FEBRUARY 6 SAINT PAUL MIKI, RELIGIOUS, AND COMPANIONS MARTYRS MEMORIAL

Paul was born in Japan in 1566; as a Jesuit he preached the Gospel to his fellow-countrymen with great success. When the Church began to be persecuted, he was arrested along with several others and submitted to torture and degredation. He was finally taken to Nagasaki where, after pardoning his executioners, he was crucified on February 5, 1597. Two other Jesuits, John Soan de Goto, a Scholastic, and James Kisai, a Brother, were martyred with him on that same day, together with twenty-three other religious and lay people. They were all canonized by Pius IV in 1862.

From the Common of Several Martyrs, or the Common of Men Saints, for Religious.

THE OFFICE OF READINGS

Second Reading and Responsory as in the Roman Divine Office.

MORNING PRAYER

Benedictus antiphon as in the Roman Divine Office.

Concluding Prayer

Lord, have pity on the multitude of peoples on whom the light of your Gospel has yet to dawn. In your loving providence may the great company of their martyrs be the firstfruits of a rich harvest of saints. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Alternative Concluding Prayer as in the Roman Divine Office.