

thence also life might arise again, and that he who overcame by a tree, by a tree also might be overcome: through Christ our Lord. Through whom the Angels praise Thy Majesty, Dominations worship, Powers stand in awe. The heavens and the hosts of heaven with blessed Seraphim unite, exult, and celebrate. And we entreat that Thou wouldst bid our voices too be heard with theirs, singing with lowly praise: — *Sanctus*.

COMMUNION

BY the sign of the Cross, deliver us from our enemies, O Thou our God.

qui in ligno vincēbat, in ligno quoque vincerētur, per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adorant Dominatiónes, tremunt Potestátes. Cæli, cælorúmque Virtútes, ac beáta Séraphim, sócia exsultatióne concélebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces, ut admitti júbeas, deprecámur, súplici confessiône dicétes: — *Sanctus*.

PER signum Crucis de inimicis nostris libera nos, Deus noster.

POSTCOMMUNION

STAND by us, O Lord our God, and do Thou, who makest us rejoice in honor of the holy Cross, defend us evermore by its help. Through our Lord ...

ADÉSTO nobis, Dómine Deus noster: et quos sanctæ Crucis laetári facis honóre, ejus quoque perpétuis defénde subsidiis. Per Dóminum ...

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I AM GOING to talk to you now about the public crosses, and I am going to give you the reason for their number, for the blessings which flow from them, and for the great honor which the Church pays them. If our interior crosses are so numerous and if the public crosses, these images of that Cross on which our God died, are also so numerous, it is that we may have always present in our thoughts the reminder that we are the children of a crucified God.



We need not be surprised, my dear brethren, at the honor which the Church pays to this holy wood, which obtains for us so many graces and so many benefits. We see that the Church makes the Sign of the Cross in all her ceremonies, in the administration of all the Sacraments. Why is that? My friends, this is why. It is because all our prayers and all

the Sacraments draw from the Cross their power and their virtue. During the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is the greatest, the most solemn and the most sublime of all those actions which can glorify God, the priest makes the Sign of the Cross over and over again. God desires that we may never lose the memory of it as the surest means of our salvation and the most formidable instrument for repelling the Devil. He has created us in the form of a cross so that every man might be the image of this cross upon which Jesus Christ died to save us. See how eager the Church is to increase their number? She urges them as a special embellishment on our churches and on all altars; she places them in the most public places.

Commentary from a homily by the Curé d'Ars, St. Jean-Marie Baptiste Vianney (1786-1859)

Proper Prayers of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



INTROIT (Gal. 6. 14)

NOS autem gloriári opórtet in Cruce Dómini nostri Jesu Christi: in quo est salus, vita, et resurrectiō nostra: per quem salváti et liberáti sumus. *Psalm.* Deus misereátur nostri et benedicat nobis: illúminet vultum suum super nos, et misereátur nostri. V̄. Glória Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sǎcula sǎculórum. R̄. Amen. — Nos autem ...

BUT it behooves us to glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ: in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection: by whom we are saved, and delivered. *Ps. 66. 2.* May God have mercy on us and bless us: may He cause the light of His countenance to shine upon us, and may He have mercy on us. V̄. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. — But it behooves ...

COLLECT

O GOD, who this day dost gladden us by the yearly feast of the Exaltation of the holy Cross: grant, we beseech Thee, that we who on earth acknowledge the Mystery of Redemption wrought upon it, may be worthy to enjoy the rewards of that same Redemption in heaven. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Who with Thee liveth and reigneth in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

EPISTLE

From the Letter of Blessed Paul the Apostle to the Philippians, 2. 5-11.

BRETHREN: let this mind be in you which was also in Jesus Christ: who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God; but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men, and in habit found as a man. He humbled Himself, becoming obedient unto death, even to the death of the cross. For which cause God also hath exalted Him, and hath given Him a Name which is above all names: (*here all genuflect*) that in the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth, and under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that the Lord Jesus Christ is in the glory of God the Father.



GRADUAL (Phil. 2. 8-9)

CHRIST became obedient for us unto death: even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath exalted Him, and hath given Him a name which is above every name.

Alleluia, alleluia. Sweet the wood, sweet the nails, sweet the load that hangs on thee: thou only wast worthy to bear the King and Lord of heaven. Alleluia.

DEUS, qui nos hodierna die Exaltationis sanctae Crucis annua solemnitate laetificas: praesta, quaesumus; ut, cujus mysterium in terra cognovimus, ejus redemptionis praemia in caelo mereamur. Per eundem Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum Filium tuum. Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spiritus Sancti Deus, per omnia saecula saeculorum.

FRATRES: Hoc enim sentite in vobis, quod et in Christo Jesu: qui cum in forma Dei esset, non rapinam arbitratus est esse se aequalem Deo: sed semetipsum exinanivit formam servi accipiens, in similitudinem hominum factus, et habitu inventus ut homo. Humiliavit semetipsum, factus obediens usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis. Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum: et donavit ille nomen, quod est super omne nomen: (*hic genuflectitur*) ut in nomine Jesu omne genu flectatur caelestium, terrestrium et infernorum: et omnis lingua confiteatur, quia Dominus Jesus Christus in gloria est Dei Patris.

CHRISTUS factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis. Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum, et dedit illi nomen quod est super omne nomen.

Alleluia, alleluia. Dulce lignum, dulces clavos, dulcia ferens pondera: quae sola fuisti digna sustinere Regem caelorum et Dominum. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Continuation of the holy Gospel according to St. John, 12. 31-36.

IN ILLO TEMPORE: Dixit Jesus turbis Judaeorum: Nunc iudicium est mundi: nunc princeps hujus mundi ejicietur foras. Et ego si exaltatus fuero a terra, omnia traham ad meipsum. (Hoc autem dicebat, significans qua morte esset moriturus.) Respondit ei turba: Nos audivimus ex lege, quia Christus manet in aeternum: et quomodo tu dicis: Opertet exaltari Filium hominis? Quis est iste Filius hominis? Dixit ergo eis Jesus: Adhuc modicum lumen in vobis est. Ambulate dum lucem habetis, ut non vos tenebrae comprehendant: et qui ambulat in tenebris, nescit quo vadat. Dum lucem habetis, credite in lucem, ut filii lucis sitis. — *Credo.*

PROTEGE, Domine, plebem tuam per signum sanctae Crucis ab insidiis inimicorum omnium: ut tibi gratam exhibeamus servitatem, et acceptabile fiat sacrificium nostrum.

JESU Christi Domini nostri corpore et sanguine saginandi, per quem Crucis est sanctificatum vexillum: quaesumus, Domine Deus noster; ut, sicut illud adorare meruimus, ita perenniter ejus gloriae salutaris potiamur effectu. Per eundem Dominum ...

VERE dignum et justum est, aequum et salutare, nos tibi semper, et ubique gratias agere: Domine sancte, Pater omnipotens, aeternae Deus. Qui salutem humani generis in ligno Crucis constituisti: ut unde mors oriebatur, inde vita resurgeret: et

AT THAT TIME, Jesus said to the multitudes of the Jews: Now is the judgment of the world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all things to Myself. (Now this He said, signifying what death He should die.) The multitude 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? Jesus therefore said to them, Yet a little while, the light is among you. Walk whilst you have the light, that the darkness overtake you not. And he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. Whilst you have the light, believe in the light; that you may be the children of light. — *Creed.*

OFFERTORY

BY the sign of the holy Cross, O Lord, protect Thy people from the wiles of all our enemies, that we may be able to do Thee worthy service, and that our sacrifice may be well-pleasing in Thy sight.

SECRET

WE who are about to feed on the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom the banner of the holy Cross was sanctified: beseech Thee, O Lord our God, that since we have been found worthy to venerate that holy sign, we may enjoy for evermore the salvation secured for us by its triumph. Through the same ...

PREFACE OF THE HOLY CROSS

IT is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to Thee, holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God: Who didst establish the salvation of mankind on the tree of the Cross: that whence death rose,