



PRAYER IN TIME OF PESTILENCE

Taken from the Roman Ritual, Titulus IX, Caput X, trans. Weller.

☩ The Litany of the Saints may be sung, repeating the invocation, From plague, famine, and war twice. And as soon as the versicle, That thou wouldest vouchsafe to grant eternal rest has been said, the following is added twice:

℣ That thou wouldst vouchsafe to deliver us from the scourge of pestilence.

℟ We beseech thee, hear us.

In conclusion Our Father inaudibly until:

℣ And lead us not into temptation.

℟ But deliver us from evil.

☩ If the Litany is not sung, the prayers begin with the following psalm.

Psalm 6 *Dómine, ne in furóre*

○ LORD, rebuke me not in thine indignation * neither chasten me in thy displeasure.

2. Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am weak * O Lord, heal me, for my bones are vexed.

3. My soul also is sore troubled * but, Lord, how long wilt thou punish me?

4. Turn thee, O Lord, and deliver my soul * O save me for thy mercy's sake.

5. For in death no man remembereth thee * and who will give thee thanks in the pit?

6. I am weary of my groaning; every night wash I my bed * and water my couch with my tears.

7. My beauty is gone for very trouble * and worn away because of all mine enemies.

8. Away from me, all ye that work vanity * for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.

9. The Lord hath heard my petition * the Lord will receive my prayer.

10. All mine enemies shall be confounded, and sore vexed * they shall be turned back, and put to shame suddenly.

Glory be, etc.

℣ O Lord, deal not with us after our sins.

℞ Nor reward us according to our wickednesses.

℣ Help us, O God, of our salvation.

℞ And for the glory of thy name, O Lord, deliver us.

℣ Remember not, O Lord, our old sins.

℞ But have mercy upon us, and that that soon; for we are come to great misery.

℣ Saint Sebastian, pray for us.

℞ That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

℣ O Lord, hear my prayer.

℞ And let my cry come unto thee.

℣ The Lord be with you.

℞ And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Collect.

VOUCHSAFE TO HEAR US, O God, our only salvation: and through the intercession of the glorious and blessed ever-Virgin **M**ary, Mother of God, of thy blessed martyr, Sebastian, and of all the saints, deliver thy people from the terrors of thy wrath, and restore their confidence by the outpouring of thy compassion.

BE MOVED TO PITY, O Lord, at our earnest entreaties, and heal the illnesses of body and soul; so that experiencing thy forgiveness we may ever rejoice in thy blessing.

WE BESEECH THEE, O Lord, to hear us as we devoutly raise our petitions unto thee, and graciously turn away the deadly pestilence which afflicts us; so that mortal hearts may recognize that these scourges proceed from thine indignation and cease only when thou art moved to mercy. Through **J**esus Christ, thy Son, our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth God, world without end.

℞ Amen.

☩ If possible, the priest blesses the people with a relic of the True Cross, otherwise he blesses with his hand in the usual manner, saying:

AND MAY THE BLESSING of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, ☩ and the Holy Ghost, descend upon you and remain with you always.

℞ Amen.