

**SEPTEMBER 1**  
**BLESSED JOAN of FLORENCE**  
**SISTER SERVANT OF MARY - VIRGIN**

*Optional Memorial*

**Entrance Antiphon**

This is a wise virgin and one of the number of the prudent who went out with burning lamp to meet Christ.

**Prayer of the Assembly**

Lord God,  
your grace enabled Blessed Joan  
to preserve her innocence  
through the simplicity of her life.  
Through her intercession,  
grant that the difficulties and sacrifices of our lives  
may lead us to serve you with pure hearts.  
(We ask this) through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**First Reading**

II Corinthians 10, 17 – 11,2

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

*I betrothed you to one husband to present you as a chaste virgin to Christ*

Brothers and Sisters,  
whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord.  
For it is not the one who recommends himself  
who is approved,  
but the one whom the Lord recommends.  
If only you would put up with a little foolishness from me!  
Please put up with me.  
For I am jealous of you with the jealousy of God,  
since I betrothed you to one husband  
to present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.  
But I am afraid that,  
as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning,  
your thoughts may be corrupted  
from a sincere and pure commitment to Christ.

**This is the Word of the Lord**

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 44 (45), 11-12, 14-15, 16-17

**R/. He is your Lord, pay homage to him**

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words:  
forget your own people and your father's house.

So will the king desire your beauty:  
He is your Lord, pay homage to him.

**R/. He is your Lord, pay homage to him**

The daughter of the king is clothed with splendour,  
her robes embroidered with pearls set in gold.  
She is led to the king with her maiden companions.

**R/. He is your Lord, pay homage to him.**

They are escorted amid gladness and joy;  
they pass within the palace of the king.  
Sons shall be yours in place of your fathers:  
you will make them princes over all the earth.

**R/. He is your Lord, pay homage to him**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Come, Bride of Christ, accept the crown the Lord has prepared for you from eternity.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel Reading**

Luke 10, 38-42

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*Martha welcomed him into her home. Mary has chosen the better part*

Jesus entered a village  
where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him.  
She had a sister named Mary  
who sat beside the Lord at his feet  
listening to him speak.  
Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said,  
“Lord, do you not care  
that my sister has left me by myself  
to do the serving?  
Tell her to help me.”  
The Lord said to her in reply,  
“Martha, Martha,  
you are anxious and worried about many things.  
There is need of only one thing.  
Mary has chosen the better part  
and it will not be taken from her.”

**This is the Gospel of the Lord**

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Lord,  
on this memorial of Blessed Joan,  
we bring the gifts of our devotion  
to be consecrated to you

who give them meaning in this life  
that we may not lose  
what has been promised in the next.  
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

### **Preface for Virgins and Religious**

*The signs of a life consecrated to God*

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.  
Today we honor your saints  
who consecrated their lives to Christ  
for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.  
What love you show us  
as you recall humanity to its first innocence,  
and invite us to taste on earth  
the gifts of the world to come!  
Now with the saints and all the angels  
we praise you forever: Holy, Holy...

### **Communion Antiphon**

Matthew 25,6

The groom is here! Come and greet Christ the Lord.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Confirm in us, O Lord,  
the gifts of your grace,  
so that, nourished by your sacraments  
of life and reconciliation  
and following in the footsteps of Blessed Joan,  
we may reach eternal life.  
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

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