

## S A I N T C H R I S T I N A,

VIRGIN AND MARTYR.

CHRISTINA, whose very name fills the Church with the fragrance of the Spouse, comes as a graceful harbinger to the feast of the elder *son of thunder*. The ancient Vulsinium, seated by its lake with basalt shores and calm clear waters, was the scene of a triumph over Etruscan paganism, when this child of ten years despised the idols of the nations, in the very place where, according to the edicts of Constantine, the false priests of Umbria and Tuscany held a solemn annual reunion. The discovery of Christina's tomb in our days has confirmed this particular of the age of the martyr as given in her Acts, which were denied authenticity by the science of recent times: one more lesson given to an infatuated criticism which mistrusts everything but itself.

As we look from the shore where the heroic child was laid to rest after her combat, and see the isle where Amalasonte, the noble daughter of Theodoric the Great, perished so tragically, the nothingness of mere earthly grandeur speaks more powerfully to the soul than the most eloquent discourse. In the thirteenth century, the Spouse, continuing to exalt the little martyr above the most illustrious queens, associated her in the triumph of his Sacrament of love: it was Christina's Church he chose as the theatre of the famous miracle of Bolsena, which anticipated by but a few months the institution of the feast of Corpus Christi.

Let us unite our prayers and praises with those of holy Church, to honour the glorious Virgin Martyr.

ANT. Come, O Bride of Christ, receive the crown which the Lord hath prepared for thee unto all eternity.

V. In thy comeliness and thy beauty,

R. Set forth, proceed prosperously, and reign.

ANT. Veni, sponsa Christi, accipe coronam quam tibi Dominus præparavit in æternum.

V. Specie tua et pulchritudine tua,

R. Intende, prospere procede, et regna.

### PRAYER.

We beseech thee, O Lord, that the blessed Virgin and Martyr Christina may implore for us forgiveness; who was ever pleasing to thee by the merit of chastity, and the confession of thy power. Through our Lord, &c.

Indulgentiam nobis, quæsumus Domine, beata Christina Virgo et Martyr imploret: quæ tibi grata semper exstitit, et merito castitatis et tuæ professione virtutis. Per Dominum.

## PROPER of the MASS

ST CHRISTINA,  
Virgin & Martyr

July 24

*Psalm 118: 95-96, 1 INTROIT*

ME exspectaverunt peccatores, ut perderent me: testimonia tua, Domine, intellexi: omnis consummationis vidi finem: latum mandatum tuum nimis. Ps. Beati immaculati in via: qui ambulant in lege Domini. Gloria Patri.

### COLLECT

Indulgéntiam nobis, quæsumus, Dómine, beáta Christína Virgo et Martyr implóret: quæ tibi grata semper exstítit, et mérito castitatis, et tuæ professióne virtutis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum ...

*Wisdom 51: 13-17*

DOMINE Deus meus, exaltasti super terram habitationem meam, et pro morte defluente deprecata sum. Invocavi Dominum patrem Domini mei, ut non derelinquat me in die tribulationis meæ, et in tempore superborum sine adjutorio. Laudabo nomen tuum assidue, et collaudabo illud in confessione, et exaudita est oratio mea. Et liberasti me de perditione, et eripuisti me de tempore iniquo. Propterea confitebor, et laudem dicam tibi Domine Deus noster.

### EPISTLE

O Lord my God, Thou hast exalted my dwelling place upon the earth, and I have prayed for death to pass away. I called upon the Lord, the Father of my Lord, that He would not leave me in the day of my trouble, and in the time of the proud without help. I will praise Thy Name continually, and will praise it with thanksgiving, and my prayer was heard. And Thou hast saved me from destruction, and hast delivered me from the evil time. Therefore I will give thanks and praise to Thee, O Lord our God.

*Psalm 45: 6, 5* GRADUAL

ADJUVABIT eam Deus vultu suo: Deus in medio ejus, non commovebitur. Fluminis impetus letificat civitatem Dei: sanctificavit tabernaculum suum Altissimus.

ALLELUIA, alleluia. Hæc est Virgo sapiens, et una de numero prudentum. Alleluia.

*Matthew 13: 44-52*

IN illo tempore: Dixit Jesus discipulis suis parabolam hanc: Simile est regnum cœlorum thesauro abscondito in agro, quem qui invenit homo, abscondit, et præ gaudio illius vadit, et vendit universa, quæ habet, et emit agrum illum. Iterum simile est regnum cœlorum homini negotiatori, quærenti bonas margaritas. Inventa autem una pretiosa margarita, abiit, et vendidit omnia quæ habuit, et emit eam. Iterum simile est regnum cœlorum sagena missæ in mare, et ex omni genere piscium congreganti. Quam, cum impleta esset, educentes, et secus littus sedentes, elegerunt bonos in vasa, malos autem foras miserunt. Sic erit in consummatione sæculi: exibunt Angeli, et separabunt malos de medio justorum, et mittent eos in caminum ignis: ibi erit fletus, et stridor dentium. Intellexistis haec omnia? Dicunt ei: Etiam. Ait illis: Ideo omnis scriba doctus in regno cœlorum, similis est homini patrifamilias, qui profert de thesauro suo nova et vetera.

*Psalm 44: 3*

DIFFUSA est gratia in labiis tuis: propterea benedixit te Deus in æternum, et in sæcula sæculi.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia. This is a wise virgin, and one of the number of the prudent. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

At that time, Jesus spoke to His disciples this parable: The Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a treasure hidden in a field. Which a man having found, hid it, and for joy thereof goeth, and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again the Kingdom of Heaven is like to a merchant seeking good pearls. Who when he had found one pearl of great price, went his way, and sold all that he had, and bought it. Again the Kingdom of Heaven is like to a net cast into the sea, and gathering together of all kind of fishes. Which, when it was filled, they drew out, and sitting by the shore, they chose out the good into vessels, but the bad they cast forth. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall go out, and shall separate the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have ye understood all these things? They say to him: Yes. He said unto them: Therefore every scribe instructed in the Kingdom of Heaven is like to a man that is a householder, who bringeth forth out of his treasure new things and old.

OFFERTORY

Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore hath God blessed thee for ever.

SECRET

HOSTIAS tibi, Domine, beatæ Christinæ, Virginis et Martyris tuæ dicatas consecrated to Thee by the merits of meritis, benignus assume: et ad perpetuum nobis tribue provenire sub-

Graciously receive, O Lord, the offerings blessed Christina, Thy Virgin and Martyr, and grant that they may ever bring us help. Through our Lord. sidiuum. Per Dominum.

COMMON PREFACE

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

*Psalm 118: 121, 122, 128*

FECI judicium et justitiam, Domine, non calumnientur mihi superbi: ad omnia mandata tua dirigebar, omnem viam iniquitatis odio habui.

DIVINI munera largitate satiati, quæsumus Domine Deus noster: ut, intercedente beata Christina Virgine et Martyre tua, in ejus semper participatione vivamus. Per Dominum.

COMMUNION

I have done judgement and justice, O Lord, give me not up to them that slander me: I was directed to all Thy commandments, I have hated all wicked ways.

POSTCOMMUNION

Filled with the Gifts of Thy divine bounty, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our God; that by the intercession of blessed Christina, Thy Virgin and Martyr, we may partake thereof for evermore. Through our Lord.