

**VOTIVE MASS**  
**OUR HOLY FATHER SAINT ALEXIS OF FLORENCE**

*Patron of Studies in our Order*

**Entrance Antiphon**

cf. Psalm 91 (92), 13-15

The just man shall flourish like the palm tree;  
planted in the house of the Lord, he shall bear fruit even in old age.

**Prayer of the Assembly**

Lord,  
Saint Alexis, to a venerable old age  
provided young Servites  
with a wonderful example of all the virtues  
and faithful service to our Lady.  
May he guide us in our studies  
and keep us in his care.  
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**

Sirach 31, 8-11

A reading from the Book of Sirach

*Happy the rich man found without fault.*

Happy the rich man found without fault,  
who turns not aside after gain!  
Who is he, that we may praise him?  
he, of all his kindred, has done wonders,  
For he has been tested by gold and come off safe,  
and this remains his glory;  
He could have sinned but did not,  
could have done evil but would not,  
So that his possessions are secure,  
and the assembly recounts his praises.

**This is the Word of the Lord**

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 91 (92), 2-3, 5-6, 13-14, 15-16

**R/. It is good to give thanks to the Lord**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night.

**R/. It is good to give thanks to the Lord**

Your deeds, O Lord, have made me glad;  
for the work of your hands I shout with joy.  
O Lord, how great are your works!

How deep are your designs!

**R/. It is good to give thanks to the Lord**

The just will flourish like the palm tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.  
Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God

**R/. It is good to give thanks to the Lord**

Still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just.  
In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

**R/. It is good to give thanks to the Lord**

**Gospel Acclamation**

James 1, 12

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Blessed are those who persevere in temptation,  
for when they have been proved,  
they will receive the crown of life  
that God promised to those who love him. Alleluia!

**Gospel Reading**

Luke 12, 35-40

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant*

Jesus said to his disciples,  
“Gird your loins and light your lamps  
and be like servants who await  
their master’s return from a wedding,  
ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.  
Blessed are those servants  
whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.  
Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself,  
have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them.  
And should he come in the second or third watch  
and find them prepared in this way,  
blessed are those servants.  
Be sure of this:  
if the master of the house had known the hour  
when the thief was coming,  
he would not have let his house be broken into.  
You also must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect,  
the Son of Man will come.”

**This is the Gospel of the Lord**

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Receive, Lord,  
the gifts that we offer you in memory of Saint Alexis. Grant that, by our participation in this mystery, our beliefs, hopes and expectations may be fulfilled. (We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

### **Preface of the Seven Holy Founders (II)**

*Our Seven Fathers, disciples and servants of the Virgin Mary*

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

In your wisdom and love,  
you called our Seven Holy Fathers  
to the service of the Blessed Virgin.

From your faithful handmaid they learned  
to open their hearts to the Word of life,  
to respond faithfully to the call of the Holy Spirit,  
and to serve you in their brothers and sisters.

In deepening their understanding of Mary,  
who was united in the work of your Son,  
they learned how to bind the wounds of those who suffer,  
to offer solace to those who mourn,  
and to support with compassion those who have fallen.

Moved by the goodness of your gifts,  
and joining with the angels of heaven,  
we raise our voices in praise, as we say: Holy, Holy...

### **Communion Antiphon**

Revelation 2, 7

I will see to it that the victor eats from the tree of life which  
grows in the garden of God.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Nourished with the precious body of your Son,  
and rejoicing in the commemoration of Saint Alexis,  
we humbly ask you, Lord,  
that the glorious Virgin  
may joyfully show her Son to us  
when the course of our mortal life is ended.  
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

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