

DECEMBER 1  
 SAINTS EDMUND CAMPION AND  
 ROBERT SOUTHWELL  
 PRIESTS, RELIGIOUS, MARTYRS,  
 AND THEIR COMPANIONS,  
 PRIESTS, RELIGIOUS, MARTYRS  
 MEMORIAL

This memorial commemorates, first of all, ten holy martyrs of the Society of Jesus who, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, were killed in England and Wales for the profession of the Catholic faith and were canonized by Paul VI in 1970. The number includes Saints Edmund Campion (d. December 1, 1581), Alexander Briant (d. December 1, 1581), Robert Southwell (d. February 21, 1595), Henry Walpole (d. April 7, 1595), Brother Nicholas Owen (d. March 2, 1606), Thomas Garnet (d. June 23, 1608), Edmund Arrowsmith (d. August 28, 1628), Henry Morse (d. February 1, 1645), Philip Evans (d. July 22, 1679), and David Lewis (d. August 27, 1679). Together with them this memorial celebrates sixteen beatified martyrs of the Society of Jesus who suffered martyrdom in the same persecution between 1575 and 1679.

From the Common of Several Martyrs, or of Pastors

THE OFFICE OF READINGS

Second Reading

Sections 8 and 9 of Campion's "Brag," written about July 19, 1580, to the Privy Council of the Queen of England.

(English text in J. H. Pollen, S.J., *Campion's Ten Reasons*, London, Roehampton, 1914, pp. 10-11.)

*I pray to God that we may be at last friends in heaven.*

Moreover I doubt not but you, her Highness' Council, being of such wisdom and discreet in cases most important, when you shall have heard these questions of

religion opened faithfully, which many times by our adversaries are huddled up and confounded, will see upon what substantial grounds our Catholic faith is builded, how feeble that side is that by sway of the time prevaieth against us, and so at last for your own souls that depend on your government, will discountenance error when it is betrayed, and hearken to those who would spend the best blood in their bodies for your salvation. Many innocent hands are lifted up to heaven for you daily by those English students, whose posterity shall never die, which beyond seas, gathering virtue and sufficient knowledge for the purpose, are determined never to give you over, but either to win you heaven, or to die upon your pikes. And touching our Society, be it known that we have made a league—all the Jesuits in the world, whose succession and multitude must overreach all the practices of England—cheerfully to carry the cross you shall lay upon us, and never to despair your recovery, while we have a man left to enjoy your Tyburn, or to be racked by your torments, or consumed with your prisons. The expense is reckoned, the enterprise is begun; it is of God, it cannot be withstood. So the faith was planted; so it must be restored.

If these my offers be refused, and my endeavors can take no place, and I, having run thousands of miles to do you good, shall be rewarded with rigor, I have no more to say but to recommend your case and mine to almighty God, the searcher of hearts, who sends us his grace, and sets us at accord before the day of payment, to the end we may be at last friends in heaven, when all injuries shall be forgotten.

**Responsory** (Phil. 1:20, 21)

**R.** It is my eager expectation and hope that I shall not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always, Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

**V.** For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. Christ. . . .

**Concluding Prayer**

Almighty, eternal God, you chose from the people of England and Wales Saint Edmund, Saint Robert, and their companions to be made like Christ, who died to save the world. Listen to their prayers: strengthen your Church by the same faith and love that strengthened them, and bless it always with your gift of unity. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.