

A Synaxis of Latin Saints (Plain Reading)

October 19th

On October 19th we commemorate Saint Frideswide. Daughter of a prince of the Upper Thames, she founded a convent dedicated to the Virgin on the site of what is now Christchurch in Oxford. From childhood she took as her maxim 'Whatever is not God is nothing'. She is the patron-saint of Oxford.

Verses

On this day we commemorate Saint Ptolemy and Saint Lucius the Martyrs. Together the two saints were martyrs in Rome under Antoninus Pius. Ptolemy was put to death for instructing a woman in the Orthodox Faith. One Lucius and an unnamed man protested against the injustice of the sentence and were also martyred. Their story was written down by St Justin Martyr, their contemporary.

On this day we commemorate Saint Ethbin. Born in Britain, he was a disciple of St Samson in Brittany. Ordained deacon, he served at the monastery of Taurac until it was destroyed by the Franks. He then went to Ireland and led the life of a hermit near Kildare.

On this day we commemorate Saint Eadnoth the Younger, the Abbot of Ramsey and Bishop of Dorchester in England. He was given the crown of martyrdom in 1016 during an invasion of the Danes.

On this day we commemorate Saint Laura the Martyr of Cordoba. When she became a widow, she took on the monastic habit and lived a life of ascetism. The Saracens in Spain tortured her and then, when she refused to give up the faith, sent her to be martyred in a cauldron of molten lead.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.