

24 May

## **Our Lady of the Way**

**Our Lady of the Way** (Madonna della Strada) was the name given by the first Jesuits to a late 13th century Byzantine fresco in a way-side chapel by the same name, in Rome. In 1540, Ignatius of Loyola and his companions occupied a house directly across from the chapel. The chapel, together with the residence, was for many years the “heart of the Society of Jesus”. It witnessed the contemplative life and corporate ministries of the early Jesuits. The icon, revered down the ages, is placed prominently in the magnificent Madonna Chapel in the Gesù, the mother-church of the Society of Jesus, in Rome, built over the original site. Our Lady of the Way is Patroness of the Society of Jesus.

### **Entrance Antiphon**

**Ps 25 (24): 4-5b**

O Lord, make me know your ways.  
Teach me your paths.  
Guide me in your truth, and teach me;  
for you are the God of my salvation.

### **Collect**

**O Lord, Father most holy,  
who in your beloved Son have revealed to us  
the way, the truth, and the life,  
grant that, by faithfully fulfilling his word  
and through the example and intercession  
of our blessed Mother, Mary,  
we may safely reach our journey’s end in 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.**

**Prayer over the Offerings**

**Having lovingly received these gifts from your family, O Lord, grant, we pray, that, with the help of the Virgin Mary, sinners may turn from the way of the wicked, while the just walk secure on the path of your truth. Through Christ our Lord.**

**Preface: The Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary (RM)**

**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, and to praise, bless, and glorify your name in veneration of the Blessed ever-Virgin Mary.**

**For by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit she conceived your Only Begotten Son, and without losing the glory of virginity, brought forth into the world the eternal Light, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Through him the Angels praise your majesty, Dominions adore and Powers tremble before you. Heaven and the Virtues of heaven and the blessed Seraphim worship together with exultation.**

**May our voices, we pray, join with theirs in humble praise, as we acclaim:**

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

**Communion Antiphon**

**Jn 14: 6**

I am the way and the truth and the life, says the Lord.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.

**Prayer after Communion**

**Grant, we pray, almighty and merciful God,  
that, renewed by your gifts  
and walking in the way of justice,  
through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
we may happily come to heavenly glory.  
Through Christ our Lord.**