

**MAY, 10**

**LITURGY FOR THE FEAST OF  
SAINT DAMIEN DE VEUSTER, PRIEST.**



When he had washed their feet, and taken his garments, and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord'; and you are right, for so I am.

If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. In all truth I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, no messenger is greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know this, blessed are you if you behave accordingly."

**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Lord, accept the gifts of your people.

May we who celebrate the love of your Son also follow the example of your saints and grow in love for you and for one another.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Jn 15,13)**

No one has greater love, says the Lord, than the man who lays down his life for his friends. (P.T.: Alleluia)

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We thank you, merciful God,  
for the gift of the Bread of Life  
which you give us in your Son Jesus Christ.  
Grant us through him the grace to know you  
and the strength to announce your love through the witness of our lives.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Let us rejoice in the Lord for Damien, servant of God and servant of humanity, whose compassionate love and care for the suffering and the forsaken has given him a place among the saints. (P.T.: Alleluia)

**OPENING PRAYER**

Father of mercy,  
in Saint Damien you have given us a shining witness of love for the poorest and most abandoned.  
Grant that, by his intercession,  
as faithful witnesses of the heart of your Son Jesus,  
we too may be servants of the most needy and rejected.  
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

### A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (5, 1-8)

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. But that is not all we can boast about; we can boast about our sufferings. These sufferings bring patience, as we know, and patience brings perseverance, and perseverance brings hope, and this hope is not deceptive because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 33, 2-3, 6-7, 8-9, 20-21)

*Response* (9a): **Taste and see that the Lord is good.** (P.T.: Alleluia)

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R/**

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. **R/**

The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who revere him, to rescue them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **R/**

Many are the trials of the just man  
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.  
He will keep guard over all his bones,  
not one of his bones shall be broken. **R/**

### ALLELUIA (Jn 10,11)

#### Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.  
**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

### A reading from the holy gospel according to John (13: 1-5; 12-17)

Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

And during supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper, laid aside his garments, and girded himself with a towel. Then he poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which he was girded.