jean-Baptiste Vianney, Curé d'Ars, Spiritual Guide

[August 4]

:: *Jean-Baptiste Vianney (1786–1859) was a priest known internationally for his pastoral work in his parish in Ars, France. August 4 is the date of Vianney's death. When he was added to the GRC in 1925, his feast was August 9. In the 1950s and 1960s, he was moved to August 8 to avoid a conflict with the Vigil of Lawrence. The 1969 GRC moved his feast to August 4, the date of his dies natalis.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Oswald, King of Northumbria, Martyr

[August 5]

:: *Oswald (c. 604–641/42) reunited the Northumbrian kingdoms of Bernicia and Deira. Oswald promoted the spread of Christianity in his kingdom, giving the island of Lindisfarne to Aiden for his episcopal see. He was killed by the Mercians at the Battle of Maserfield.*

The Collect

HEAR us, Almighty and everlasting God, as we keep festival this day in honour of the victorious death of thy servant Oswald beneath the shadow of the holy Cross; enlarge our hearts with like love towards thee, and grant us the courage that can triumph over every foe: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O EVERLASTING King, thou Lord of Hosts: Set up the Cross of thy dear Son in the hearts of thy people that, with thy holy Martyr King Oswald, they may triumph over every foe; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Wisdom 5:15–20. ♦♦

THE righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High. Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom, and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand: for with his right hand shall he cover them, and with his arm shall he protect them. He shall take to him his jealousy for complete armour, and make the creature his weapon for the revenge of his enemies. He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate, and true judgment instead of

an helmet. He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. His severe wrath shall he sharpen for a sword, and the world shall fight with him against the unwise.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:24–27. ♦♦

THEN said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Propers of a Monarch

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

[August 6]

:: This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles. The feast may have originated in the dedication of three basilicas on Mount Tabor, but Pope Callixtus III fixed the feast on August 6 to commemorate the raising of the Siege of Belgrade.

The Collect

O GOD, who on the mount didst reveal to chosen witnesses thine only-begotten Son wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may be permitted to behold the King in his beauty, who with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.*†

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who before the passion of thine only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us thy servants, that in faith beholding the light of his countenance, we may be strengthened to bear the Cross; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,

who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ✕

The Epistle. 2 Peter 1:13–21. †

I THINK it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

The Gospel. Luke 9:28–36. †

AND it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening. And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias: who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him. And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said. While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud. And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him. And when the

voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen.

Preface of Epiphany

The Name of Jesus

[August 7]

:: The Feast of the Name of Jesus was introduced in 1530 in parallel to the Feast of the Sacred Heart, but reverence for the Holy Name goes back at least to 1274, when such devotion was officially recognized by Pope Gregory X at the Second Council of Lyons.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who hast taught us that in the Name of Jesus Christ alone is salvation: Mercifully grant that thy faithful people, ever glorying in his Name, may make thy salvation known to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ✕

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY Father, who didst give thine only Son the Name most dear to thee and needful to mankind, betokening not his majesty but our salvation: Write it upon our hearts, we beseech thee, that we may grow by love into the likeness of our only Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Acts 4:8–12. ♦

THEN Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, if we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other:

for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

The Gospel. Matthew 1:20–23. ♦

WHILE Joseph thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Propers of God the Son

John Mason Neale, Priest and Hymn Writer

[August 7]

:: John Mason Neale (1818–1866) was a priest, scholar, and hymn writer and hymn translator. His most notable lyrics include “All Glory, Laud, and Honour”, “O come, O come, Emmanuel”, “Of the Father’s Heart Begotten”, and “To Thee Before the Close of Day”. August 6 is the date of Neale’s death, so he is commemorated on August 7 (coincidentally with Catherine Winkworth, another hymn writer) to avoid a conflict with the Feast of the Transfiguration.

The Collect

GRANT unto us, O God, that in all time of our testing we may know thy presence and obey thy will; that, following the example of thy servant John Mason Neale, we may with integrity and courage accomplish what thou givest us to do, and endure what thou givest us to bear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒♦

For the Epistle. 2 Chronicles 20:20–21. ☒♦

ALL Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye

inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:44–52. ☒◆

JESUS said: The kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of the Dedication of a Church

Catherine Winkworth, Poet

[August 7]

:: *Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878) was an English hymn writer and educator, concentrating on translating hymns from the German chorale tradition. July 1 is the date of Winkworth's death, but she is commemorated by the Episcopal Church on August 7, along with fellow hymn writer John Mason Neale.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Dominic, Priest and Confessor, Founder of the Order of Preachers

[August 8]

:: Dominic of Caleruega (1170–1221) was the founder of the Dominican Order. Dominic died on August 6, the Transfiguration, so the pre-1979 GRC transferred his commemoration to August 4. The new date is August 8, his birthday.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who by the blessed Saint Dominic didst gather together a great company of preachers: We beseech thee so to inspire the Church that she may teach and commend the Gospel of thy dear Son as well by sound learning as by simplicity of life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we give thee thanks for the purity and strength with which thou didst endow thy servant Dominic; and we pray that by thy grace we may have a like power to hallow and conform our souls and bodies to the purpose of thy most holy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of the prophets, who didst open the eyes of thy servant Dominic to perceive a famine of hearing the word of the Lord, and didst move him, and those he did draw about him, to satisfy that hunger with sound preaching and fervent devotion: Make thy Church, dear Lord, in this and every age, attentive to the hungers of the world, and quick to respond in love to those who are perishing; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, Grant unto all thy people a hunger for thy Word and an urgent longing to share thy Gospel, that like thy servant Dominic we might labour to bring the whole world to the knowledge and love of thee as thou art revealed in thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 4:1–5. ♦

ICHARGE thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:51–52. ♦

JESUS saith unto his disciples, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Romans 10:13–17. ✠♦

WHOSOEVER shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good

things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

The Gospel. John 7:16–18. ✠✧

JESUS answered the Jews in the temple, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Cyriacus (Cyriac), Martyr, Holy Helper

[August 8]

:: *Cyriacus (d. c. 303) was a martyr who was killed in the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian. Cyriacus is often commemorated with Largus and Smaragdus in the West. In the East, Cyriacus is commemorated on June 7. He is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.*

Preface of a Saint

Saint Lawrence (Laurence), Deacon at Rome, Martyr

[August 10]

:: *Lawrence (225–258) was one of the seven deacons of the city of Rome under Pope Sixtus II who were martyred during the persecutions of Emperor Valerian.*

The Collect

O GOD, who gavest grace to thy servant Laurence to be a wise guardian of the treasures of the Church, a faithful attendant upon his chief, and a bold witness in his martyrdom to the Christian faith: Stir us by his example to whole-hearted devotion, and by thy returning fire prepare us for the judgement that is to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ✧

¶ *Or this:*

ALmighty God, grant us grace to quench the flames of our sins, as thou didst endue the Blessed Laurence with power to withstand

the fire of his torments; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power thy holy Deacon and martyr Laurence triumphed over suffering, and despised death: Grant, we beseech thee, that enduring hardness, and waxing valiant in fight, we may with the noble army of martyrs receive the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power thy servant Laurence didst triumph over suffering and didst despise death: Grant that we may be steadfast in service to the poor and outcast, and may share with him in the joys of thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 9:6–10. ♦♦✠♦

HE which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (as it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness).

HE that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

¶ *Or this:*

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Blane, Missionary

[August 11]

:: *Blane (d. 590) was a Scottish monk who was educated in Ireland under Comgall and Kenneth. He returned to Scotland and eventually became a bishop among the Picts. The Oxford Dictionary of Saints and Butler's Lives of the Saints list August 11 as the date of Blane's commemoration, but some kalendars use August 10 as the commemoration.*

Propers of a Missionary

John Henry Newman, Priest and Tractarian

[August 11]

:: *John Henry Newman (1801–1890) was a theologian and poet, and an advocate for the high-church traditions embodied in the Oxford Movement. Originally an Anglican priest, he crossed the Tiber and eventually became a Cardinal. August 11 is the date of Newman's death. The Episcopal Church commemorates Newman on February 21, the date of his birth, while the Roman Church commemorates him on October 9, the date of his reception into the Roman Church.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Clare (Claire) of Assisi

[August 12]

:: *Clare of Assisi (1194–1253) was one of the first followers of Francis of Assisi. She founded the Order of Poor Ladies (the Poor Clares), an order for women in the Franciscan tradition.*

The Collect

O GOD, whose blessed Son became poor that we, through his poverty, might become rich: Deliver us, we pray thee, from an inordinate love of this world, that, inspired by the devotion of thy servant Clare, we may serve thee with singleness of heart, and attain to the riches of the age to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. *Amen.* ✠(◇)

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of mercy, enlighten the hearts of thy faithful people, and grant us after the example of thy servant Clare, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of mercy, who hast inspired blessed Saint Clare with the love of poverty: Grant us so to follow Christ in poverty of spirit, that we may come to the joyful vision of thy glory in the kingdom of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ρ

For the Epistle. Song of Solomon 2:10–13. ✠◇

MY beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land; the fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

FEAR not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Let your loins be girded about, and *your* lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed *are* those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Hippolytus of Rome

[August 13]

:: *Hippolytus (c. 170–235) was Bishop of Pontus. The circumstances of his martyrdom are unclear.*

The Collect

O GOD, who has enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servant Hippolytus: Enrich us evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses who by their life and doctrine will set forth the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆

Propers of a Saint

Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore

[August 13]

:: *Jeremy Taylor (1613–1667) was a cleric known as the “Shakespeare of Divines” for the lyric nature of his writing. He was chaplain in ordinary to King Charles I, but he was allowed to live quietly in Wales during the English Civil War. After the Restoration, he was made Bishop of Down and Connor, and the adjacent diocese of Dromore.*

O GOD, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we beseech thee, like thy servant Jeremy Taylor, deeply sensible of the shortness of human life; and let thy Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, world without end. *Amen.* †*

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast enriched thy Church with the singular learning and holiness of thy servant Jeremy Taylor: Grant us to hold fast the true doctrine of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and to fashion our lives according to the same, to the glory of thy great Name and the benefit of thy holy Church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we beseech thee, like thy servant Jeremy Taylor, deeply sensible of the shortness and uncertainty of human life; and let thy Holy Ghost lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒(◇)

The Epistle. Romans 14:7–12. ☒◇

NONE of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living. But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord,

* This prayer is an abbreviated version of one found in the Visitation of the Sick.

every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:42–47. ☒◆

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Preface of a Saint

Florence Nightingale, Nurse, Social Reformer

[August 13]

:: Florence Nightingale (1820–1910) was a social reformer, statistician, and the founder of modern nursing. She was known as “The Lady with the Lamp” as she made rounds of wounded soldiers at night.

The Collect

LIFE-GIVING God, thou alone hast power over life and death, over health and sickness: Give power, wisdom, and gentleness unto those who follow the lead of Florence Nightingale, that they, bearing with them thy presence, may not only heal but bless, and shine as lanterns of hope in the darkest hours of pain and fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Isaiah 58:6–11. ☒

IS not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the

hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward. Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

The Gospel. Matthew 25:31–46. ☒

WHEN the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren,

ye have done it unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Propers of a Saint

**Jonathan Myrick Daniels, Seminarian,
Witness for Civil Rights**

[August 14]

:: Jonathan Myrick Daniels (1939–1965) was a seminarian and civil rights activist. He was with a group of protestors who were arrested during a protest in Fort Deposit, Alabama. Daniels was released from jail on August 20. He and three others walked to a store to buy something to drink, but the entry was barred by Tom L. Coleman. Coleman opened fire on Ruby Sales, one of Daniels's associates, but Daniels pushed her to the ground and took the full blast of Coleman's shotgun. Daniels died instantly. August 20 is the date of Daniels's death, but he is commemorated on August 14, the date of his arrest, to avoid a conflict with Bernard.

The Collect

O GOD of justice and compassion, who didst put down the proud and the mighty from their place, and dost lift up the poor and the afflicted: We give thee thanks for thy faithful witness Jonathan Myrick Daniels, who, in the midst of injustice and violence, risked and gave his life for another; and we pray that we, following his example, may make no peace with oppression; through Jesus Christ the just one, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ✠◇

THE scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

MY soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name. And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation. He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away. He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy; as he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.

Preface of a Saint

**Saint Mary, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ
(The Dormition, or Falling-Asleep, of the Theotokos)**

[August 15]

:: *This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles.*

O ALMIGHTY God, who didst endue with singular grace the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Lord: Vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to hallow our bodies in chastity, and our souls in humility and love; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast taken to thyself the blessed Virgin Mary, mother of thine only Son: Grant that we who have been redeemed by his blood may share with her the glory of thine eternal kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 24:7–15b. ♦

WITH all these I sought rest: and in whose inheritance shall I abide? So the Creator of all things gave me a commandment, and he that made me caused my tabernacle to rest, and said, Let thy dwelling be in Jacob, and thine inheritance in Israel. He created me from the beginning before the world, and I shall never fail. In the holy tabernacle I served before him; and so was I established in Sion. Likewise in the beloved city he gave me rest, and in Jerusalem was my power. And I took root in an honourable people, even in the portion of the Lord's inheritance. I was exalted like a cedar in Libanus, and as a cypress tree upon the mountains of Hermon. I was exalted like a palm tree in En-gaddi, and as a rose plant in Jericho, as a fair olive tree in a pleasant field, and grew up as a plane tree by the water. I gave a sweet smell like cinnamon and aspalathus, and I yielded a pleasant odour like the best myrrh.

¶ *Or this:*

THEREFORE in their land they shall possess a double portion:
everlasting joy shall be unto them. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrong; and I will direct their work in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they are the seed which the LORD hath blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

¶ *Or this:*

The Epistle. Galatians 4:4–7 ◇

WHEN the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

The Gospel. Luke 1:46–55. ◆◆ ✧ ◆◆

MY soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name. And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation. He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the

proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away. He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy; as he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.

Preface of Our Lady

Saint Joachim, Father of the Blessed Virgin Mary

[August 16]

:: *The 1969 GRC moved Joachim from this date to July 26, to be co-commemorated with his wife.*

Propers of a Saint

Holy Women of the Old Testament

[August 16]

:: *The Church of Canada commemorates the Holy Women of the Old Testament on the day after the commemoration of Mary, in recognition of the long line of women and prophetesses who were precursors to the Mother of our Lord.*

The Collect

BLESSED art thou, O Lord God of our mothers, for thou hast raised up generations of holy women in the house of thy people Israel, that they might preserve the way of thy covenant. Grant us a measure of their faith, that we may be unafraid of rulers in their might and strong in our hope of thy vindication; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☩

For the Epistle. 1 Samuel 2:2–10. ☩

THERE is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength. They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and

they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble. The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and he hath set the world upon them. He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

The Gospel. Luke 2:36–40. c

THERE was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; and she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Propers of a Saint

Saint Helena, Protector of the Holy Places, Mother of Saint Constantine

[August 18]

:: Helena (c. 246/48–c. 330), was Empress of the Roman Empire and mother of Constantine, the first Christian Roman emperor. After their conversion to Christianity, Helena made it her mission to find the relics of the True Cross. In the course of her search, she also excavated a number of holy sites, and ordered the construction of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. For this she has been accorded the title “Protector of the Holy Places”. She is commemorated on her own on this date in the Roman Church; in the Eastern Orthodox Church, she and her son Constantine are commemorated on May 21 as “Equal to the Apostles”.

The Collect

MOST Merciful God, who didst vouchsafe to bless thy servant Helena with such grace and devotion to thee that she didst venerate the very footsteps of our Saviour; grant unto us the same grace that, aided by her example, we too may evermore behold thy glory in the cross of thy Son; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (◇)

For the Epistle. Micah 4:1–4. ◇

IN the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it.

AS they led Jesus away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus. And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck. Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us. For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry? And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death.

Propers of a Saint

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, Abbot

[August 20]

:: Bernard of Clairvaux (1090–1153) was a French abbot and a major leader in the revitalization of Benedictine monasticism through the nascent Order of Cistercians.

The Collect

O GOD, by whose grace the blessed abbot Bernard, enkindled with the fire of thy love, became a burning and a shining light in thy Church: Grant that we may be inflamed with the same spirit of love, and ever walk before thee as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

ENABLE us, O Lord, with Saint Bernard and all thy blessed servants, to bring the talents and graces of thy giving unto the sole service of the Holy Catholic Church, the Body of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; who liveth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◆

¶ *Or this:*

ALmighty and everlasting God, who didst enkindle the flame of thy love in the heart of thy servant Bernard: Grant to us, thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in his triumph, we may profit by his example; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, by whose grace thy servant Bernard of Clairvaux, enkindled with the flame of thy love, became a burning and a shining light in thy Church: Grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, and may ever walk before thee as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 39: 1–10. ♦♦ ☒

HE that giveth his mind to the law of the most High, and is occupied in the meditation thereof, will seek out the wisdom of all the ancient, and be occupied in prophecies. He will keep the sayings of the renowned men: and where subtil parables are, he will be there also. He will seek out the secrets of grave sentences, and be conversant in dark parables. He shall serve among great men, and appear before princes: he will travel through strange countries; for he hath tried the good and the evil among men. He will give his heart to resort early to the Lord that made him, and will pray before the most High, and will open his mouth in prayer, and make supplication for his sins. When the great Lord will, he shall be filled with the spirit of understanding: he shall pour out wise sentences, and give thanks unto the Lord in his prayer. He shall direct his counsel and knowledge, and in his secrets shall he meditate. He shall shew forth that which he hath learned, and shall glory in the law of the covenant of the Lord. Many shall commend his understanding; and so long as the world endureth, it shall not be

blotted out; his memorial shall not depart away, and his name shall live from generation to generation. Nations shall shew forth his wisdom, and the congregation shall declare his praise.

The Gospel. John 15:7–15. ◇ ✠

IF ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Matthew 5:13–19. ◆

YE are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of

these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Preface of a Saint

William and Catherine Booth, Founders of the Salvation Army

[August 20]

:: *William Booth (1829–1912) was a Methodist preacher who founded The Salvation Army, along with his wife Catherine Booth (1829–1890).*

Propers of a Saint

Jane Frances de Chantal

[August 21]

:: *Jane Frances de Chantal (1572–1641) founded the Order of the Visitation of Holy Mary. The order accepted women who were rejected by other orders because of poor health or age. December 13 is the date of de Chantal's death, but she was first added to the calendar on August 21. The 1969 GRC moved her commemoration to December 12 (to avoid a conflict with Lucy), and in 2001, her commemoration was moved to August 12. The Episcopal Church commemorates de Chantal on January 24 with Frances de Sales, her spiritual advisor.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Bartholomew the Apostle

[August 24]

:: *Bartholomew is one of the original twelve disciples; he is also called Nathanael. Eusebius and Jerome report that Bartholomew traveled to India as a missionary. He is also said to have traveled with Jude to Armenia. The most common tradition of his death is that he was flayed alive.*

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst give to thine Apostle Bartholomew grace truly to believe and to preach thy Word: Grant, we beseech thee, unto thy Church, to love that Word which he believed, and both to preach and receive the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

For the Epistle. Acts 5:12. §†

BY the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

The Gospel. Luke 22:24–30. §†

AND there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest. And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise Lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth. Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Ebba (Aebbe the Elder), Abbess of Coldingham

[August 25]

:: Ebba (c. 615–683) was a noblewoman and abbess. She founded monasteries at Ebchester and St Abb's Head near Coldingham in Scotland.

The Collect

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we who keep the heavenly birthday of thy holy Virgin Saint Ebba may be conformed to the pattern of her hidden life with thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 1:3–7. ♦

BLESSED be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation. And our hope of you is steadfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:44–46. ♦

THE kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

Preface of Pentecost

Saint Louis IX, King of France, Confessor

[August 25]

:: *Louis IX (1214–1270) was King of France, and a zealous defender of the faith. He participated in both the Seventh and Eighth Crusades, spending the intervening years in the kingdoms of Acre, Caesarea, and Jaffa. Louis was renowned for his charity, and founded several hospitals for the poor and disabled.*

O GOD, who didst call thy servant Louis to an earthly throne that he might advance thy heavenly kingdom, and didst endue him with zeal for thy Church and charity towards thy people: Mercifully grant that we who commemorate his example may be fruitful in good works, and attain to the glorious fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦(☒)

For the Epistle. Wisdom 3:1–9. ☒

THE souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, And their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself. As gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign for ever. They that put their trust in him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with him: for grace and mercy is to his saints, and he hath care for his elect.

The Gospel. Luke 12:22–31. ☒

JESUS said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment. Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? If ye then be not able to do

that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Proprs of a Monarch or of a Confessor

Thomas Gallaudet, Priest and Apostle to the Deaf, and Henry Winter Syle, Priest

[August 27]

:: *Thomas Gallaudet (1822–1902) was a priest and the son of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, the co-founder of the first educational institute for the Deaf in North America. Gallaudet followed in his father's footsteps, ministering to the Deaf community, through teaching and by providing services. Henry Winter Syle (1846–1890) was a student and parishioner of Gallaudet. He became the first Deaf clergyman in the United States, establishing a congregation for the Deaf. August 27 is the date of Gallaudet's death.*

The Collect

O LOVING God, whose willest that everyone should come to thee and be saved: We bless thy holy Name for thy servants Thomas Gallaudet and Henry Winter Syle, whose labours with and for those who are deaf we commemorate today, and we pray that thou wouldest continually move thy Church to respond in love to the needs of all people; through Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒◇

For the Epistle. Isaiah 35:1–7. ☒◇

THE wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon

shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

The Gospel. Mark 7:32–37. ☒◇

THEY bring unto Jesus one that was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they beseech him to put his hand upon him. And he took him aside from the multitude, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue; and looking up to heaven, he sighed, and saith unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened. And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spake plain. And he charged them that they should tell no man: but the more he charged them, so much the more a great deal they published it; and were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.

Preface of Pentecost

**Saint Monica (Monnica) of Hippo,
Mother of Saint Augustine of Hippo**
[August 27]

See May 4.

Saint Augustine of Hippo, Bishop in Africa, Doctor

[August 28]

:: Augustine of Hippo (354–430) was Bishop of Hippo in Numidia, Roman North Africa (current-day Algeria). He was a prominent theologian, and one of the most important Church Fathers of the patristic period. He is the author of several major works, including The City of God, On Christian Doctrine, and his Confessions. August 28 is the day of his death, but some jurisdictions also commemorate his conversion, which was a significant event in his spiritual journey. Augustine probably converted in August or September of 386. He was baptized the following year on April 24 at an Easter Vigil. The Augustinians celebrate his conversion on the date of his baptism, but other jurisdictions transfer it to May 5, well beyond the range of possible dates for Easter (which would take precedence).

The Collect

O GOD, who gavest the blessed Augustine to be a Doctor of thy Church and an exponent of the mysteries of Holy Scripture: Grant that we, being instructed by his faithful teaching, may be strengthened to hold fast the catholic faith: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who from among the people of Africa didst raise up thy servant Augustine to be a Bishop and Doctor of the Church: Grant us so to follow him in paths of penitence and discipline that we may attain to the vision of thy glorious Godhead; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD God, who art the light of the minds that know thee, the life of the souls that love thee, and the strength of the hearts that serve thee: Help us, after the example of thy servant Saint Augustine, so to know thee that we may truly love thee, so to love thee that we may fully serve thee, whom to serve is perfect, freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦ ☒

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, who didst raise up blessed Augustine in thy Church, to be the witness and champion of the

gospel of thy grace: Show forth in us, we beseech thee, the working of the same grace, that by light from thee we may know thy will, and by thy power may perform it with all our heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ϣ

¶ *Or this:*

RENEW in thy Church, we pray, O Lord, that spirit with which thou hast endowed thy Bishop Saint Augustine; that, filled with the same spirit, we may thirst for thee, the sole fount of true wisdom, and seek thee, the author of heavenly love; through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ϣ

For the Epistle. Wisdom 8:2–10. ◇

I LOVED wisdom, and sought her out from my youth, I desired to make her my spouse, and I was a lover of her beauty. In that she is conversant with God, she magnifieth her nobility: yea, the Lord of all things himself loved her. For she is privy to the mysteries of the knowledge of God, and a lover of his works. If riches be a possession to be desired in this life; what is richer than wisdom, that worketh all things? And if prudence work; who of all that are is a more cunning workman than she? And if a man love righteousness her labours are virtues: for she teacheth temperance and prudence, justice and fortitude: which are such things, as en can have nothing more profitable in their life. If a man desire much experience, she knoweth things of old, and conjectureth aright what is to come: she knoweth the subtilties of speeches, and can expound dark sentences: she foreseeth signs and wonders, and the events of seasons and times. Therefore I purposed to take her to me to live with me, knowing that she would be a counsellor of good things, and a comfort in cares and grief. For her sake I shall have estimation among the multitude, and honour with the elders, though I be young.

¶ *Or this:*

The Epistle. Romans 13:11–14. ♦

KNOWING the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

The Gospel. Matthew 7:24–29. ♦♦

JESUS said: Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Hebrews 12:22–29. ♦✠♦

BUT ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire.

The Gospel. John 17:1–8. ◇

THESE words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: as thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. John 14:6–15. ✠◇

JESUS saith unto Thomas, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye

should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Preface of Baptism

The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist

[August 29]

:: *This is one of several feast days commemorating specific events in the life of our Lord and his apostles.*

The Collect

O GOD, who didst vouchsafe to thy servant John Baptist to be in birth and death the forerunner of thy Son: Grant that as he was slain for truth and righteousness, so we may contend for the same unto the end; for the love of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose providence thy servant John the Baptist was sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Saviour, by preaching of repentance: Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and after his

example constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst call thy servant John to be the forerunner of thy Son our Lord both in life and death; grant, we beseech thee, that as we remember his faithfulness unto death, we may with boldness speak thy truth and with humility be ready to hear it; through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who with Thee and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest one God, world without end.

Amen. ◇

For the Epistle. 2 Chronicles 24:17–21. ♦♦

NOW after the death of Jehoiada came the princes of Judah, and made obeisance to the king. Then the king hearkened unto them. And they left the house of the LORD God of their fathers, and served groves and idols: and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their trespass. Yet he sent prophets to them, to bring them again unto the LORD; and they testified against them: but they would not give ear. And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, which stood above the people, and said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the LORD, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also forsaken you. And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of the LORD.

¶ *Or this:*

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 4:5–11. ◇

FOR we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. For we which live are alway delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

The Gospel. Matthew 14:1–12. ♦♦ ♦

AT that time Herod the tetrarch heard of the fame of Jesus, and said unto his servants, This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead; and therefore mighty works do shew forth themselves in him. For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife. For John said unto him, It is not lawful for thee to have her. And when he would have put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet. But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod. Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask. And she, being before instructed of her mother, said, Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger. And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her. And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison. And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel: and she brought it to her mother. And his disciples came, and took up the body, and buried it, and went and told Jesus.

Preface of a Saint

John Bunyan, Spiritual Writer

[August 30]

:: *John Bunyan (1628–1688) was a Puritan preacher and author. His most famous work is The Pilgrim’s Progress. August 31 is the date of Bunyan’s death. The Church of England commemorates him on August 30, while the Episcopal Church commemorates him on August 29.*

Preface of a Saint

Charles Chapman Grafton, Bishop and Confessor

[August 30]

:: *Charles Chapman Grafton (1830–1912) was the second Bishop of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.*

Preface of a Bishop or of a Confessor

Saint Aidan of Lindisfarne

[August 31]

:: *Aidan of Lindisfarne (d. 651) was an Irish missionary who converted the Anglo-Saxons in Lindisfarne, where he founded a monastic cathedral. He is known as the “Apostle of Northumbria”.*

The Collect

O GOD, who of old time sentest thy servant Aidan to preach to the English thy saving Word: Grant unto all ministers of thy Word and Sacrament such simplicity of purpose and love for the souls of men, that they may truly follow him, even as he followed Christ; through the same thy Son, our only Mediator and redeemer. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

INSPIRE by thy blessed Spirit, O Lord God, all Bishops and Pastors, that they may tend their flocks after the pattern of thy servant Saint Aidan, with gentleness and strength; that thy people may be shepherded with the holy love of our Redeemer Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end.

Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O ALMIGHTY God, who in thy providence didst choose thy servant Aidan to be an apostle to the people of England, to bring

those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of thee: Grant us so to walk in that light, that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through the merits of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LOVING God, who didst call thy servant Aidan from the peace of a cloister to re-establish the Christian mission in northern England, and didst endow him with gentleness, simplicity and strength: Grant, we beseech thee, that we, following his example, may use what thou hast given us for the relief of human need, and may persevere in commending the saving Gospel of our Redeemer Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 9:16–23. ♦♦ ☒

FOR though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not The Gospel! For if I do this thing willingly; I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of The Gospel is committed unto me. What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make The Gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in The Gospel. For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law (though not being myself under the law), that I might gain them that are under the law; to them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. And this I do for The Gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

JESUS said unto his disciples: Take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Matthew 19:27–30. ☒

THEN answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Giles (Aedigius) of Provence, Abbot, Holy Helper [September 1]

:: *Giles (c. 560–c. 710) was a Greek hermit from Athens. He travelled to France, where he eventually settled in the forest near Nîmes. The local king, who held the hermit in high esteem, built him a monastery, Saint-Gilles-du-Gard, which Giles placed under the Benedictine rule. When he died, he was buried in the abbey, which became a place of pilgrimage on the way from Arles to Santiago de Compostela (the Way of Saint James). Giles is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.*

O GOD, who revealest the hidden life of the soul, and guidest thy chosen along the pilgrim roads to seek it where they may find it: Grant that we may still be inspired by the example of the Hermit Saint Giles to count all things but loss for the knowledge of thee; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD Jesu Christ, who bought us by thy Blood: Help us to follow thee and the company of Saints in merciful thought and loving deed; and especially after the gracious pattern of thy servant Giles, make us pitiful to the poor, tender toward the crippled and broken, and humbly obedient unto thee, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Tobit 13:10–15. ♦♦

GIVE praise to the Lord, for he is good: and praise the everlasting King, that his tabernacle may be builded in thee again with joy, and let him make joyful there in thee those that are captives, and love in thee for ever those that are miserable. Many nations shall come from far to the name of the Lord God with gifts in their hands, even gifts to the King of heaven; all generations shall praise thee with great joy. Cursed are all they which hate thee, and blessed shall all be which love thee for ever. Rejoice and be glad for the children of the just: for they shall be gathered together, and shall bless the Lord of the just. O blessed are they which love thee, for they shall rejoice in thy peace: blessed are they which have been sorrowful for all thy scourges; for they shall rejoice for thee, when they have seen all thy glory, and shall be glad for ever. Let my soul bless God the great King.

TAKE heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: that thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

¶ *Or this:*

BEHOLD, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked Jesus, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him. And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days. Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other.

Preface of Pentecost

The Martyrs of New Guinea

[September 2]

:: *The Martyrs of New Guinea (d. 1942) were members of a mission in Papua New Guinea originally established by the London Missionary Society. They died at the hands of Japanese invaders during World War II.*

ALMIGHTY God, we remember before thee this day the blessed martyrs of New Guinea, who, following the example of their Saviour, laid down their lives for their friends; and we pray that we who honour their memory may imitate their loyalty and faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ✠✧

For the Epistle. Revelation 7:13–17. ✠✧

ONE of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The Gospel. Luke 12:4–12. ✠✧

AND I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God: but he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God. And whosoever shall

speaking a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven. And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: for the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

Preface of Holy Week

Saint Stephen of Hungary, King and Confessor

[September 2]

:: *Stephen I (c. 975–1038) was King of Hungary, and the first member of his family to become a devout Christian. He fostered the Church in Hungary independently from the Holy Roman Empire: he established several episcopal sees and Benedictine monasteries. Innocent XI added Stephen to the universal Roman calendar in 1686 and set September 2 as the date of Stephen's commemoration, because on that date, Emperor Leopold recaptured Buda (the site of Stephen's relics) from the Ottoman Empire. Stephen died on August 15, the Dormition; when the 1969 GRC transferred Joachim from August 16 to July 26 (the commemoration of his wife Anne), Stephen's feast was transferred to August 16. In Hungary, Stephen is commemorated on August 20, the day of his canonization and the translation of his relics.*

Propers of a Monarch or of a Confessor

The Consecration of Saint Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Doctor

[September 3]

See March 12.

Saint Evurtius (Enurchus), Bishop of Orleans

[September 7]

:: *Evurtius (d. c. 340) was Bishop of Orleans. His commemoration in the York Breviary was added to the BCP (as "Enurchus") in 1604 as a way of distinguishing the birthday of Elizabeth I (following her death the previous year).*

Preface of a Bishop

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

[September 8]

:: *September 8 was the date of the dedication of the Basilica Sanctae Mariae ubi nata est (now called the Church of Saint Anne) in the 6th century. The original church, built in the 5th century, was said to be erected on the spot thought to have been the home of Mary's parents.*

O MERCIFUL God, hear the prayers of thy servants who commemorate the nativity of the Mother of the Lord; and grant that by the incarnation of thy dear Son we may indeed be made nigh unto him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ✠

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who by the overshadowing of the Holy Ghost didst prepare the body and soul of the Virgin-Mother Mary to be a dwelling place for thy Son: Keep us, we beseech thee, pure and undefiled, that we may be an holy temple wherein he may alway abide, who liveth and reigneth with the in the unity of the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◆

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, heavenly Father, we remember in thanksgiving this day the parents and birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and we pray that we all may be made one in the heavenly family of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◆

¶ *Or this:*

IMPART to thy servants, we pray thee, O Lord, the gift of heavenly grace, that the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin may bring deeper peace to those for whom the birth of her Son was the dawning of salvation; through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ρ

For the Epistle. Genesis 3:9–15. ◆

THE LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told

thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

The Gospel. Luke 11:27–28. ♦

AND it came to pass, as he spake these things, a certain woman of the company lifted up her voice, and said unto him, Blessed is the womb that bare thee, and the paps which thou hast sucked. But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. 1 Samuel 1:1–20. ◇

NOW there was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim, of mount Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephrathite: and he had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah: and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. And this man went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice unto the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, were there.

And when the time was that Elkanah offered, he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions: but unto Hannah he gave a worthy portion; for he loved Hannah: but the LORD had shut up her womb. And her adversary also provoked her sore, for to make

her fret, because the LORD had shut up her womb. And as he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, so she provoked her; therefore she wept, and did not eat. Then said Elkanah her husband to her, Hannah, why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? am not I better to thee than ten sons?

So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD. And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore. And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head. And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli marked her mouth. Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken. And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee. And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD. Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto. Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him. And she said, Let thine handmaid find grace in thy sight. So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad.

And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before the LORD, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the LORD remembered her. Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD.

IN the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Preface of Our Lady

Søren Kierkegaard, Teacher and Philosopher

[September 8]

:: Søren Kierkegaard (1813–1855) was a Danish philosopher, theologian, and author. He is considered to be the first existentialist philosopher; he wrote widely on Christian ethics, the institution of the Church, and Christian love. November 11 is the date of Kierkegaard's death, and that is the date on which the Lutheran Church commemorates him. The Episcopal Church commemorates him on September 8.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Ciarán of Clonmacnoise, Abbot

[September 9]

:: *Ciarán of Clonmacnoise (c. 516–c. 549) was one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland. Born in Couthy Roscommon, Connacht, he traveled to Inishmore and Senan on Scatterry Island, before founding the Monastery of Clonmacnoise (“Meadow of the Sons of Nós”) in County Offaly, becoming its first abbot. Ciarán is called “the Younger” to distinguish him from Ciarán Saighir, “the Elder”.*

Preface of Pentecost

Peter Claver, S. J.

[September 9]

:: *Peter Claver (1580–1654) was a Spanish Jesuit priest who practiced as a missionary in the New World. Working in Cartagena, Colombia, a major slave-trading hub, Claver developed a ministry to the slaves arriving from Africa. September 8 is the date of Claver’s death, but he is commemorated on September 9 to avoid a conflict with the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

Preface of a Saint

Saint Deiniol, Bishop of Bangor

[September 11]

:: *Deiniol (d. 584) was the first Bishop of Bangor in the Kingdom of Gwynedd, Wales. He is said to have been consecrated by David.*

The Collect

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst set blessed Deiniol to be a Bishop in the Church, that he might feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us, we beseech thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 3:14–16. ♦

THESE things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: but if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the

Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

The Gospel. Luke 11:33–36. ♦

NO man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light. The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness. Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness. If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.

Preface of a Bishop

**John Henry Hobart, Bishop of New York,
Founder of General Theological Seminary**

[September 12]

:: John Henry Hobart (1775–1830) was the third Bishop of New York. He founded both the General Theological Seminary in New York and also Geneva College (later named Hobart Free College).

The Collect

O GOD, who dost ever hallow and protect thy Church: Raise up therein through thy Spirit good and faithful stewards of the mysteries of Christ, as thou didst in thy servant John Henry Hobart; that by their ministry and example thy people may abide in thy favour and walk in the way of truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

REVIVE thy Church, Lord God of hosts, whensoever it doth fall into complacency and sloth, by raising up devoted leaders like thy servant John Henry Hobart whom we remember this day; and grant that their faith and vigour of mind may awaken thy people to thy

message and their mission; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ✠◇

The Epistle. Jude 20–21, 24–25. ✠

BUT ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

¶ *Or this:*

The Epistle. Titus 1:7–9. ◇

ABISHOP must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; but a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

The Gospel. John 17:11b–19. ✠◇

HOLY Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the

world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Cyprian of Carthage, Bishop, Martyr

[September 13]

:: Cyprian (c. 200–258) was Bishop of Carthage and a notable early Christian writer of Berber descent. September 14 is the date of Cyprian's death. To avoid a conflict with the Feast of the Holy Cross, it is transferred variously to September 13, 15, or 16. The Eastern Orthodox Church commemorates him on August 31.

The Collect

O GOD, who gavest grace to thy bishop Cyprian to guard thy Church in Africa through troublous times: Grant to all those who bear rule in thy household to labour for its steadfastness and to maintain in unity and order: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst enable thy holy Bishop Cyprian to consecrate all his powers to the service of the Church even unto death: Grant that all those who bear rule in thy house may ever think of its beauty, its purity, and its honour, to build them in the time of peace and guard them in the day of trouble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O ALMIGHTY God, who didst give to thy servant Cyprian boldness to confess the Name of our Saviour Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of the same our Lord Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒ Δ (♦)

FOR as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: and those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: that there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

SO when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou

me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Hebrews 13:7–8, 15–17. ♦

REMEMBER them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

The Gospel. Luke 14:26–35. ♦

IF any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? lest haply, after he hath laid the

foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple. Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. I Peter 5:1–4, 10–11. ☒

THE elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. The God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Gospel. John 10:11–16. ☒

IAM the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I

am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

Preface of a Saint

**The Repose of Saint John Chrysostom,
Bishop of Constantinople, Doctor**
[September 13]

See January 27.

Holy Cross Day (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)
[September 14]

:: According to tradition, Helena (c. 246/48–c. 330) discovered the true cross on September 14. Alternatively, the date is based on the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in 334. The dedication festival lasted two days; on the second day, September 14, the Cross was brought out so that the clergy and faithful could venerate it. In the seventh or eighth century, the commemoration of the actual finding was transferred to May 3, leaving September 14 to commemorate the Cross itself.

The Collect

O GOD, who by the passion of thy blessed Son hast made the instrument of shameful death to be unto us the signs* of life and peace: Grant us so to glory in the Cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss; for the sake of the same thy Son our Lord.

Amen. ✠✠✠

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant, that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be mad

* The *Welsh BCP* has “means”.

partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world unto himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.* ☒♦

¶ *Or the collect for Palm Sunday may be used.*

¶ *Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday of this week are the traditional autumn Ember Days.*

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 1:17–25. ✠♦♦

FOR Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: but we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

The Gospel. John 12:27–33. ✠♦♦

JESUS said, Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.

Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes. Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Philippians 2:5–11. ☒◆

LET this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Gospel. John 12:31–36a. ☒◆

NOW is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die. The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? who is this Son of man? Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light.

Saint Ninian, Bishop in Galloway

[September 16]

:: *Ninian (d. 432) was a Scottish missionary known as the “Apostle to the Southern Picts” for his work in the Scottish Lowlands.*

The Collect

O GOD, the Light of the world, who of old didst build up many a fortress of the faith to serve as a stronghold in the gloom of heathenism, and a light-house diffusing learning and piety: Inspire within our schools and colleges a challenge to the false and a witness to the true; and in our time send forth judgement unto victory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by the preaching of thy blessed servant Saint Ninian, didst cause the light of the Gospel to shine in the British Isles: Lead us by its brightness to become sons of a new birth, growing into thine image from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by the preaching of thy blessed servant Ninian didst cause the light of the Gospel to shine in the land of Britain: Grant, we beseech thee, that having his life and labours in remembrance, we may show forth our thankfulness unto thee for the same by following the example of his zeal and patience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦(☒)

The Epistle. 1 Thessalonians 2:9–12. ♦♦

FOR ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God. Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves

among you that believe: as ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children, that ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

The Gospel. Mark 1:35–39. ♦♦

IN the morning, rising up a great while before day, Jesus went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed. And Simon and they that were with him followed after him. And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee. And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth. And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Isaiah 49:1–6. ☒

LISTEN, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name. And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me; and said unto me, Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified. Then I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: yet surely my judgment is with the LORD, and my work with my God. And now, saith the LORD that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and my God shall be my strength. And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

THEN the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Preface of a Saint

Edward Pusey, Priest

[September 16]

:: *Edward Bouverie Pusey (1800–1882) was a cleric and Regius Professor of Hebrew at the University of Oxford. He was one of the leading figures in the Oxford Movement. September 16 is the date of Pusey's death. Some jurisdictions translate his commemoration to September 17 or 18.*

The Collect

GRANT unto us, O God, that in all time of our testing we may know thy presence and obey thy will; that, following the example of thy servant Edward Bouverie Pusey, we may with integrity and courage accomplish what thou givest us to do, and endure what thou givest us to bear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒◇

The Epistle. 1 Peter 2:19–23. ☒◇

FOR this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: who, when he was reviled, reviled

not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:44–52. ☒◆

JESUS said: The kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Lambert, Bishop of Maastricht, Martyr

[September 17]

:: Lambert of Maastricht (c. 635–c. 705) was Bishop of Maastricht-Liège (Tongeren). Lambert denounced the relationship of Pepin, the married ruler of the Franks, with his mistress. Lambert was murdered during the political turmoil as the Merovingian dynasty was ousted by the Carolingians. He is honoured for his defence of marriage.

The Collect

WE beseech thee, O Lord, to grant us, after the example of blessed Lambert, thy Bishop and Marty, constancy in thy faith and truth, that we may be grounded in divine love and moved from its perfection by no temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆

BLESSED be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation. And our hope of you is steadfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:24–27. ♦

THEN said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Probers of a Saint

Saint Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, Doctor

[September 17]

:: Hildegard of Bingen (1098–1179) was a Benedictine abbess, writer, composer, philosopher, and mystic. She is best known for works such as the *Ordo Virtutum*, one of the earliest liturgical dramas or morality plays, and her three volumes of visionary theology: *Scivias* (“*Know the Ways*”), *Liber Vitae Meritorum* (“*Book of the Rewards of Life*”), and *Liber Divinorum Operum* (“*Book of Divine Works*”).

The Collect

GOD of all times and seasons: Give us grace that we, after the example of thy servant Hildegard, may both know and make

known the joy and jubilation of being part of thy creation, and show forth thy glory, not only with our lips but in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒◇

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 43:1–12. ☒◇

THE pride of the height, the clear firmament, the beauty of heaven, with his glorious shew; The sun when it appeareth, declaring at his rising a marvellous instrument, the work of the most High: At noon it parcheth the country, and who can abide the burning heat thereof? A man blowing a furnace is in works of heat, but the sun burneth the mountains three times more; breathing out fiery vapours, and sending forth bright beams, it dimmeth the eyes. Great is the Lord that made it; and at his commandment runneth hastily. He made the moon also to serve in her season for a declaration of times, and a sign of the world. From the moon is the sign of feasts, a light that decreaseth in her perfection. The month is called after her name, increasing wonderfully in her changing, being an instrument of the armies above, shining in the firmament of heaven; The beauty of heaven, the glory of the stars, an ornament giving light in the highest places of the Lord. At the commandment of the Holy One they will stand in their order, and never faint in their watches. Look upon the rainbow, and praise him that made it; very beautiful it is in the brightness thereof. It compasseth the heaven about with a glorious circle, and the hands of the most High have bended it.

The Gospel. John 3:16–21. ☒◇

FOR God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is

condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Preface of Epiphany

Saint Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury

[September 19]

:: Theodore of Tarsus (602–690) was a Greek cleric who fled to Constantinople after the Persian empire conquered his home city of Tarsus. He later travelled to Canterbury, where he became Archbishop of Canterbury. He is known for his reform of the English Church, and for establishing a school in Canterbury.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who didst inspire and enable thy servant Theodore of Tarsus, regardless of self, to accept thy call to rule and reform our land in its day of need: Preserve for us those blessings of orthodox faith and catholic discipline which through him thou didst bestow; and grant to his successors a double portion of his spirit; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst set blessed Theodore to be a Bishop in the Church, that he might feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us, we beseech thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who dost ever hallow and protect thy Church: Raise up therein through thy Spirit good and faithful stewards of the mysteries of Christ, as thou didst in thy servant Theodore; that by their

ministry and example thy people may abide in thy favour and walk in the way of truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst call thy servant Theodore of Tarsus from Rome to the see of Canterbury, and didst give him gifts of grace and wisdom to establish unity where there had been division, and order where there had been chaos: Create in thy Church, we pray thee, by the operation of the Holy Spirit, such godly union and concord that it may proclaim, both by word and example, the Gospel of the Prince of Peace; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒☒

The Epistle. 2 Thessalonians 1:3–5. ♦

WE are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth; so that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer.

The Gospel. John 15:1–7. ♦

IAM the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not

in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Romans 10:12–15. ♦

THERE is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

The Gospel. John 14:1–7. ♦

LET not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 2:1–5, 10. ☒

THOU therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to

teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he nor crowned, except he strive lawfully. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:42–47. ☒

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Eustace (Eustachius), Martyr, Holy Helper

[September 20]

:: Eustace (d. 118) was ostensibly a Roman general under Emperor Trajan who later fell afoul of Emperor Hadrian, who was less tolerant of Christians. After refusing to make an offering to pagan gods, Eustace and his family were subjected to various tortures before dying. He is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.

Propers of a Martyr

Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

[September 21]

:: Matthew is one of the original twelve disciples; he is also an Evangelist. His representation as one of the four living creatures of Revelation 4:7 is the form of a winged man.

O ALMIGHTY God, who by thy blessed Son didst call Matthew from the receipt of custom to be an Apostle and Evangelist: Grant us grace to forsake all covetous desires, and inordinate love of riches, and to follow the same thy Son Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* §†

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 4:1. §†

THEREFORE seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel. Matthew 9:9. §†

AND as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him. And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners? But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn

what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Adamnan (Adomnán), Abbot of Iona

[September 23]

:: Adamnan (624–704) was an Irish hagiographer, statesman, and canon jurist. He is the author of a book on the life of his cousin Columba, and a treatise, *De Locis Sanctis* (“On Holy Places”) about holy places and centres of pilgrimages. He is one of the early abbots of Iona.

Propers of an Abbot

The Apparition of Our Lady of Walsingham

[September 24]

:: In 1061, Richeldis de Faverches (“Rychold”), a devout noblewoman, had a series of visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The holy house which Lady Richeldis had constructed became a place of pilgrimage. Her son Geoffrey had a priory built on the site; it later passed into the care of the Canons Regular of Saint Augustine.

Propers of Our Lady

Saint Cadoc of Wales, Abbot

[September 25]

:: Cadoc (c. 497–580) was Abbot of Llancarfan, near Cowbridge in Glamorganshire. Cadoc established a number of churches in Cornwall, Brittany, and Scotland. September 21 is thought to have been the date of Cadoc’s death, but because this conflicts with Matthew, his commemoration has traditionally been on September 25, particularly in Wales. In other calendars, he is commemorated on January 24.

The Collect

O GOD, who didst enlighten the holy Abbot Saint Cadoc with thy heavenly wisdom: May it please thee that after his pattern we may renounce the hidden things of darkness and so walk in the light of thy truth that we may at length attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Proverbs 1:7–9, 20–23, 33. ♦

THE fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. My son, hear the instruction of

thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck. Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying, How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

The Gospel. John 3:16–21. ♦

FOR God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Propers of a Monastic

**Saint Sergius of Radonezh (Sergii Radonezhsky),
Abbot of Holy Trinity, Moscow**

[September 25]

:: *Sergius of Radonezh (1314–1392) was a spiritual leader and monastic reformer in medieval Russia. As a monk, he built a small monastic cell and a church dedicated to the Holy Trinity. This developed into the Trinity Lavra (the Abbey of the Holy Trinity), one of over forty monasteries founded by Sergius. He was invited by Alexius, Metropolitan of Moscow, to be his successor, but he declined, preferring to remain a monk.*

ALMIGHTY God, who in days of trouble and rebuke didst raise up blessed Sergius to be a defender of thy people: Strengthen and confirm our brethren of the Russian Church, that holding fast the faith once for all delivered to the saints, they may worship thee and serve thee all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we give thee thanks for the purity and strength with which thou didst endow thy servant Sergius; and we pray that by thy grace we may have a like power to hallow and conform our souls and bodies, to the purpose of thy most holy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, whose blessed Son became poor that we through his poverty might be rich: Deliver us, we pray thee, from an inordinate love of this world, that inspired by the devotion of thy servant Sergius of Moscow, we may serve thee with singleness of heart, and attain to the riches of the age to come; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒▲

For the Epistle. Wisdom 10:10–14. ♦

WHEN the righteous fled from his brother's wrath, wisdom guided him in right paths, shewed him the kingdom of God, and gave him knowledge of holy things, made him rich in his travels, and multiplied the fruit of his labours. In the covetousness of such as oppressed him she stood by him, and made him rich. She defended him from his enemies, and kept him safe from those that lay in wait, and in a sore conflict she gave him the victory; that he might know that goodness is stronger than all. When the righteous was sold, she forsook him not, but delivered him from sin: she went down with him into the pit, And

left him not in bonds, till she brought him the sceptre of the kingdom, and power against those that oppressed him: as for them that had accused him, she shewed them to be liars, and gave him perpetual glory.

The Gospel. Luke 14:31–35. ♦

JESUS said unto his disciples: What king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple. Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 39:1–9. ☒

HE that giveth his mind to the law of the most High, and is occupied in the meditation thereof, will seek out the wisdom of all the ancient, and be occupied in prophecies. He will keep the sayings of the renowned men: and where subtil parables are, he will be there also. He will seek out the secrets of grave sentences, and be conversant in dark parables. He shall serve among great men, and appear before princes: he will travel through strange countries; for he hath tried the good and the evil among men. He will give his heart to resort early to the Lord that made him, and will pray before the most High, and will open his mouth in prayer, and make supplication for his sins. When the great Lord will, he shall be filled with the spirit of understanding: he shall pour out wise sentences, and give thanks unto the Lord in his prayer. He shall direct his counsel and knowledge, and in his secrets shall he meditate. He shall shew forth that which he hath learned, and shall glory in the law of the covenant of the Lord. Many shall commend

his understanding; and so long as the world endureth, it shall not be blotted out; his memorial shall not depart away, and his name shall live from generation to generation.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ☒

JESUS saith: the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Propers of a Monastic

Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Westminster

[September 25]

:: Lancelot Andrewes (1555–1626) was a bishop and scholar who served successively as Bishop of Chichester, Ely, and Winchester. He oversaw the translation of the King James Version (the Authorised Version) of the Bible. September 25 is the date of Andrewes's death, but some jurisdictions commemorate him on September 26.

The Collect

ETERNAL Lord God, who boldest all souls in life: We beseech thee to shed forth upon thy whole Church in paradise and on earth the bright beams of thy light and thy peace; and grant that we, following the good examples of thy servant Lancelot Andrewes, and of all those who loved and served thee here, may at the last enter with them into thine unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD and Father, our King and God, by whose grace the Church was enriched by the great learning and eloquent preaching of thy servant Lancelot Andrewes, but even more by his example of biblical and liturgical prayer: Conform our lives, like his, we beseech thee, to the image of Christ, that our hearts may love thee, our minds serve thee, and our lips proclaim the greatness of thy mercy; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒Δ

¶ *Or this:*

PERFECT in us, Almighty God, whatever is lacking of thy gifts: of faith, to increase it; of hope, to establish it; of love, to kindle it; that like thy servant Lancelot Andrewes we may live in the life of thy grace and glory; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 2:1–7. ☒◇

I EXHORT therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.

The Gospel. Luke 11:1–4. ☒◇

IT came to pass, that, as Jesus was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. And he said unto them, When ye pray,

say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Finnbarr (Fionnbharra) of Cork, Bishop

[September 25]

:: *Finnbarr (c. 550–623) was Bishop of Cork, where he founded a church and a monastery, attracting monks and students, and causing Cork to become a centre of learning. His cult in Scotland (particularly in Caithness) is possibly due to his confusion with Finnian of Moville.*

Proprs of a Bishop

Saint Cosmas and Saint Damian, Martyrs

[September 26]

:: *Cosmas and Damian (d. c. 287 or c. 303) were Arab physicians in the Roman province of Syria. They were arrested during the persecutions under Emperor Diocletian. They suffered various tortures before finally being beheaded. Cosmas and Damian were originally commemorated on September 27, but they were moved to September 26 to accommodate Vincent de Paul on his dies natalis.*

Proprs of a Martyr

Vincent de Paul, Confessor

[September 27]

:: *Vincent de Paul (1581–1660) was a priest who devoted himself to serving the poor. He was the founder of the Congregation of the Mission and the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul. September 27 is the date of de Paul's death. He was first commemorated on July 19 when he was added to the GRC in 1737, to avoid a conflict with Cosmas and Damian. The 1969 GRC moved his commemoration to the date of his death.*

The Collect

MOST Gracious God, who hast bidden us to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly before thee; Teach us, like thy servants Vincent and Louise, to see and to serve Christ by feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, and caring for the

sick; that we may know him to be the giver of all good things, through the same, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. 1 Samuel 2:2–10. ◇

THERE is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength. They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble. The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and he hath set the world upon them. He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

The Gospel. Matthew 25:31–46. ◇

WHEN the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the

world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Preface of Baptism

Saint Wenceslas, King of Bohemia

[September 28]

:: Wenceslas (c. 911–935) was technically Duke of Bohemia; he was given the title “King” posthumously by Holy Roman Emperor Otto I. Wenceslas brought German priests into Bohemia, and promoted the Latin rite over the Slavic rite, which had fallen into disuse. Wenceslas was murdered by his younger brother Boleslav.

Propers of a Monarch

Saint Michael and all Angels

[September 29]

:: *Michael* (Mikhā'ēl, “Who is like God?”) is one of the four archangels and the Captain of the Heavenly Hosts as described in the Book of Revelation. Originally only a commemoration of Michael, the current commemoration includes Gabriel, Raphael, and the rest of the nine orders of angels. Michael gives his name to the fall term (beginning in September or early October) at the Universities of Oxford and Dublin, a practice derived from the usage of the Courts of England and Wales, and the Courts of Ireland. This practice has carried over to a number of other universities, who observe a Michaelmas term, and at some level, to the Supreme Court of the United States, which begins its annual term on the first Monday of October, just days after Michaelmas.

The Collect

OVERLASTING God, who hast ordained and constituted the services of Angels and men in a wonderful order: Mercifully grant, that as thy holy Angels alway do thee service in heaven, so by thy appointment they may succour and defend us on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

For the Epistle. Revelation 12:7–12. §†

THERE was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

AT the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh! Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire. Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

Preface of Saint Michael and All Angels

Saint Jerome, Presbyter, Doctor

[September 30]

:: *Jerome (c. 347–420) was a priest, confessor, theologian, and historian. After a dissolute youth, Jerome converted and then travelled from his native Dalmatia (modern-day Slovenia) variously to Gaul, Thrace, Asia Minor, and Antioch in Syria. Jerome's translation of the Bible constituted the bulk of the Latin Vulgate. Jerome is the second most voluminous writer (after Augustine of Hippo) in ancient Latin Christianity. His writing can be polemical, and sometimes even caustic (particularly his letters).*

O LORD, who hast given us thy holy word for a light to shine upon the path of life: Grant us after the examples of thy servant Jerome so to mediate upon the law and rule ourselves according to thy word, that we may find in it the light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

BLESSED Lord, who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that after the example of thy blessed Saint Jerome, we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast given us the holy Scriptures for a light to shine upon our path: Grant us, after the example of thy servant Jerome, so to learn of thee according to thy holy Word, that we may find in it the light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD, thou God of truth, thy Word is a lantern to our feet and a light upon our path: We give thee thanks for thy servant Jerome, and those who, following in his steps, have laboured to render the Holy Scriptures in the language of the people; and we beseech thee that thy Holy Spirit may overshadow us as we read the written Word, and that christ, the living Word, may transform us according to thy righteous will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst give us the holy Scriptures as a light to shine upon our path: Grant us, after the example of thy servant Jerome, so to learn of thee according to thy holy Word, that we may find the Light that shines more and more to the perfect day; even Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–9. ◇◇

AND all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded to Israel. And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: and Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading. And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha* and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.

* The “Tirshatha” is the “governor”.

THEN Peter said, Lo, we have left all, and followed thee. And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake, who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.

¶ *Or this:*

THEN Jesus said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further. But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them. And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

¶ *Or these lessons:*

DEARLY beloved: Continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; and that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in

righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

The Gospel. Luke 24:44–48. ☒◆

JESUS said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, and said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things.

Preface of Pentecost

Saint Remigius, Bishop of Rheims

[October 1]

:: Remigius (c. 437–533) was Bishop of Reims and “Apostle of the Franks”. He baptised Clovis I, the Frankish king, leading to the conversion of the entire Frankish people. January 13 is the date of Remigius’s death; October 1 is the date of the translation of his relics.

The Collect

O GOD, who chocest thy servant Remigius to be the harbinger of salvation to the King and whole nation of the Franks: hasten, we pray thee, the almighty working of thy providence, whereby the kings and chiefs of untaught lands bring in their glory and honour, to take their destined place within the Holy City of thy perfected Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst set blessed Remigius to be a Bishop in the Church, that he might feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us,

we beseech thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦(♦)

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by the teaching of thy faithful servant and bishop Remigius didst turn the nation of the Franks from vain idolatry to the worship of the, the true and living God, in the fulness of the catholic faith: Grant that we who glory in the name of Christian may show forth our faith in worthy deeds; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Habakkuk 2:1–3. ♦♦

I WILL stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

The Gospel. Matthew 28:18–20. ♦♦

JESUS spake unto the eleven disciples, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 John 4:1–6. ☒

BELOVED, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the

world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: and every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

The Gospel. John 14:3–7. ☒

JESUS said unto his disciples: And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

Preface of a Saint

Holy Guardian Angels

[October 2]

:: *The commemoration of the Holy Guardian Angels dates back to around 1500, when it was first kept by the Franciscan order.*

The Collect

O GOD, who in thine unspeakable providence deignest to send thy holy angels for our safe-keeping: grant unto us thy suppliants, that we may ever be defended by their protection, and rejoice in their eternal fellowship; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* μ

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who of thy ineffable providence dost vouchsafe to send thy holy angels to be our guardians: grant to us thy humble servants, that we may in this life ever be defended by their protection, and rejoice in their everlasting company in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* β

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hast delivered thy people from the bondage of the adversary, and through thy Son hast cast down Satan like lightning: deliver us also from every influence of unclean spirits. Command Satan to depart far from us by the power of thine only begotten Son. Rescue us from demonic imaginings and darkness. Fill us with the light of the Holy Spirit, that we may be guarded against all snares of crafty demons. Grant that thine angels will always go before us and lead us to the path of righteousness all the days of our lives; to the honour of thy glorious Name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. *Amen.* ‡

For the Epistle. Exodus 23:20–23a. μ

THUS saith the Lord God: Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him. But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries. For mine Angel shall go before thee.

The Gospel. Matthew 18:1–10. μ

AT the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, and said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble

himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh! Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire. Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

Preface of Saint Michael and All Angels

Saint Thomas of Hereford, Bishop

[October 2]

:: *Thomas de Cantilupe* (c. 1218–1282) was born to a baronial family in service to King Henry III. Thomas's uncle was Bishop of Worcester. Thomas became Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and then Archdeacon of Stafford. He finished his career as Bishop of Hereford. August 25 is the date of Thomas's death, but his commemoration was assigned to October 2 when he was added to the kalendar in 1320.

Preface of a Bishop

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux of the Child Jesus, Doctor

[October 3]

:: *Thérèse of Lisieux* (1873–1897) was a Discalced Carmelite known as “The Little Flower of Jesus”. She is best known today for her spiritual memoir, *L’histoire d’une âme* (“The Story of a Soul”). September 30 is the date of Thérèse's death, but her commemoration was assigned to October 3 in 1927. It was moved to October 1, the day after her dies natalis, in 1969.

O GRACIOUS Father, who didst call thy servant Therese to a life of fervent prayer; Give unto us the spirit of prayer and zeal for the ministry of the gospel, that the love of Christ may be known throughout all the world; through the same, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. ◇

For the Epistle. Judith 8:1–8. ◇

NOW at that time Judith heard thereof, which was the daughter of Merari, the son of Ox, the son of Joseph, the son of Ozel, the son of Elcia, the son of Ananias, the son of Gedeon, the son of Raphaim, the son of Acitho, the son of Eliu, the son of Eliab, the son of Nathanael, the son of Samael, the son of Salasadal, the son of Israel. And Manasses was her husband, of her tribe and kindred, who died in the barley harvest. For as he stood overseeing them that bound sheaves in the field, the heat came upon his head, and he fell on his bed, and died in the city of Bethulia: and they buried him with his fathers in the field between Dothaim and Balamo. So Judith was a widow in her house three years and four months. And she made her a tent upon the top of her house, and put on sackcloth upon her loins and ware her widow's apparel. And she fasted all the days of her widowhood, save the eves of the sabbaths, and the sabbaths, and the eves of the new moons, and the new moons and the feasts and solemn days of the house of Israel. She was also of a goodly countenance, and very beautiful to behold: and her husband Manasses had left her gold, and silver, and menservants and maidservants, and cattle, and lands; and she remained upon them. And there was none that gave her an ill word; for she feared God greatly.

The Gospel. Luke 21:1–4. ◇

JESUS looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath

cast in more than they all: for all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Francis of Assisi, Friar and Confessor

[October 4]

:: Francis of Assisi (1181/82–1226) is one of the most beloved and venerated of all saints. He is the founder of the Franciscan Order, also known as the Order of Friars Minor. This order was followed by the Order of Poor Ladies, which became the Second Franciscan Order (the “Poor Clares”); and the Third Order of Brothers and Sisters of Penance (the Secular Franciscan Order), which is composed of laity and clergy who don’t take religious vows.

The Collect

O GOD, who hast not disdained to reveal thyself to the child-like and lowly of heart: Grant that, like Saint Francis, we may learn to count the wisdom of this world as foolishness, and determine to know nothing save Jesus Christ and him crucified; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by the life of blessed Francis didst move thy people to the love of simple things: Grant that after his example, we may hold lightly to the things of this world and lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

MOST high, omnipotent, good Lord: Grant unto thy people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may, for love of thee, delight in thy whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒♦(♦)

¶ *Or this:*

O ALMIGHTY God, by whose gift Saint Francis was conformed to Christ in poverty and humility: Grant that, by walking in the footsteps of the Blessed Francis, we may follow thy Son, and, through joyful charity, come to be united with thee; through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with there and the Holy Ghost, one God, would without end. *Amen.* ρ

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 6:6–11. ◇

GODLINESS with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:7–13. ◇

AS ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat. And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. And when ye come into an house, salute it. And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Galatians 6:14–18. ◆ ☒

GOD forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the

world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

The Gospel. Matthew 11:25–30. ♦ ✧

JESUS said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and v earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight. All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Faith of Aquitaine, Martyr

[October 6]

:: Faith of Conques (d. c. 3rd–4th century) was a young girl in Aquitaine who was arrested during the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian and tortured to death. Her relics were translated to the Abbey of Sainte-Foy, Conques, in the ninth century.

The Collect

O GOD, by whose strength Saint Faith laid down her life to simple trust and marvellous constancy: Mercifully grant that, as she was true to her name, so we may ever be constant in our Christian profession; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst endue blessed Faith thy Virgin with grace to witness a good confession, and to suffer gladly for thy name:

Grant us, we beseech thee, so to follow her stedfastness that we may attain to the glorious fellowship of thy Saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Romans 8:9–13. ♦

YE are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

¶ *Or this:*

The Epistle. 1 John 2:1–6. ♦

MY little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

The Gospel. Mark 10:13–16. ♦♦

THEY brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the

kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

Preface of a Saint

William Tyndale

[October 6]

:: *William Tyndale (c. 1494–1536) was a scholar and a leading figure in the Protestant Reformation. He is best known for his landmark translation of a substantial portion of the Bible. The Great Bible, prepared by Myles (Miles) Coverdale and authorised by Henry VIII, was based on Tyndale’s work. Tyndale objected to the king’s divorce from Catherine of Aragon, so he was arrested for heresy, tried, and condemned to be burned at the stake. October 6 is the date of Tyndale’s death. Some jurisdictions transfer his commemoration to October 7; others add Coverdale (1488–1560) to the October 6 commemoration. Coverdale’s translation of the Psalter in the Great Bible is still the version used in the 1662 BCP and the 1928 BCP, despite the use of the King James Version (the Authorised Version) elsewhere in the liturgy.*

The Collect

ACCCEPT, O Lord, our thanksgiving this day for thy servant William Tyndale; and grant unto us in like manner such constancy and zeal in thy service, that we may obtain with him and thy servants everywhere a good confession and the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst plant in the heart of thy servant William Tyndale a consuming passion to bring the Scriptures to people in their native tongue, and didst endow him with the gift of powerful and graceful expression and with strength to persevere against all obstacles: Reveal to us, we pray thee, thy saving Word, as we read and study the Scriptures, and hear them calling us to repentance and life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. James 1:21–25. ☒

WHEREFORE lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not

hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

The Gospel. John 12:44–50. ☒

JESUS cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

Probers of a Saint

Saint Bruno

[October 6]

:: Bruno of Cologne (c. 1030–1101) was the founder of the Carthusian Order, and a celebrated teacher at Rheims.

Probers of a Saint

Saint Denis (Denys), Bishop of Paris, Martyr, Holy Helper

[October 9]

:: Denis (d. c. 250/58/70) was the first Bishop of Paris. He was arrested by the local Roman Governor and executed by beheading, along with his companions Rusticus and Eleutherius. Some jurisdictions include Denis's companions in the commemoration, either explicitly or generally as his Companions. Denis is the patron saint of Paris, and one of the secondary patron saints of France. He is also one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death.

O GOD, who dost build up thy Church upon the tombs of thy martyrs, and sendest leaders who inspire men to die for thee: Preserve, we beseech thee, for these latter days in our bishops and people the sacrificial flame of loyalty to thee: and reward their faithfulness with the crown of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

WE beseech thee, O Lord, to grant us, after the example of blessed Denys, thy Bishop and Martyr, constancy in thy faith and truth, that we may be grounded in divine love and moved from its perfection by no temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Revelation 2:10–11. ♦♦

FEAR none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

The Gospel. John 3:16–21. ♦♦

FOR God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he

that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Proprs of a Bishop or of a Martyr

**Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln,
Philosopher, Scientist**
[October 9]

:: *Robert Grosseteste (c. 1175–1253) was a statesman, scholastic philosopher, theologian, and scientist. He was Bishop of Lincoln and the author of a number of scientific treatises on such topics as astronomy, light, and the tides.*

The Collect

O GOD, our heavenly Father, who didst raise up thy faithful servant Robert Grosseteste to be a bishop and pastor in thy Church and to feed thy flock: Give abundantly to all pastors the gifts of thy Holy Spirit, that they may minister in thy household as true servants of Christ and stewards of thy divine mysteries; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Acts 20:28–32. ☒

TAKE heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

HE that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him. And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Paulinus of York, Archbishop

[October 10]

:: *Paulinus (d. 644) was a Roman missionary and the first Bishop of York. He was part of the mission sent by Pope Gregory I to Christianize the Anglo-Saxons.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Philip the Deacon

[October 11]

:: *Philip the Deacon (not to be confused with Philip the Apostle) was one of the Seven Deacons chosen to care for the poor Christians in Jerusalem. (Their leader was Stephen.) Philip's most famous conversion was the Ethiopian eunuch whom he met on the road from Jerusalem to Gaza. Tradition holds that he settled in Anatolia, where he became bishop of the local church.*

The Collect

O GOD, who hast made of one blood all the peoples of the earth and sent thy Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that we, following the example of thy servant Philip, may bring thy Word to those who seek thee, for the glory of thy

Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* †*

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst inspire Saint Philip the Deacon to preach Christ unto the people, and leddest them thereby to thy Holy Sacraments: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight: through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Acts 8:26–40. ☒ ♦

THE angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: in his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? Then

* This collect is a variation of the collect “For the Mission of the Church”.

Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Cæsarea.

The Gospel. Matthew 28:18–20. ♦ ☒

JESUS spake unto the eleven disciples, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Kenneth (Canice), Abbot

[October 11]

:: *Kenneth (515/16–600) was a missionary, priest, and abbot. He is one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland, and he also preached to the Picts in Scotland.*

Propers of a Monastic

Saint James the Deacon, Companion of Paulinus

[October 11]

:: *James (d. after 671) was a deacon who accompanied Paulinus of York on his mission to Northumbria. Some jurisdictions commemorate James on August 17.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Ethelburga, Abbess of Barking

[October 11]

:: *Ethelburga (d. after 686) was the founder and first abbess of the double monastery of Barking.*

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Wilfrid, Archbishop of York

[October 12]

See April 24.

Edward the Confessor, King of England

[October 13]

:: *Edward the Confessor (c. 1003/05–1066) was among the last of the Anglo-Saxon kings of England. He ordered the construction of Westminster Abbey, the first Norman Romanesque church in England. January 5 is the date of Edward's death, but he is commonly commemorated on October 13, the date of the translation of his relics in 1163 by Thomas Becket.*

The Collect

O GOD, who didst call Saint Edward the Confessor from the tottering eminence of an earthly realm, to rest in the secure glory of thy heavenly kingdom: Keep us safe along the road upon which he went, and bring us also unscathed before the throne of the King of kings, Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who art the King of kings and Lord of lords: Give grace, we beseech thee, to the earthly rulers of thy people, that they, following the example of King Edward the Confessor, may receive with him a crown of glory that fadeth not away; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 1 John 2:15–17. ♦

LOVE not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all

that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

The Gospel. Luke 21:34–36. ♦

TAKE heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 31:8–11. ♦

BLESSED is the rich that is found without blemish, and hath not gone after gold. Who is he? and we will call him blessed: for wonderful things hath he done among his people. Who hath been tried thereby, and found perfect? then let him glory. Who might offend, and hath not offended? or done evil, and hath not done it? His goods shall be established, and the congregation shall declare his alms.

The Gospel. Luke 12:35–40. ♦

LET your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief

would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

Propers of a Monarch

Saint Callistus (Callixtus)

[October 14]

:: *Callistus I (d. c. 222/23) was a Roman slave who was denounced as a Christian and sentenced to work in the mines of Sardinia. After his release, he was ordained a deacon by Pope Zephyrinus, and appointed superintendent of a cemetery on the Appian way, now known as the Catacombs of Saint Callixtus. By 217 he was elected as Pope. The precise nature of his martyrdom is not known.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Teresa of Ávila, Doctor

[October 15]

:: *Teresa of Ávila (1515–1582) was a Carmelite nun, mystic, reformer, and theologian. Her reform of the Carmelite Orders, aided by John of the Cross, led to the establishment of the Discalced Carmelites, which eventually became an independent order.*

The Collect

O GOD, who by thy Holy Spirit didst move Teresa of Ávila to manifest to thy Church the way of perfection: Grant us, we beseech thee, to be nourished by her excellent teaching, and enkindle within us a lively and unquenchable longing for true holiness; through Jesus Christ, the joy of loving hearts, who with thee and the same Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

HARKEN unto us, O God our Saviour, that as we rejoice in the festival of blessed Teresa, thy Virgin, so we may find food for the nourishment of our souls in her heavenly doctrine, and be instructed by the affection of pious devotion; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ρ

WE know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it. Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

YE are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Preface of Doctor or of Baptism

**Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London,
and Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester, Martyrs**
[October 16]

:: Nicholas Ridley (c. 1500–1555) was Bishop of London, and Hugh Latimer (c. 1487–1555) was Bishop of Worcester. Both were Anglican clerics who were martyred during the reign of Queen Mary. Specifically, Ridley was convicted of treason for his support of Lady Jane Grey, and Latimer was convicted of treason. Both men were burned at the stake on October 16, 1555. Together with Thomas Cranmer, who was executed in December, they are known as the Oxford Martyrs. Some jurisdictions commemorate Archbishop Thomas Cranmer along with Bishops Latimer and Ridley.

ACCCEPT, O Lord, our thanksgiving this day for thy servants Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley; and grant unto us in like manner such constancy and zeal in thy service, that we may obtain with them and thy servants everywhere a good confession and the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

KEEP us, O Lord, constant in faith and zealous in witness, that, like thy servants Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley, we may live in thy fear, die in thy favour, and rest in thy peace; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒◇

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 3:9–14. ☒◇

FOR we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

The Gospel. John 15:20–16:1. ☒◇

REMEMBER the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me. If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin. He that

hateth me hateth my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause. But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: and ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning. These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Hedwig of Silesia

[October 16]

:: *Hedwig (1174–1243) was a Bavarian-born Duchess of Silesia. After the death of her husband, she took up residence in the Cistercian Trzebnica Abbey (Kloster Trebnitz), which her husband had built at her urging. She led a pious life, ministering to the sick, the poor, and widows. October 15 is the date of Hedwig's death, but she is commemorated on October 16 (October 17 pre-1969).*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

[October 17]

:: *Ignatius of Antioch (d. either c. 108 or 135–140, according to different sources) was Bishop of Antioch. He was a prominent letter writer; he is one of the three most prominent writers in a collection by the Apostolic Fathers, along with Pope Clement I and Polycarp. October 17 is the date originally observed in Antioch. The GRC kept his feast on February 1 from the 12th century until 1969, at which time it reverted back to October 17. The Eastern Orthodox Church commemorates Ignatius on December 20.*

The Collect

RENEW in thy Church, we beseech thee, O Lord, the courage of Ignatius the Martyr, the fervour of his letters, and the faithfulness of his teaching; that men may so burn with love towards thee, as to care for naught else but to do thy will, whatever be the cost in life, in suffering, or in death itself; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

WE beseech thee, O Lord, to grant us, after the example of blessed Ignatius, thy Bishop and Martyr, constancy in thy faith and truth; that we may be grounded in divine love and moved from its perfection by no temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power thy holy Bishop and martyr Ignatius triumphed over suffering and despised death: Grant, we beseech thee, that enduring hardness, and waxing valiant in fight, we may with the noble army of martyrs receive the crown of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, we praise thy Name for thy bishop and martyr Ignatius of Antioch, who offered himself as grain to be ground by the teeth of wild beasts that he might present to thee the pure bread of sacrifice. Accept, we pray, the willing tribute of our lives and give us a share in the pure and spotless offering of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒♦

The Epistle. Romans 8:35–39. ♦♦☒♦

WHO shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

AND I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. John 12:23–26. ♦◻♦

JESUS answered his disciples, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

Preface of a Bishop

The Translation of Saint Etheldreda (Æthelthryth), Queen and Abbess of Ely

[October 17]

:: Etheldreda (c. 636–679) was an East Anglian princess who convinced her two husbands (including King Ecgrith of Northumbria) to respect her vow of perpetual virginity—up to a point. Ecgrith eventually pled his case to Wilfrid, Bishop of York, and Etheldreda eventually retreated to the Isle of Ely, where she founded a double monastery. June 23 is the date of her death, but she is more commonly celebrated on October 17, the date of her translation.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting god, who didst enkindle the flame of love in the heart of Saint Etheldreda, thy servant, so that, at thy call, she gave up the old life for the new: Grant us the same faith and

power of love that, as we rejoice in her triumph, we may learn her obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst call thy servant Queen Etheldreda to an earthly throne that she might advance thy heavenly kingdom: Mercifully grant that we who commemorate her faith may be fruitful in good works, and attain to the crown of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Philippians 3:7–12. ♦

WHAT things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

The Gospel. Luke 6:36–38. ♦

JESUS said: Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

HE that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth. Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me. For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

THEN shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Propers of a Monarch

Saint Luke the Evangelist

[October 18]

:: Luke is recognized as the author of one of the Gospels as well as the Acts of the Apostles. His representation as one of the four living creatures of Revelation 4:7 is the form of an ox or bull, usually with wings.

ALMIGHTY God, who calledst Luke the Physician, whose praise is in the gospel, to be an Evangelist, and Physician of the soul: May it please thee, that, by the wholesome medicines of the doctrine delivered by him, all the diseases of our souls may be healed; through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §

¶ *Or the following Collect, as in the 1928 BCP:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst inspire thy servant Saint Luke the Physician, to set forth in the Gospel the love and healing power of thy Son: Manifest in thy Church the like power and love, to the healing of our bodies and our souls; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* †

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 4:5–13. §†

WATCH thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me: For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry. And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus. The cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works: Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words.

THE Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire.

Preface of All Saints

Saint Frideswide of Oxford, Abbess

[October 19]

:: Frideswide (c. 650–727) was the daughter of a Mercian sub-king in western Oxfordshire. With the help of her father, she founded an Augustinian priory, where she was abbess. Frideswide (Frithuswith) is the patron saint of Oxford and of Oxford University. Frideswide is also commemorated on February 12, the date of her translation.

The Collect

O GOD, who didst endue with heavenly grace thy servant Saint Frideswide: Mercifully grant that we, who commemorate her life of charity and holiness, may be fruitful in good works, and attain by thy grace to the reward of the poor in spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Philippians 4:8–9. ♦

FINALLY, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

The Gospel. Matthew 25:34–40. ♦

WHEN the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Peter of Alcántara

[October 19]

:: *Peter of Alcántara (1499–1562) was a Franciscan friar. Peter encouraged Teresa of Ávila in her reform of the Carmelites and her founding of her first monastery at Ávila. October 18 is the date of Peter's death, but his commemoration was moved to October 19 to avoid a conflict with Luke.*

Propers of a Saint

Saint Hilarion the Great, Abbot and Anchorite

[October 21]

:: *Hilarion (291–371) was an anchorite who spent most of his life in the desert following the example of Anthony the Great. He is considered to be the founder of Palestinian monasticism.*

Propers of a Monastic

Saint Ursula and her Companions, Martyrs

[October 21]

:: *Ursula (d. 383) was the daughter of King Dionotus of Dumnonia in southwest Britain. While on a pilgrimage across Europe, she and her companions were martyred by the Huns: they were beheaded and she was shot with an arrow. The Order of Ursulines, devoted to the education of young girls, was founded in 1535 in her honour.*

Propers of a Martyr

Saint James of Jerusalem, Brother of our Lord, Martyr

[October 23]

:: *James is alternatively known as “James the Just”. Roman tradition holds that he is also known as “James the Less”, in contrast to “James, the son of Zebedee”, who is also known as “James the Greater”.*

The Collect

O LORD Jesu Christ, who didst set thy brother James on the throne of thy Church in Jerusalem: Grant, we beseech thee, that as he continually made supplication for the sins of thy people, and laboured to reconcile in one body both Jew and Gentile; so thy Church may ever be faithful in prayer and witness for the salvation of all mankind. Grant this, O Son of Man, who art on the right hand of the Father, in the unity of the Spirit, now and ever. *Amen.* ✠

¶ *Or this:*

GRANT, we beseech thee, O God, that after the example of thy servant James the Just, brother of our Lord, thy Church may give itself continually to prayer and to the reconciliation of all who are at variance and enmity; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.* ✠✠

THEN all the multitude kept silence and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them. And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me: Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, After this I will return, And will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; And I will build again the ruins thereof, And I will set it up: That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, And all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, Saith the Lord, who hath made these things known from of old.

Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: but that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood. From early times Moses has had in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day. Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren.

¶ *Or this:*

OF the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch

and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

The Gospel. Mark 3:31–35. ♦

THERE came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him. And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee. And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren? And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Matthew 13:54–58. ☒♦

WHEN he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things? And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

Preface of All Saints

Saint Raphael the Archangel

[October 24]

:: *Raphael* (Rəpā'ēl, "God has healed") is the angel who stirs the water at the healing pool of Bethesda. He also guides Tobias on his travels in the Book of Tobit, revealing himself to Tobias at the end of their journey. Raphael is one of the four archangels, and in modern practice he is usually commemorated with Michael and Gabriel on September 29.

The Collect

O GOD, who gavest blessed Raphael, the Archangel, unto thy servant Tobias as a comrade on his journey: Grant unto us thy servants that we may always be protected by his watchfulness and defended by his help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. μ

For the Epistle. Tobit 12:7–15. μ

IN those days, the Angel Raphael said to Tobias: it is good to keep close the secret of a king, but it is honourable to reveal the works of God. Do that which is good, and no evil shall touch you. Prayer is good with fasting and alms and righteousness. A little with righteousness is better than much with unrighteousness. It is better to give alms than to lay up gold: For alms doth deliver from death, and shall purge away all sin. Those that exercise alms and righteousness shall be filled with life: But they that sin are enemies to their own life. Surely I will keep close nothing from you. For I said, It was good to keep close the secret of a king, but that it was honourable to reveal the works of God. Now therefore, when thou didst pray, and Sara thy daughter in law, I did bring the remembrance of your prayers before the Holy One: and when thou didst bury the dead, I was with thee likewise. And when thou didst not delay to rise up, and leave thy dinner, to go and cover the dead, thy good deed was not hid from me: but I was with thee. And now God hath sent me to heal thee and Sara thy daughter in law. I am Raphael, one of the seven holy angels, which present the prayers of the saints, and which go in and out before the glory of the Holy One.

AT that time there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Crispin and Saint Crispinian, Martyrs

[October 25]

:: Crispin and Crispinian (d. 285/86) were shoemakers and missionaries in Gaul who were beheaded during the persecutions of Emperor Diocletian. The 1662 kalendar only commemorates Crispin, pace William Shakespeare.

The Collect

O GOD, who dost inspire us to confess thy holy name by the witness of thy Martyrs Crispin and Crispinian: Grant that thy Church, encouraged by their example, may be ready to suffer fearlessly for thy cause, and to strive for the reward of thy heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD God, whose Martyrs Crispin and Crispinian laboured with their own hands and suffered all things that the Gospel might not be hindered: Grant us grace that both in deed and endurance we may be workers together with thee and thy Saints for the everlasting kingdom of thy Son; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

BUT thou, O man of God, flee these things; and beloved: follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; that thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

¶ *Or this:*

THE souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, And their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself. As gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign for ever.

BLESSED are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs

is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Propers of a Saint

Tabitha (Dorcas) of Joppa

[October 25]

:: *Dorcas (the Greek equivalent of the Aramaic Tabitha, meaning “gazelle”) was a highly respected disciple living in Joppa. When she died, her family and friends summoned Peter, who was staying in nearby Lydda. Peter arrived in due course and raised Dorcas from the dead. Dorcas is also commemorated with Thyatira and Phoebe on January 27.*

Propers of a Saint

King Alfred, King of the West Saxons

[October 26]

:: *Alfred the Great (848/49–899) was King of Wessex and then King of the Anglo-Saxons. He established a court school for the education of the children of the nobility and of “a good many of lesser birth”. He particularly advocated the use of English in education and scholarship.*

The Collect

O GOD, who madest Alfred our King to be the saviour and enlightener of his people in this land: Stablish that which thou hast wrought in us, and make us more worthy of thine unending mercies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst raise up King Alfred to serve and minister unto his people: Grant that we, and all our countrymen who bear office in the world, may think lightly of earthly place and honour, and seek rather to do the things that are pleasing unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst call thy servant Alfred to an earthly throne that he might advance thy heavenly kingdom, and didst endue him

with zeal for thy Church and charity towards thy people: Mercifully grant that we who commemorate his example may be fruitful in good works, and attain to the glorious fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O SOVEREIGN Lord, who didst bring thy servant Alfred to a troubled throne that he might establish peace in a ravaged land and revive learning and the arts among the people: Awake in us also, we beseech thee, a keen desire to increase our understanding while we are in the world, and an eager longing to reach that endless life where all will be made clear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Wisdom 4:7–10. ♦♦

THOUGH the righteous be prevented with death, yet shall he be in rest. For honourable age is not that which standeth in length of time, nor that is measured by number of years. But wisdom is the gray hair unto men, and an unspotted life is old age. He pleased God, and was beloved of him: so that living among sinners he was translated.

The Gospel. Luke 12:1–5. ♦

BEWARE ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. There is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops. And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.

¶ *Or this:*

JESUS called his disciples unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Wisdom 6:1–3, 9–12, 24–25. ☒

HEAR therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye that be judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, ye that rule the people, and glory in the multitude of nations. For power is given you of the Lord, and sovereignty from the Highest, who shall try your works, and search out your counsels. Unto you therefore, O kings, do I speak, that ye may learn wisdom, and not fall away. For they that keep holiness holily shall be judged holy: and they that have learned such things shall find what to answer. Therefore set your affection upon my words; desire them, and ye shall be instructed. Wisdom is glorious, and never fadeth away: Yea, she is easily seen of them that love her, and found of such as seek her. But the multitude of the wise is the welfare of the world: and a wise king is the upholding of the people. Receive therefore instruction through my words, and it shall do you good.

The Gospel. Luke 6:43–45. ☒

A GOOD tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil

treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Preface of a Saint

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Scholar and Reformer

[October 26]

:: *Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815–1902) was a suffragist, social activist, and abolitionist. Some jurisdictions commemorate Amelia Bloomer, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Ross Tubman on July 20.*

O GOD, whose Spirit guideth us into all truth and maketh us free: Strengthen and sustain us as thou didst thy servant Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Give us vision and courage to stand against oppression and injustice and all that worketh against the glorious liberty to which thou callest all thy children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒◇

For the Epistle. Wisdom 7:24–28. ☒◇

FOR wisdom is more moving than any motion: she passeth and goeth through all things by reason of her pureness. For she is the breath of the power of God, and a pure influence flowing from the glory of the Almighty: therefore can no defiled thing fall into her. For she is the brightness of the everlasting light, the unspotted mirror of the power of God, and the image of his goodness. And being but one, she can do all things: and remaining in herself, she maketh all things new: and in all ages entering into holy souls, she maketh them friends of God, and prophets. For God loveth none but him that dwelleth with wisdom.

The Gospel. Luke 11:5–10. ☒

JESUS said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? and he from within shall answer and say,

Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth. And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Mark 4:21–29. ◇

JESUS said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick? For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad. If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.

And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath.

And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; and should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

Preface of Baptism

Saint Cedd, Abbot of Lastingham, Bishop of the East Saxons [October 26]

:: *Cedd (c. 620–664) was an Anglo-Saxon monk and Bishop of the East Saxons. He founded monasteries at Tilaburg (modern-day East or West Tilbury) and Thancester (modern-day Bradwell-on-Sea), and he was appointed abbot of the monastery of Lastingham in Northumbria.*

Saint Simon and Saint Jude, Apostles

[October 28]

:: Simon and Jude were among the original twelve disciples. Simon the Zealot was so called to distinguish him from Peter, whose original name was Simon. Jude was also known as Thaddeus to distinguish him from Judas Iscariot. The most widespread tradition is that the two saints travelled to Persia and Armenia before being crucified, although there is no consensus on the actual location of their martyrdom.

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the head corner-stone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made an holy temple acceptable unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* §†

The Epistle. Jude 1. §

JUDE, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called: Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied. Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after

strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.

¶ *Or the following Epistle, as in the 1928 BCP:*

The Epistle. Ephesians 2:19–22. †

NOW therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone; in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

The Gospel. John 15:17–27. §†

THESE things I command you, that ye love one another. If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his Lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me. If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin. He that hateth me hateth my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause. But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.

John Wycliffe (Wyclif), Priest, Prophetic Witness, Reformer [October 30]

:: *John Wycliffe (c. 1320s–1384) was an English scholastic, philosopher, and theologian. He is most noted for his English translation of the Vulgate (which was probably completed by others). His followers, known as the Lollards, were precursors to Protestant reformers. December 31 is the date of Wycliffe's death. The Episcopal Church commemorates Wycliffe on October 30 to avoid conflicts with Sylvester and New Year's Eve.*

Propers of a Saint

All Hallows Eve (Vigil of All Saints) [October 31]

:: *Many major feasts have vigils, but the Feast of All Saints is the only one whose vigil has achieved this level of independence. It begins the brief season of Allhallowtide.*

The Collect

MULTIPLY upon us thy heavenly grace, O Lord our God; and grant that by a holy profession we may follow after the joy of thy Saints, to whose glorious festival we now look forward; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ρ

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD our God, increase, we pray thee, and multiply upon us the gifts of thy grace; that we, who do prevent the glorious festival of all thy Saints, may of the be enabled joyfully to follow them in all virtuous and godly living; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* β

Propers of All Saints

Reformation Day [October 31]

:: *October 31, 1517, is the date on which Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-five Theses to the door of All Saints' Church in Wittenberg, an act generally regarded as the beginning of the Reformation. This commemoration is often transferred to the last Sunday in October.*

GRACIOUS Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt,

purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Saviour. *Amen.* †

Propers of Pentecost

The Feast of Christ the King

[The Last Sunday in October]

:: *Pope Pius XI instituted the Feast of Christ the King in 1925, fixing it on the last Sunday of October. In 1970, the feast was moved to the Sunday next before Advent, and many other jurisdictions have followed suit.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who in thy beloved Son, the King of glory, makest all things new: Mercifully grant that all the families of the earth, dispersed by the wounds of sin, may be made subject to his most gracious governance; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst will to restore all things in thy well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that all the kindreds of the earth, set free from the captivity of sin, may be brought under thy most gracious dominion; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Colossians 1:12–20. ♦♦

WE give thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: for by him were all things created,

that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; and, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

The Gospel. John 18:33–37. ♦♦

PILATE entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews? Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

Propers of Christ the Son

ALL SAINTS' DAY

[November 1]

:: The date of All Saints' Day can be traced to Pope Gregory III's establishment of an oratory in Saint Peter's Basilica for the relics of the holy apostles and of all saints, martyrs and confessors.

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant us grace so to follow thy blessed Saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. §†

¶ *This Collect is to be said daily throughout the Octave.*

For the Epistle. Revelation 7:2(-4, 9)-17. §†

¶ *The portion in brackets may be omitted.*

AND I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

[Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand.

Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand.

Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand.

Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand.

Of the tribe of Nephtalim were sealed twelve thousand.

Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand.

Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand.

Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand.

Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand.
Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand.
Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand.
Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand.]

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

¶*The 1928 BCP continues:*

And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:1–12. §†

JESUS, seeing the multitudes, went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the

kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Preface of All Saints

All Souls' Day

[November 2]

:: Odilo of Cluny (c. 962–1049) was responsible for standardizing November 2 as the observance of a Commemoration of All of the Faithful Departed. It concludes the brief season of Allhallowtide.

The Collect

O GOD, the Maker and Redeemer of all believers: Grant to the souls of the faithful departed all the unsearchable benefits of thy Son's passion, that in the day of his appearing they may be manifested as thy true children; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦(✠♦)

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful: Grant unto the souls of thy servants and handmaids the remission of all their sins; that through devout supplications they may obtain the pardon they have always desired; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ρ

BEHOLD, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

¶ *Or this:*

The Epistle. 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18. ☒♦

BUT I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Wisdom 3:1–9. ☒♦

THE souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to

die: and their departure is taken for misery, And their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself. As gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign for ever. They that put their trust in him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with him: for grace and mercy is to his saints, and he hath care for his elect.

The Gospel. John 5:24–27. ♦ ✠ ◇

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, 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 hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; and hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.

Preface of the Commemoration of the Dead

Saint Winifred (Gwenffrewi) of Wales, Abbess

[November 3]

:: Winifred (d. 7th century) was the daughter of a Welsh nobleman. She was beheaded by her suitor Caradog when she rejected him.

The Collect

O GOD of mercy, enlighten the hearts of thy faithful people, and grant, that after the example of thy blessed Saint Winifred, we may set our affection on things above, where true joys are to be found;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Romans 8:35–39. ♦

WHO shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Gospel. Luke 12:27–31. ♦

JESUS said unto his disciples: Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Propers of a Monastic

**Richard Hooker, Priest, Anglican Apologist,
Teacher of the Faith**

[November 3]

:: Richard Hooker (1554–1600) was an influential theologian. He is generally regarded as the originator of the via media between Protestantism and Roman Catholicism, thus establishing the Anglican tradition.

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servant Richard Hooker: Enrich us evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses who by their life and doctrine will set forth the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of truth and peace, who didst raise up thy servant Richard Hooker in a day of bitter controversy to defend with sound reasoning and great charity the catholic and reformed religion: Grant that we may maintain that middle way, not as a compromise for the sake of peace, but as a comprehension for the sake of truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ✠♦

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 2:6–16. ✠♦

HOWBEIT we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: but we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the

Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

The Gospel. John 17:18–23. ☒◇

JESUS said, As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Preface of Baptism

Saints of the Old Testament

[November 4]

:: *The Church of Canada commemorates the Saints of the Old Testament within the Octave of All Saints.*

Propers of a Saint

Charles Borromeo

[November 4]

:: *Charles Borromeo (1538–1584) was Archbishop of Milan and the founder of several seminaries. He was responsible for significant reforms in the Roman Catholic Church.*

Propers of a Saint

Elisabeth and Zechariah, Parents of Saint John the Baptist

[November 5]

:: In some jurisdictions, Elisabeth and Zechariah are commemorated on September 5, while in others, they are commemorated on June 24, on their son's feast day. Elizabeth is also commemorated independently by some jurisdictions on September 23.

Propers of a Saint

Saint Cybi of North Wales, Abbot

[November 5]

:: Cybi (483–555) was a son of a King of Cornwall. He went on a pilgrimage to Roma and Jerusalem, where he was consecrated a bishop. Upon his return home, he learned that his father had died, and he declined the throne. Instead, he travelled to Wales, where he founded a monastery at Holyhead on Holy Island. November 8 is the date of Cybi's death, but he is commemorated on November 5 to avoid a conflict with the Octave of All Saints. (In Cornwall, he is commemorated on August 13.)

The Collect

O GOD, by whose grace thy blessed Abbot Cybi became a burning and a shining light in the Church: Grant that we may be inflamed with the same spirit of discipline and love, and ever walk before thee in the way of perfection as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of all times and places, who hath inspired thy servant Cybi to leave his people and his father's house and, like Abraham, to seek thee in his wanderings: Grant that when our earthly pilgrimage is over we may, like them, find an eternal dwelling place where, with thy Son and the Holy Spirit thou livest and reignest, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* W

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 45:2–5. ♦

GOD made him like to the glorious saints, and magnified him, so that his enemies stood in fear of him. By his words he caused the wonders to cease, and he made him glorious in the sight of kings, and gave him a commandment for his people, and shewed him part of his

glory. He sanctified him in his faithfulness and meekness, and chose him out of all men. He made him to hear his voice, and brought him into the dark cloud, and gave him commandments before his face, even the law of life and knowledge, that he might teach Jacob his covenants, and Israel his judgments.

The Gospel. Matthew 19:27–29. ♦

THEN answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Leonard, Abbot

[November 6]

:: Leonard (d. 559) was a Frank who was converted along with his king Clovis I by Remigius, Bishop of Rheims. Leonard became a hermit in the forest of Limousin, and founded the Abbey of Noblac on land given to him by the king.

The Collect

O LORD, the source of all our good, who didst endue Saint Leonard with the grace of holiness: Make us so to abound in every good work that we may be counted worthy to obtain of thee all such excellent things as are needed for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, by whose grace thy blessed Abbot Leonard became a burning and a shining light in the Church: Grant that we may be

inflamed with the same spirit of discipline and love, and ever walk before thee in the way of perfection as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 15:57–58. ♦

THANKS be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:10–12. ♦

THE disciples came, and said unto Jesus, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 45:2–5. ♦

GOD made him like to the glorious saints, and magnified him, so that his enemies stood in fear of him. By his words he caused the wonders to cease, and he made him glorious in the sight of kings, and gave him a commandment for his people, and shewed him part of his glory. He sanctified him in his faithfulness and meekness, and chose him out of all men. He made him to hear his voice, and brought him into the dark cloud, and gave him commandments before his face, even the law of life and knowledge, that he might teach Jacob his covenants, and Israel his judgments.

THEN answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Illtud of Wales, Abbot

[November 6]

:: Illtud (early 6th century) was the son of a Breton prince (and allegedly a cousin of King Arthur). He helped pioneer the monastic life in Wales by founding a monastery in what is now Llanilltud Fawr (Llantwit Major) in Glamorgan, Wales.

The Collect

O GOD, by whose grace thy blessed Abbot Illtud became a burning and a shining light in the Church: Grant that we may be inflamed with the same spirit of discipline and love, and ever walk before thee in the way of perfection as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 45:2–5. ♦

GOD made him like to the glorious saints, and magnified him, so that his enemies stood in fear of him. By his words he caused the wonders to cease, and he made him glorious in the sight of kings, and gave him a commandment for his people, and shewed him part of his glory. He sanctified him in his faithfulness and meekness, and chose him out of all men. He made him to hear his voice, and brought him into the dark cloud, and gave him commandments before his face, even the

law of life and knowledge, that he might teach Jacob his covenants, and Israel his judgments.

The Gospel. Matthew 19:27–29. ♦

THEN answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Preface of a Saint

**William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury,
Teacher of the Faith**

[November 6]

:: William Temple (1881–1944) was, successively, Bishop of Manchester, Archbishop of York, and Archbishop of Canterbury. He was one of the founders of the World Council of Churches and the British Council of Churches. October 26 is the date of Temple's death, but the Episcopal Church commemorates him on November 6, the date of his baptism.

The Collect

O GOD of light and love, who illumined thy Church through the witness of thy servant William Temple: Inspire us, we pray, by his teaching and example, that we may rejoice with courage, confidence, and faith in the Word made flesh, and may be led to establish that city which has justice for its foundation and love for its law; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ♦

Ephesians 3:7–12. ♦

I WAS made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. Unto me, who

am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: to the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: in whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

The Gospel. John 1:9–18. ◇

THAT was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

Preface of Epiphany

Saint Willibrord, Bishop of Utrecht, Apostle to the Frisians [November 7]

:: *Willibrord (c. 658–739) was a Northumbrian missionary known as the “Apostles to the Frisians”. He was the first bishop of Utrecht.*

O LORD Jesu Christ, who callest to thee whom thou willest, and sendest them whither thou dost choose: We thank thee for calling thy servant Willibrord to preach the Gospel to the Northern people; and we humbly pray thee to raise up among us those who will go forth to destroy the strongholds of idolatry and build up thy Church in heathen lands; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O ALMIGHTY God, who in thy providence didst choose thy servant Willibrord to be an apostle to the Frisian people, to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of thee: Grant us so to walk in that light, that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through the merits of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 4:1–5. ♦

I CHARGE thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

The Gospel. Luke 11:33–36. ♦

NO man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light. The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when

thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness. Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness. If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.

Propers of a Bishop

Anglican Saints and Worthies

[November 8]

:: Also referred to as The Saints and Martyrs of England, or of the British Isles, or of the Anglican Communion, this commemoration coincides with the Octave of All Saints. The Church of Wales has a separate commemoration on November 12.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, we bless thy Holy Name for all thy saints, and most especially for all the Anglican saints and worthies who have laboured in thy vineyard. Endow us, we beseech thee, with minds clear, faith firm, courage true, and charity thorough; that we, following their example, may keep thy commandments with boldness: having innocency in simplicity, peaceableness in love, modesty in lowliness, diligence in service, watchfulness in helping those who toil, mercifulness in succouring the poor, constancy in defending the truth, and severity in keeping discipline. For these are the footprints which the saints have left us, even as they returned to their fatherland, that we, treading in their steps, might follow them into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ¶

¶ *Or this:*

WE beseech thee, O Lord, to multiply thy grace upon us who commemorate the saints of the Anglican Church^{*}; that, as we rejoice to be their fellow-citizens on earth, so we may have fellowship also with them in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

^{*} The original collect commemorates the saints “of our nation”.

O GOD, whom the glorious companies of the redeemed adore, assembled from all times and places of thy dominion: We praise thee for the Saints of this our land who stand before the throne and serve thee day and night in thy holy temple, beseeching thee that we also may be numbered among them that worship and serve thee now and ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *This being the Octave of All Saints' Day, the collect for All Saints' Day is said as a seasonal collect.*

For the Epistle. Revelation 19:5–8. ♦

AND a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

The Gospel. John 17:18–23. ♦

JESUS said, As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

AFTER this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

SEEING the multitudes, Jesus went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: and he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Saint Tysilio of Wales

[November 8]

:: *Tysilio (d. 640) was a Welsh prince and scholar. He spent some time evangelizing on Ynys Mon (Anglesey) before returning to Caer-Meguiadd (Meifod), where he became abbot. He later travelled to Brittany, where he founded an abbey at Saint-Suliac, where he became abbot. ("Suliac" is from the Latin version of the saint's name.)*

The Collect

O GOD, by whose grace thy blessed Saint Tysilio became a burning and a shining light in the Church: Grant that we may be inflamed with the same spirit of discipline and love, and ever walk before thee in the way of perfection as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

FATHER of all, who didst call Tysilio to flee his father's house and to dwell in solitude in the isles of the western sea: Grant that we, following his example, may be prepared to give up all that would hinder us from following in the footsteps of thy Son; to whom with thee and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.* W

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 45:2–5. ♦

GOD made him like to the glorious saints, and magnified him, so that his enemies stood in fear of him. By his words he caused the wonders to cease, and he made him glorious in the sight of kings, and gave him a commandment for his people, and shewed him part of his glory. He sanctified him in his faithfulness and meekness, and chose him out of all men. He made him to hear his voice, and brought him into the dark cloud, and gave him commandments before his face, even the law of life and knowledge, that he might teach Jacob his covenants, and Israel his judgments.

THEN answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Gervadius (Gerardine) of Moray

[November 8]

:: *Gervadius (d. c. 934) left his native Ireland, possibly to escape Viking raids, and made his way to Kinneddar, Lossiemouth, Moray in Scotland, where he became a hermit.*

Propers of a Confessor

Margery Kempe, Mystic

[November 9]

:: *Margery Kempe (c. 1373–after 1438) was a writer and mystic. She briefly visited her fellow mystic, anchoress Julian of Norwich. Kempe is known for her work, The Book of Margery Kempe, possibly the first autobiography in English. Kempe is commemorated in the Church of England on November 9, and in the Episcopal Church on January 19, or on September 28, together with Richard Rolle and Walter Hilton.*

The Collect

DIRECT our hearts, O Gracious God, and inspire our minds, that like thy servant Margery Kempe*, we might pass through the cloud of unknowing until we behold thy glory face to face. In the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord; who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

* The original version of this collect includes Richard Rolle and Walter Hilton.

O THE depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

The Gospel. Matthew 5:43–48 ◇

YE have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, Doctor

[November 10]

:: Leo I (c. 400–461) was a Roman aristocrat who became Bishop of Rome. His principal work, the Tome of Leo, was a foundation for the debates of the Ecumenical Council of Chalcedon. November 10 is the date of Leo's death, and the date on which he has been commemorated since at least the 8th century. In the 12th century, the Gallican Rite moved his commemoration to April 11, where it remained in the GRC until 1969. June 28 is the date of the placing of his relics in Saint Peter's Basilica. Many Eastern Churches commemorate Leo on February 18.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who madest Saint Leo to be both the refuge of the State, and also the bulwark of the Catholic Faith: Grant that the courage wherewith thou didst enable him to be steadfast in the evil

day may be ours also in upholding the Christian standards which thou hast given us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst strengthen thy holy Bishop Leo to contend earnestly for the truth of thy Son's sacred Humanity: Mercifully grant that we may be guided by the light of his teaching to believe rightly the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY, everlasting God, whose servant Leo steadfastly confessed thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to be Very God and Very Man: Grant that we may hold fast to this faith, and evermore magnify his holy Name; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 2 Timothy 1:6–14. ♦♦♦

WHEREFORE I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, but is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I

know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.

The Gospel. John 12:44–50. ♦♦

JESUS cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

¶ *Or this:*

The Gospel. Matthew 5:13–19. ♦

YE are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass

from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Preface of a Doctor or of a Bishop

Saint Martin, Bishop of Tours, Confessor

[November 11]

:: *Martin (313/36–397) was a member of the Roman cavalry in Gaul, but he left the military to become a disciple of Hilary of Poitiers. He became the third Bishop of Tours, and his shrine there is one of the major stopping-points on the pilgrimage road to Santiago de Compostela in Spain.*

The Collect

O GOD, who calledst Martin from military service to be a leader in the army of Christ: Give us grace to follow his faith, his compassion, and his apostolic zeal, that others may be won by us into the ranks of righteousness; through the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD Jesu Christ, who didst endue thy soldier Saint Martin with the spirit of sacrifice, and didst exalt him as Bishop to be a great defender of the Faith: Grant us grace to follow in his holy steps, that at the last we may be found clothed with righteousness, in the dwellings of peace; who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who by thy Holy Spirit didst enable thy servant Martin to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil: Grant that we, in the same Spirit, may with pure hearts and minds follow thee, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

LORD God of hosts, who didst clothe thy servant Martin the soldier with the spirit of sacrifice and set him as a bishop in thy Church to be a defender of the catholic faith: Give us grace to follow in his holy steps, that, at the last, we may be found clothed with righteousness in the dwellings of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen. ☒◆

The Epistle. 1 Thessalonians 5:5–11. ◆◆

YE are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Isaiah 58:10–12. ☒◆

IF thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day: and the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

WHEN the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Preface of a Saint

All Saints of Wales

[November 12]

:: *See also Anglican Saints and Worthies on November 8. The collect may be adapted to other nations or communities, as noted.*

The Collect

O GOD, whom the glorious companies of the redeemed adore, assembled from all times and places of thy Dominion: We praise thee for the Saints of *Wales** who stand before the throne and serve thee day and night in thy holy temple, beseeching thee that we also may be numbered among them that worship and serve thee now and ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

* Or any other nation or community.

LET us now praise famous men, and our fathers that begat us. The Lord hath wrought great glory by them through his great power from the beginning. Such as did bear rule in their kingdoms, men renowned for their power, giving counsel by their understanding, and declaring prophecies: Leaders of the people by their counsels, and by their knowledge of learning meet for the people, wise and eloquent are their instructions: Such as found out musical tunes, and recited verses in writing: Rich men furnished with ability, living peaceably in their habitations: All these were honoured in their generations, and were the glory of their times. There be of them, that have left a name behind them, that their praises might be reported. And some there be, which have no memorial; who are perished, as though they had never been; and are become as though they had never been born; and their children after them. But these were merciful men, whose righteousness hath not been forgotten. With their seed shall continually remain a good inheritance, and their children are within the covenant. Their seed standeth fast, and their children for their sakes. Their seed shall remain for ever, and their glory shall not be blotted out. Their bodies are buried in peace; but their name liveth for evermore. The people will tell of their wisdom, and the congregation will shew forth their praise.

IHAVE manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may

believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Propers of All Saints

Saint Machar, Bishop and Confessor

[November 12]

:: *Machar (6th century) was an Irish nobleman who was baptized by Colman, and travelled to Iona with Columba. He later ministered to the Picts around Aberdeen.*

Propers of a Bishop or of a Confessor

Saint Britius (Brice), Bishop of Tours

[November 13]

:: *Britius (c. 370–444) was an orphan rescued by Martin and raised at the monastery at Marmoutier. Britius eventually succeeded Martin as Bishop of Tours.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Dyfrig (Dubricius), Bishop of Llandaff

[November 14]

:: *Dyfrig (c. 465–c. 550) was a noted scholar, and the teacher of many well-known Welsh saints, such as Teilo and Samson. He was Bishop of Ergyng (Archenfield) and later Llandaff. He resigned the latter see in favour of David.*

The Collect

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst set blessed Dyfrig to be a Bishop in the Church, that he might feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us, we beseech thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 1 Peter 5:1–5. ♦

THE elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the

glory that shall be revealed: feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

The Gospel. John 21:15–17. ♦

SO when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

Propers of a Bishop

The Consecration of Samuel Seabury, First American Bishop

[November 14]

:: Samuel Seabury (1729–1796) was the first Anglican Bishop in North America, and his consecration in 1784 represents the bestowal of the American episcopate. Seabury travelled to Aberdeen, where he was consecrated by non-juring bishops of the Church of Scotland: Robert Kilgour, Bishop of Aberdeen and Primus of Scotland; Arthur Petrie, Bishop of Ross and Moray; and John Skinner, coadjutor bishop of Aberdeen. Seabury was a leader in the evolution of the liturgy after the Revolution, and the influence of the Scottish Liturgy is evident in the 1789, 1892, and 1928 Prayer Books.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who by thy divine providence hast appointed divers Orders of Ministers in thy Church, and by thy Son Jesus

Christ didst give to thy holy Apostles many excellent gifts: Give grace, we beseech thee, to all Bishops of thy Church, and more especially to those who serve in that branch of the same planted by thee in this land; that, following the example of thy servant Samuel Seabury, they may diligently preach thy Word, and duly administer the godly Discipline thereof, to the glory of thy Name, and the edification of thy Church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

WE give thee thanks, O Lord our God, for thy goodness in bestowing upon this Church the gift of the episcopate, which we celebrate in this remembrance of the consecration of Samuel Seabury; and we pray that, joined together in unity with our bishops, and nourished by thy holy Sacraments, we may proclaim the Gospel of redemption with apostolic zeal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. Acts 20:28–32. ☒

TAKE heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

JESUS went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching The Gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

Preface of Apostles, Evangelists, and Ordinations

Saint Machutus (Malo), Bishop

[November 15]

:: *Machutus (c. 520–621) was one of the seven founding saints of Brittany. While a monk at Llancarfan Abby in Wales, Machutus participated in the Voyage of Saint Brendan the Abbot. He then immigrated to Brittany, where he was consecrated the first Bishop of Aleth.*

Propers of a Bishop

Albertus Magus (Albert the Great), Bishop, Doctor

[November 15]

:: *Albert Magnus (before 1200–1280) was one of the greatest German philosophers and theologians of the Middle Ages. Educated at the University of Padua, he became a member of the Dominican Order, and was selected to fill the position of lecturer at a Dominican house in Cologne (Köln). He was made provincial of the Dominican Order, and he briefly served as Bishop of Regensburg. He returned to Cologne, where he established Germany's oldest university, and wrote extensively on science, philosophy, and theology.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Margaret, Queen of Scotland

[November 16]

:: *Margaret (c. 1045–1093) was an English princess who married Malcolm III of Scotland. She invited the Benedictine Order to establish a monastery in Dunfermline, Fife, and she directed the restoration of Iona Abbey. Three of her sons succeeded her husband to the throne: Edgar, Alexander I, and David I (the latter two are often referred to as the “Sons of Margaret”). November 16 is the date of Margaret's death. She was commemorated on June 10 in the GRC between 1693 and 1969, that being the birthday of James Stuart, the “Old Pretender” (son of James II/VII of England/Scotland). The GRC date reverted to November 16 when it was freed up during the 1969 revisions.*

O GOD, who didst call thy servant Queen Margaret to an earthly throne that she might advance thy heavenly kingdom, and didst endue her with zeal for thy Church and charity towards thy people: Mercifully grant that we who commemorate her example may be fruitful in good works, and attain to the glorious fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst call thy servant Margaret to an earthly throne that she might advance thy heavenly kingdom, and didst endue her with zeal for thy Church and charity towards thy people: Mercifully grant that we who commemorate her example may be fruitful in good works, and attain to the glorious fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦(✠)♦

For the Epistle. Proverbs 31:10–20, 26–29. ♦ ✠ ♦

WHO can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night. She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up,

and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:44–52. ♦ ☒ ♦

JESUS said: The kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of Baptism or of a Monarch

Saint Edmund of Abingdon, Archbishop of Canterbury

[November 16]

:: Edmund of Abingdon (c. 1174–1240) was a mathematician and theologian widely known for his lectures and preaching. He was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury by Pope Gregory IX. He supported ecclesiastical independence from Rome and the maintenance of Magna Carta.

The Collect

PRESERVE our Universities, O Lord God, as schools of truth and sound learning that many may be led with Saint Edmund of Canterbury from the study of thy testimonies to the humble service of thy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

GOD made him like to the glorious saints, and magnified him, so that his enemies stood in fear of him. By his words he caused the wonders to cease, and he made him glorious in the sight of kings, and gave him a commandment for his people, and shewed him part of his glory. He sanctified him in his faithfulness and meekness, and chose him out of all men. He made him to hear his voice, and brought him into the dark cloud, and gave him commandments before his face, even the law of life and knowledge, that he might teach Jacob his covenants, and Israel his judgments.

The Gospel. Luke 2:43–49. ♦

WHEN his parents had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

Probers of a Bishop

Saint Hilda, Abbess of Whitby

[November 17]

:: *Hilda of Whitby (c. 614–680) was the founding abbess of the monastery at Whitby, the venue for the Synod of Whitby in 664. Hilda mentored Cædmon, a herder at the abbey, who was inspired to become a poet. November 17 is the date of Hilda's death. In some jurisdictions she is commemorated on November 18, or even November 19.*

O MERCIFUL Saviour, who from the early days didst enlist and consecrate the devotion of women; and through whose grace Saint Hilda in her convent became a nursing mother to the Church of the North: Prosper the seed that she sowed without and the leaven that she hid within the souls of her household, and bring still to good effect among us what she by thy mercy began; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the author of all virtues, by whose gift thy blessed Saint Hilda chose the heavenly vision before the fleeting glories of this world: Grant that we may learn by her example to despise the passing things of earth and to seek after the things which are eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we give thee thanks for the purity and strength with which thou didst endow thy servant Hilda; and we pray that by thy grace we may have a like power to hallow and conform our souls and bodies, to the purpose of thy most holy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of peace, by whose grace the abbess Hilda was endowed with gifts of justice, prudence, and strength to rule as a wise mother over the nuns and monks of her household, and to become a trusted and reconciling friend to leaders of the Church: Give us the grace to recognize and accept the varied gifts thou dost bestow on men and women, that our common life may be enriched and thy gracious will be done; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of peace, by whose grace the abbess Hilda was endowed with gifts of justice, prudence, and strength to rule as a wise mother over the nuns and monks of her household: Raise up these gifts in us, that we, following her example and prayers, might build up one another in love to the benefit of thy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Hebrews 13:14–17. ◇◇

HERE have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:31–33. ◇◇

ANOTHER parable put Jesus forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof. Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened. All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

I THEREFORE, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

THEN answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln

[November 17]

:: Hugh (c. 1135/40–1200) was a French nobleman who became a Benedictine and then a Carthusian monk. He became prior of the Witham Charterhouse in Somerset, the first Carthusian house in England. He was later consecrated Bishop of Lincoln. November 16 is the date of Hugh's death, and the date of his commemoration in the Roman Catholic Church. However, the Anglican Communion generally commemorates Hugh on November 17.

The Collect

O MERCIFUL Father, who didst endow thy servant Hugh of Lincoln with a wise and cheerful boldness, and didst teach him how to commend the discipline of holy life to kings and princes: Give us grace like him not only to be bold, but to have just cause for boldness,

even the fear and love of thyself alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O MERCIFUL Father, who didst endow thy servant Hugh of Lincoln with a wise and cheerful boldness, and didst teach him how to commend the discipline of holy life to kings and princes: Grant that we, fearing only thy displeasure, may learn to speak the truth with boldness in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who didst call thy servant Hugh to feed thy sheep by his word, and guide them by his example: Grant us, we pray thee, to keep the faith which he taught, and to follow in his footsteps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O HOLY God, who didst endow thy servant and bishop Hugh of Lincoln with wise and cheerful boldness, and taught him to commend the discipline of holy life to kings and princes; Grant that we also, rejoicing in the Good News of thy mercy, and fearing nothing but the loss of thee, may be bold to speak the truth in love, in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ☒

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 4:12–16. ♦♦

LET no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by

prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

The Gospel. Mark 9:35–37. ♦♦

JESUS sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all. And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them: and when he had taken him in his arms, he said unto them, Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Titus 2:7–8, 11–14. ☒

IN all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you. For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:42–47. ☒

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Gertrude the Great

[November 17]

:: Gertrude (1256–c. 1302) was a German Benedictine nun, mystic, and theologian. Her notable works include *The Herald of Divine Love* (*The Herald of God's Loving-Kindness*) and *Spiritual Exercises*. In some jurisdictions, she shares this commemoration with Mechtilde of Hackenborn (1240/41–1298), a Saxon Benedictine nun known as the “Nightingale of Helfta” for her musical talents. The date of Gertrude’s death is November 17, according to Benedictine tradition; November 19 is the date of Mechtilde’s death. Note that Mechtilde of Hackenborn is not the same person as Mechthild of Magdeburg, whose dies natalis is also November 19.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who didst give to thy servant Gertrude special gifts of grace to understand and teach the truth as it is in Christ Jesus: Grant, we beseech thee, that by their teachings we may know thee, the one true God, and Jesus Christ thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen. ◇

For the Epistle. 1 Samuel 2:1–10. ◇

MY heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation. There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength. They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble. The LORD killeth, and

maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and he hath set the world upon them. He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

The Gospel. Luke 10:38–42. ◇

NOW it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And the Lord answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art concerned and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Gregory Thaumaturgus, Bishop and Confessor

[November 17]

:: Gregory of Neocaesarea (c. 213–c. 270) was the son of a wealthy pagan family in the area of Pontus in Asia Minor. After studying with Origen in Alexandria, he returned to Pontus, where he was consecrated bishop. A thaumaturge is a magician, wonderworker, or miracle worker; the appellation is a testimony to the respect accorded Gregory, especially in the writings of his colleague Gregory of Nyssa.

Propers of a Bishop or of a Confessor

Saint Fergus

[November 18]

:: *Fergus (d. c. 730) was a Pictish bishop who may have trained in Ireland or southern Scotland. He established churches in Upper Perth and then in Caithness. He is buried in Glamis, Angus. November 18 is the date of his commemoration in Scotland; in Ireland he is commemorated on September 8.*

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

[November 19]

:: *Elizabeth of Thuringia (1207–1231) was a Hungarian princess, and Landgravine of Thuringia, Germany. Married at 14 and widowed at 20, she regained her dowry and used it to build a hospital where she served the sick. November 17 is the date of Elizabeth's death, but most jurisdictions commemorate her on November 19.*

The Collect

O MERCIFUL God, enlighten the hearts of thy faithful people, that, following the example of blessed Elizabeth, they may learn to set their affection on things above where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst enkindle the flame of thy love in the heart of thy servant Elizabeth: Grant to us, thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that as we rejoice in her triumph, we may profit by her example; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace thy servant Elizabeth of Hungary recognized and honoured Jesus in the poor of this world: Grant that we, following her example, may with love and gladness serve those in any need or trouble, in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☒♦

WHO can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

JESUS said: The kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

IT is good to praise God, and exalt his name, and honourably to shew forth the works of God; therefore be not slack to praise him. It is good to keep close the secret of a king, but it is honourable to reveal the works of God. Do that which is good, and no evil shall touch you. Prayer is good with fasting and alms and righteousness. A little with righteousness is better than much with unrighteousness. It is better to give alms than to lay up gold: For alms doth deliver from death, and shall purge away all sin. Those that exercise alms and righteousness shall be filled with life: But they that sin are enemies to their own life.

The Gospel. Luke 12:32–34. ✠✧

FEAR not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Mechthild, Beguine of Magdeburg, Mystic

[November 19]

:: Mechthild (c. 1207–c.1282/94) was a German mystic who wrote in German (the first to do so) because she did not know Latin. She was a Beguine, a semi-monastic order of women who did not take formal religious vows. (Their male counterparts were Beghards.) Mechthild's book, Das fließende Licht der Gottheit (The Flowing Light of Divinity), described her visions of God. In some jurisdictions Mechthild is commemorated on May 28. Note that Mechthild of Magdeburg is not the same person as Mechtilde of Hackenborn, whose dies natalis is also November 19 (and who is sometimes commemorated with Gertrude on November 17).

The Collect

DRAW near to the souls of thy people, O God, that like thy servant Mechthild we may yearn to know thee ever more, just as we are known intimately by thee, who knowest each one of us better than we can know ourselves. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who

liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God now and for ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Song of Solomon 1:1–4. ◇

THE song of songs, which is Solomon's. Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth: for thy love is better than wine. Because of the savour of thy good ointments thy name is as ointment poured forth, therefore do the virgins love thee. Draw me, we will run after thee: the king hath brought me into his chambers: we will be glad and rejoice in thee, we will remember thy love more than wine: the upright love thee.

The Gospel. Luke 10:38–42. ◇

NOW it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And the Lord answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art concerned and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Edmund, King of East Anglia, Martyr

[November 20]

:: Edmund (c. 841–869/70) was King of East Anglia. He died during the invasion of the Great Heathen Army, a Viking army consisting mostly of Danes. By tradition, he was beaten, shot with arrows, and then beheaded on orders from Ivar the Boneless when he refused to renounce his Christian faith. Edmund's shrine at Bury St Edmunds was a principal pilgrimage site for centuries, until the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII. King Canute converted to Christianity and rebuilt the abbey, making his own pilgrimage in 1020.

The Collect

O GOD, in whose strength Saint Edmund the King stood firm against the heathen, and at the cost of his own life was the saving

of his people: Let him be a leader to encourage us to vanquish every assault of the enemy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O EVERLASTING King, thou Lord of Hosts: Set up the Cross of thy dear Son in the hearts of thy people that, with thy holy Martyr King Edmund, they may triumph over every foe; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of ineffable mercy, who didst give grace and fortitude to blessed Edmund the king to triumph over the enemy of his people by nobly dying for thy name: Bestow on us thy servants, we beseech thee, the shield of faith, wherewith we may withstand the assaults of our ancient enemy; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ☒

For the Epistle. Wisdom 3:1–8. ♦

THE souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, And their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself. As gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign for ever.

¶ *Or this:*

THE city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

The Gospel. John 12:24–26. ♦♦

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Peter 3:14–18. ☒

IF ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.

BEHOLD, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; and ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Propers of a Monarch

William Byrd, John Merbecke, and Thomas Tallis, Musicians [November 21]

:: William Byrd (c. 1539/40–1623) and Thomas Tallis (c. 1505–1585) were two of the greatest composers of the Tudor era. Both wrote copious amounts of choral music for the liturgy. John Merbecke (c. 1510–c. 1585) is known primarily for his Booke of Common Praier Noted, which provided chant-like settings of the liturgy for the First Prayer Book of Edward VI (the 1549 BCP). His setting of the ordinary of the mass (modified slightly) is still in use today. Tallis died on November 23, and Byrd on July 4; the date of Merbecke's death is unknown. November 23 is the commemoration of Clement, so this trio is commemorated on 21 November, the eve of the commemoration of Cecilia, the patron saint of music. These propers are originally for Johann Sebastian Bach on July 28.

The Collect

SOUND out thy majesty, O God, and call us to thy work, so that like thy servants William Byrd, John Merbecke, and Thomas Tallis, we might present our lives and our works to thy glory alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

THAT their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words. For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him.

AND there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Columbán, Bishop

[November 21]

:: Columbán (540–615) was an Irish missionary who founded a number of monasteries in the Frankish and Lombard kingdoms. His Rule was shorter than the Rule of Saint Benedict, and it embodied the customs of Bangor Abbey and other Irish monasteries. The date of Columbán's death is either November 21 or November 23. He is commemorated on November 23 in Ireland, but on November 21 elsewhere.

Propers of a Bishop

Saint Cecilia, Martyr at Rome

[November 22]

:: *Cecilia (3rd century) was a noble lady of Rome who, along with her newly-converted husband, was martyred during the reign of Emperor Alexander Severus. She is the patron saint of musicians.*

The Collect

O GOD, who as on this day didst cause thy blessed Virgin Saint Cecilia to attain unto the heavenly palm of martyrdom: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to follow her example that we may be accounted worthy to be admitted into thy presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O BLESSED Spirit of God, by whose aid and grace thy servants skilled in music and holy song have beautified the worship of thine house: Unite us, we pray thee, in the concert of thy praises with the heavenly choirs, that rest not day and night from thy perfect service; to whom with the Father and the Son, the one eternal God, be dominion and glory, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Romans 13:12–14. ♦

THE night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

¶ *Or this:*

The Epistle. Ephesians 5:15–21. ♦

SEE then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; speaking

to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:26b–32. ♦♦

THERE is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops. And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

Preface of a Saint

C. S. Lewis, Apologist and Spiritual Writer

[November 22]

:: *Clive Staples Lewis (1898–1963) was a noted writer and lay theologian. Known popularly for his science fiction/fantasy works The Chronicles of Narnia and The Space Trilogy (which both have serious Christian underpinnings), in religious circles he is known for his apologetics such as Mere Christianity and The Problem of Pain, and his memoir Surprised by Joy.*

The Collect

O GOD of searing truth and surpassing beauty, we give thee thanks for Clive Staples Lewis, whose sanctified imagination lighteth fires of faith in young and old alike; Surprise us also with thy joy and draw us into that new and abundant life which is ours in Christ Jesus, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☒♦

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

JESUS said: Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

Saint Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr

[November 23]

:: Clement I (c. 35–99) is considered to be the first Apostolic Father of the Church, and one of the three chief ones together with Polycarp and Ignatius of Antioch. He was the second or third Bishop of Rome, after Peter.

The Collect

O LORD, who in every age dost write names in thy Book of Life, and dost lead the meek of the earth to be followers of the Lamb of God: Raise up to us teachers like thy servant Clement, the disciple of thy first Apostles, who by their writings may instruct the Church without thought of self, and open unto us healing fountains of repentance, peace, and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O LORD, who in every age dost lead the meek of the earth to be followers of the Lamb of God: Raise up among us teachers like unto Saint Clement, whose name is in the book of life; and grant that, seeking only thy glory, they may by their writings edify the Church, and open to us healing fountains of repentance, peace, and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast enlightened thy Church by the teaching of thy servant Clement: Enrich us evermore, we beseech thee, with thy heavenly grace, and raise up faithful witnesses who by their life and doctrine will set forth the truth of thy salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst choose thy servant Clement of Rome to recall the Church in Corinth to obedience and stability: Grant that thy Church may be grounded and settled in thy truth by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit: reveal to it what is not yet known; fill up what is lacking; confirm what hath already been revealed; and keep it

blameless in thy service; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen. ☒

The Epistle. 1 Peter 5:2–4. ◇

FEED the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

The Gospel. Matthew 25:14–23. ◇

THE kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

THEREFORE, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved. I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord. And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

THOU therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully. The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits. Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

JUDGE not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch? The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Either how canst thou say to thy brother, Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself beholdest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye.

For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Preface of a Saint

Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr, Holy Helper

[November 25]

:: Catherine (c. 287–c. 305) was the daughter of Constus, the governor of Alexandria. When the persecutions began under Emperor Maxentius, Catherine went to Rome to challenge him. She bested a number of pagan philosophers and orators in a debate; several of them converted and were immediately put to death. Catherine then suffered various tortures and attempted executions (including by a spiked breaking wheel) before being beheaded. She is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked in the 14th century against the Black Death. In some jurisdictions Catherine shares a commemoration with Barbara of Nicomedia and Margaret of Antioch on November 24.

LORD, give thine angels charge over us to keep us in all our ways; and bear us safe in their hands through life and death to meet the Lord and be ever with him, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ◇

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst endue blessed Catherine, thy Virgin, with grace to witness a good confession, and to suffer gladly for thy name: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to follow her stedfastness that we may attain to the glorious fellowship of thy Saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆

¶ *Or this, for a combined commemoration of Catherine of Alexandria, Barbara the Great of Nicomedia, and Margaret of Antioch, on November 24:*

EMBOLDEN thy Church, O God, with the stories of thy saints Catherine, Barbara, and Margaret, that we might face all trials and adversities with a fearless mind and an unbroken spirit, knowing that we are more than conquerors through Jesus Christ who strengthens us; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ◆

The Epistle. 1 Thessalonians 4:15–18. ◇

FOR this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 51:9–12. ♦

THEN lifted I up my supplications from the earth, and prayed for deliverance from death. I called upon the Lord, the Father of my Lord, that he would not leave me in the days of my trouble, and in the time of the proud, when there was no help. I will praise thy name continually, and will sing praises with thanksgiving; and so my prayer was heard: For thou savedst me from destruction, and deliveredst me from the evil time: therefore will I give thanks, and praise thee, and bless thy name, O Lord.

The Gospel. Luke 21:12–19. ♦♦

JESUS said unto his disciples: Before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. And it shall turn to you for a testimony. Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake. But there shall not an hair of your head perish. In your patience possess ye your souls.

¶ *Or these lessons, for a combined commemoration of Catherine of Alexandria, Barbara the Great of Nicomedia, and Margaret of Antioch, on November 24.*

For the Epistle. Acts 11:19–26. ♦

NOW they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only. And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: and when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

The Gospel. Matthew 11:25–30. ◇

AT that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight. All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Preface of Epiphany

Isaac Watts, Hymn Writer

[November 25]

:: Isaac Watts (1674–1748) was a theologian, logician, and hymn writer. His many notable hymns include “Joy to the World”, “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”, “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”, and “Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove”.

¶ *The propers for Johann Sebastian Bach on July 28 may be used.*

Propers of a Saint

Sojourner Truth, Prophetic Witness

[November 26]

:: *Sojourner Truth (c. 1797–1883) was an abolitionist and women’s rights activist. Born a slave named Isabella Baumfree, she took the name Sojourner Truth when she became convinced that God was calling her to travel “testifying the hope that was in her”. Some jurisdictions commemorate Amelia Bloomer, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Ross Tubman on July 20.*

The Collect

ALMIGHTY God, who hast made thy Church to be one body with many members and many gifts: we thank thee for the witness of thy daughter, Sojourner Truth, and for her courage to preach the truth of thy liberating love in the face of great injustice. Grant that we, like her, may use our time, talents, and energy to proclaim the coming of thy Kingdom, which is good news to the poor, and in which all the oppressed shall be made free; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ◇

For the Epistle. Wisdom 5:15–20. ◇

THE righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High. Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom, and a beautiful crown from the Lord’s hand: for with his right hand shall he cover them, and with his arm shall he protect them. He shall take to him his jealousy for complete armour, and make the creature his weapon for the revenge of his enemies. He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate, and true judgment instead of an helmet. He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. His severe wrath shall he sharpen for a sword, and the world shall fight with him against the unwise.

The Gospel. Mark 4:21–29. ◇

JESUS said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick? For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept

secret, but that it should come abroad. If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.

And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath.

And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; and should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

Preface of Baptism

The Common of Saints

Of a Martyr

¶ LFF03 gives three complete sets of propers (Collect, Old Testament Lesson, Epistle, and Gospel) for the Common of a Martyr.

The Collect

O GOD, who dost inspire us to confess thy holy name by the witness of thy martyrs: Grant that thy Church, encouraged by their example, may be ready to suffer fearlessly for thy cause, and to strive for the reward of thy heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, in whose sight the death of thy saints is precious, and who gavest grace to thy blessed martyr(s) *N(N)*. to glorify thee by *his* death: Grant that we, following *his* faith, may receive with *him* the crown of righteousness laid up for all them that love thy Son's appearing; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst give thy servant(s) *N(N)*. boldness to confess the Name of our Saviour Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of the same our Lord Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☩☩¹

¶ *Or this:*

O ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power thy holy martyr(s) *N(N)*. triumphed over suffering and was faithful even unto death:

Grant us, who now remember *him* with thanksgiving, to be so faithful in our witness to thee in this world, that we may receive with *him* the crown of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ☩ ☩²

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst enkindle the flame of thy love in the heart of thy holy martyr(s) *N(N)*.: Grant to us, thy humble servants, a like faith and power of love, that we who rejoice in *his* triumph may profit by *his* example; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ☩ ☩³

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who didst strengthen thy blessed martyr(s) *N(N)*. with the virtue of constancy in faith and truth: Grant us in like manner for love of thee to despise the prosperity of this world, and to fear none of its adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ✠

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power thy Martyr *N.* was enabled to witness to the truth and to be faithful unto death: Grant that we, who now remember him before thee, may likewise so bear witness unto thee in this world, that we may receive with him the crown of glory that fadeth not away; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ℥

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who didst bestow upon thy Saints such marvellous virtue, that they were able to stand fast, and have the victory against the world, the flesh, and the devil: Grant that we, who now commemorate thy Martyr *N.*, may ever rejoice in their fellowship, and also be enabled by thy grace to fight the good fight of faith and lay hold upon eternal

life; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* C

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 6:11–16. ◇

BUT thou, O man of God, flee these things; and beloved: follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; that thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. *Amen.*

The Gospel. Matthew 5:11–12. ◇

BLESSED are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 1:3–7. ◆

BLESSED be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for

your consolation and salvation. And our hope of you is stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.

The Gospel. Matthew 16:24–27. ♦

THEN said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Peter 3:14–18, 22. ☒¹

IF ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. 2 Esdras 2:42–48. ☒¹

IESDRAS saw upon the mount Sion a great people, whom I could not number, and they all praised the Lord with songs. And in the

midst of them there was a young man of a high stature, taller than all the rest, and upon every one of their heads he set crowns, and was more exalted; which I marvelled at greatly. So I asked the angel, and said, Sir, what are these? He answered and said unto me, These be they that have put off the mortal clothing, and put on the immortal, and have confessed the name of God; now are they crowned, and receive palms. Then said I unto the angel. What young person is it that crowneth them, and giveth them palms in their hands? So he answered and said unto me, It is the Son of God, whom they have confessed in the world. Then began I greatly to commend them that stood so stiffly for the name of the Lord. Then the angel thy way, and tell my people what manner of things, and how great wonders of the Lord thy God,. thou hast seen.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:16–22. ☒¹

BEHOLD, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless. as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; and ye shall be brought before governors and kings. for my sake, for a witness to them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, be not anxious how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all mea for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Revelation 7:13–17. ☒²

ONE of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said

unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 5:11–12. ☒²

BE swift to hear; and let thy life be sincere; and with patience give answer. If thou hast understanding, answer thy neighbour; if not, lay thy hand upon thy mouth.

The Gospel. Luke 12:2–12. ☒²

THERE is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops. And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God: but he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God. And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against

the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven. And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: for the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Peter 4:12–19. ☒³

BELOVED, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Jeremiah 15:15–21. ☒³

OLORD, thou knowest: remember me, and visit me, and revenge me of my persecutors; take me not away in thy longsuffering: know that for thy sake I have suffered rebuke. Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts. I sat not in the assembly of the mockers, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of thy hand: for thou hast filled me with indignation. Why is my pain

perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuseth to be healed? wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar, and as waters that fail? Therefore thus saith the LORD, If thou return, then will I bring thee again, and thou shalt stand before me: and if thou take forth the precious from the vile, thou shalt be as my mouth: let them return unto thee; but return not thou unto them. And I will make thee unto this people a fenced brasen wall: and they shall fight against thee, but they shall not prevail against thee: for I am with thee to save thee and to deliver thee, saith the LORD. And I will deliver thee out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem thee out of the hand of the terrible.

The Gospel. Mark 8:34–38. ☒³

WHEN Jesus had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Peter 4:12–19. ☒

BELOVED, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or

as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

The Gospel. Matthew 16.24–27. C

THEN said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Preface of a Saint

Of a Bishop

The Collect

GIVE grace, we beseech thee, Almighty God, to us thy people, and to the Pastors of thy flock; that, following the example of Saint *N.* thy Bishop and Confessor, we may in contempt of worldly motives obey to the end thy heavenly precepts, and be accounted worthy of those eternal joys which thou dost vouchsafe to us in Christ Jesus our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Hebrews 13:7–8, 15–17. ♦

REMEMBER them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:42–47. ♦

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Preface of a Saint

Of a Pastor
(Archbishop, Bishop, Priest, or Deacon)

¶ LFF03 gives two complete sets of *propers* (Collect, Old Testament Lesson, Epistle, and Gospel) for the Common of a Pastor.

The Collect

O HEAVENLY Father, Shepherd of thy people, we give thee thanks for thy servant *N.*, who was faithful in the care and nurture of thy flock; and we pray that, following his example and the

teaching of his holy life, we may by thy grace grow into the stature of the fulness of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen. ☩☩¹

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, our heavenly Father, who didst raise up thy faithful servant *N.*, to be a [*bishop and*] pastor in thy Church and to feed thy flock: Give abundantly to all pastors the gifts of thy Holy Spirit, that they may minister in thy household as true servants of Christ and stewards of thy divine mysteries; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ☩☩²

The Epistle. 1 Peter 5:1–4. ☩¹

THE elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Ezekiel 34:11–16. ☩¹

THUS saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them in

a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel. I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord GOD. I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

The Gospel. John 21:15–17. ☒¹

SO when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Ephesians 3:14–21. ☒²

FOR this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be

glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Acts 20:17–35. ☒²

FROM Miletus Paul sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: and how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch,

and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

The Gospel. Matthew 24:42–47. ☒²

WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Preface of a Saint

Of a Confessor

The Collect

O GOD, who makest us glad with the festival of Saint *N.*, thy confessor: Mercifully grant that, as we celebrate his joyful entrance into rest, so may we imitate his holy life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

¶ *Or this:*

ALmighty God, who dost choose thine elect out of every nation, and dost shew forth thy glory in their lives: Grant, we pray thee, that following the example of thy servant Saint *N.*, we may be fruitful in good works to the praise of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Wisdom 4:7–10. ♦

THOUGH the righteous be prevented with death, yet shall he be in rest. For honourable age is not that which standeth in length of time, nor that is measured by number of years. But wisdom is the gray hair unto men, and an unspotted life is old age. He pleased God, and was beloved of him: so that living among sinners he was translated.

The Gospel. Luke 12:1–8. ♦

IN the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. There is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops. And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

BRETHREN: we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised. Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwellingplace; and labour, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it: being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day.

The Gospel. Matthew 10:28–33. ♦

FEAR not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

Preface of a Saint

Of a Missionary

¶ LFF03 gives two complete sets of propers (Collect, Old Testament Lesson, Epistle, and Gospel) for the Common of a Missionary.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we thank thee for thy servant *N.*, whom thou didst call to preach the Gospel *to the people of Ñ* [or *to the Ñ people*]. Raise up, we beseech thee, in this and every land heralds and evangelists of thy kingdom, that thy Church may make known the unsearchable riches of Christ, and may increase with the increase of God; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ♦(⊕ ⊛¹)

¶ *Or this:*

ALmighty God, who willest to be glorified in thy saints, and didst raise up thy servant *N.* to be a light in the world: Shine, we pray, in our hearts, that we also in our generation may shew forth thy praise, who hast called us out of darkness into thy marvellous light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ⊕ ☒²

The Epistle. Acts 1:1–9. ♦ ☒¹

THE former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: to whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: and, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Isaiah 52:7–10. ☒¹

HOW beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Gospel. Luke 10:1–9. ♦ ☒¹

AFTER these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor pack, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: and heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

For the Epistle. Acts 17:22–31. ☒²

PAUL stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed

by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; and hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; that they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: for in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Isaiah 49:1-6. ☒²

LISTEN, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name. And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me; And said unto me, Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified. Then I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: yet surely my judgment is with the LORD, and my work with my God. And now, saith the LORD that formed me from the

womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and my God shall be my strength. And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

The Gospel. Matthew 28:16–20. ☒²

THEN the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Preface of Pentecost

Of a Doctor, Theologian, or Teacher of the Faith

¶ LFF03 gives two complete sets of *propers* (Collect, Old Testament Lesson, Epistle, and Gospel) for the Common of a Theologian or Teacher.

The Collect

O GOD, who by thy Holy Spirit dost give to some the word of wisdom, to others the word of knowledge, and to others the word of faith: We praise thy Name for the gifts of grace manifested in thy servant *N.*, and we pray that thy Church may never be destitute of such gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* ☕ ☒¹

¶ *Or this:*

ALMIGHTY God, who didst give to thy servant *N.* special gifts of grace to understand and teach the truth as it is in Christ Jesus:

Grant, we beseech thee, that by this teaching we may know thee, the one true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen. ☩ ☩²

¶ *Or this:*

GOD, who hast endowed thy servant *N.* with clarity of faith and holiness of life: Grant us to keep with steadfast minds the faith which he taught, and in his fellowship to be made partakers of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 2:6–10, 13–16. ☩¹

HOWBEIT we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: but we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Wisdom 7:7–14. ☩¹

ICALLED upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her before sceptres and thrones, and esteemed riches

nothing in comparison of her. Neither compared I unto her any precious stone, because all gold in respect of her is as a little sand, and silver shall be counted as clay before her. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light: for the light that cometh from her never goeth out. All good things together came to me with her, and innumerable riches in her hands. And I rejoiced in them all, because wisdom goeth before them: and I knew not that she was the mother of them. I learned diligently, and do communicate her liberally: I do not hide her riches. For she is a treasure unto men that never faileth: which they that use become the friends of God, being commended for the gifts that come from learning.

The Gospel. John 17:18–23. ☒¹

JESUS said, As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 3:5–11. ☒²

WHO then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. For we

are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Proverbs 3:1–7. ☒²

MY son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: so shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

The Gospel. Matthew 13:47–52. ☒²

JESUS saith: the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord. Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Preface of a Saint or of Trinity Sunday

Of a Monastic (Abbot, Abbess, Hermit)

¶ LFF03 gives two complete sets of *propers* (Collect, Old Testament Lesson, Epistle, and Gospel) for the Common of a Monastic.

The Collect

O GOD, whose blessed Son became poor that we through his poverty might be rich: Deliver us, we pray thee from an inordinate love of this world, that, inspired by the devotion of thy servant *N.*, we may serve thee with singleness of heart, and attain to the riches of the age to come; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☩ ☩¹

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, by whose grace thy servant *N.*, enkindled with the flame of thy love, became a burning and a shining light in thy Church: Grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, and may ever walk before thee as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* ☩(☩ ☩²)

¶ *Or this, especially suitable for an Abbot or Abbess*

O LORD, we beseech thee, make us more worthy, of thy perfect love, that with thy servant Saint *N.* we may rule ourselves after thy word and seek thee with our whole heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 45:2–5. ♦

GOD made him like to the glorious saints, and magnified him, so that his enemies stood in fear of him. By his words he caused the wonders to cease, and he made him glorious in the sight of kings, and gave him a commandment for his people, and shewed him part of his

glory. He sanctified him in his faithfulness and meekness, and chose him out of all men. He made him to hear his voice, and brought him into the dark cloud, and gave him commandments before his face, even the law of life and knowledge, that he might teach Jacob his covenants, and Israel his judgments.

The Gospel. Matthew 19:27–29. ♦

THEN answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. Philippians 3:7–15. ☒¹

HOWBEIT what things were gain to me, these have I counted loss for Christ. Yea verily, and I count all things to be loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I suffer the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may gain Christ, and be found in him, not having a righteousness of mine own, even that which is of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming conformed unto his death; if by any means I may attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have already obtained, or am already made perfect: but I press on, if so be that I may apprehend that for which also I was apprehended by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself yet to have apprehended: but one thing I do, forgetting the

things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in anything ye are otherwise minded, even this shall God reveal unto you.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Song of Songs 8:6–7. ☒¹

SET me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.

The Gospel. Luke 12:33–37. ☒¹

JESUS said, Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 2 Corinthians 6:1–10. ☒²

WE then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of

salvation.) Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: but in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; by pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; as sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Acts 2:42–47a. ☒²

THOSE that were baptized continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; and sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favour with all the people.

The Gospel. Matthew 6:24–33. ☒²

NO man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they

sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Preface of a Saint

Of a Deaconess

The Collect

O GOD, who hast bestowed upon thy Church divers gifts and graces of Ministry: We give thee humble thanks for thy servant *N.* whom we commemorate this day; and we beseech thee to help us follow in her steps, and fill our hearts with love of thee, and of others for thy sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Romans 15:30–16:2. ♦

NOW I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me; that I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judæa; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints; that I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed. Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a deaconess of the church which is at Cenchrea: that ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also.

The Gospel. Matthew 9:35–38. ♦

JESUS went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching The Gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

Preface of a Saint

Of a Monarch

The Collect

O GOD, who art the King of kings and Lord of lords: Give grace, we beseech thee, to the earthly rulers of thy people that, following the faith of thy servant *King N.*, they may with *him* receive a crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Wisdom 5:15–20. ♦

THE righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High. Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom, and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand: for with his right hand shall he cover them, and with his arm shall he protect them. He shall take to him his jealousy for complete armour, and make the creature his weapon for the revenge of his enemies. He

shall put on righteousness as a breastplate, and true judgment instead of an helmet. He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. His severe wrath shall he sharpen for a sword, and the world shall fight with him against the unwise.

The Gospel. Matthew 20:25–28. ♦

JESUS called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Preface of a Saint

Of a Patron Saint

The Collect

UPLIFT us, O Lord, by thy Holy Spirit to glorify thee in thy Saints with a thankful remembrance of Saint *N.*, our patron; that we, who have received from our fathers the age-long tradition of faith and piety, may continue firm in our loyalty to thee, and be carried along the heavenly ways to the promised home of the blessed, where thou livest and reignest with our Saviour and the same Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.* ♦

The Epistle. Hebrews 13:7–9. ♦

REMEMBER them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace;

not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

The Gospel. John 4:35–38. ◇

JESUS saith unto his disciples: Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.

Preface of a Saint

Of a Saint

¶ LFF03 gives three complete sets of propers (Collect, Old Testament Lesson, Epistle, and Gospel) for the Common of a Saint.

The Collect

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost enkindle the name of thy love in the hearts of the Saints: Grant to us, thy humble servants, the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may profit by their examples; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* †

¶ *Or this:*

OALMIGHTY God, who hast called us to faith in thee, and hast compassed us about with so great a cloud of witnesses: Grant that we, encouraged by the good examples of thy Saints, and especially of thy servant Saint *N.*, may persevere in running the race that is set before us, until at length, through thy mercy, we, with them, attain to thine eternal joy; through him who is the author and finisher of our faith, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* †(✠¹)

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD, who hast brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of just men made perfect: Grant us during our earthly pilgrimage to abide in their fellowship, and in our heavenly country to become partakers of their joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ✠✠ ☒²

¶ *Or this:*

O ALMIGHTY God, who by thy Holy Spirit hast made us one with thy saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may ever be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to thy power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. *Amen.* ✠ ☒³

¶ *Or this:*

LET the glory of thy saints, O Lord illumine the dulness of our hearts; that, following the example of their lives on earth, we may shine with them in the everlasting light of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ✠

¶ *Or this:*

O GOD of mercy, enlighten the hearts of thy faithful people; and grant us after the example of thy servant *N.* to despise things earthly and love things heavenly; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ✠

The Epistle. Hebrews 12:1–2. †☒¹

SEEING we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

¶ *Or this:*

WHEREWITH shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

WHEN the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

FOR ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: but God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: that no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: that, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

IN that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight. All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

REJOICE in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice, Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned,

and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Wisdom 3:1–9. ☒²

THE souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, And their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself. As gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign for ever. They that put their trust in him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with him: for grace and mercy is to his saints, and he hath care for his elect.

The Gospel. Luke 6:17–23. ☒²

JESUS came down and stood in the plain, with the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judæa and Jerusalem, and from the sea coasts of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases; and they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all. And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your

name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven.

¶ *Or these lessons:*

The Epistle. 1 Corinthians 1:26–31. ☒³

FOR ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: but God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: that no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: that, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

¶ *Or this:*

For the Epistle. Ecclesiasticus 2:7–11. ☒³

YE that fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; and go not aside, lest ye fall. Ye that fear the Lord, believe him; and your reward shall not fail. Ye that fear the Lord, hope for good, and for everlasting joy and mercy. Look at the generations of old, and see; did ever any trust in the Lord, and was confounded? or did any abide in his fear, and was forsaken? or whom did he ever despise, that called upon him? For the Lord is full of compassion and mercy, long-suffering, and very pitiful, and forgiveth sins, and saveth in time of affliction.

The Gospel. Matthew 25:31–40. ☒³

WHEN the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then

shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Preface of a Saint

The Vigil of a Saint

The Collect

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the solemn Feast of the blessed Saint *N.*, which we anticipate, may both increase our devotion and be profitable for our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* ♦

For the Epistle. Revelation 5:6–10. W

BETWEEN the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders, I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth; and he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and with golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints; and they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy art thou to take the scroll and to open its seals, for thou

wast slain and by thy blood didst ransom men for God from every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and hast made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on earth.”

The Gospel. Luke 6:20–23. W

JESUS lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: “Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you that hunger now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you that weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, on account of the Son of man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.”

Preface of a Saint

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