

and in all places give thanks to Thee, holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God, through Christ our Lord: through Whom 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 (Acts 7: 56, 59, 60)

I SEE the heavens opened, and Jesus standing on the right hand of the power of God: Lord Jesus, receive my spirit, and lay not this sin to their charge.

Postcommunion

MAY the Mysteries we have received, O Lord, help us, and through the intercession of blessed Stephen, Thy Martyr, establish us by Thine everlasting protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ ...

THE DIVINE INTENTION, in surrounding the fall of Rome in 410 with discoveries of saints' bodies, was clearly manifested in the most important of these discoveries, the one we celebrate today. The year 415 had opened. Italy, Gaul, and Spain were being invaded; Africa was about to share their fate. Amidst the universal ruin, the Christians, in whom alone resided the hope of the world, put up their petitions at every sanctuary to obtain at least, according to the expression of the Spanish priest Avitus, "that the Lord would inspire with gentleness those whom He suffered to prevail." It was then that took place ... "one of the most celebrated events of the fifth century." Through the inter-

mediary of the priest Lucian, John, the Bishop of Jerusalem, received from St. Stephen, the first martyr, and his companions in the tomb a message couched in these terms: "Make haste to open our sepulchre, that by our means God may open to the world the door of His clemency, and may take pity on His people in the universal tribulation."

The discovery, accomplished in the midst of prodigies, was published to the whole world as the sign of salvation. St. Stephen's relics, scattered everywhere in token of security and peace, wrought astonishing conversions, innumerable miracles "like those of ancient times," and bore witness to the same faith of Christ which the martyr had confessed by his death four centuries earlier.

ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, ætérne Deus: per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam laudant Ángeli, adorant Dominatiónes, tremunt Potestátes. Cœli, cœlorúmque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia exsultatióne concelebrant. Cum quibus et nostras deprecámur, súplici confessióne dicétes: — *Sanctus*.

VÍDEO cœlos apértos, et Jesum stantem a dextris virtútis Dei: Dómine Jesu, ácipe spíritum meum, et ne státuas illis hoc peccátum.

AUXILIÉNTUR nobis, Dómine, sumpta mystéria: et, intercedénte beáto Stéphano Mártýre tuo, sempitérna protectiόne confirment. Per Dóminum nostrum ...

Commentary from The Liturgical Year by Dom Prosper Guéranger, OSB (1805-1875).



He cried with a loud voice, saying:
Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.

Proper Prayers of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form

AUGUST 3

The Finding of St. Stephen, Protomartyr

Prayers at the Foot of the Altar

(see red Missal, pp. 10-13)

Introit (Psalm 118: 23, 86)

SEDÉRUNT PRÍNCIPES, et advérsum me loquebántur: et iníqui persecuti sunt me: adjúva me, Dómine Deus meus, quia servus tuus exercebátur in tuis justificatióibus. *Ps. ibid. 1.* Beáti immaculate in via, qui ambulat in lege Dómini. *Ÿ.* Glória Patri, et Filio, et Spíritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sœcula sœculórum. Amen. — Sedérunt ...

PRINCES SAT, and spoke against me: and the wicked persecuted me: help me, O Lord my God, for Thy servant was employed in Thy justifications. *Psalm.* Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. *Ÿ.* 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. — Princes sat ...

Collect

DA NOBIS, quæsumus, Dómine, imitári quod cólimus: ut discámus et inimícos dilígere, quia ejus Inventiόnem celebrámus, qui novit etiám pro persecutóribus exoráre Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum Filium tuum: Qui tecum vivit et regnat ...

GRANT to us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to imitate that which we venerate: that we also may learn to love our enemies; for we celebrate the finding of him who knew to entreat, even for his persecutors, our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son: Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

Lesson (Acts 6: 8–10; 7: 54–59)

IN DIÉBUS ILLIS: Stéphanus plenus grátia et fortitúdone, faciébat prodígia et signa magna in pópulo. Surrex-

IN THOSE DAYS Stephen, full of grace and fortitude, did great wonders and signs among the people. Now there arose some

of that which is called the synagogue of the Libertines and of the Cyrenians and of the Alexandrians and of them that were of Cilicia and Asia, disputing with Stephen: and they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit that spoke. Now, hearing these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed with their teeth at him. But Stephen being full of the Holy Ghost, looking up steadfastly to heaven, saw the glory of God and Jesus standing on the right hand of God. And he said: Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God. And they crying out with a loud voice stopped their ears, and with one accord ran violently upon him. And casting him forth without the city, they stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, invoking and saying: Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And falling on his knees he cried with a loud voice, saying: Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep in the Lord.

Gradual (Psalm 118: 23, 86, 117)

PRINCES SAT, and spoke against me: and the wicked persecuted me. *℣*. Help me, O Lord my God: save me for Thy mercy's sake. **Alleluia, alleluia.** (*Acts 7:56.*) *℣*. I see the heavens opened, and Jesus standing on the right hand of the power of God. Alleluia.

Gospel (Matthew 23: 34–39)

AT THAT TIME Jesus said to the scribes and pharisees: Behold I send to you prophets

érunt autem quidam de synagoga, quæ appellatur Libertinorum, et Cyrenensium, et Alexandrinorum, et eorum, qui errant a Cilicia, et Asia, disputans cum Stéphano: et non poterant resistere sapientiæ et Spiritui, qui loquebatur. Audiéntes autem hæc, dissecabantur cõrdibus suis, et stridébant dẽntibus in eum. Cum autem esset Stẽphanus plenus Spiritu Sancto, intẽdens in cœlum, vidit glõriam Dei, et Jesum stantem a dextris Dei. Et ait: Ecce video cœlos apertos, et Filium hõminis stantem a dextris Dei. Exclamántes autem voce magna continuérunt aures suas, et ímpetum fecérunt unanimiter in eum. Et ejiciéntes eum extra civitatem, lapidábant: et testes deposuérunt vestimẽta sua secus pedes adolescentis, qui vocabatur Saulus. Et lapidábant Stẽphanum invocántem, et dicéntem: Dõmine Jesu, súspice spíritum meum. Pósitis autem gẽnibus, clamávit voce magna, dicens: Dõmine, ne stãtuas illis hoc peccátum. Et cum hoc dixisset, obdormívit in Dõmino.

SEDÉRUNT PRÍNCIPES, et adversum me loquebantur: et iniqui persecuti sunt me. *℣*. Adjúva me, Dõmine Deus meus: salvum me fac propter misericórdiam tuam. **Alleluia, alleluia.** *℣*. Video cœlos apertos, et Jesum stantem a dextris virtutis Dei. Alleluia.

IN ILLO TÈMPORE: Dicébat Jesus scribis et pharisæis: Ecce ego mitto ad vos pro-

phétas, et sapiéntes, et scribas, et ex illis occidétis et crucifigétis, et ex eis flagellábitis in synagõgis vestris, et persequémini de civitate in civitatem: ut véniat super vos omnis sanguis justus, qui effusus est super terram, a sãguine Abel justi usque ad sãguine Zachariæ, filii Barachíæ, quem occidistis inter templum et altáre. Amen dico vobis, vénient hæc omnia super generatiõnem istam. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, quæ occidis prophétas, et lápidas eos, qui ad te missi sunt, quõties vólui congregáre filios tuos, quemádmodum gallina congregat pullos suos sub alas, et nolúisti? Ecce relinquétur vobis domus vestra desérta. Dico enim vobis, non me vidébitis ámodo, donec dicátis: Benedictus, qui venit in nomine Dõmini.

Offertory (Acts 6:5; 7:59)

ELÉGERUNT apostoli Stẽphanum Levítam, plenum fide et Spiritu Sancto: quem lapidavérunt Judæi orántem, et dicéntem: Dõmine Jesu, áccipe spíritum meum. Alleluia.

SÚSCIPE, Dõmine, múnera pro tuórum commemoratiõne Sanctórum: ut, sicut illos pássio gloriõsos effécit, ita nos devõtio reddat innõcuos. Per Dõminum nostrum Jesum Christum...

The Common Preface

VERE DIGNUM et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubique grátias

and wise men and scribes, and some of them you will put to death and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, that upon you may come all the just blood that hath been shed upon the earth, from the blood of Abel the just even unto the blood of Zacharias the son of Barachias, whom you killed between the temple and the altar. Amen I say to you, all these things shall come upon this generation. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered together thy children, as the hen doth gather her chickens under her wings, and thou wouldst not? Behold your house shall be left to you desolate. For I say to you, you shall not see me henceforth, till you say: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

THE APOSTLES chose Stephen to be a Levite, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost: whom the Jews stoned, invoking and saying: Lord Jesus, receive my spirit, alleluia.

Secret

RECEIVE, O Lord, our gifts, in commemoration of Thy Saints: that as suffering made them glorious, so our devotion may render us innocent. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son ...

IT IS TRULY meet and just, right and for our salvation, that we should at all times