

DEBITUM tibi, Domine, nostræ red-  
dimus servitutis, suppliciter exorantes: ut, suffragiis beati Joseph, Sponsi Genitricis Filii tui Jesu Christi Domini nostri, in nobis tua munera tuearis, ob cuius venerandam festivitatem laudis tibi hostias immolamus. Per eumdem Dominum nostrum.

#### PREFACE OF ST JOSEPH

VERE dignum et justum est, æquum et salutare, nos tibi semper, et ubique gratias agere: Domine sancte, Pater omnipotens, æterne Deus: Et te in Festivitate beati Joseph debitis magnificare præconiis, benedicere et prædicare. Qui et vir Justus, a te Deiparæ Virgini Sponsus est datus; et fidelis servus ac prudens super Familiam tuam est constitutus: ut Unigenitum tuum, Sancti Spiritus obumbratione conceptum, paternam vice custodiret, Jesum Christum, Dominum nostrum. Per quem majestatem tuam laudant Angeli, adorant Dominationes, tremunt Potestates. Cæli, cælorumque Virtutes, ac beata Seraphim, socia exultatione concelebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces ut admitti jubeas deprecamur, supplici confessione dicentes:

*Matthew 1. 20*

JOSEPH, fili David, noli timere accipere Mariam conjugem tuam: quod enim in ea natum est, de Spiritu Sancto est. (Alleluia).

ADESTO nobis, quæsumus, misericors Deus: et, intercedente pro nobis beato Joseph Confessore, tua circa nos propitiatus dona custodi. Per Dominum nostrum.

#### SECRET

We render unto Thee, O Lord, the duty of our service, humbly entreating Thee to preserve Thine own gifts within us through the prayers of blessed Joseph, Spouse of the Mother of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, on whose holy festival we offer to Thee this sacrifice of praise. Through the same our Lord.

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: and that we should with due praise magnify, bless, and proclaim Thee on the Feast of blessed Joseph; who being a just man, was given by Thee as Spouse to the Virgin Mother of God, and, as a faithful and prudent servant, was set over Thy Family, that with fatherly care he might guard Thine only-begotten Son, conceived by the overshadowing of the Holy Ghost, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Whom the Angels praise Thy Majesty, Dominations worship, Powers stand in awe: the Heavens and the hosts of heaven with the blessed Seraphim unite, exult and celebrate; and we entreat that Thou wouldst bid our voices also to be heard with theirs, singing with lowly praise:

#### COMMUNION

Joseph, son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is born in her is of the Holy Ghost. (Alleluia).

#### POSTCOMMUNION

Stand by us, we beseech Thee, O merciful God, and by the intercession of blessed Joseph the Confessor, mercifully preserve Thy gifts within us. Through our Lord.

## PROPER of the MASS

### ST JOSEPH

Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Confessor



Holy Family with Lamb, c. 1530

#### INTROIT

JUSTUS ut palma florebit: sicut cedrus Libani multiplicabitur: plantatus in domo Domini: in atris domus Dei nostri. (Alleluia, alleluia) Ps. Bonum est confiteri Domino: et psallere nomini tuo, Altissime. Gloria Patri.

The just shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow up like the cedar of Libanus: planted in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. (Alleluia, alleluia) Ps. It is good to give praise to the Lord: and to sing to Thy name, O Most High. Glory be to the Father.

SANCTISSIMÆ Genitricis tuæ Sponsi, quæsumus, Domine, meritis adjuvatur: ut, quod possibilitas nostra non obtinet, ejus nobis intercessione donetur: Qui vivis et regnas.

*Ecclus. 45. 1-6*

DILECTUS Deo, et hominibus, cujus memoria in benedictione est. Similem illum fecit in gloria sanctorum, et magnificavit eum in timore inimicorum, et in verbis suis monstra placavit. Glorificavit illum in conspectu regum, et jussit illi coram populo suo, et ostendit illi gloriam suam. In fide et lenitate ipsius, sanctum fecit illum, et elegit eum ex omni carne. Audivit enim eum, et vocem ipsius, et induxit illum in nubem. Et dedit illi coram præcepta, et legem vitæ et disciplinæ.

*During Eastertide, the Gradual and Tract are omitted and the Alleluias are sung instead.*

*Psalm 20. 4, 5*

DOMINE, prævenisti eum in benedictionibus dulcedinis: posuisti in capite ejus coronam de lapide pretioso. Vitam petiit, a te, et tribuisti ei longitudinem dierum in sæculum sæculi.

*Psalm 111. 1-3*

BEATUS vir, qui timet Dominum: in mandatis ejus cupit nimis. V. Potens in terra erit semen ejus: generatio rectorum benedicetur. Gloria et divitiæ in domo ejus: et justitia ejus manet in sæculum sæculi.

#### COLLECT

We beseech Thee, O Lord, that we may be helped by the merits of the Spouse of Thy most holy Mother: so that what we cannot obtain of ourselves, may be given to us through his intercession: Who livest and reignest.

#### EPISTLE

Beloved of God and men, whose memory is in benediction. He made him like the Saints in glory, and magnified him in the fear of his enemies, and with his words he made prodigies to cease. He glorified him in the sight of kings, and gave him commandments in the sight of his people, and showed him His glory. He sanctified him in his faith and meekness, and chose him out of all flesh. For He heard him and his voice, and brought him into a cloud. And He gave him commandment before His face, and a law of life and instruction.

#### GRADUAL

Lord, Thou has prevented him with blessings of sweetness: Thou hast set on his head a crown of precious stones. He asked life of Thee, and Thou hast given him length of days for ever and ever.

#### TRACT

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord: he shall delight exceedingly in His commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the righteous shall be blessed. Glory and wealth shall be in his house: and his justice remaineth for ever and ever.

#### Ecclus. 45. 9; Osee 14. 6 PASCHAL ALLELUIA



ALLELUIA, alleluia. V. Amavit eum Dominus, et ornavit eum: stolam gloriæ induit eum.

Alleluia, alleluia. V. The Lord loved him, and adorned him; He clothed him with a robe of glory.



ALLELUIA, alleluia. V. Justus germinabit sicut lilium: et florebit in æternum ante Dominum. Alleluia.

Alleluia. V. The just shall spring as the lily; and shall flourish for ever before the Lord. Alleluia.

*Matthew 1. 18-21*

#### GOSPEL

CUM esset desponsata mater Jesu Maria Joseph, antequam conveniret, inventa est in utero habens de Spiritu Sancto. Joseph autem vir ejus, cum esset Justus, et nollet eam traducere, voluit occulte dimittere eam. Hæc autem eo cogitante, ecce Angelus Domini apparuit in somnis ei, dicens: Joseph, fili David, noli timere accipere Mariam conjugem tuam: quod enim in ea natum est, de Spiritu Sancto est. Pariet autem filium, et vocabis nomen ejus Jesum: ipse enim salvum faciet populum suum a peccatis eorum.

When Mary the mother of Jesus was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Whereupon Joseph her husband, being a just man and not willing publicly to expose her, was minded to put her away privately. But while he thought on these things, behold the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in his sleep, saying: Joseph, 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.

*Psalm 88. 25*

#### OFFERTORY

VERITAS mea, et misericordia mea cum ipso: et in nomine meo exaltabitur cornu ejus. (Alleluia.)

My truth and My mercy shall be with him: and in My name shall his horn be exalted. (Alleluia.)