



13 AUGUST

**SAINT BENILDE ROMANÇON**

Religious  
(1805-1882)

*In France: Feast*  
*Institute: Memoria*

Pierre Romançon was born in the village of Thuret in south-central France. He was so far ahead of his classmates in elementary school that when he was only fourteen years old the Brothers engaged him as a substitute teacher. Despite the objection of his parents who wanted to keep him at home, and the reluctance of the superiors who thought he was too short of stature, he was finally admitted to the novitiate. From 1821 to 1841 he taught successfully in the network of elementary schools conducted by the Brothers out of the administrative center at Clermont-Ferrand. In 1841 he was appointed Director of a school that was opening in Saugues, an isolated village on a barren plateau in southern France. For the next twenty years he worked quietly and effectively as teacher and principal to educate the boys in the village and some from the neighboring farms, many of whom were in their teens and had never been to school before. Small as he was, he was known as a strict but fair disciplinarian. In time the little school became the center of the social and intellectual life of the village, with evening classes for the adults and tutoring for the less gifted students. Brother Benilde's extraordinary religious sense was evident to everyone: at Mass with the students in the parish church, teaching catechism, preparing boys for first communion, visiting and praying with the sick, and rumors of near-miraculous cures. He was especially effective in attracting religious vocations. At his death more than 200 Brothers and an impressive number of priests had been his students at Saugues. At his beatification, Pope Pius XII stressed that his sanctification was attained by enduring "the terrible daily grind" and by "doing common things in an uncommon way."

Born at Thuret, France 14 June 1805  
Died at Saugues, 13 August 1862  
Beatified 4 April 1948  
Canonized 29 October 1967

## MASS

*Commons of the saints: religious*

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Daniel 12:3

The wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.

### PRAYER (COLLECT)

O God,  
who inspired Saint Benilde Romançon  
to be an excellent educator who carried out his daily work to perfection,  
graciously grant that, through his intercession and example,  
we too may be faithful to our vocation and attain perfect charity.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### FIRST READING

Proverbs 4:1-9

#### **A reading from the book of Proverbs.**

Hear, O children, a father's instruction, be attentive, that you may gain understanding! Yes, excellent advice I give you; my teaching do not forsake.  
When I was my father's child, frail, yet the darling of my mother, He taught me, and said to me:  
"Let your heart hold fast my words: keep my commands, that you may live!  
Get wisdom, get understanding! Do not forget or turn aside from the words I utter. Forsake her not, and she will preserve you; love her, and she will safeguard you;  
The beginning of wisdom is: get wisdom; at the cost of all you have, get understanding. Extol her, and she will exalt you; she will bring you honors if you embrace her; She will put on your head a graceful diadem; a glorious crown will she bestow on you."  
The word of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119

#### **R. In my heart I treasure your promise.**

How can the young walk without fault?  
Only by keeping your words.  
— In my heart I treasure your promise.  
With all my heart I seek you;  
do not let me stray from your commands.  
— In my heart I treasure your promise.  
In my heart I treasure your promise,  
that I may not sin against you.  
— In my heart I treasure your promise.  
Blessed are you, O Lord;  
teach me your laws.  
— In my heart I treasure your promise.  
With my lips I recite  
all the edicts you have spoken.

— In my heart I treasure your promise.  
I find joy in the way of your decrees  
more than in all riches.  
— In my heart I treasure your promise.

## **SECOND READING**

*1 Corinthians 1:26-31; 2:1-2*

*Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord.*

### **A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

Consider your own calling, brothers. Not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong, and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something, so that no human being might boast before God. It is due to him that you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, as well as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord."

When I came to you, brothers, proclaiming the mystery of God, I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

The word of the Lord.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*John 6:63*

**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

**Alleluia.**

## **GOSPEL**

*Matthew 23:8-12*

*You have but one master, the Messiah.*

### **A reading from the gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not be called 'Rabbi.' You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers. Call no one on earth your father; you have but one father in heaven. Do not be called 'Master'; you have but one master, the Messiah. The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

The gospel of the Lord.

## **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

My brothers and sisters, conscious of our call to the evangelical life, let us ask almighty God, through the intercession of Saint Benilde Romançon, to preserve us on the path of sanctity and to accomplish in us the work begun at baptism. Praying together, let us say:

**R) Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessions...

Sustain, O Lord, your praying Church, and to all who rejoice in the example given by Saint Benilde Romançon, grant the favor of your continual protection. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

## **PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

God of all mercy, you transformed Saint Benilde Romançon into a new person, an image of justice and holiness. Renew us in the same spirit and make us worthy to offer you this sacrifice of praise. Through Christ our Lord.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Matthew 25:21

Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May this life-giving food sustain us, O Lord, in following the example of Saint Benilde Romançon, and by our thoughts and actions may we give witness to the light of your truth and to our love for our brothers and sisters. Through Christ our Lord.

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

*Common of Saints: religious*

### INVITATORY

*We recite the Invitatory Psalm at the beginning of the Hours: it comes before the Office of Readings or the Morning Office (Lauds) depending on whether you begin with one or the other.*

**Ant. Benilde observed the precepts of the Lord, and taught them, come, let us praise our God.  
(T.P. Alleluia)**

### PSALM 95

*Encourage yourselves daily while it is still "today"*

Heb 3: 13

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord;  
cry out to the rock of our salvation.  
Let us greet him with a song of praise,  
joyfully sing out our psalms.  
For the Lord is the great God,  
the great king over all gods,  
Whose hand holds the depths of the earth;  
who owns the tops of the mountains.  
The sea and dry land belong to God,  
who made them, formed them by hand.  
Enter, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the Lord who made us.  
For this is our God,  
whose people we are,  
God's well-tended flock.  
Oh, that today you would hear his voice:  
Do not harden your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on the day of Massah in the desert.  
There your ancestors tested me;  
they tried me though they had seen my works.  
Forty years I loathed that generation;  
I said: "This people's heart goes astray;  
they do not know my ways."

Therefore I swore in my anger:

"They shall never enter my rest."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

## OFFICE OF READINGS

### HYMN

1. Sion rejoices, celebrates the glory  
of this great feast day, honoring our Brother(s).  
We too rejoicing, join the heav'nly  
chorus chanting our thanks and praise.
2. Great Saint Benilde, apostle of the classroom  
Daily you gathered workers for the harvest.  
May your example, faith and zeal inspired  
Lead us to challenge youth.

**1 Ant. He asked you for life, Lord; you have given him splendor and beauty (T. P. Alleluia).**

### PSALM 21: 2-8.14

How your saving help makes him glad!  
You have granted him his heart's desire;  
you have not refused the prayer of his lips.

You came to meet him with the blessings of success,  
you have set on his head a crown of pure gold.  
He asked you for life and this you have given,  
days that will last from age to age.

Your saving help has given him glory.  
You have laid upon him majesty and splendor,  
you have granted your blessings to him forever.  
You have made him rejoice with the joy of your presence.

The king has put his trust in the Lord:  
through the mercy of the Most High he shall stand firm.  
O Lord, arise in your strength;  
we shall sing and praise your power.

**1 Ant. He asked you for life, Lord; you have given him splendor and beauty (T. P. Alleluia).**

**2 Ant. The path of the righteous is like light: it grows brighter from dawn to full daylight  
(T. P. Alleluia).**

### PSALM 92

1(1-9)

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to make music to your name, O Most High,

to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night,  
on the ten-stringed lyre and the lute,  
with the murmuring sound of the harp.

Your deeds, O Lord, have made me glad;  
for the work of your hands I shout with joy.

O Lord, how great are your works!  
How deep are your designs!  
The foolish man cannot know this  
and the fool cannot understand.

Though the wicked spring up like grass  
and all who do evil thrive,  
they are doomed to be eternally destroyed.  
But you, Lord, are eternally on high.

**2 Ant. The path of the righteous is like light: it grows brighter from dawn to full daylight  
(T. P. Alleluia).**

**3 Ant. The righteous will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon  
(T. P. Alleluia).**

**II (10-16)**

See how your enemies perish;  
all doers of evil are scattered.  
To me you give the wild ox's strength;  
you anoint me with the purest oil.

My eyes looked in triumph on my foes;  
my ears heard gladly of their fall.  
The just will flourish like the palm tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,

to proclaim that the Lord is just.  
In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

**3 Ant. The righteous will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon  
(T. P. Alleluia).**

**V/. The Lord leads the just along the right path (T.P. Alleluia)**

**R/. He reveals to them the kingdom of God (T. P. Alleluia).**

**FIRST READING**

*Rejoice in the Lord always.*

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians**

**3: 7 - 4: 1.4-9**

Whatever gains I had, these I have come to consider a loss because of Christ. More than that, I even consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having any righteousness of my own based on the law but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God, depending on faith to know him and the power of his resurrection and [the] sharing of his sufferings by being conformed to his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

It is not that I have already taken hold of it or have already attained perfect maturity, but I continue my pursuit in hope that I may possess it, since I have indeed been taken possession of by Christ [Jesus]. Brothers, I for my part do not consider myself to have taken possession. Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus. Let us, then, who are "perfectly mature" adopt this attitude. And if you have a different attitude, this too God will reveal to you. Only, with regard to what we have attained, continue on the same course.

Join with others in being imitators of me, brothers, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us. For many, as I have often told you and now tell you even in tears, conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction. Their God is their stomach; their glory is in their "shame." Their minds are occupied with earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, beloved.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

## **RESPONSORY**

Lk 12: 35-36; Mt 24: 42

**R/.** Gird your loins and light your lamps, \* and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding.

**V/.** Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come,

\* and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding.

## **SECOND READING**

*The Profession of a teacher includes in itself the call to holiness.*

### **From the Homily on the Occasion of the Canonization of Saint Benilde By Pope Paul VI.**

*(MS Anno LIX - Vol. IX, 1967, pp. 1018-1022)*

We have just now declared a new Saint as belonging to the heavenly Church. Brother Benilde not only managed to reach this «inheritance of the saints», offered to all the Christian faithful, but he achieved it so splendidly that he has been acclaimed as a Saint of the Church of God.

Brother and sons, who now regard Brother Benilde as an outstanding figure, you do so because you know that during his earthly life he was imbued with humility, silence, simplicity undervalued by the society in which he found himself. You ask yourselves, as we do, what were the qualities that

gave value to this hidden existence. The reply comes easily and immediately: his holiness in the form of a life led in total reference to God.

It was this form of life, totally turned towards God, totally involved in his response to his vocation, totally absorbed in prayer and in the observance of the actions proper to a religious, totally imbued with transmitting the great truths of religion to the innocent minds of young pupils, totally pervaded with a simple and spontaneous conversation with God, with Christ present in the Eucharist, with Mary and Joseph and all the saints. Was this not the life characteristic of our new saint, our Benilde? The testimony is often repeated: «He prayed all the time, the rosary beads never left his hand, and he was called ‘the man with the rosary’». But his holiness had other aspects to it. It was, we can say, an art of living, a wonderful balance of two operational principles, one the interior will and the other the external Rule. They transformed a humble existence into a moral phenomenon of human beauty.

That was Benilde. Anyone can see by looking at the silent and modest course of his life, how the fusion of these two wills, his own and the divine (contained in those precepts which mark the Christian life and the religious life), was done with constant fidelity, so as to be an example of austerity, innocence, serenity and endurance, which reflect the gifts of the Spirit mentioned by St. Paul and which are the source of all holiness.

Among all the evidence that could be adduced to support this assertion, suffice it to quote a decisive word of Brother Benilde himself. «I will think myself happy if I can die in the act of fulfilling some point of the Rule »: This declaration shows clearly that he was a religious saint.

Moreover, in this fleeting picture that we are sketching of the new saint we can linger over another aspect, which described and characterized his whole existence. He was a teacher, a teacher in an elementary school for ordinary people, a member of an Institute, one among many religious but outstanding in his teaching and education of children. He was a humble teacher, poor and not in good health, working in a mountain area. Was that enough to make him a saint? We are tempted to say that it was. What other title did Jesus claim for himself apart from that of ‘Teacher’? The very profession of a schoolmaster hides in itself the need to be holy, and it has in itself the power to generate holiness.

This is a fundamental principle which confers great dignity on all teachers as a class, and on all the members of the religious family of Brothers of the Christian Schools, a foundation which takes Christian perfection for granted.

And so it is that the title of schoolmaster, in a rural elementary school, bursts out in its strength and beauty in the saint whom we celebrate, Brother Benilde of the Christian Schools, because he was a schoolmaster, and what a schoolmaster!

His biography shows this, especially through the qualities that made an obscure teacher into a great and good man, namely his qualities of wisdom, self-denial and love. This eulogy would be hard to finish, if I tried to produce all the pieces of evidence which prove this assertion. It is sufficient to refer to the judgment of the Church, which has declared him to be a saint, thus giving joy to our spirits as we see this highest of honors conferred on that same elementary school teacher, so that we can, with the whole Church, proclaim Benilde as saint and teacher!

You should rejoice, dear Brothers of the Christian Schools, because you can at last add the name of your Brother to that of St John-Baptist De La Salle. Yes rejoice! You now have another model to guarantee the excellence of your vocation. There is a new protector in heaven to assist you as individuals and in your schools. There will be a new teacher at your side in the countless classes you take in your schools. May Saint Benilde enlighten with his wonderful holiness all the young people who have the honor of receiving your teaching. So, to all of you, teachers and pupils, we give our and his blessing.

## RESPONSORY

Lk 10: 2; 18: 16

**R/.** The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; \* The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest.

**V/.** Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

**\*** The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest.

## **PRAYER**

O God, who inspired Saint Benilde Romançon to be an excellent educator who carried out his daily work to perfection, graciously grant that through his intercession and example, we too may be faithful to our vocation and attain perfect charity. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **MORNING PRAYER**

### **HYMN**

O Christ, the Word of God,  
Glorious king among the saints,  
Light and salvation of the world,  
We believe in you.

Our life-giving food and drink,  
Protection, balm, and home,  
Strength, refuge, and comfort,  
We hope in you.

Banish by your Spirit  
The dark night of evil;  
Direct our steps  
Toward God our Father. Amen.

*Or:*

Iesu, coróna célsior  
et véritas sublímior,  
qui confiténti sérvulo  
reddis perénne praémium.

Da supplicánti coétui,  
huius rogátu caélitis,  
remisiónem críminum  
rumpéndo nexum vínculí.

Nil vanitátis díligens,  
terréna sic exércuit,  
ut mente tota férvidus  
tibi placéret únice.

Te, Christe, rex piíssime,  
hic confiténdo iúgiter,  
calcávit hostem fórtiter  
supérbum ac satéllitem.

Virtúte clarus et fide,

oratióni sédulus  
ac membra servans sóbria,  
dapes supérnas óbtinet.

Deo Patri sit glória  
tibíque soli Filio  
cum Spíritu Paráclito,  
in sempitérna saécula. Amen.

**1 Ant. The Lord has given them unending glory; their name shall be in everlasting remembrance.  
(T.P.Alleluia)**

**PSALM 63: 2-9**  
*My Soul Is Thirsting for You*

God, you are my God—  
for you I long!  
For you my body yearns;  
for you my soul thirsts,  
Like a land parched, lifeless,  
and without water.

So I look to you in the sanctuary  
to see your power and glory.  
For your love is better than life;  
my lips offer you worship!

I will bless you as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands, calling on your name.  
My soul shall savor the rich banquet of praise,  
with joyous lips my mouth shall honor you!

When I think of you upon my bed,  
through the night watches I will recall  
That you indeed are my help,  
and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.

My soul clings fast to you;  
your right hand upholds me.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**1 Ant. The Lord has given them unending glory; their name shall be in everlasting remembrance.  
(T.P.Alleluia)**

**2 Ant. Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord forever (T.P.Alleluia).**

**CANTICLE**  
*Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord*

Daniel 3: 57-88.56

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord.

You heavens, bless the Lord.

All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Sun and moon, bless the Lord.  
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord.  
All you winds, bless the Lord.  
Fire and heat, bless the Lord.  
Cold and chill, bless the Lord.

Dew and rain, bless the Lord.  
Frost and sleet, bless the Lord.  
Ice and snow, bless the Lord.  
Nights and days, bless the Lord.

Light and darkness, bless the Lord.  
Lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord.  
Let the earth bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Mountains and hills, bless the Lord.  
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.  
You springs, bless the Lord.  
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.

You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord.  
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.  
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord.  
You sons of men, bless the Lord.

O Israel, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.

Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord.  
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.  
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven.  
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever.  
[Omit the *Glory be to the Father* after this canticle.]

**2 Ant. Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord forever. (T.P. Alleluia).**

**3 Ant. The saints will exult in glory; they will sing for joy as they bow down before the Lord.  
(T.P. Alleluia)**

## PSALM 149

### *Praise for God's Goodness to Israel*

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
a hymn in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel be glad in their maker,  
the people of Zion rejoice in their king.

Let them praise his name in festive dance,  
make music with tambourine and lyre.  
For the Lord takes delight in his people,  
honors the poor with victory.

Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,  
cry out for joy at their banquet,  
With the praise of God in their mouths,  
and a two-edged sword in their hands,

To bring retribution on the nations,  
punishment on the peoples,  
To bind their kings with chains,  
shackle their nobles with irons,

To execute the judgments decreed for them—  
such is the glory of all God's faithful.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**3 Ant. The saints will exult in glory; they will sing for joy as they bow down before the Lord.  
(T.P. Alleluia)**

## READING

Proverbs 4:20-22a, 25-27

My son, to my words be attentive,  
to my sayings incline your ear;  
Let them not slip out of your sight,  
keep them within your heart;

For they are life to those who find them.  
Let your eyes look straight ahead  
and your glance be directly forward.  
Survey the path for your feet,  
and let all your ways be sure.

Turn neither to right nor to left,  
keep your foot far from evil.

## RESPONSORY

Psalms 119:105; John 6:68

**R.** Your word is a lamp for my feet, \* you have the words of eternal life.  
Your word is a lamp for my feet, you have the words of eternal life.

**V.** Lord, to whom shall we go?

\* You have the words of eternal life.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
Your word is a lamp for my feet, you have the words of eternal life.

**Ant. Ben. You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers. (T.P. Alleluia)**

**CANTICLE OF ZACHARY**

Lk 1: 68-79

*The Messiah and his forerunner*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
for he has visited and brought redemption to his people.  
He has raised up a horn for our salvation  
within the house of David his servant.

Even as he promised through the mouth  
of his holy prophets from of old:  
salvation from our enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate us.

To show mercy to our fathers  
and to be mindful of his holy covenant  
and of the oath he swore to Abraham our father,  
and to grant us that, rescued from the hand of enemies,  
without fear we might worship him  
in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

And you, child, will be called prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,  
to give his people knowledge of salvation  
through the forgiveness of their sins,  
because of the tender mercy of our God  
by which the daybreak from on high will visit us  
to shine on those who sit in darkness and death's shadow,  
to guide our feet into the path of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**BENEDICTUS**

Benedíctus Dóminus Deus Israel, \*  
quia visitávit et fecit redemptiónem plebis suae  
et eréxit cornu salútis nobis \*  
in domo David púeri sui,  
sicut locútus est per os sanctórum, \*  
qui a saéculo sunt, prophetarum eius.  
Salútem ex inimícis nostris \*  
et de manu ómnium, qui odérunt nos;  
ad faciéndam misericórdiam cum pátribus nostris \*  
et memorári testamenti sui sancti,  
iusiurandum, quod iurávit ad Abraham  
patrem nostrum, \*  
datúrum se nobis,  
ut sine timóre, de manu inimicorum

nostrorum liberáti, \*  
serviámus illi  
in sanctitáte et iustítia coram ipso \*  
ómnibus diébus nostris.  
Et tu, puer, prophéta Altissimi vocáberis: \*  
praeibis enim ante fáciem Dómini paráre vias eius,  
ad dandam scientiam salútis plebi eius, \*  
in remissionem peccatorum eorum.  
per víscera misericórdiae Dei nostri, \*  
in quibus visitavit nos oriens ex alto,  
iluminare his, qui in ténebris  
et in umbra mortis sedent, \*  
ad dirigéndos pedes nostros in viam pacis.

Glória Pátri, et Filio, \*  
et Spirítui Sáncto.  
Sicut érat in principio, et nunc, et sémpet, \*  
et in saécula saeculórum. Amen.

### **INTERCESSIONS**

While recalling the lessons of the life of Saint Benilde Romançon, let us lift our voices to the Lord in praise and trust:

#### **R) Let us pray the Lord**

Intercessions...

Our Father.

### **PRAYER**

O God, who inspired Saint Benilde Romançon to be an excellent educator who carried out his daily work to perfection, graciously grant that through his intercession and example, we too may be faithful to our vocation and attain perfect charity. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **EVENING PRAYER**

### **HYMN**

Jesus, reward and crown  
Of your faithful servants,  
Glorify your name.

Grant your Church,  
honoring Saint Benilde,  
the victory over evil.

By walking in your footsteps  
On the way of the cross,  
May your Church be pleasing to God.

Wise and vigilant,

Your Church proclaims the gospel  
in both word and deed.

On our way to the holy city,  
where you reign in glory,  
May your Church guide and protect us.

To you, Jesus Christ, be praise,  
and to the Father and the Spirit,  
forever and ever. Amen.

**1 Ant. God found him pure and strong; he will have everlasting glory. (T.P. Alleluia)**

### **PSALM 15**

Lord, who may abide in your tent?  
Who may dwell on your holy mountain?  
Whoever walks without blame, doing what is right,  
speaking truth from the heart;  
who does not slander a neighbor,

Does no harm to another,  
never defames a friend;  
who disdains the wicked,  
but honors those who fear the Lord;  
Who keeps an oath despite the cost,  
lends no money at interest,  
accepts no bribe against the innocent.

Whoever acts like this shall never be shaken.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**1 Ant. God found him pure and strong; he will have everlasting glory (T.P. Alleluia).**

**2 Ant. God's saints will be filled with his love and mercy; he watches over his chosen ones (T.P. Alleluia).**

### **PSALM 112**

Happy are those who fear the Lord,  
who greatly delight in God's commands.  
Their descendants shall be mighty in the land,  
a generation upright and blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in their homes;  
their prosperity shall endure forever.  
They shine through the darkness, a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful, and just.

All goes well for those gracious in lending,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.  
They shall never be shaken;

the just shall be remembered forever.

They shall not fear an ill report;  
their hearts are steadfast, trusting the Lord.  
Their hearts are tranquil, without fear,  
till at last they look down on their foes.

Lavishly they give to the poor;  
their prosperity shall endure forever;  
their horn shall be exalted in honor.

The wicked shall be angry to see this;  
they will gnash their teeth and waste away;  
the desires of the wicked come to nothing.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**2 Ant. God's saints will be filled with his love and mercy; he watches over his chosen ones.  
(T.P.Alleluia)**

**3 Ant. The whole earth echoes with the melody of heaven where the saints are singing before  
the throne of God and the Lamb. (T.P.Alleluia)**

#### **CANTICLE**

*Revelation 15:3-4*

Great and wonderful are your works,  
Lord God Almighty.  
Just and true are your ways,  
O King of the nations.

Who will not fear you, Lord,  
or glorify your name?  
For you alone are holy.  
All the nations will come  
and worship before you,  
for your righteous acts have been revealed.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**3 Ant. The whole earth echoes with the melody of heaven where the saints are singing before  
the throne of God and the Lamb. (T.P.Alleluia)**

#### **READING**

*Colossians 1:23*

You must persevere in the faith, firmly grounded, stable, and not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been preached to every creature under heaven.

#### **RESPONSORY**

**R/.** Your word, O Lord, \* shall last forever.  
Your word, O Lord, shall last forever.

**V/.** Your faithfulness for every generation,

**\*** shall last forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
Your word, O Lord, shall last forever.

**Ant. Magn.** The greatest among you shall become your servant, says the Lord. **(T.P. Alleluia)**

### **CANTICLE OF MARY**

Lk 1: 46-55

*Rejoicing in the spirit of the Lord*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.  
For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness;  
behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.

The Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
His mercy is from age to age  
to those who fear him.

He has shown might with his arm,  
dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart.  
He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones  
but lifted up the lowly.

The hungry he has filled with good things;  
the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has helped Israel his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
according to his promise to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

### MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat \*

ánima mea Dóminum,  
et exultávit spíritus meus \*  
in Deo salutári meo,  
quia respéxit humilitatem ancíllae suae, \*  
ecce enim ex hoc beátam me dicent  
omnes generátiones,  
quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est, \*  
et sanctum nomen eius,  
et misericordia eius a progénie in progénies \*  
timéntibus eum.  
Fecit poténtiam in bráchio suo, \*  
dispérsit supérbos mente cordis sui;  
depósuit poténtes de sede \*  
et exaltávit húmiles;  
esuriéntes implévit bonis \*

et dívites dimísit inánes.  
Suscépit Israel, púerum suum, \*  
recordátus misericórdiae suae,  
sicut locútus est ad patres nostros \*  
Abraham et sémini eius in saécula.  
Gloria Patri et Filio, \*  
et Spiritui Sancto.  
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, \*  
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

### **INTERCESSIONS**

Jesus, our Lord and master, sought to make himself a servant in the midst of his disciples. Let us ask him for the help to follow his example in dealing with one another:

**R) Give us your Spirit, Lord Jesus.**

Intercessions...

Our Father.

### **PRAYER**

O God, who inspired Saint Benilde Romançon to be an excellent educator who carried out his daily work to perfection, graciously grant that through his intercession and example, we too may be faithful to our vocation and attain perfect charity. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.