

AUGUST 23
SAINT PHILIP BENIZI [I] FRIAR SERVANT OF MARY – PRIEST
Illustrious Promoter of the Order

Feast

Entrance Antiphon

Isaiah 42, 1

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one
with whom I am well pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit;
he shall bring forth justice to the nations.

Prayer of the Assembly

Lord God,
in you the lowly are exalted.
Through the work of Saint Philip,
you cared for the Family of Servants of Mary,
nurturing its growth and confirming its way of life.
By faithful service of Our Lady,
may we, like Philip,
proclaim with apostolic zeal the Reign of your Son,
who with you and the Holy Spirit,
lives and reigns, one God for ever and ever.

First Reading

Colossians 3, 12-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians

Over all these put on love, the bond of perfection

Holy and beloved, as God's chosen ones,
put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility,
gentleness, and patience,
bearing with one another and forgiving one another,
if one has a grievance against another;
as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.
And over all these put on love,
that is, the bond of perfection.
And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,
the peace into which you were also called in one body.
And be thankful.
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another,
singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs
with gratitude in your hearts to God.
And whatever you do, in word or in deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the Word of the Lord

Or Alternative First Reading

Sirach 51, 18-25

A reading from the Book of Sirach

I sought wisdom

When I was young and innocent, I sought wisdom.
She came to me in her beauty,
and until the end I will cultivate her.
As the blossoms yielded to ripening grapes,
the heart's joy,
My feet kept to the level path
because from earliest youth I was familiar with her.
In the short time I paid heed, I met with great instruction.
Since in this way I have profited,
I will give my teacher grateful praise.
I became resolutely devoted to her --
the good I persistently strove for.
I burned with desire for her, never turning back.
I became preoccupied with her,
never weary of extolling her.
My hand opened her gate and I came to know her secrets.
This is the Word of the Lord

In priories, churches, towns and places where the Feast of Saint Philip Benizi is observed as a patronal feast or solemnity, this reading may be for the first reading. When this option is selected, the reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians (3, 12-17) is used as the second reading.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 13 (14), 2-3 ab, 3c-4,5

R/. Lord, I am your servant, the child of your handmaid

In you, O Lord, I take refuge.
Let me never be put to shame.
In your justice, set me free,
hear me and speedily rescue me.

R/. Lord, I am your servant, the child of your handmaid

As for me, I trust in the Lord:
let me be glad and rejoice in your love.
You who have seen my affliction
and taken heed of my soul's distress,
have not handed me over to the enemy,
but set my feet at large.

R/. Lord, I am your servant, the child of your handmaid

But as for me, I trust in you, Lord;
I say: "You are my God.
My life is in your hands, deliver me
from the hands of those who hate me.
Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your love.

R/. Lord, I am your servant, the child of your handmaid

Love the Lord, all you saints.
He guards his faithful. Be strong,
let your heart take courage,
all who hope in the Lord.

R/. Lord, I am your servant, the child of your handmaid

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2, 15d-16a

Alleluia! Alleluia!
You shine like lights in the world,
as you hold on to the word of life. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

John 13, 13-17, 34-35

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do

After Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, he said to them,
“Do you realize what I have done for you?
You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘master,’
and rightly so, for indeed I am.
If I, therefore, the master and teacher,
have washed your feet,
you ought to wash one another’s feet.
I have given you a model to follow,
so that as I have done for you, you should also do.
Amen, amen, I say to you,
no slave is greater than his master
nor any messenger greater than the one who sent him.
If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it.
I give you a new commandment: love one another.
As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.
This is how all will know that you are my disciples,
if you have love for one another.”
This is the Gospel of the Lord

OR Alternative Gospel Reading

Mark 9, 33-37

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

“Whoever wishes to be first, shall be the servant of all.”

Jesus and his disciples came to Capernaum
and, once inside the house,
he began to ask them,
“What were you arguing about on the way?”
But they remained silent.
They had been discussing among themselves
on the way who was the greatest.
Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them,
“If anyone wishes to be first,
he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.”

Taking a child he placed it in their midst,
and putting his arms around it he said to them,
“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name,
receives me;
and whoever receives me,
receives not me but the one who sent me.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord,
accept the prayers and offerings of your servants
and through the intercession of Saint Philip
grant that your Church
may continue to grow in unity and peace.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

Preface

Master builder of peace and reconciliation

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
through Christ our Lord.
You sent your Son into the world
as a messenger of reconciliation and peace,
that he might soften proud hearts,
forgive the penitent, gather the dispersed,
and conquer hatred with love.
In Saint Philip you gave us
a servant of the glorious Virgin
who, in carrying out the law of love,
humbly served his brothers,
wisely proclaimed the gospel,
and mercifully brought about reconciliation.
For this gift of your kindness,
we praise you with all the angels
and join our voices in celebration: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

Isaiah 48, 1

He rose up like a fire and his word flamed as a torch

OR

II Corinthians 9, 10

He who supplies seed for the sower and bread for the altar
will provide in abundance; he will multiply the seed you sow
and increase your generous yield.

Prayer after Communion

Lord, may this sacred meal
in which we have become one with Christ,

fill us with the same love that made Saint Philip
so ardent in his following of your Son
and so devoted in his service to Our Lady.
(We ask this) through the same Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing over the People

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May God, who inspired Saint Philip
to guide and serve the Servite family,
with prudence and fraternal concern, bless you. Amen

May God,
who made Saint Philip merciful toward sinners
and compassionate toward the poor
fill your hearts with kindness and love. Amen

Following the example of Saint Philip,
may you always be faithful Servants of Mary,
generous in bearing one another's burdens,
and, merit the reward of heaven. Amen

May Almighty God bless you,
the Father, the Son and + the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OR

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

Lord,
fill your people with joy
on this solemn feast of Saint Philip.
Grant that we may always imitate his humility,
seek your will on earth,
and come one day to the glory of heaven.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

May Almighty God bless you,
the Father, the Son and + the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SAINT PHILIP BENIZI [II] FRIAR SERVANT OF MARY – PRIEST

*Illustrious Promoter of the Order
Feast*

Entrance Antiphon

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings glad tidings;

Isaiah 52,7

announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation.

Prayer of the Assembly

Holy Father,
origin of harmony and cause of reconciliation,
through the Virgin Mother
you called Saint Philip
to be a patient herald of the gospel
and a vigorous promoter of peace.
Grant that we, too,
may proclaim the message of salvation
and work energetically for justice and peace
in our following of Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit,
lives and reigns, one God forever and ever.

First Reading

II Corinthians 5, 17-20

A reading from the 2nd Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God

So , Brothers and Sisters,
whoever is in Christ is a new creation:
the old things have passed away;
behold, new things have come.
And all this is from God,
who has reconciled us to himself through Christ
and given us the ministry of reconciliation,
namely, God was reconciling the world
to himself in Christ,
not counting their trespasses against them
and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
So we are ambassadors for Christ,
as if God were appealing through us.
We implore you on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

This is the Word of the Lord

Reponsorial Psalm

Psalm 84 (85), 9-10, 11-12, 13-14

R/. Peace to all those who love peace

(Response: cf. Luke 10, 6)

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace, peace
for his people and his friends
and those who turn to him in their hearts.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

R/. Peace to all those who love peace

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

R/. Peace to all those who love peace

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

R/. Peace to all those who love peace

Gospel Acclamation

I John 4, 21

Alleluia! Alleluia!

This is the commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love others. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Luke 6, 27-31. 35b-38

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful

Jesus said to his disciples
“But to you who hear I say, love your enemies,
do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you,
pray for those who mistreat you.
To the person who strikes you on one cheek,
offer the other one as well,
and from the person who takes your cloak,
do not withhold even your tunic.
Give to everyone who asks of you,
and from the one who takes what is yours
do not demand it back.
Do to others as you would have them do to you.
Lend expecting nothing back;
then your reward will be great
and you will be children of the Most High,
for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.
Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.
Stop judging and you will not be judged.
Stop condemning and you will not be condemned.
Forgive and you will be forgiven.
Give and gifts will be given to you;
a good measure, packed together,
shaken down, and overflowing,
will be poured into your lap.
For the measure with which you measure
will in return be measured out to you.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

Holy Father,
through the work of the Holy Spirit,
may these gifts that we joyfully offer
on the feast of Saint Philip
become saving oblations that obtain for us
abundant fruits of harmony and peace.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

Preface

Master builder of peace and reconciliation

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
through Christ our Lord.

You sent your Son into the world
as a messenger of reconciliation and peace,
that he might soften proud hearts,
forgive the penitent, gather the dispersed,
and conquer hatred with love.

In Saint Philip you gave us
a servant of the glorious Virgin
who, in carrying out the law of love,
humbly served his brothers,
wisely proclaimed the gospel,
and mercifully brought about reconciliation.

For this gift of your kindness,
we praise you with all the angels
and join our voices in celebration: Holy, holy, holy...

Communion Antiphon

Luke 6, 27-28a

I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you.

Prayer after Communion

Lord,
may the divine mysteries we have received
confirm us in faith, strengthen our hope,
and enkindle within us the fire of love.
Inspired by the example of Saint Philip,
and faithfully following the path of the gospel,
may we reach the peace that heaven alone can offer.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing over the People

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May God, who inspired Saint Philip
to guide and serve the Servite family,
with prudence and fraternal concern, bless you. Amen

May God,
who made Saint Philip merciful toward sinners
and compassionate toward the poor
fill your hearts with kindness and love. Amen

Following the example of Saint Philip,
may you always be faithful Servants of Mary,
generous in bearing one another's burdens,
and, merit the reward of heaven. Amen

May Almighty God bless you,
the Father, the Son and + the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OR

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

Lord,
fill your people with joy
on this solemn feast of Saint Philip.
Grant that we may always imitate his humility,
seek your will on earth,
and come one day to the glory of heaven.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

May Almighty God bless you,
the Father, the Son and + the Holy Spirit. Amen.

BLESSING OF BREAD AND WATER IN HONOUR OF SAINT PHILIP BENIZI

¶ *The blessing of bread and water in honour of Saint Philip Benizi is an ancient custom of our Order. It is usually celebrated at Evening Prayer or during some other liturgy of the Word. Where that is not possible, the rite of blessing may take place within the celebration of Mass, in which case the following order is to be followed.*

¶ *This rite may be used in only one Mass where the faithful participate.*

¶ *A basket for bread and a vessel for water are prepared in a conspicuous place near the altar, so that the faithful, where it is the custom, may place their own bread and water in the containers.*

¶ *After the reading of the Gospel, the presider gives a homily in which the biblical readings, the miracles and life of Saint Philip, and the rite are explained to the faithful. The following words may be used:*

Saint Philip Benizi, fifth Prior General
of the Order of Friar Servants of Mary,
was the Order's most illustrious defender and propagator.
His life radiated love for Our Lady,
compassion for the needy,
remarkable humility, and apostolic zeal.

Among the many wondrous events of his life
was the time he fed the friars of Arezzo,
who were suffering famine
brought on by the devastation of war.
Through his fervent intercession with Our Lady,
bread miraculously appeared.
On another occasion,
by imploring the Lord with tears,
he nourished the friar
who was his travelling companion
through Germany
with unexpected bread and water
when they were alone in the woods
suffering hunger and thirst.
Lest the memory of such wonderful signs be forgotten
and also that faith in divine providence
and the intercession of the Blessed Virgin
may increase everywhere,
we bless bread and water
in honour of Saint Philip and for our own good.
May the bread that we bless today
enkindle within us a love for that Bread
which the heavenly Father gives us daily:
the Word of God that is contained in Scripture
and the Body of Christ
that we receive in the sacred banquet.
May this water remind us
of that more refreshing water of divine grace
that flows into eternal life.

¶ *Following the homily or the above admonition, the bread is blessed. If possible, some of the faithful carry baskets of bread to the presider. The presider blesses the bread saying:*

Let us pray.
Blessed are you God,
creator and provider for the human family.
With manna from heaven,
you nourished the people of Israel
in their journey through the desert.
By wonderfully multiplying bread,
your Son mercifully fed the Hebrew crowd,
hungry for the eternal word
but without earthly food.
Humbly we beseech you that,
through the intercession of Saint Philip,
you may send
your abundant blessing + on this bread
that those who eat it with devotion
may never lack their daily bread
and may always be nourished by your divine word.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

¶ Then the water is blessed. If possible, some of the faithful carry vessels of water adorned with flowers to the presider. The presider blesses the water saying:

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, God, who created water
that the fields of the earth might be enlivened
by its life-giving streams
and human fatigue and grime
be washed away in its pure torrents.
You also made water the ministers
of signs and sacraments
that it might serve the mystery of redemption.
Through Moses your servant,
you quenched the thirst of
the people of Israel at Horeb.
Through Jesus Christ your Son
you extinguish the thirst of the faithful
with water springing forth into eternal life.
Therefore, we beseech you Lord,
pour forth the gift of your blessing + on this water
so that whoever drinks from it
or is sprinkled with it in memory of Saint Philip,
may have the water they need
and be renewed by your grace,
just as the earth is watered by the morning dew.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

¶ After the blessing, all sing the following antiphon or some other appropriate song:

To you, O Lord, be praise and glory, because you adorn the earth, nourish it, and make it fruitful with streams of water. May every creature praise you, alleluia.

¶ The rite is concluded with the prayer of the faithful.

¶ Before the people are dismissed with the words "Go, the Mass is ended" the presider, assisted by a deacon or some other appropriate minister, distributes the blessed bread to the faithful.

Note: Some biblical texts are taken from: The New American Bible <http://www.vatican.va/archives/>