

St. Mark, one of the four Evangelists, was the disciple of St. Peter, who calls him his "son". His Gospel, the second, is the shortest and most vivid; it records St. Peter's teaching and in it his voice may still be recognized. It begins with the mission of St. John the Baptist, "the voice of one crying in the wilderness", and so St. Mark is represented by the lion, whose roaring echoes through the desert, among the symbolical animals of Ezechiel's vision (*Epistle*), and he is commonly depicted with a lion at his feet. He was one of the seventy-two disciples (*Gospel*), and was the first to preach the Gospel in Egypt. He was probably martyred at Alexandria. His body was taken to Venice, and he has been patron of this city since the 9th century. There is a church dedicated to him at Rome, where the station is held on Monday in the third week of Lent.

INTROIT : Psalm 63: 3

Protexisti me, Deus, a convéntu malignántium, allelúia: a multitúdine operántium iniquitátem, allelúia, allelúia. *Ps. 63. 2.* Exáudi, Deus, oratiónem meam cum déprecor: a timóre inimíci éripe ánimam meam. V. Gloria Patri.

Deus, qui beátum Marcum Evangelístum tuum evangélicæ prædicatiónis grátia sublimásti: tríbue, quásumus; ejus nos semper et eruditióne profícere, et oratióne deféndi. Per Dóminum nostrum. Thou hast protected me, O God, from the assembly of the malignant, alleluia: from the multitude of the workers of iniquity, alleluia. alleluia. Ps. Hear, O God, my prayer, when I make supplication to Thee: deliver my soul from the fear of the enemy. \tilde{V} . Glory be.

COLLECT

O God, Who by Thy grace didst raise up blessed Mark, Thy evangelist, to be a preacher of the Gospel; grant, we beseech Thee, that we may ever profit by his teaching and be defended by his prayers. Through our Lord.

Commemoration of the Rogations

Præsta, quésumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, qui in afflictióne nostra de tua pietáte confídimus; contra advérsa ómnia, tua semper protectióne muniámur. Per Dóminum.

Similitudo vultus quátuor animálium: fácies hóminis, et fácies leónis a dextris ipsórum quátuor: fácies autem bovis a sinístris ipsórum quátuor, et fácies áquillæ désuper ipsórum quátuor. Fácies eorum, et pennæ eorum exténtæ désuper: dum pennæ singulórum jungebántur, et duæ tegébant córpora eórum: et unumquódque eórum coram fácie sua ambulábat: ubi erant impetus spíritus, illuc gradiebántur, nec revertebántur cum ambulárent. Et similitúdo animálium, aspéctus eórum quasi carbónum ignis ardéntium, et quasi aspéctus lampadárum. Hæc erat vísio discúrrens in médio animálium, splendor ignis, et de igne fulgur egrédiens. Et animália ibant, et revertebántur in similitúdinem fúlguris coruscántis.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O almighty God, that we, who in our affliction trust in Thy mercy, may be ever defended by Thy protection against all adversity. Through our Lord.

EPISTLE : Ezechiel 1. 10-14

As for the likeness of the faces of the four living creatures; there was the face of a man, and the face of a lion on the right side of all the four; and the face of an ox on the left side of all the four; and the face of an eagle over all the four. And their faces and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined, and two covered their bodies; and every one of them went straight forward; whither the impulse of the spirit was to go, thither they went, and they turned not when they went. And as for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like that of burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps. This was the vision running to and fro in the midst of the living creatures, a bright fire, and lightning going forth from the fire. And

the living creatures ran and returned like flashes of lightning.

FIRST ALLELUIA : Psalm 88.4

Allelúia, allelúia. ℣. Confitebúntur cœli mirabília tua, Dómine: étenim veritátem tuam in ecclésia sanctórum.

Alleluia, alleluia. \bigvee . The Heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the Church of the saints.

SECOND ALLELUIA : Psalm 20. 4

Allelúia. \tilde{V} . Posuísti, Dómine, super caput ejus corónam de lápide pretióso. Allelúia.

Alleluia. \tilde{V} . O Lord, Thou halt set on his head a crown of precious stones. Alleluia.

GOSPEL : Luke 10. 1-9

In illo témpore: Designávit Dóminus et álios septuagínta duos: et misit illos binos ante fáciem suam in omnem civitátem et locum, quo erat ipse ventúrus. Et dicébat illis: Messis quidem At that time, The Lord appointed also other seventy-two; and He sent them two and two before His face into every city and place whither He Himself was to come. And He said to them: The multa, operárii autem pauci. Rogáte ergo Dóminum messis ut mittat operários in messem suam. Ite: ecce ego mitto vos sicut agnos inter lupos. Nolíte portáre sácculum, neque peram, neque calceaménta, et néminem per viam salutavéritis. In quamcúmque domum intravéritis, primum dícite: Pax huic dómui; et si ibi fúerit filius pacis, requiéscet super illum pax vestra: sin autem, ad vos revertétur. In eádem autem domo manéte edéntes, et bibéntes quæ apud illos sunt: dignus est enim operárius mercéde sua. Nolíte transíre de domo in domum. Et in quamcúmque civitátem intravéritis, et suscéperint vos, manducáte quæ apponúntur vobis: et curáte infírmos, qui in illa sunt, et dícite illis: Appropinquávit in vos regnum Dei. CREDO.

harvest indeed is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He send labourers into His harvest. Go, behold I send you as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes; and salute no man by the way. Into whatsoever house you enter, first say, Peace be to this house: and if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon him: but if not, it shall return to you. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they have: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Remove not from house to house. And into what city soever you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you; and heal the sick that are therein; and say to them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. CREED.

OFFERTORY : Psalm 88.6

Confitebúntur cœli mirabília tua, Dómine, et veritátem tuam in ecclésia sanctórum, allelúia, allelúia.

Beáti Marci Evangelístæ tui solemnitáte, tibi múnera deferéntes, quæsumus, Dómine; ut, sicut illum prædicátio evangélica fecit gloriósum: ita nos ejus intercéssio et verbo, et ópere tibi reddat accéptos. Per Dominum. The Heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the Church of the Saints, alleluia, alleluia.

SECRET

Offering Thee our gifts, on the solemnity of blessed Mark, Thy evangelist, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that, as the preaching of the gospel made him glorious, likewise may his intercession render us acceptable to Thee, in word and work. Through our Lord.

Commemoration of the Rogations

Hæc múnera, quésumus, Dómine, et víncula nostræ pravitátis absólvant, et tuæ nobis misericórdiæ dona concílient. Per Dominum.

Lætábitur justus in Dómino, et sperábit in eo: et laudabúntur omnes recti corde, allelúia, allelúia. May these offerings, we beseech Thee, O Lord, both loose the bonds of our wickedness, and obtain for us the gifts of Thy mercy. Through our Lord.

COMMUNION : Psalm 63. 11

The just shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him: and all the upright in heart shall be praised, alleluia, alleluia.

POSTCOMMUNION

Tríbuant nobis, quésumus, Dómine, contínuum tua sancta præsídium: quo, beáti Marci Evangelístæ tui précibus, nos ab ómnibus semper tueántur advérsis. Per Dóminum nostrum. We beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thy holy mysteries may afford us continual protection; and through the prayers of blessed Mark, Thy evangelist, may they ever defend us from all adversity. Through the same Lord.

Commemoration of the Rogations

Vota nostra quésumus, Dómine, pio favóre proséquere: ut, dum dona tua in tribulatióne percípimus, de consolatióne nostra in tuo amóre crescámus. Per Dominum.

In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus discípulis suis: Quis vestrum habébit amícum, et ibit ad illum média nocte, et dicet illi: Amíce, cómmoda mihi tres panes, quóniam amícus meus venit de via ad me, et non hábeo quod ponam ante illum: et ille deíntus respóndens, dicat: Noli mihi moléstus esse, jam óstium clausum est, et púeri mei mecum sunt in cubíli: non possum súrgere, et dare tibi. Et si ille perseveráverit pulsans: dico vobis, etsi non dabit illi surgens, eo quod amícus ejus sit, propter improbitátem tamen ejus surget, et dabit illi quotquot habet necessários. Et ego dico vobis: Pétite, et dábitur vobis: quærite, et inveniétes: pulsáte, et aperiétur vobis. Omnis enim, qui petit, áccipit: et qui quærit, invenit: et pulsánti aperiétur. Quis autem ex vobis patrem petit panem, numquid lápidem dabit illi? Aut piscem: numquid pro pisce serpéntem dabit illi: Aut si petíerit ovum: numquid pórriget illi scorpiónem? Si ergo vos cum sitis mali, nostis bona data dare filiis vestris: quanto magis Pater vester de cælo dabit spíritum bonum peténtibus se?

Mercifully receive our vows, we beseech Thee, O Lord; that while we receive Thy gifts in tribulation, we may be comforted and increase in Thy love. Through our Lord.

LAST GOSPEL : Luke 11. 5-13

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go to him at midnight, and shall say to him: Friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine is come off his journey to me, and I have not what to set before him; and he from within should answer and say: Trouble me not, the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. Yet if he shall continue knocking, I say to you, although he will not rise and give him because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise, and give him as many as he needeth. And I say to you: Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. For every one that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh, findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. And which of you if he ask his father bread, will he give him a stone? or a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he reach him a scorpion? If you then being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father from Heaven give the good Spirit to them that ask Him?