

SEPTEMBER 17
SAINT ROBERT BELLARMINE
BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
MEMORIAL

Robert Bellarmine was born in 1542 in Montepulciano in Tuscany and entered the Society in 1560. He was ordained in 1570 and later became professor and rector of the Roman College and provincial of Naples. He also filled other offices in the Society with great success; he wrote many theological and spiritual books, among which his *Catechism* and *Disputationes de Controversiis Christianae Fidei* are particularly important. He was made a cardinal in 1599 and was Archbishop of Capua from 1602-1605. Then he returned to Rome and became adviser to the Pope in matters of the greatest importance. He died there in 1621, was canonized by Pius XI in 1930 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1931.

From the Common of Pastors or of Doctors of the Church.
Second Reading as in the Roman Divine Office, but under the title "Realize that you were created for the glory of God and for your own eternal salvation." Responsory and Concluding Prayer as in the Roman Divine Office.

Alternative Concluding Prayer

Lord our God, creator of the world, your power and godhead are seen in the things you have made. As we give you glory for the wisdom and teaching of St. Robert, we ask that mankind may be obedient to the faith revealed to us in our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.