



INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

ST BENEDICT, ABBOT

DOM PROSPER GUERANGER (EXC.)



Saint Benedict by Francisco de Zurbarán, ca. 1640–45. Saint Benedict is shown holding a wine jar, in reference to a tradition that a jar of poisoned wine was fractured when blessed by the saint, thus saving his life. In the background Benedict kneels in prayer holding a crozier.

Forty days after the white dove of Cassino [St. Scholastica, the biological sister of St. Benedict] had mounted to heaven, Benedict, her glorious Brother, ascended by a bright path to the blissful abode where they were to be united forever. Both of them reached the heavenly country during that portion of the year which corresponds with the holy Season of Lent. It frequently happens, however, that St. Scholastica's feast is kept before Lent has begun; whereas St. Benedict's day, the twenty-first of March [This year, due to Passion Sunday, St. Benedict's feast has been transferred to the twenty-second of March.], always comes

during the Season of Penance. God, who is the Sovereign Master of time, willed that the Faithful, while practicing their exercises of penance, should always have before their eyes a Saint whose example and intercession should inspire them with courage.

With what profound veneration ought we not to celebrate the Festival of this wonderful Saint who, as St. Gregory says, "was filled with the spirit of all the Just!" If we consider his virtues, we find nothing superior in the annals of perfection presented to our admiration by the Church. Love of God and man, humility, the gift of prayer, dominion over the passions—form him into a masterpiece of the grace of the Holy Ghost. Miracles seem to constitute his life: he cures the sick, commands the elements, casts out devils, and raises the dead to life. The spirit of prophecy unfolds futurity to him; and the most intimate thoughts of men are not too distant for the eye of his mind to scan. These superhuman qualifications are heightened by a sweet majesty, a serene gravity, and a tender charity which shine in every page of his wonderful life; and it is one of his holiest children who wrote it, St. Gregory the Great. It is this holy Pope and Doctor who had the honor of telling posterity all the wonders which God vouchsafed to work in his servant Benedict.

Yes, posterity had a right to know the life and virtues of a man whose salutary influence upon the Church and society has been so observable during the ages of the Christian era. To describe the influence exercised by the spirit of St. Benedict, we should have to transcribe the annals of all the nations of the Western Church, from the 7th century down to our own times. Benedict is the Father of Europe. By his Benedictines, numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sands of the seashore, he rescued the last remnants of Roman vigor from the total annihilation threatened by the invasion of Barbarians; he presided over the establishment of the public and private laws of those nations which grew out of the ruins of the Roman Empire; he carried the Gospel and civilization into England, Germany, and the Northern countries, including Scлавonia; he taught agriculture; he put an end to slavery; and to conclude, he saved the precious deposit of the arts and sciences from the tempest which would have swept them from the world, and would have left mankind a prey to a gloomy and fatal ignorance.

And Benedict did all this by that little book which we call his "Rule." This admirable code of Christian perfection and prudence disciplined the countless legions of Religious, by whom the Holy Patriarch achieved all these prodigies. During the ages which preceded the promulgation of this "Rule,"—so wonderful in its simple eloquence—the Monastic Life in the Western Church had produced some few saintly men; but there was nothing to justify the hope that this kind of life would become, even more than it had been in the East, the principal means of the Christian regeneration and civilization of so many nations. This "Rule" once written—and all others gradually give place to it, as the stars are eclipsed when the sun has risen. The West was peopled with Monasteries; and from these Monasteries flowed upon Europe all those blessing which have made it the privileged quarter of the globe.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHANGE IN HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

The Vigil of Easter will begin at 8:00 pm (NOT at 7:00 pm as previously announced).

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

The Triduum Paschale in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite will be celebrated at St. Winefride's church according to the following schedule:

Holy Thursday, April 1st, at 5:00 pm

Good Friday, April 2nd, at 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday, April 3rd, at 8:00 pm

Gift Aid Envelopes Arrived

The envelopes used for the weekly collection have arrived. In the back of the church, please pick up your box with the (green) envelopes which will be used this year and which carry your individual (Gift Aid) number. We apologize for the delay in bringing them to you. – If you are interested in joining the Institute's local Gift Aid Program, please contact Canon Wiener.

SHREWSBURY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	TIME	MASS OF THE DAY	INTENTIONS	
				CANON WIENER	FATHER GRIBBIN
SUN	21 ST MAR	12:30 PM	PASSION SUNDAY	MALCOLM RAYMENT	PI
MON	22 ND MAR	10:00 AM	ST. BENEDICT OF NURSIA, ABBOT CO-PATRON OF THE INSTITUTE	JEROME AUROUSSEAU RIP	PI
TUE	23 RD MAR	6:30 PM	FERIA IN LENT	VERONIQUE SMITH	PI
WED	24 TH MAR	10:00 AM	FERIA IN LENT	TIM FAWCETT RIP	PI
THU	25 TH MAR	6:30 PM	THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	GEORGE RAYMENT	PI
FRI	26 TH MAR	10:00 AM	THE SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	PRIVATE INTENTION (A)	PI
SAT	27 TH MAR	10:00 AM	FERIA IN LENT	MATTHEW FRENCH RIP	PI
SUN	28 TH MAR	12:30 PM	PALM SUNDAY	E. CH. J. FROST	PI

SUNDAY MASSES AT 12:30 PM AT ST. WINEFRIDE'S CHURCH, CROWMERE ROAD, MONKMOOR, SHREWSBURY, SY2 5RA

St. Winefride's Presbytery, Mynd Close, Shrewsbury SY2 5RA

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