Tridentine Community News

February 3, 2013 - Sexagésima Sunday

The Blessing of Candles and Throats on the Feast of St. Blase



February 2 and 3 are connected days of sorts in the Liturgical Calendar. February 2 is the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This day is also known as Candlemas Day, as the Mass Propers include a Blessing of Candles and – logistics permitting – a procession with candles during the Mass.

February 3 is the Feast of St. Blase, Bishop & Martyr. St. Blase, also sometimes spelled St Blaise, was Bishop of Sebaste, Armenia and was martyred in 316 A.D. He is known for saving a

child from choking on a fishbone. The Church has memorialized this in a formal way with another special blessing of candles, followed by blessing of throats of the faithful using those blessed candles. The blessing must be performed in Latin.

Blessing of Candles and Throats [1961 Colléctio Rítuum]

N. Adjutórium nostrum in nómine Dómini.

R. Qui fecit cælum et terram.

✗ Dóminus vobíscum.

 \mathbf{R} . Et cum spíritu tuo.

Orémus.

Omnípotens et mitíssime Deus, qui ómnium mundi rerum diversitátes solo Verbo creásti, et ad hóminum reformatiónem illud idem Verbum per quod facta sunt ómnia, incarnári voluísti: qui magnus es, et imménsus, terríbilis atque laudábilis, ac fáciens mirabília: pro cujus fídei confessióne gloriósus Martyr et Póntifex Blásius, diversórum tormentórum génera non pavéscens, martýrii palmam felíciter est adéptus: quique eídem, inter céteras grátias, hanc prærogatívam contulísti, ut quoscúmque gútturis morbos tua virtúte curáret; majestátem tuam supplíciter exorámus, ut non inspéctu reátus nostri, sed ejus placátus méritis et précibus, hanc ceræ creatúram bene⊀dícere ac sancti¥ficáre tua venerábili pietáte dignéris, tuam grátiam infundéndo; ut omnes, quorum colla per eam ex bona fide tacta fúerint, a quocúmque gútturis morbo ipsíus passiónis méritis liberéntur, et in Ecclésia sancta tua sani et hílares tibi gratiárum réferant actiones, laudéntque nomen tuum gloriósum, quod est benedíctum in sæcula sæculórum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum Fílium tuum: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

R. Amen.

[He sprinkles the candles with Holy Water.]

[Holding the candles in the form of a cross at the throat of each of the faithful, he says:]

Per intercessiónem sancti Blásii, Epíscopi et Mártyris, líberet te Deus a malo gútturis, et a quólibet álio malo. In nómine Patris, et Fílii, ♣ et Spíritus Sancti.

R. Amen.

Blessing of Candles and Throats [English from fisheaters.com and the 1961 Colléctio Rítuum]

? Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

℣. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

Almighty and most gentle God, Who didst create the multiplicity of things through Thine only Word, and didst will that same Word through Whom all things were made to take flesh for the refashioning of man; Thou, Who art great and without measure, terrible and worthy of praise, a Worker of wonders: the glorious Martyr and Bishop Blase, not fearing to suffer all sorts of diverse tortures because of his profession of faith in Thee, was suited happily to bear the palm of martyrdom: and Thou didst grant to him, among other graces, the favor that he should by Thy power cure all kinds of illnesses of the throat: we humbly beg Thy Majesty not to look upon our sins, but to be pleased by his merits and prayers and to deign in Thy venerable kindness to bless * and sanctify * this creature of wax by the outpouring of Thy grace; that all whose necks in good faith are touched by it may be freed by the merits of his sufferings from any illness of the throat, and that healthy and strong they may offer thanks to Thee within Thy Holy Church, and praise Thy glorious Name, which is blessed forever and ever. Through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

R. Amen

[He sprinkles the candles with holy water.]

[Holding the candles in the form of a cross at the throat of each of the faithful, he says:]

Through the intercession of Saint Blase, Bishop and Martyr, may God deliver you from all disease of the throat, and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, $\stackrel{\mathbf{x}}{}$ and of the Holy Ghost.

R. Amen.

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Mon. 02/04 7:00 PM: Low Mass at *St. Josaphat* (St. Andrew Corsini, Bishop & Confessor)

<u>Tue. 02/05 7:00 PM:</u> Low Mass at *Assumption-Windsor* (St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr)

Sun. 02/10 1:00 PM: High Mass at St. Hyacinth (Quinquagésima Sunday)