

**FRANCISCAN
PROPER
OF THE
SAINTS**

March

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).

2 March

ST. AGNES OF BOHEMIA

Poor Clare, virgin

Optional Memorial for All Franciscans

Agnes was born at Prague (Bohemia) in 1211, the daughter of King Ottokar and Constance of Hungary. She refused an arranged imperial marriage, and guided by the Friars Minor, she founded a friary for them, a hospital, and with five sisters from Trent, a convent into which she entered around the year 1232. Agnes guided the sisters with great kindness. She served as a counselor to her brother and other members of her family. She deeply loved her people who venerated her as a mother to the poor. She died at Prague on March 2, 1282 and Pius IX, on December 3, 1874 approved her ancient cult. Her canonization took place on November 12, 1989, by John Paul II. The title of the feast, formerly “Agnes of Prague”, was changed in the 2001 revision of the Common Franciscan Calendar.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let us rejoice and shout for joy, because the Lord of all things
has favored this holy and glorious virgin with his love.

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,

**you drew Saint Agnes away from the pleasures of royalty,
and through the lowly way of the cross,
led her on to the path of perfection.**

Grant that, in imitation of her,

**we may depreciate transitory things
and always strive after those of heaven.**

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.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

**Lord, may the gifts we bring you
help us follow the example of Saint Agnes.
Cleanse us from our earthly way of life,
and teach us to live the new life of your kingdom.
Through Christ our Lord.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The five wise virgins brought flasks of oil with their lamps.
At midnight, there was a cry, "Behold, the bridegroom!"
Come out to meet Christ the Lord.

see Mt 25:4.6

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God of mercy,
we rejoice that on this feast of Saint Agnes
you give us the bread of heaven.
May it bring us pardon for our sins, health of body,
your grace in this life, and glory in heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.**

3 March

BL. LIBERATUS WEISS AND COMPANIONS

Friars Minor, “The Martyrs of Gondar”

Optional Memorial for Friars Minor. Not celebrated by other Franciscans.

Bl. Liberatus Weiss was born at Konnersreuth in Bavaria (Germany) on January 4, 1675, and entered the Friars Minor. He was joined in his desire to serve as a missionary in Ethiopia by another Franciscan, Bl. Michael Pius Fasoli who was born at Zerbo di Pavia (Italy) on May 3, 1670. These two, together with Bl. Samuel Marzorati, born at Biumo (Varese, Italy) on September 10, 1670 of the Franciscan Province of Milan, lived their missionary years at Gondar and gained the palm of martyrdom there on March 3, 1716. They were beatified by John Paul II on November 20, 1988.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord,
their refuge in a time of distress.

Ps 37:39

COLLECT

**Father, you granted the priests,
Blessed Liberatus, Samuel and Michael Pius,
the grace to bear witness to the Catholic faith
by the shedding of their blood.
Through their merits and prayers,
may the Christian people remain constant
in professing the faith
and may all people be enlightened by the light of the Gospel.
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.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

**Lord, send down your blessing like the dew fall
on the offering we present to you,
and confirm us in the faith
which the holy martyrs, Liberatus, Samuel and Michael Pius,
witnessed to at the price of their lives.
Through Christ our Lord.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel
will save it.

Mk 8:35

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Renewed by the sustenance of the one bread, O Lord,
on the commemoration of the blessed martyrs,
Liberatus, Samuel and Michael Pius,
we humbly pray
that you may confirm us ever in your charity
and make us walk in newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord.**

Source: Unofficial translation of the approved Italian text from the Santorale Francescano: *Collectio Missarum* (2011), 80. The Prayer over the Offerings and the Prayer after Communion are taken from the Roman Missal (1054).

5 March

ST. JOHN JOSEPH CALOSINTO OF THE CROSS

Friar Minor, priest

Optional Memorial for Friars Minor. Not celebrated by other Franciscans.

Born on the Island of Ischia, Italy, in 1654, from his earliest years he was given to prayer and virtue. At sixteen he entered the Alcantarine Friars Minor at Naples, the first Italian to join this reform which was begun in Spain by St. Peter of Alcantara. He lived a life of great austerity and fasting. In 1674 he was sent to found a friary at Afilia (Piedmont), and he helped in the construction with his own hands. Much against his will, he was ordained to the priesthood. As superior, he always insisted upon performing the lowliest offices in the community. In 1702 he was appointed Vicar Provincial of the Alcantarine Reform in Italy. He was beatified on May 24, 1789 by Pope Pius VI and canonized on May 26, 1839 by Pope Gregory XVI.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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.

Ps 92:13-14

COLLECT

**O God,
you guided Saint John Joseph of the Cross
along the difficult path of poverty, humility and patience
to the contemplation of your glory.
Grant that we may follow his example
and be united with you together with your saints.
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.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

**Lord, accept our offering,
and give us a living experience of your love,
that following the example of Saint John Joseph of the Cross,
we may serve at your altar with a pure and generous heart,
to celebrate worthily your praise
and obtain the blessings of salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Amen, I say to you that you who have followed me, and have given up everything, will receive a hundred times more, and will inherit eternal life. [see Mt 19:28-29](#)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Lord Jesus Christ,
who have made us sharers in the sacrament of salvation,
grant that we,
by following the example of St. John Joseph of the Cross,
may love the mystery of the cross
and thus reap the abundant fruits of your passion.
You live and reign for ever and ever.**

12 March

BL. ANGELA SALAWA Secular Franciscan, virgin

Memorial for TORs and Secular Franciscans. Not celebrated by other Franciscans.

Angela (Aniela) was born into a large family on September 9, 1881 at Siepraw, near Cracow (Poland). She moved to Cracow to dedicate herself to minister among domestic workers. She understood that God had called her to become holy in her secular state, among life's difficulties, sharing in the passion of the Lord for the salvation of souls. She became a Secular Franciscan. During World War I, she helped prisoners of war without regard for their nationality or religion. The writings of Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross were a great comfort to her. She died on March 12, 1922 at Cracow where she is buried in the Church of St. Francis. She was beatified by John Paul II, in Cracow, on August 13, 1991.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Behold a wise virgin, one of the prudent virgins:
she went out to meet Christ with her lamp burning.

see Mt 25:6

COLLECT

**Give us, O Father,
the spirit of humility and love
that enabled Blessed Angela, the virgin,
to offer herself as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to you.
Through her intercession,
grant that we may grow in the newness of the Gospel life
to conform ourselves to Christ your Son.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

**O God, wonderful in your saints,
accept these gifts which we present to you
in memory of Blessed Angela
and, as she pleased you by her virginal witness,
so may the offering of our sacrifice be acceptable to you.
Through Christ our Lord.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

“Behold, the bridegroom!” Go out to meet Christ the Lord.

see Mt 25:6

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**O Father,
who nourished us with the bread of life,
grant that, by the example of the virgin, Blessed Angela,
we may bear in our mortal bodies the passion of Christ Jesus,
and cling to you, the one and greatest Good.
Through Christ our Lord.**

18 March**ST. SALVATOR GRIONESOS OF HORTA**
Friar Minor, religious

Optional Memorial for Friars Minor. Not celebrated by other Franciscans.

Salvator was born in 1520 in Catalonia (Spain) and orphaned at a very young age. After a period among the Benedictines at Montserrat, he chose the path of poverty among the Friars Minor of Barcelona where he made profession in 1542. Transferred to Tortosa, he quickly became known for his gift of healing. He remained in Horta for 12 years working numerous miracles. The humility he sought became a point of friction among his confreres, and for years Salvator went from one friary to another working more miracles and making new enemies. Finally, he was denounced to the Inquisition which found nothing against him. In 1565 he was assigned to the friary in Cagliari (Sardinia) where he found a modicum of peace. Salvator died on March 18, 1567. He was beatified at the request of Philip III of Spain on February 15, 1606 by Paul V, and canonized by Pius XI on April 17, 1938.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Humble yourself the more, the greater you are,
and you will find mercy in the sight of God,
for great is the power of the Lord;
by the humble he is glorified (alleluia).

Sir 3:18.20

COLLECT

**O God, who reveal your glory in the humility of the saints,
you adorned Saint Salvator of Horta with admirable simplicity,
patience in trials, and the gift of healing;
grant that your Church may proclaim your word boldly,
and place itself, with humility, at the service of all people,
that it may be a sign and instrument of your salvation.
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.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

**Look kindly, O Lord,
on the gifts which we present to you on this altar,
celebrating the memory of Saint Salvator,
and grant that we, freed from the power of the Evil One,
and be quick to follow Christ the Lord.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest, says the Lord (alleluia).

Mt 11:28

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Healed by this ineffable sacrament, O Lord,
we await the fullness of our liberation
at the glorious coming of your Son;
until then, grant that, on the example of Saint Salvator,
our whole being may exult in you, the living God.
Through Christ our Lord.**

22 March**ST. BENVENUTO SCOTIVOLI OF OSIMO**

Friar Minor, bishop

Optional Memorial for Friars Minor. Not celebrated by other Franciscans.

Benvenuto was born into the noble family of the Scotivoli in Ancona, Italy, in 1188. Urban IV held him in high esteem and sent him to Osimo with the goal of reestablishing order and peace in the city which had gone through a period of turbulence and rebellion on account of which it had also lost its episcopal see. Before being ordained bishop, Benvenuto wanted to receive the Franciscan habit. As bishop, he was energetic and at the same time magnanimous in pardoning. He was persecuted even by some monks who were unwilling to accept his fight against abuses. Benvenuto distributed all his possessions to the poor. The hospital in Osimo even today is called, “Ss. Benvenuto and Roch”. The “Protocol of St. Benvenuto” – a collection of parchments in which his acts of governance are written, together with some of the acts of his successors – is preserved in the diocesan archives in Osimo. Benvenuto died at Osimo on March 22, 1282. He is buried in the crypt of the cathedral. He was canonized by Martin IV in 1284.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

For thus says the Lord God:

Look! I myself will search for my sheep and examine them

I will appoint one shepherd over them to pasture them,

I, the Lord, will be their God (alleluia).

Ez 34:11.23.24**COLLECT**

**O God, light of the faithful and shepherd of souls,
 who build up your Church through the gift of the Spirit
 and the ministry of holy pastors,
 grant that, gathered to celebrate with joy
 the memory of the bishop, Saint Benvenuto of Osimo,
 we may keep the faith he taught by his words
 and follow the way he showed by his example.
 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.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

**Father, may the sacrifice of salvation which we present to you
in memory of the bishop, Saint Benvenuto,
redeem and sanctify your people,
that they may be witnesses of reconciliation and hope
to the world.**

Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly,
says the Lord (alleluia).

Jn 10:10

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**O God, our Father,
who nourished us with the bread of life,
grant that, by following the example of Saint Benvenuto,
we may honor you with faithful service
and, with untiring love, do all we can
for the good of our brothers and sisters.
Through Christ our Lord.**