

23 September

Saint Pio of Pietrelicina, Priest

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

cf. Dn 3, 84,87

Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord;
you who are holy and humble of heart,
praise the Lord forever.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty, everlasting God, who gave your priest, Saint Pio
the singular grace of sharing in the cross of your Son
and renewed the wonders of your mercy by his ministry,
through his intercession,
grant that we may be ever joined to the passion of Christ,
and joyously brought to the glory of the resurrection.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIRST READING

Jer 9, 22-23

True wisdom

Thus says the Lord:
let the sage boast no more of his wisdom,
nor the valiant of his valour,
nor the rich man of his riches!
But if anyone wants to boast, let him boast of this:
of understanding and knowing me.
For I am the Lord, I rule with mercy,
justice and integrity on earth,
yes, these are what please me-
it is the Lord who speaks.

This is the word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 15, 1-2. 5; 7-8; 11

R. My happiness lies in you alone, O God.

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God'.
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize. **R**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,

who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R**

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness forever. **R**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

6:14-18

The marks on my body are those of the Lord Jesus

The only thing I can boast about is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world is crucified to me and I to the world. It does not matter if a person is circumcised or not; what matters is for him to become an altogether new creature. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, who form the Israel of God.

I want no more trouble from anybody after this; the marks on my body are those of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with your spirit, my brothers. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

CE Mt 11, 25

R. Alleluia, alleluia.
I bless you Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
R. Alleluia

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

11: 25-30

I am gentle and humble in heart

Jesus exclaimed, "I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased to you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you who labor and are over-burdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light".

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Accept, O Lord, the gifts we offer in memory of Saint Pio
and by our partaking in these sacred mysteries
grant that we may be worthy to receive the saving fruits of redemption.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right to give him thanks and praise

It is truly right and fitting,
it is our duty and our salvation
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father almighty and eternal God.

So great was the fire of love that burned in the heart of Saint Pio
that he shared in Christ's passion
and followed him even to the cross.
To his suffering brothers and sisters
afflicted in soul and body
he displayed God's endless mercy.

And so we join the angels and saints
in their unending hymn of praise:

Holy, holy....

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Is 61,1.2

The Lord has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted,
to proclaim a year of favor from the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, strengthened by this holy banquet,
grant that, following the example of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina,
may worship you with constant devotion
and assist all with unfailing charity.
Through Christ our Lord.