

April 29
CELEBRATION OF
THE BIRTHDAY OF THE ORDER

ENTRANCE SONG

Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Ep. 5:19-20)

OPENING PRAYER

O God, source of every good,
we thank you for all the gifts and graces
you have bestowed on us
and continue to bestow on us.
With confidence we ask you
not to leave us alone ever
and to help us also in all our future needs.
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.
Amen.

After the homily and a pause for reflection the celebrant says:

LET US PRAY.

Father, hear the prayers of your people
and prepare the hearts of these servants of yours,
who are going to renew
their religious consecration.
May the fire of the Holy Spirit

purify and enkindle their hearts
with a living love for you.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Together, all the religious recite the following formula:

I ... renew my religious consecration
of Somascan life
and again promise to the almighty God
chastity, poverty, and obedience.
May the grace of the Holy Spirit,
the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Orphans,
and of St. Jerome, our Founder,
help me attain perfect love
in serving God and the Church.

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to our Savior Jesus Christ, who has revealed Himself to St. Jerome and made Him produce much fruit in love. Let us say together: *Remain with us, Lord.*

Lord Jesus, you have given yourself to the Church and with your love you nourish and protect Her; lead your disciples on the way toward peace, love, and prosperity. Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, through the intercession of the glorious Blessed Virgin Mary, you have renewed St. Jerome; through the help of your Mother, may we be strengthened in our inner self. Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you allow us to approach you with full confidence; through faith continue to live in our hearts so that, filled with hope and the virtue of the Holy Spirit, we may accomplish your deeds. Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you have revealed to humankind the mercy and the

tenderness of your Father; welcome and protect in your heart the abandoned and orphaned youth. Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you want to gather all people to your kingdom; welcome our deceased brothers, relatives, and benefactors to enjoy the light of your face. Let us pray.

Look with kindness, O Father, upon this family of yours, and make it always fruitful of new children. May we reach the ideal of perfect charity, and generously cooperate for the salvation of all our brothers and sisters. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God, you are always generous with the children who hope in you.

Accept our gratitude for the gifts we have received, and prepare for us the greater and more precious gifts of eternal life.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PREFACE

Priest : The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest : Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest : Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
O Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
who, through Jesus Christ,
gives every good to the world.

It is right to glorify you because of the help granted in the past,
as well as it is just to ask you
for graces in the future.

It is good to manifest gratitude
for the benefits received from you
and to wait, with less unworthy hearts,
for the gifts which we still hope from you.

Confident that God will never fail us,
united to St. Jerome and all the Saints,
we raise to you, O Father, the hymn of praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy, ...

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*What return can I make to the Lord for all his goodness to me?
I will offer libations to my savior, invoking his name (Ps. 116:12-13)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, through the strength
of this bread of life,
you free us from sin
and give us ever new strength.
Help us to grow day by day
in your love and in the hope of your glory.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.