

31 July

SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA,
PRIEST AND FOUNDER OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS

Solemnity

Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) was born in Spain. In 1521, a cannon ball shattered his right knee during a battle, He was operated upon, and during the nine months of convalescence, his life had a turn-over. Upon recovery, he renounced his castle-home and set out as a “pilgrim” He visited the Holy Land but was sent back to Europe because of the unsafe political situation there. So, with definite plans for more effective service, though aged thirty-three, he attended school with youngsters in Barcelona, then graduated from the University of Paris. At Paris he won over six fellow-students willing to be of service to Christ. Three others joined the group later. Ignatius and his nine companions cofounded the Society of Jesus, which was canonically approved by Pope Paul III on 27 September 1540. By the time of his death in 1556, the Jesuits numbered over 1,000 members in nine European provinces, besides those working in foreign missions. He is the Patron of Spiritual Exercises and Retreats.

As in the Roman Missal, except for the Proper Preface.

Entrance Antiphon (RM)

Phil 2: 10-11

At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

Collect (RM)

**O God, who raised up Saint Ignatius of Loyola in your Church
to further the greater glory of your name,
grant that by his help we may imitate him
in fighting the good fight on earth
and merit to receive with him a crown in 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.**

The Creed is said.

Prayer over the Offerings (RM)

**May these offerings we make to you
as we celebrate Saint Ignatius
be pleasing, Lord God,
and grant that the sacred mysteries,
which you have made the fount of all holiness,
may sanctify us, too, in the truth.
Through Christ our Lord.**

Preface: Saint Ignatius, teacher of the spiritual life.

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,
through Christ our Lord.**

**For you summon us
to imitate the discipline of Saint Ignatius
that we may hear the voice of the Spirit
with docile and trusting hearts,
and you move us to conform our life to Christ
that we might imitate him,
the model of every virtue:
through him, O Father of mercy,
we are preordained by you**

**that, by responding to your gifts,
we may complete the journey of faith,
be sustained by the support of hope,
be refreshed by the strength of love.**

**Therefore, now and for ages unending,
with all the host of Angels,
we sing to you with all our hearts,
crying out as we acclaim:**

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

Communion Antiphon (RM)

Lk 12: 49

Thus says the Lord: I have come to cast fire on the earth,
and how I wish that it were kindled!

Prayer after Communion (RM)

**May the sacrifice of praise
that we have offered with thanksgiving
in honour of Saint Ignatius, O Lord,
bring us to exalt your majesty without end.
Through Christ our Lord.**

A formula of Solemn Blessing may be used on the solemnity of Saint Ignatius Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus

**May God, who created you
to praise, reverence, and serve him
by loving him above all things and all things in him, sustain
you by the particular grace
to be faithful in your calling.**

R/. Amen.

**May Christ, who desired our holy father Ignatius
to serve him under the banner of the cross,
call you to follow him
and make you faithful servants of his Kingdom.**

R/. Amen.

**May the Holy Spirit,
who inspired Saint Ignatius and his companions
to serve the Church
even to the farthest ends of the earth,
lead you to the reward
promised to faithful labourers of the Gospel.**

R/. Amen.

**And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.**

R/. Amen.