

4 February

**Saint John de Brito, Priest;
Blessed Rudolph Acquaviva, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs**

Martyrs in India

John de Brito (1647-1693) was born in Lisbon, Portugal. He entered the Jesuit novitiate in 1662, and after his priestly ordination in 1673 he was sent to India. His ministry was directed mainly to high caste Hindus – the Brahmins. He founded a number of Catholic communities in the Madura Mission in South India, Eventually, some antagonistic Brahmins pressured the rulers into executing him, and he was beheaded in Oriyur in 1693. – **Rudolph Acquaviva, Alphonsus Pacheco, Anthony Francisco, Peter Berno and Francis Aranha**, were Jesuit missionaries from Europe working in Salcette, South Goa, in India, during the sixteenth century. In July 1583, accompanied by a dozen Indian Christians, they went to Cuncolim to plant a cross to mark the site for a new church. Unfortunately they had chosen a spot where a temple had stood until the previous year, when the Portuguese had destroyed it as a punitive measure. The non-Christian residents, who had been secretly watching them, attacked them with weapons, killing them all.

From the Common of Martyrs, or from the Common of Missionaries.

Collect

**O God, who strengthened your Martyrs
Saint John, Blessed Rudolph, and their companions
with invincible perseverance
to spread the Catholic faith in India,
grant, by their merits and intercession,
that we who recall their martyrdom
may also imitate the example of their 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.**

COMMON OF MARTYRS

Entrance Antiphon

Sp. Ex. [95]

Whoever wishes to come with me
must labour with me, says the Lord,
that following me in suffering
he may also follow me in glory.

Collect

**Lord, Our Father, draw us to yourself,
so that, following the example of blessed N. (and N.),
we may not spare our lives
but spend them most willingly
for the growth of your Kingdom.
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

**Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that, as we call to mind the sacrifice of the cross,
we too may take up our cross
and so be more fully united with Christ
to whom your glorious Martyrs gave witness by their death.
Through Christ our Lord.**

Communion Antiphon

Jn 15: 20

No slave is greater than his master.
If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

**May the Sacrament we have received, O Lord,
in commemoration of blessed N. (and N.)
so expand our minds and hearts
that we may set aside our own interests
and seek only those of Jesus Christ.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

COMMON OF MISSIONARIES

Entrance Antiphon (RM)

Is 52: 7

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of him
who brings glad tidings of peace,
bearing good news, announcing salvation!

Collect

**O God, who appointed blessed N. (and N.)
to preach and bear witness to the Gospel,
fill with every reward of righteousness
those who proclaim without fear
the word of 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

**We pray, O Lord,
that you sanctify with your blessing
the gifts we offer in commemoration of blessed N. (and N.)
and strengthen our resolve to proclaim the Gospel of your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

Communion Antiphon

Mt 9: 36

At the sight of the crowds, Jesus' heart was moved with pity
for them because they were troubled and abandoned,
like sheep without a shepherd.

Prayer after Communion

**O God, who have entrusted to each of us
the care of our neighbour,
send us forth among those who believe
and those who have not yet found faith
that, renewed by the bread of life
and inspired by the example of blessed N. (and N.),
we may proclaim the riches of your love.
Through Christ our Lord.**

PREFACE I OF HOLY MARTYRS (JESUIT PROPER)

The fruitfulness of the blood of Martyrs

V/. The Lord be with you.

R/. And with your spirit.

V/. Lift up your hearts.

R/. We lift them up to the Lord.

V/. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/. It is right and just.

**It is truly right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.**

**For you have called many sons of Ignatius
to the supreme witness of love
so that, by the shedding of blood,
they may enrich with new fruitfulness
the saving work of the Church
and encourage us, by their example,
to follow the way of Christ our Lord.**

**Through him the host of Angels adores your majesty
and rejoices in your presence for ever.**

**May our voices, we pray, join with theirs
in one chorus of exultant praise, as we acclaim:**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts ...

PREFACE II OF HOLY MARTYRS (RM)

The wonders of God in the victory of the Martyrs

V/. The Lord be with you.

R/. And with your spirit.

V/. Lift up your hearts.

R/. We lift them up to the Lord.

V/. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/. It is right and just.

**It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.**

**For you are glorified when your Saints are praised;
their very sufferings are but wonders of your might:
in your mercy you give ardour to their faith,
to their endurance you grant firm resolve,
and in their struggle the victory is yours,
through Christ our Lord.**

**Therefore, all creatures of heaven and earth
sing a new song in adoration,
and we, with all the host of Angels,
cry out, and without end we acclaim:**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts . . .

PREFACE OF HOLY MISSIONARIES (JESUIT PROPER)

Advancing the glory of God with our brothers in glory

V/. The Lord be with you.

R/. And with your spirit.

V/. Lift up your hearts.

R/. We lift them up to the Lord.

V/. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/. It is right and just.

**It is truly right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.**

**For, in the members of the Society of Jesus
already in glory with Christ,
you give us examples of holiness and apostolic zeal,
strong intercessors,
and faithful companions in worship,
so that, strengthened by such assistance,
our Society may more effectively
advance your glory throughout the world
and devote itself more eagerly to its mission.**

**And so, we glorify you with the multitude
of Saints and Angels,
as with one voice of praise we acclaim:
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts ...**