

Memorial

Saint Clare

Roman Missal 905/1103; Lectionary 414

Saint Clare authored the first rule for religious life for women written by a woman. See p. 173.

Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 51) **I am like a growing olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the mercy of God, for ever and ever.**

or

I despised the kingdom of the world and all worldly finery for love of my Lord, Jesus Christ, whom I have seen, whom I have loved, in whom I have believed, in whom has been my delight.

Collect

O God, who in your mercy led Saint Clare to a love of poverty, grant, through her intercession, that, following Christ in poverty of spirit, we may merit to contemplate you one day in the heavenly Kingdom.

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. **Amen.**

Reading (Ezekiel 2.8 – 3.4) —

Thus says the Lord: But you, mortal, hear what I say to you; do not be rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you. I looked, and a hand was stretched out to me, and a written scroll was in it. He spread it before me; it had writing on the front and on the back, and written on it were words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

He said to me, O mortal, eat what is offered to you; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the

house of Israel. So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat. He said to me, Mortal, eat this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it. Then I ate it; and in my mouth it was as sweet as honey.

He said to me: Mortal, go to the house of Israel and speak my very words to them.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm —————
(Psalm 119)

R. How sweet to my taste is your promise!

I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches. Your decrees are my delight, they are my counsellors. **R.**

The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! **R.**

Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart. With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments. **R.**

Acclamation (Matthew 11)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Take my yoke upon you, learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart. **Alleluia.**

Gospel —————
(Matthew 18.1-5, 10, 12-14)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” Jesus called a child, whom he put among them, and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

“Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven.

“What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray.

“So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Prayer over the Offerings

We bring the offerings of our devotion to be consecrated by you, O Lord, in commemoration of blessed Clare, for by the consolation you give us in this life you show that we should not lose hope of what is promised for eternity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preface (*Common, p. 16 or V&R, p. 14*)

Communion Antiphon

(Ps 44) **My heart overflows with noble words. To the king I address the song I have made.**

or

(Lk 10) **One thing is necessary: she has chosen the better part, which shall not be taken away from her.**

Prayer after Communion

Renewed, O Lord, at the well-springs of salvation, we humbly entreat you that through the intercession of blessed Clare, holding more closely day by day to Christ, we may merit to be coheirs in his Kingdom of grace. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Our labour here is brief, but the reward
is eternal.* —St. Clare of Assisi