

September 15<sup>th</sup>

## FEAST OF ST. MARY AT THE CROSS

### Entrance antiphon (*Lk.2:34/5*)

Simeon said to Mary, This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.

### Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,  
when you were raised up on the Cross,  
your Mother Mary stood close beside you in your passion;  
may your Church, as it shares in your suffering and death,  
come to share more deeply in your risen life for with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
you are alive and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### A Reading from the book Genesis (*5: 9-15,20*)

### Responsorial Psalm (*from 31*)

**R. In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
deliver me in your righteousness.**

Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.  
Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,  
for you are my rock and my stronghold;  
guide me, and lead me for your name's sake. **R.**

Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. **R.**

But my trust is in you, O Lord.  
I have said, 'You are my God.  
'Make your face to shine upon your servant,  
and save me for your mercy's sake.' **R.**

How abundant is your goodness, O Lord,  
which you have laid up for those who fear you;  
which you have prepared in the sight of all  
for those who put their trust in you. **R.**

### Sequence (optional) *Stabat Mater (At the cross her station keeping)*

1 At the cross her station keeping  
stood the mournful Mother weeping,  
where he hung, the dying Lord;  
for her soul, of joy bereaved,  
bowed with anguish, deeply grieved,  
felt the sharp and piercing sword.

2 O how sad and sore distressed  
now was she, that Mother blessed  
of the sole-begotten one!  
Deep the woe of her affliction,  
when she saw the crucifixion  
of her ever-glorious Son.

3 Who, on Christ's dear Mother gazing  
pierced by anguish so amazing,  
born of woman, would not weep?  
Who, on Christ's dear Mother thinking  
such a cup of sorrow drinking,  
would not share her sorrows deep?

4 For his people's sins chastised,  
she beheld her Son despised,  
scourged, and crowned with thorns entwined;  
saw him then from judgement taken,  
and in death by all forsaken,  
till his spirit he resigned.

5 O good Jesu, let me borrow  
something of thy Mother's sorrow,  
fount of love, Redeemer kind,  
that my heart fresh ardour gaining,  
and a purer love attaining,  
may with thee acceptance find.

### A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (5: 7-9)

#### Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed are you, O Blessed Virgin Mary;  
without dying you won the martyr's crown beside the Cross of the Lord. Alleluia.

#### Gospel (John 19: 25-27)

#### Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, O merciful God, to the praise of your name  
the prayers and offerings which we bring to you  
as we venerate the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
whom you graciously gave to us as a most devoted Mother  
when she stood by the Cross of Jesus.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

#### Preface

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to praise your mighty deeds  
in the exaltation of all the Saints,

and especially, as we celebrate the memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
to proclaim your kindness as we echo her thankful hymn of praise.

For truly even to the earth's ends you have done great things  
and extended your abundant mercy from age to age:  
when you looked on the lowliness of your handmaid,  
you gave us through her the author of our salvation,  
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Therefore with angels and archangels  
And with all the company of heaven,  
We proclaim your great and glorious name,  
Forever praising you and *saying*: Holy, Holy, Holy...

**Communion Antiphon** (1 Pet 4: 13)

Rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings,  
so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed

**Prayer after Communion**

God, Most High,  
whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh  
and who stood at the Cross of Christ, her Son and our Saviour,  
we thank you that in this Sacrament of our redemption  
your love and compassion pierce our own hearts,  
strengthen us to stand with Mary at the Cross  
and then with her to follow the path of joyful obedience  
that leads to eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.