

**FRANCISCAN  
PROPER  
OF THE  
SAINTS**

**July**

1. The rank of the celebration (solemnity, feast or memorial) is indicated for each day. If there is no indication, it is an optional memorial.
2. For each solemnity and feast a proper Mass is provided in its entirety. This is therefore used as given.
3. For memorials:
  - a) Proper texts, given on some days, must always be used;
  - b) When there is a reference to a particular common, the most appropriate texts should be chosen according to the principles at the beginning of the commons. The page reference in each case indicates only the beginning of the common to which reference is made.
  - c) If the reference is to more than one common, one or the other may be used, according to pastoral need. It is always permissible to interchange texts from several Masses within the same common. For example, if a saint is both a martyr and a bishop, either the common of martyrs or the common of pastor (bishops) may be used.
  - d) In addition to the commons which express a special characteristic holiness (e.g., of martyrs, virgins, or pastors), the texts from the common of saints, referring to holiness in general may always be used. For example, in the case of a saint who is both a virgin and a martyr, texts from the common of saints in general may be used, in addition to texts from the common of martyrs or the common of virgins.
  - e) The prayers over the gifts and after communion, unless there are proper prayers, may be taken either from the common or from the current liturgical season.
4. The Masses in the proper may also be celebrated as votive Masses, with the exception of Masses of the mysteries of the life of the Lord and of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Masses of certain saints for whom a special votive Mass is provided. When Masses from the proper are used as votive Masses, words in the prayers referring to the day of death or to the solemnity or feast are omitted and “memorial” or “commemoration” is substituted. If the entrance antiphon, “Let us rejoice” occurs, it is to be replaced by another antiphon from the respective common.

**NOTE:**

- 1) All Scriptural texts have been brought into conformity with the New American, revised translation, approved by the USCCB.
- 2) Certain prayer formulas, such as prayer endings and versicles and responses, have been brought into conformity with the English translation of the Third Typical Edition of the Roman Missal (2011).
- 3) Titles have been changed for any Blessed that has since been canonized.
- 4) In those cases where an approved English translation is not yet available, translations have been made of the approved Italian texts. For those who do not wish to use unapproved texts, the prayers may be taken from the corresponding Common(s).

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**1 July (in the USA)**

**BL. JUNÍPERO SERRA FERRER**

**OFM, Priest, Missionary**

Miguel José Serra was born at Petra (Majorca, Spain) on November 24, 1713. The eighteen-year-old assumed the name “Juniper” when he became a Franciscan in commemoration of one of the first companions of Francis of Assisi. He was ordained a priest at age 23 in 1737, and dedicated himself to teaching (philosophy and theology) and to preaching. At 36 years of age, he went as a missionary to Mexico, which at the time was subject to Spain. In 1750, with his disciple, Francisco Palóu, he reached the Sierra Gorda where he would establish five missions. He entered California on July 1, 1767 where he proceeded to found nine missions along the California coast from San Diego to San Francisco. For his vast missionary work he gained the title “Apostle of California”. He died in Monterey on August 28, 1784 and is buried in the mission church of Saint Charles Borromeo which he founded. On March 1, 1931 a statue of Junípero was dedicated in the US Congress in Washington, D.C. He was beatified by John Paul II on September 25, 1988.

**COLLECT**

**God most high,**

**your servant Junípero Serra**

**brought the gospel of Christ**

**to the peoples of Mexico and California**

**and firmly established the Church among them.**

**By his intercession,**

**and through the example of his evangelical zeal,**

**inspire us to be faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ,**

**who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, for ever and ever.**

**ON THE SAME DAY****1 July****BL. IGNATIUS (NAZJU) FALZON**  
**Secular Franciscan**

Ignatius “Nazju” Falzon was born at Valletta, Malta, on July 1, 1813. At age 15 he received the minor orders and at age 20 he earned a doctorate in civil and canon law. Sensing himself unworthy, he neither exercised the profession in which he was trained nor did he seek ordination. Eucharistic adoration and meditation were his spiritual nourishment and the sustenance of his particular apostolate. He worked and offered his witness to about 20,000 British soldiers stationed in Valletta during the Crimean War (1853-1856). He organized prayer and catechetical lessons for the Catholics, made friends with the non-Catholics, and even with non-Christians and attracted many to the faith. For this reason he is considered a pioneer and champion of ecumenical dialogue. He died on his 52nd birthday, July 1, 1865. He was beatified by John Paul II on May 19, 2001.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient;  
convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching. **2 Tm 4:2**

**COLLECT**

**Almighty and eternal God,  
who in Blessed Ignatius Falzon  
gave your Church an ardent catechist,  
grant that, through his intercession,  
we may zealously train ourselves in Christian teaching  
that we may know you and continue to grow in your love.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Accept, O God,  
the offering which your holy people present to you  
in remembrance of Blessed Ignatius,  
and through our participating in this mystery,  
grant that we give witness to your love.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

May they all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you,  
that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me.

**Jn 17:21**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord, may this sacred banquet sustain us  
so that, after the example of Blessed Ignatius,  
we may witness with our hearts and in our deeds  
to love for others  
and to the light of your truth.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

**5 July (In the United States)****ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL**  
**Secular Franciscan, Queen, Patron of Catholic Charities**

Elizabeth of Aragon was born around the year 1271 at Estremoz, Portugal. She was the daughter of Pedro, the future king of Aragon, and the wife of Denis, King of Portugal. With heroic abnegation she sustained trials and difficulties and acted as an angel of peace to bring calm to serious tensions both within her family as well as in the kingdom. She was widowed (1325) and became a Secular Franciscan, living the last few years of her life in dialogue with God and in charity towards the poor. She was canonized in Rome by Urban VIII on June 24, 1626.

**COLLECT**

**O God, author of peace and lover of charity,  
who adorned Saint Elizabeth of Portugal  
with a marvellous grace for reconciling those in conflict,  
grant, through her intercession,  
that we may become peacemakers,  
and so be called children of God.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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**8 July**

## **THE CHINESE MARTYRS**

### **Bb. GREGORY GRASSI AND COMPANIONS**

**OFM, Secular Franciscans, Martyrs**

Over a 300-year period, 120 missionaries and Chinese believers gave their lives in fidelity to Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. In the fifth century the Gospel was preached in China, and at the beginning of the seventh century the first church was built there. During the T'ang dynasty (618-907) the Christian community flourished for two centuries. In the 13th, thanks to the understanding of the Chinese people and culture shown by missionaries like the Franciscan, John of Montecorvino, it became possible to begin the first Catholic mission in the Middle Kingdom, with the episcopal see in Beijing.

Unfortunately, however, the difficult question of "Chinese rites" greatly irritated the Emperor K'ang Hsi and precipitated the persecution. This persecution, strongly influenced by the one in nearby Japan, extended in successive waves from the first decade of the 17th century to about the middle of the 19th. Missionaries and lay faithful were killed and many churches destroyed.

Among the Franciscans who gave their lives for the faith were: St. John Lantrua of Triora, O.F.M., priest, who was put in prison together with others in the summer of 1815, and was later condemned to death and strangled on February 7, 1816. The Martyrs of Shanxi, killed on July 9, 1900, were Friars Minor: Gregory Grassi (Bishop), Francis Fogolla (Bishop), Elias Facchini (priest), Theodoric Balat (priest), Andrew Bauer (friar). The Martyrs of Southern Hunan were also Franciscans: Anthony Fantosati (Bishop, martyred on July 7, 1900), Joseph Mary Gambaro (priest, martyred on July 7, 1900), Cesidio Giacomantonio (priest, martyred on July 4, 1900). To the martyred Franciscans of the First Order were added seven Franciscan Missionaries of Mary: Mary Hermina of Jesus Grivot, Mary of Peace Giuliani, Mary Clare Nanetti, Mary of the Holy Birth Kerguin, Mary of St. Justus Moreau, Mary Adolphine Dierk and Mary Amandina Jeuris. Of the martyrs belonging to the Franciscan family, there were also 11 Secular Franciscans, all Chinese: John Zhang Huan (seminarian), Patrick Dong Bodi (seminarian), John Wang Rui (seminarian), Philip Zhang Zhihe (seminarian), John Zhang Jingguang (seminarian), Thomas Shen Jihe (layman), Simon Chen Ximan (lay catechist), Peter Wu Anbang (layman), Francis Zhang Rong (layman and farmer), Matthew Feng De (layman and neophyte), and Peter Zhang Banniu (layman and laborer). To these are joined a number of Chinese lay faithful.

#### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

The souls of the saints are rejoicing in heaven,  
the saints who followed the footsteps of Christ,  
and since for love of him they shed their blood,  
they now exult with Christ for ever.

**COLLECT**

**God, our Father,  
you wish all men to be saved  
and to attain to knowledge of the truth.  
Through the prayers of your blessed martyrs,  
bishop Gregory and companions,  
may all nations come to know you, the one true God,  
and Jesus Christ our Lord, whom you have sent,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Lord,  
accept the gifts we offer you  
in honor of the blessed martyrs, Gregory and companions.  
May your name be hallowed among all nations,  
and everywhere may a pure offering be made to you.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

**Communion Antiphon****Mk 8:35**

Whoever loses his life for the sake of the gospel will save it, says the Lord.

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## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord,  
we have been invigorated by the sacrifice that redeemed us.  
Through this aid to eternal salvation,  
may the true faith continually grow among all nations.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

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**9 July****Ss. NICHOLAS PICK AND COMPANIONS  
THE MARTYRS OF GORKUM****Friars Minor, Martyrs**

In 1568 the Low Countries revolted against Spain. In the northern part (now the Netherlands), the revolt was also directed against Catholicism. This rebellion ultimately led to the recognition in 1648 of an independent Republic of United Provinces (Netherlands).

Nicholas and his companions (11 Franciscans and eight diocesan priests) are also known as “the martyrs of Gorkum,” where they were arrested by Calvinist soldiers. They were taken to Briel and urged to renounce the Roman Catholic teaching on Christ’s presence in the Eucharist and on the pope’s primacy. They refused and were hung from crossbeams. The execution was clumsily handled; it took two hours for some of them to strangle. They were canonized in 1867.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON****Bar 4:23**

With mourning and lament I sent you away,  
but God will give you back to me with gladness and joy forever.

**COLLECT**

**God our Father,  
you gave victory to your holy martyrs,  
Nicholas and companions,  
and adorned them with the crown of eternal life.  
Imitating their constancy,  
may we also attain with them to eternal glory.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Lord,  
accept the gifts we bring  
to celebrate the feast of your martyrs.  
May this sacrifice free us from sin  
and make our service pleasing to you.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

**2 Cor 4:11**

We who live are constantly being given up to death for the sake of Jesus,  
so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Almighty God,  
we have been nourished  
by the body and blood of your Son.  
Inflame us with the same burning love  
that led your holy martyrs, Nicholas and companions,  
to offer you their lives as a holocaust.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord.**

**10 July****ST. VERONICA GIULIANI****Capuchin Poor Clare, virgin**

Veronica was born in Mercatelli, Italy. At the age of 17, Veronica joined the Capuchin Poor Clares. Her father had wanted her to marry, but she convinced him to allow her to become a nun. In her first years in the monastery, she worked in the kitchen, infirmary and sacristy and also served as portress. At the age of 34, she was made novice mistress, a position she held for 22 years. When she was 37, Veronica received the stigmata. Life was not the same after that.

Church authorities in Rome wanted to test Veronica's authenticity and so conducted an investigation. She lost the office of novice mistress temporarily and was not allowed to attend Mass except on Sundays or holy days. Through all of this Veronica did not become bitter, and the investigation eventually restored her as novice mistress.

Though she protested against it, at the age of 56 she was elected abbess, an office she held for 11 years until her death. Veronica was very devoted to the Eucharist and to the Sacred Heart. She was canonized in 1839.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON****Gal 6:14**

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

**COLLECT**

**Almighty God,  
you made St. Veronica glorious  
by the wounds of the passion of your Son.  
Through her example and prayers,  
may we become like Christ,  
humbly embracing the cross  
so that we may rejoice in the revelation of his glory,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Lord God,**

**accept the gifts we offer you  
in honor of St. Veronica.**

**Help us so to venerate**

**the mystery of the sufferings of your Son,  
that our lives may ever be conformable to it.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

Mt 16:24

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross,  
and follow me, says the Lord.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord,**

**we have received the divine sacrament,  
the perpetual memorial of the death of your Son.**

**Grant us always to remain close to Christ  
and to work in the Church for the salvation of all men.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

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**12 July****Ss. JOHN JONES AND JOHN WALL****Friars Minor, Martyrs**

These two friars were martyred in England in the 16th and 17th centuries for refusing to deny their faith. John Jones was Welsh. He was ordained a diocesan priest and was twice imprisoned for administering the sacraments before leaving England in 1590. He joined the Franciscans at the age of 60 and returned to England three years later while Queen Elizabeth I was at the height of her power. John ministered to Catholics in the English countryside until his imprisonment in 1596. He was condemned to be hanged, drawn and quartered. John was executed on July 12, 1598.

John Wall was born in England but was educated at the English College of Douai, Belgium. Ordained in Rome in 1648, he entered the Franciscans in Douai several years later. In 1656 he returned to work secretly in England.

In 1678 Titus Oates worked many English people into a frenzy over an alleged papal plot to murder the king and restore Catholicism in that country. John Wall was arrested and imprisoned in 1678 and was executed the following year. John Jones and John Wall were canonized in 1970.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

see Rv 12:11

These are the saints who were victorious  
because of the blood of the Lamb,  
and in the face of death refused to cling to life;  
therefore they reign with Christ for ever.

**COLLECT****Almighty God,****you made your holy martyrs, John Jones and John Wall,  
distinguished defenders of the faith.****Through their intercession,****may all people who glory in the name of Christ  
return to the unity of the true faith.****Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,****who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Lord our God,  
as we bring gifts to your altar,  
we humbly pray that the sacrifice of your only-begotten Son  
which strengthened your martyrs for the contest  
may likewise confirm us in the profession of the faith.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

2 Tm 2:11-12

If we have died with Christ we shall also live with him;  
if we persevere we shall also reign with him.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord,  
keep this Eucharist effective within us.  
May the gift we receive  
on this feast of the martyrs, John Jones and John Wall,  
bring us salvation and peace.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

**13 July****BL. ANGELINA OF MARSCIANO****Third Order religious**

Blessed Angelina founded the first community of Franciscan women other than Poor Clares to receive papal approval. Angelina was born to the Duke of Marsciano (near Orvieto). She was 12 when her mother died. Three years later the young woman made a vow of perpetual chastity. That same year, however, she yielded to her father's decision that she marry the Duke of Civitella. Her husband agreed to respect her previous vow.

When he died two years later, Angelina joined the Secular Franciscans and with several other women dedicated herself to caring for the sick, the poor, widows and orphans. Many other young women were attracted to Angelina's community. Angelina and her companions later went to Foligno, where her community of Third Order sisters received papal approval in 1397. She soon established 15 similar communities of women in other Italian cities. Angelina died on July 14, 1435, and was beatified in 1825.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Praise to the holy woman whose home is built on faithful love  
and whose pathway leads to God.

**COLLECT**

**God, our Father,  
you adorned blessed Angelina  
with wondrous humility and charity.  
Grant us to follow her example  
and so attain to eternal joys.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Lord,**  
may the gifts of our labor placed on your altar  
in commemoration of blessed Angelina  
be acceptable to you.  
Grant that we may be free  
from the entanglements of this world  
and become enriched in you alone.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### **Communion Antiphon**

Ps 34:9

Taste and see that the LORD is good;  
blessed is the stalwart one who takes refuge in him.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord,**  
by the strength of this sacrament  
and the example of blessed Angelina,  
guide us always in your love.  
Perfect the work you have begun in us,  
even to the day of Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever.

**15 July****ST. BONAVENTURE****OFM, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**

St. Bonaventure, known as “the seraphic doctor,” was born at Bagnoregio in Tuscany in 1221. At the age of 22, Bonaventure entered the Franciscan Order. Having made his vows, he was sent to Paris to complete his studies under the celebrated doctor Alexander of Hales, an Englishman and a Franciscan. After the latter’s death he continued his course under his successor, John of Rochelle. In Paris he became the intimate friend of the great St. Thomas Aquinas. He received the degree of Doctor, together with St. Thomas Aquinas, ceding to his friend against the latter’s inclination, the honor of having it first conferred upon him. Like St. Thomas Aquinas, he enjoyed the friendship of the holy King, St. Louis.

At the age of 35 he was chosen General of his Order and restored a calm where peace had been disturbed by internal dissensions. He did much for his Order and composed *The Life of St. Francis*. He also assisted at the translation of the relics of St. Anthony of Padua. He was nominated Archbishop of York by Pope Clement IV, but he begged not to be forced to accept that dignity. Gregory X obliged him to take upon himself a greater one, that of Cardinal and Bishop of Albano, one of the six suffragan Sees of Rome. Before his death he abdicated his office of General of the Franciscan Order. He died while he was assisting at the Second Council of Lyons, on July 15, 1274.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth,  
and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding  
and clothed him in a robe of glory.

**COLLECT**

**Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that, just as we celebrate the heavenly birthday  
of the bishop, Saint Bonaventure,  
we may benefit from his great learning  
and constantly imitate the ardor of his charity.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Almighty God,  
look upon the gifts we offer you  
on the feast of St. Bonaventure.  
Grant that our lives may be made comformable  
to the mystery of the Lord's passion which we celebrate.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

Mt 20:28

The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve  
and to give his life as a ransom for many.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord,  
may the divine banquet we have shared  
impart to us the spirit of love  
so that by the example of St. Bonaventure,  
we may love you in all things  
and above all things  
and arrive at the abode of perfect love.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord.**

**Source for the Collect:** *The Roman Missal (Amended Latin Third Typical Edition)* (2011).

**Source:** *Roman Franciscan Sacramentary* (1974), 656-B

**16 July (in the USA)****ST. FRANCIS SOLANO****Friar Minor**

Born at Montilla, Spain, on March 10, his parents were distinguished no less for their noble birth than for their virtue and piety. When Francis was 20 years old, he was received into the Franciscan Order, and after ordination, he was sent to the friary of Arifazza as master of novices. In 1589 he sailed from Spain to the New World, and having landed at Panama, crossed the isthmus and embarked on a vessel that was to convey him to Peru. His missionary labors in South America extended over a period of 20 years, during which time he spared no fatigue, shrank from no sacrifice however great, and feared no danger that stood in the way of evangelizing the vast and savage regions of Tucuman and Paraguay. Notwithstanding the number and difficulty of the dialects spoken by the Indians, he learned them all in a very short time. The death of St. Francis was the cause of general grief throughout Peru. In his funeral sermon at the burial of the saint, Father Sebastiani, S.J., said that "Divine Providence had chosen Father Francis Solanus to be the hope and edification of all Peru, the example and glory of Lima and the splendor of the Seraphic Order." St. Francis was beatified by Clement X, in 1675, and canonized by Benedict XIII, in 1726.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON****Ps 37:30-31**

The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom; his tongue speaks what is right.  
God's teaching is in his heart; his steps do not falter.

**COLLECT****Father,****through St. Francis you brought many nations of America  
to the bosom of the Church.****Through his merits and prayers,****join our hearts to you more closely,****and in the nations that do not know you,****lovingly implant reverence for your name.****Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,****who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Almighty God,  
through the prayers of St. Francis,  
may the gift we offer you increase our faith, hope and love.  
Make us love what you command  
that we may obtain what you promise.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

Ps 92:13-14

The just shall flourish like the palm tree, shall grow like a cedar of Lebanon.  
Planted in the house of the LORD, they shall flourish in the courts of our God.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord,  
St. Francis worked tirelessly for the faith.  
spending his life in its service.  
With the power this Eucharist gives,  
make your people strong in the same true faith  
and help us to proclaim it everywhere  
by all we say and do.  
Grant this in the name of Jesus the Lord.**

**21 July****ST. LAWRENCE OF BRINDISI****Capuchin Franciscan, Priest, Doctor of the Church**

He was born on July 22, 1559, and died exactly 60 years later on his birthday in 1619. When he was just 16 he entered the Capuchin Franciscan Order in Venice and received the name, Lawrence. He completed his studies of philosophy and theology at the University of Padua and was ordained a priest at 23. With his facility for languages he was able to study the Bible in its original texts. At the request of Pope Clement VIII, he spent much time preaching to the Jews in Italy. So excellent was his knowledge of Hebrew, the rabbis felt sure he was a Jew who had become a Christian.

Lawrence's sensitivity to the needs of people. He had a combination of brilliance, human compassion and administrative skill. He was elected general minister of the Capuchins in 1602. In this position he was responsible for great growth and geographical expansion of the Order.

Lawrence was appointed papal emissary and peacemaker, a job which took him to a number of foreign countries. An effort to achieve peace in his native kingdom of Naples took him on a journey to Lisbon to visit the king of Spain. Serious illness in Lisbon took his life in 1619.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

This is Lawrence who in his time assisted the people of God, a mediator of peace among the nations and a light of the Church.

**COLLECT**

**O God, who for the glory of your name  
and the salvation of souls,  
bestowed on the priest, Saint Lawrence of Brindisi,  
a spirit of counsel and fortitude,  
grant, we pray, that in the same spirit,  
we may know what must be done  
and, through his intercession, bring it to completion.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Through the present oblation, O Lord,  
which we offer in commemoration of Saint Lawrence,  
bestow on your faithful, we pray,  
the gifts of unity and peace.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

Mk 1:15

The kingdom of God is at hand.  
Repent, and believe in the gospel.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord,  
may we be filled with lasting enjoyment of your divinity  
of which St. Lawrence had a foretaste  
in the sacred mystery of the altar.  
Grant this in the name of Jesus the Lord.**

*Source for the Collect: The Roman Missal (Amended Latin Third Typical Edition) (2011) proper.*

*Source for the Prayer over the Offerings: Idem., Common of Holy Men, For One Saint, B.*

*Source for Prayer after Communion: Roman Franciscan Sacramentary (1974), 655-B*

**23 July****ST. KINGA (CUNEGUNDA)**  
**Poor Clare, Patron of Poland and Lithuania**

She was born in Esztergom, Kingdom of Hungary, the daughter of King Béla IV of Hungary and Maria Laskarina. She was a niece of St. Elizabeth of Hungary and great-niece of Saint Hedwig. Kinga's sisters were Saint Margaret of Hungary and Jolenta of Poland (Yolanda, Helen). She reluctantly married Bolesław V, "the Chaste". Kinga later became princess when her husband ascended the throne as Prince of Krakow. Despite the marriage, the devout couple took a vow of chastity.

During her reign Kinga got involved in charitable works such as visiting the poor and helping lepers. When her husband died in 1279, she sold all her material possessions and gave the money to the poor. She soon did not want any part in governing the kingdom which was left to her and decided to join the Poor Clare monastery at Sandec (Stary Sącz). She would spend the rest of her life in contemplative prayer and did not allow anyone to refer to her past role as Grand Duchess of Poland. She died on July 24, 1292. She was canonized on June 16, 1999 by Pope John Paul II.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Behold a wise woman who has built her house.  
She feared the Lord and walked in the right path.

**COLLECT**

**All-powerful God,  
you caused Saint Kinga to excel  
in purity of life and in wondrous charity toward the poor.  
Grant that through her prayers and example,  
we may go forward rejoicing in spirit  
along the way of charity.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**We bring you these sacrificial gifts, O Lord,  
to commemorate Saint Kinga,  
humbly entreating  
that they may bestow on us both pardon and salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross,  
and follow me, says the Lord.

**Mt 16:24**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**May the working of this divine Sacrament  
enlighten and inflame us, almighty God,  
on this feast day of Saint Kinga,  
that we may be ever fervent with holy desires  
and abound in good works.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

**Source:** *Roman Franciscan Sacramentary* (1974), 658-B

**Source for the Prayer over the Offerings:** *The Roman Missal (Amended Latin Third Typical Edition)* (2011), *Common of Holy Women*, V, 1

**Source for Prayer after Communion:** *Ibid.*

**ON THE SAME DAY****23 July****ST. BRIDGET OF SWEDEN****Secular Franciscan, religious founder, Patron of Europe**

Bridget was born into the royal family of Sweden. She lived her married life in the court of King Magnus II. Mother of eight children (the second eldest was St. Catherine of Sweden), she lived the strict life of a penitent after her husband's death. Bridget constantly strove to exert her good influence over Magnus; while never fully reforming, he did give her land and buildings to found a monastery for men and women. This group eventually expanded into an Order known as the Bridgetines. In 1350, a year of jubilee, Bridget braved a plague-stricken Europe to make a pilgrimage to Rome. Although she never returned to Sweden, her years in Rome were far from happy, being hounded by debts and by opposition to her work against Church abuses. A final pilgrimage to the Holy Land, marred by shipwreck and the death of her son, Charles, eventually led to her death in 1373. In 1999, she, Saints Catherine of Siena (April 29) and Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein, August 9) were named co-patronesses of Europe.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we honor Saint Bridget,  
at whose feast the angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

**COLLECT**

**O God, who guided Saint Bridget of Sweden  
along different paths of life  
and wondrously taught her the wisdom of the Cross  
as she contemplated the Passion of your Son,  
grant us, we pray, that, walking worthily in our vocation,  
we may seek you in all things.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Most merciful God,  
who were pleased to create in Saint Bridget  
the New Man in your image, the old having passed away;  
graciously grant, we pray,  
that, renewed like her,  
we may offer you  
the acceptable sacrifice of conciliation.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

see Ps 44:8

Your love is for justice; your hatred for evil.  
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness above kings.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**We pray, almighty God,  
that we, who are fortified by the power of this Sacrament,  
may learn through the example of Saint Bridget  
to seek you always above all things  
and to bear in this world the likeness of the New Man.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

*Source: The Roman Missal (Amended Latin Third Typical Edition) (2011), Proper texts for England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.*

**24 July****BL. LOUISE OF SAVOY****Poor Clares**

On December 28, a daughter was born to the Duke of Savoy and the sister of King Louis XI of France. The child, named Louise, was to distinguish herself by her innocence and holiness rather than by any worldly status. As a youngster she was deeply devoted to prayer and solitude. Although she wore the costly garments and jewelry that went with one of her rank, she quietly insisted on wearing a haircloth underneath. Her uncle arranged for her to marry the Prince of Chalon, a virtuous young man who appreciated his young wife's devotion to simplicity. Excessiveness and opulence were absent from their court. The couple persuaded both the ladies and men of the court to follow a more Christian life. At age 27 Louise lost her husband and thereafter retired to a more simple life that allowed her to devote herself to works of charity and penance. Childless, she chose to enter a convent of Poor Clares at Orbe. Though she proved to be a model of humility and obedience, Louise was felled by a serious illness at age 42. God took her home on July 24. Pope Gregory XVI beatified her in 1839.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Behold a wise woman who has built her house.  
She feared the Lord and walked in the right path.

**COLLECT**

**Almighty God,  
you set Blessed Louise before us  
as a shining example of virtues for all walks of life.  
May we follow her example  
in obeying you sincerely  
and so please you in faith and in work.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**We bring you these sacrificial gifts, O Lord,  
to commemorate Blessed Louise,  
humbly entreating  
that they may bestow on us both pardon and salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

Mt 13:45-46

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls.  
When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord,  
we receive your gifts  
at this celebration in honor of Blessed Louise.  
May they free us from sin  
and strengthen us by your grace.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

*Source: Roman Franciscan Sacramentary (1974), 659-B*

*Source for the Prayer over the Offerings: The Roman Missal (Amended Latin Third Typical Edition) (2011), Common of Holy Women, V, 1*

**27 July****BL. MARY MAGDALEN MARTINENGO****Capuchin Poor Clare**

Mary Magdalen Martinengo da Barco was born into a noble family of Brescia, Italy. Her mother died when she was only five months old. She joined the Capuchin Poor Clares of Santa Maria della Neve. Her responsibilities in the convent varied from portress to Novice Mistress, and eventually superior of the convent. She distinguished herself in modesty, patience and obedience. She had a great devotion to the Passion of Our Lord, and frequently visited the Blessed Sacrament. God rewarded her with the gifts of miracles and prophecy. Mary Magdalen died when she reached the age of fifty, and she was beatified by Pope Leo XIII in 1900.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Here is a wise virgin, from among the number of the prudent,  
who went forth with lighted lamp to meet Christ.

**COLLECT**

**Almighty God,**

**you gave Blessed Mary Magdalen the grace  
to imitate Christ in his poverty and humility.**

**Through her intercession,**

**grant us to walk faithfully the way of our vocation,  
and through the paths of truth and justice  
to be enabled to come to you.**

**Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,**

**who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Lord,**  
**we see the wonder of your love**  
**in the life of the virgin, Mary Magdalen,**  
**and in her witness to Christ.**  
**Accepts our gifts of praise**  
**and make our offering pleasing to you.**  
**Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

Behold, the Bridegroom is coming;  
come out to meet Christ the Lord.

see Mt 25:6

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Renewed by partaking of this divine gift,**  
**we pray, O Lord our God,**  
**that by the example of Blessed Mary Magdalen,**  
**bearing in our body the death of Jesus,**  
**we may strive to hold fast to you alone.**  
**Through Christ our Lord.**

**Source:** *Roman Franciscan Sacramentary* (1974), 661-A

**Source for the Prayer after Communion:** *The Roman Missal (Amended Latin Third Typical Edition)* (2011), *Common of Virgins*, II, 1.

**28 July****BL. MARY TERESA KOWALSKA****Capuchin Poor Clare, Martyr**

Born at Warsaw in 1902, Mieczysława sensed a call to religious life. She entered the convent of the Capuchin Poor Clares at Przasnysa on January 23, 1923, with the intent of making reparation for her family which had become permeated with the spirit of atheism. At her investiture, she took the religious name Teresa of the Child Jesus. She made her perpetual profession on July 26, 1928. She served God in the convent with devotion and care as doorkeeper, sacristan, librarian, novice director, and councillor, and distinguished herself for her zeal.

On April 2, 1941, Nazi soldiers burst into the cloister and arrested all 36 nuns. They were hauled off to the concentration camp of Dzialdowo. They suffered from a filthy environment, severe hunger, and continual terror. Sr. Mary Teresa's already frail health worsened, but no medical attention was given her. In great pain, and knowing that death was imminent, she said to her sisters: "I will not leave here alive; I offer my life in sacrifice so that the sisters might return to the convent." And then she abandoned herself to prayer. She died during the night of July 25, 1941. Her body was removed and no one knows what became of her remains. In keeping with what she had told the sisters earlier, two weeks following her death – on August 7, 1941 - the nuns were liberated from the death camp of Dzialdowo. She was beatified with other Polish martyrs of the Nazi persecution by Pope John Paul II in Warsaw on June 13, 1999.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

He humbled himself in all things and found mercy in the sight of God.  
Great is the power of the Lord; by the humble he is glorified.

**COLLECT**

**O God, who gladden us today  
with the commemoration of Blessed Mary Teresa,  
virgin and martyr,  
graciously grant that we may be helped by her merits,  
just as our lives are lit up by the splendor  
of her example of chastity and fortitude  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**May the offerings we bring in celebration of Bl. Mary Teresa, win your gracious acceptance, O Lord, we pray, just as the struggle of her suffering and passion was pleasing to you.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Rv 7:17**

The Lamb who is at the center of the throne  
will lead them to the springs of the waters of life.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**O God, who bestowed on Blessed Mary Teresa a crown among the saints, for her twofold triumph of virginity and martyrdom, grant, we pray, through the power of this Sacrament, that, bravely overcoming every evil, we may attain the glory of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

**Source:** *The Roman Missal (Amended Latin Third Typical Edition)* (2011), *Common of Martyrs*, IV, For a virgin martyr.

**ON THE SAME DAY****28 July****BL. MATTIA NAZAREI****Poor Clare**

Mattia was born on March 1, 1253 in Matelica (Marche, Italy), in the same year that Saint Clare died in Assisi. Mattia's parents both belonged to noble, rich and religious families. Her parents sought to force her into a marriage with a rich and noble young man, but Mattia firmly refused, because she had already answered to Christ's call. She asked to enter a Poor Clares' convent, where her aunt was abbess but the abbess was afraid of her father's reaction and tried to dissuade Mattia from taking hurried decisions. The young girl decided to follow St. Clare's and St. Agnes' courageous examples, bravely defying her family: She cut her hair and wore an old habit, praying Christ to help her, then she presented herself to the community, declaring that she wanted to lead the religious life. Her father had to resign himself to it and Mattia officially consecrated herself to our Lord on August 10, 1271. She prayed night and day, and always asked for the most menial tasks, in spite of her noble birth. Blessed Mattia died on December 28, 1320, and was beatified by Clement XIII in 1765.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Let us rejoice and exult for joy,  
for the Lord of all has shown his love  
for a holy and glorious virgin.

**COLLECT**

**Lord God, who called Blessed Mattia  
to a life of perfect conformity to Christ,  
grant, we pray,  
that, imitating her virtues on earth,  
we may delight with her in the joys of eternity.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.**

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## **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

**Lord, bless the gift that we offer you  
in commemoration of Blessed Mattia.  
Renew our spirits profoundly,  
so that, free from the enticements of evil,  
we may live in newness of life, in the light of the Gospel.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

Behold, the Bridegroom is coming;  
come out to meet Christ the Lord.

see Mt 25:6

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Renewed by partaking of this divine gift,  
we pray, O Lord our God,  
that by the example of the blessed Mattia,  
bearing in our body the death of Jesus,  
we may strive to hold fast to you alone,  
our one and highest Good.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

**Source:** *The Roman Missal (Amended Latin Third Typical Edition)* (2011), *Common of Virgins, II*,  
For one virgin, with added phrases from the Proper Masses for the Second Order.