

JANUARY 15

BLESSED JAMES PHILIP
called THE ALMSGIVER
Servite Tertiary

Optional Memorial

Entrance Antiphon

Matthew 25, 34. 36. 40

Come, you have my Father's blessing! I was ill and you comforted me. I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least brothers or sisters, you did it for me

Prayer of the Assembly

Lord God,
strengthened by the power of your love,
Blessed James was not afraid to risk his life
to defending the rights of the poor.
Grant us the courage to face every difficulty
in our pursuit of justice and love.
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.

The readings may be taken from the current weekday of the year, or else these proper ones:

1st Reading

1 John 3, 14-18

A Reading for the First Letter of St. John

We too ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters

Dearly beloved,
We are well aware that we have passed over from death to life
because we love our brothers.
Whoever does not love, remains in death.
Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer,
and you are well aware that no murderer
has eternal life remaining in him.
This is the proof of love,
that he laid down his life for us,
and we too ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.
If anyone is well-off in worldly possessions
and sees his brother in need
but closes his heart to him,
how can the love of God be remaining in him?
Children,
our love must be not just words or mere talk,
but something active and genuine.
This is the Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 111 (Hebr 112) 1-2, 2-4. 5-7a, 7b-8.

R/. Happy are those who fear the Lord

Happy the one who fears the Lord,
who takes delight in his commands.
His offspring will be powerful on earth;
the children of the upright are blessed.

R/. Happy are those who fear the Lord

Riches and wealth are in his house;
his justice stands firm for ever.
He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.

R/. Happy are those who fear the Lord

The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour.
The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.

R/. Happy are those who fear the Lord

He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.
With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
he will see the downfall of his foes.

R/. Happy are those who fear the Lord

Open-handed he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory.

R/. Happy are those who fear the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5,6

Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be satisfied.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16, 24-27

Those who lose their life on my account will gain Life

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me.
Anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.
What, then, will anyone gain by winning the whole world and forfeiting his life? Or what can anyone offer in exchange for his life?
For the Son of man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and then he will reward each one according to his behaviour."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, O Lord
these gifts we offer you in memory
of the vigorous labours of Blessed James.
As his efforts sustained him
in the difficulties of life
may they also support us in our struggles.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

PREFACE (for Holy Men and Women)

Father, almighty and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

You renew the Church in every age
by raising up men and women
outstanding in holiness,
and living witnesses of your unchanging love.

We praise you, Lord,
with all the angels and saints,
and join their song of joy: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

John 15, 13

There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for a friend.

or

John 13, 35

“This is how all will know you are my disciples: your love for one another,” says the Lord.

Postcommunion Prayer

Let us pray
pause for silent prayer, if this has not preceded
Lord,
through the intercession of Blessed James
may the grace of your sacrament abound in us.
Setting aside all earthly fear and sharing the suffering
of the poor and marginalised,
may we zealously promote their human dignity.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

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