

October 15
Saint Teresa of Jesus
Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Solemnity

Teresa was born at Avila in Spain in 1515. She entered the Carmelites and made great progress in the way of perfection and was granted mystical revelations. Wishing to share in the spiritual renewal of the Church of her time, she began to live her religious life more ardently and soon attracted many companions, to whom she was like a mother. She also helped in the reform of the friars, and in this had to endure great trials. She wrote books which are renowned for their depth of doctrine and which showed her own spiritual experiences. She died at Alba in 1582.

Evening Prayer I

Hymn

Mild messenger of heaven's high King,
Forth from home's sheltering walls you set:
'Christ to the Pagan's land I'll bring
Or die a martyr!' - Ah, not yet:

A sweeter pain, a death more dear
Must win for you a wider fame;
No mortal hand's to wield the spear
That kindles your consuming flame.

Victim of God's unbounded love,
Let our hearts burn with like desire;
Lead all your retinue above
That none may taste eternal fire.

Jesu, celestial choirs adore You,
Bridegroom of all virgins pure,
And wedding-songs unceasing pour
While endless ages shall endure.

Tr. Bede Edwards, O.C.D.

Psalmody

Ant. 1 The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to little ones.

Psalm 112

Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore!
From the rising of the sun to its setting
praised be the name of the Lord!

High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from his misery he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people.
To the childless wife he gives a home
and gladdens her heart with children.

Ant. 1 The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to little ones.

Ant. 2 Nations will proclaim her wisdom, and the Church will sing her praise.

Psalm 145

My soul, give praise to the Lord;
I will praise the Lord all my days,
make music to my God while I live.

Put no trust in princes,
in mortal men in whom there is no help.
Take their breath, they return to clay
and their plans that day come to nothing.

He is happy who is helped by Jacob's God,
whose hope is in the Lord his God,
who alone made heaven and earth,
the seas and all they contain.

It is he who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free,

the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan.

It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Sion's God, from age to age.

Ant. 2 Nations will proclaim her wisdom, and the Church will sing her praise.

Ant. 3 The Lord gave her wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and a heart as vast as the sand on the seashore.

Canticle: Eph 1:3-10

Blessed be the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

He chose us in him
before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy
and blameless before him.

He destined us in love
to be his sons through Jesus Christ,
according to the purpose of his will,
to the praise of his glorious grace
which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of his grace
which he lavished upon us.

He has made known to us
in all wisdom and insight
the mystery of his will,
according to his purpose
which he set forth in Christ.

His purpose he set forth in Christ,
as a plan for the fulness of time,
to unite all things in him,
things in heaven and things on earth.

Ant. 3 The Lord gave her wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and a heart as vast as the sand on the seashore.

Reading

1 Cor 2:6-10

Among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glorification. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him,' God has revealed to us through the Spirit.

Short Responsory

R/. She became a teacher * in the Church of God.

Repeat R/.

V/. The Lord filled her with the spirit of wisdom and understanding * in the Church of God.

Glory ...R/.

Magnificat

Holy Mother Teresa, light of the Church, teach us the way of perfection, and lead us to the eternal mansions where Christ has his home.

Intercessions

With our Mother Saint Teresa let us call upon our loving Father, in the name of Christ our friend and companion. Let us pray:

R/. Lord, may your kingdom come.

You made your Son a source of life, so that whoever believes in him might have life for all eternity;

- may we listen to the voice of Christ our true life, and so have life in him. R/.

You gave us your only-begotten Son as our teacher of holiness and our way to you;

- may we your children loyally follow Christ the way of perfection, and pray to you without ceasing. R/.

You promised through Christ that with him you will come to dwell in those who surrender to your love;

- may we let your Spirit of love take possession of our hearts for Christ, and so be admitted to the inmost mansions of your dwelling-place. R/.

You made Christ head and cornerstone of the Church, the foundation on which we might build;

- may we love and serve the Church for his sake, rooted and founded in his love and faith. R/.

You raised Christ to your right hand in glory, to prepare a place for us in your presence;

- may all the dead who seek your face be with Christ, and contemplate the glory you have given him. R/.

Our Father ...

Prayer

Father,
by Your Spirit You raised up Our Mother St. Teresa of Jesus
to show Your Church the way to perfection.
May her inspired teaching
awaken in us a longing for true holiness.
Grant this through our Lord.

Invitatory

The Lord is the fount of wisdom; come, let us adore him.

Morning Prayer

Hymn

My beloved, passing fair,
Love has drawn thy likeness, see,
In my inmost Heart, and there –
Lost or straying unaware –
Thou must seek thyself in me.

Well I know that thou shalt find
This thine image in my Heart,
Pictured to the life, with art
So amazing, that thy mind
Sees thy very counterpart.

If by chance thou e'er shalt doubt
Where to turn in search of me,
Seek not all the world about;
Only this can find me out –
Thou must seek myself in thee.

In the mansion of thy mind
Is my dwelling-place; and more –
There I wander, unconfined,
Knocking loud if e'er I find
In thy thought a closed door.

Search for me without were vain,
Since, when thou hast need of me,
Only call me, and again
To thy side I haste amain;
Thou must seek myself in thee.

St. Teresa of Jesus
Tr. By A. Stirling

Ant. 1 My soul is thirsting for you, my Lord; my very flesh is longing for you.

Psalm 63: 2-9

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.
So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
For you have been my help;
In the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
Your right hand holds me fast.

Ant. 1 My soul is thirsting for you, my Lord; my very flesh is longing for you.

Ant. 2 All your works proclaim you, Lord, and your saints bless you.

Canticle Daniel 3:57-88, 56

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.
Praise and exalt him above all forever.
Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord.
You heavens, bless the Lord.
All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord.
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.

Sun and moon, bless the Lord.
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord.
All you winds, bless the Lord.
Fire and heat, bless the Lord.
Cold and chill, bless the Lord.
Dew and rain, bless the Lord.
Frost and chill, bless the Lord.
Ice and snow, bless the Lord.
Nights and days, bless the Lord.
Light and darkness, bless the Lord.

Lightning and clouds, bless the Lord.
Let the earth bless the Lord.
Praise and exalt him above all forever.
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord.
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.
You springs, bless the Lord.
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.
You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord.
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord.
You sons of men, bless the Lord.

O Israel, bless the Lord,
Praise and exalt him above all forever.
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord.
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.
Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord.
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, bless the Lord.
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven.
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever.

Ant. 2 All your works proclaim you, Lord, and your saints bless you.

Ant. 3 In the assembly of your holy ones, Lord, I have sung of your mercy.

Psalm 149

Sing a new song to the Lord,
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in its maker,
Let Zion's sons exult in their king.

Let them praise his name with dancing
and make music with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.
He crowns the poor with salvation.

Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,
shout for joy and take their rest.

Let the praise of God be on their lips
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations
and punishment on all the peoples;

to bind their kings in chains

and their nobles in fetters of iron;

to carry out the sentence pre-ordained;

this honor is for all his faithful.

Ant. 3 In the assembly of your holy ones, Lord, I have sung of your mercy.

Reading

2 Cor 4:5-7

It is not ourselves that we are preaching, but Christ Jesus as the Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. It is the same God that said, "Let there be light shining out of darkness," who has shone in our minds to radiate the light of the knowledge of God's glory, the glory on the face of Christ. We are only the earthenware jars that hold this treasure, to make it clear that such an overwhelming power comes from God and not from us.

Short Responsory

R/. To you my heart has spoken: * it is you that I seek.

Repeat R/.

V/. I long for your face, Lord; * it is you that I seek.

Glory ... R/.

Benedictus

Whoever loves Me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and show myself to him.

Intercessions

The Lord of glory, the crown of all the saints, gives us the joy of celebrating this feast of our Mother Saint Teresa. Let us praise him, saying:

R/. Glory to you, Lord.

Source of life and holiness, in your saints you show us the infinite marvels of your grace;

- in company with Saint Teresa may we sing of your mercies forever. R/.

You want your Spirit of Love to blaze like fire throughout the world;

- may we, like Saint Teresa, be instrumental in keeping that flame of love alight. R/.

You sanctify your friends and reveal to them the mysteries of your heart;

- unite our hearts to yours in a friendship so close and intimate that we may experience the secrets of your love, proclaim it to others, and win them to you. R/.

You blessed the pure of heart and promised that they would see you;

- purify our sight so that we may see you in all things, and through all things be close to you. R/.

You oppose the proud and give wisdom to the simple;

- make us humble of heart, so that we may receive your wisdom for the sake of the Church. R/.

Our Father ...

Prayer

Father,
by Your Spirit You raised up Our Mother St. Teresa of Jesus
to show Your Church the way to perfection.
May her inspired teaching
awaken in us a longing for true holiness.
Grant this through our Lord.

Evening Prayer II

Hymn

Teresa, herald of the King,
You left your home in dawn of youth –
To bring to souls, on eager wing,
Your blood, or Christ's redeeming truth.

But yours must be another death –
Both pain and rapture flood your heart,
Enkindled by the Spirit's breath,
Pierced through by cherub's fiery dart.

O Victim of pure charity,
Send fire to souls you love so well;
By flame of Wisdom's clarity
Deliver us from fires of hell!

O Jesus, Spouse of virgin-brides,
May they adoring sing your praise
In nuptial music that abides
Through peace of never-ending days!

Ant. 1 The Lord showed me the holy city: it was resplendent with the glory of God, and shone like a precious jewel.

Psalm 121

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
"Let us go to God's house."
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city
strongly compact.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgment
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray;
"Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!"

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: "Peace upon you!"
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good.

Ant. 1 The Lord showed me the holy city: it was resplendent with the glory of God, and shone like a precious jewel.

Ant. 2 Behold, the dwelling of God is with men, and he will make his home among them.

Psalm 126

If the Lord does not build the house,
in vain do its builders labor;
if the Lord does not watch over the city,
in vain does the watchman keep vigil.

In vain is your earlier rising,
your going later to rest,
you who toil for the bread you eat:
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.

Truly sons are a gift from the Lord,
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.
Indeed the sons of youth
are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

O the happiness of the man
who has filled his quiver with these arrows!
He will have no cause for shame
when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.

Ant. 2 Behold, the dwelling of God is with men, and he will make his home among them.

Ant. 3 I will make up in my body whatever is lacking in the sufferings of Christ, for the sake of his body the Church.

Canticle: Col 1:12-20

Let us give thanks to the Father,
who has qualified us to share
in the inheritance of the saints in light.

He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption,
the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation,
for in him all things were created,
in heaven and on earth,
visible and invisible.

All things were created
through him and for him.
He is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.

He is the head of the body, the Church;
he is the beginning,
the first-born from the dead,
that in everything he might be preeminent.

For in him the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
making peace by the blood of his cross.

Ant. 3 I will make up in my body whatever is lacking in the sufferings of Christ, for the sake of
his body the Church.

Reading

Jude 20-21

You, my dear friends, must use your most holy faith as your foundation and build on that,
praying in the Holy Spirit; keep yourselves within the love of God and wait for the mercy of our
Lord Jesus Christ to give you eternal life.

Short Responsory

R/. You are * the temple of the living God.

Repeat R/.

V/. And the Spirit of God dwells in you, * the temple of the living God.

Glory ... R/.

Magnificat

Holy Mother Teresa, look down from heaven and see; visit this vineyard of yours, and perfect
what your right hand has planted.

Intercessions

Christ loved his Church and gave his life for her that she might be holy: let us pray to Christ that
his Church may be holy and spotless in all her members:

R/. Be with your Church, Lord Jesus.

You are the head of the Church and the source of all her grace;

- may all your people be joined to you in faith and love, and realize that they are the living and holy members of your body. R/.

You founded the Church on Peter and the apostles and through them you teach us the truth and lead us in green pastures;

- enlighten and guide those you have placed over your Church, and confirm our faith so that in them we may hear your voice leading us to life. R/.

You choose some to announce the Good News by teaching, baptizing, calling to repentance, and offering in your memory the Eucharistic Sacrifice;

- as the harvest is great, and the laborers few, send laborers into your harvest. R/.

You choose some of your friends to follow you more closely in your poverty, your chastity and your obedience, for the building up of the Church;

- with Mary as their Mother and teacher, may all religious cling to you and show forth your life within them as they serve the Church. R/.

You made your people one body and one spirit in the unity of faith and baptism;

- may all whom you have redeemed preserve the unity of the Spirit through the bonds of peace. R/.

You died for our redemption and rose so that we could have life;

- may all who have died in your love and await the revelation of your glory rejoice at the eternal banquet in the company of your saints. R/.

Our Father ...

Prayer

Father,

by Your Spirit You raised up Our Mother St. Teresa of Jesus to show Your Church the way to perfection.

May her inspired teaching awaken in us a longing for true holiness.

Grant this through our Lord.