

Saints John Fisher and Thomas More (M)

Monday 22 Jun 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The souls of the Saints are rejoicing in heaven, the Saints who followed the footsteps of Christ, and since for love of him they shed their blood, they now exult with Christ for ever.

FIRST READING

1 PETER 4:12-19 (JB)

Be glad when you are sharing in the suffering of Christ.

My dear people, you must not think it unaccountable that you should be tested by fire. There is nothing extraordinary in what has happened to you. If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one. The time has come for the judgement to begin at the household of God; and if what we know now is only the beginning, what will it be when it comes down to those who refuse to believe God's Good News? If it is hard for a good man to be saved, what will happen to the wicked and to sinners? So even those whom God allows to suffer must trust themselves to the constancy of the creator and go on doing good.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 125 (JB)

R. Those who sow in tears, shall reap with shouts of joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **R.**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. **R.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing tears will sing when they reap.

R.

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing; they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION MATTHEW 5:10 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 10:34-39 (JB)

It is not peace I have come to bring, but a sword.

Jesus said to his apostles: 'Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to earth: it is not peace I have come to bring, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. A man's enemies will be those of his own household.

'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it, anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

It is you who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer a kingdom on you, says the Lord, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom.