

3 October

Saint Francis Borgia, Priest

Memorial

Francis Borgia (1510-1572) was born in Valencia, Spain. He was trained for life at court, and married in 1529. In May 1539, he was assigned to verify the corpse of the Empress Isabella, who had died unexpectedly fifteen days earlier. He was shocked to see the beautiful face disfigured beyond recognition. This experience was the turning point of his life. After his wife's death in 1546, he joined the Society of Jesus. In 1565 he was elected as the third Superior General of the Society of Jesus. He died in 1572, in Rome.

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 84 (83): 11b-12a

The threshold of the house of God
I prefer to the dwellings of the wicked.
For the Lord God is a sun, a shield;
the Lord will give us his favour and glory.

Collect

**O God, who called Saint Francis Borgia
from a royal court to your humble service,
grant, through his intercession,
that those who, dead to sin, have renounced the world,
may live for you alone.
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

**As we approach your altar with contrite hearts, O Lord,
make us decrease,
so that your Son, Jesus Christ, might increase.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

Communion Antiphon

Cf. 2 Cor 4: 10

Let us always carry about in our body the dying of Jesus,
so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body.

Prayer after Communion

**Through the holy gifts we have received, O Lord,
set our hearts on fire, we pray,
that we may most gladly spend ourselves
and be utterly spent for the salvation of all people.
Through Christ our Lord.**

PREFACE I OF SAINTS (RM)

The glory of the Saints

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 praised in the company of your Saints
and, in crowning their merits, you crown your own gifts.
By their way of life you offer us an example,
by communion with them you give us companionship,
by their intercession, sure support,
so that, encouraged by so great a cloud of witnesses,
we may run as victors in the race before us
and win with them the imperishable crown of glory,
through Christ our Lord.**

**And so, with the Angels and Archangels,
and with the great multitude of the Saints,
we sing the hymn of your praise,
as without end we acclaim:**

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