

27 July

SAINT TITUS BRANDSMA

Priest and Martyr

Born in Bolsward (The Netherlands) in 1881, Saint Titus Brandsma joined the Carmelite Order as a young man. Ordained a priest in 1905, he earned a doctorate in philosophy in Rome.

He then taught in various schools in Holland and was named professor of philosophy and of the history of mysticism in the Catholic University of Nijmegen, where he also served as Rector Magnificus. He was noted for his constant availability to everyone.

He was a professional journalist, and in 1935 he was appointed ecclesiastical advisor to Catholic journalists. Both before and during the Nazi occupation of The Netherlands he fought, faithful to the Gospel, against the spread of Nazi ideology and for the freedom of Catholic education and of the Catholic press. For this he was arrested and sent to a succession of prisons and concentration camps where he brought comfort and peace to his fellow prisoners and did good even to his tormentors.

In 1942, after much suffering and humiliation, he was killed at Dachau Concentration Camp. He was beatified by Pope Saint John Paul II on 3 November 1985 and canonised by Pope Francis on 15 May 2022.



Entrance Antiphon

Greater love has no one than to lay down his life
for his friends, says the Lord. *Jn 15: 13*

**Alternative:* The salvation of the just comes from the
Lord. He is their strength in time of need. *Ps 36:39*

Collect

Lord our God, source and giver of life,
you gave to Saint Titus
the Spirit of courage to proclaim human dignity
and the freedom of the Church even in the
throes of degrading persecution and death.

Grant us that same Spirit so that in the coming
of your kingdom of justice and peace
we might never be ashamed of the Gospel
but be enabled to recognise your loving-kindness
in all the events of our lives.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God,
for ever and ever. Amen.



Learn more about St Titus Brandsma at
carmelites.org.au/titusbrandsma

First Reading

(2 Timothy 2:3-13)

A reading from the second letter of St Paul
to Timothy

Put up with your share of difficulties, like a good
soldier of Christ Jesus. In the army, no soldier
gets himself mixed up in civilian life, because he
must be at the disposal of the man who enlisted
him; or take an athlete—he cannot win any crown
unless he has kept all the rules of the contest; and
again, it is the working farmer who has the first
claim on any crop that is harvested. Think over
what I have said, and the Lord will show you
how to understand it all.

Remember the Good News that I carry, Jesus
Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of
David; it is on account of this that I have my
own hardships to bear, even to being chained
like a criminal—but they cannot chain up God's
news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are
chosen, so that in the end they may have the
salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal
glory that comes with it.

Here is a saying that you can rely on:

If we have died with him,
then we shall live with him.

If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.

If we disown him, then he will disown us.
We may be unfaithful, but he is always
faithful for he cannot disown his own self.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 17:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 (R.2 Mc. 1:17)

℟ Blessed in all things be our God.

I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. **℟**

The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. **℟**

The waves of death rose about me;
the torrents of destruction assailed me;
the snares of the grave entangled me;
the traps of death confronted me. **℟**

In my anguish I called to the Lord;
I cried to my God for help.
From his temple he heard my voice;
my cry came to his ears. **℟**

Gospel Acclamation

(1 Cor 1:18)

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The language of the cross may be illogical
to those who are not on the way to salvation,
but those of us who are on the way
see it as God's power to save.

Alleluia!

Gospel

(Luke 6:27-36)

Jesus said to his disciples: I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love

your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Sanctify our offerings by your blessing,
O Lord, we pray,
and by your grace may we be set afire
with that flame of your love through which
Saint Titus overcame every bodily torment.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Alternative:* Lord, accept these gifts we present in memory of Saint Titus, for no temptation could turn him away from you. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Preface of Martyrs II

Communion Antiphon

Whoever wishes to come after me, must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me,
says the Lord. *cf. Mt 16:24*

**Alternative:* I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord; he who lives in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit. *Jn 15:5*

Prayer after Communion

May the sacred mysteries of which we have partaken,
O Lord, we pray,
give us that determination
which made your blessed Martyr Titus
faithful in your service and victorious in suffering.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Alternative:* Lord, we are renewed by the mystery of the Eucharist. By imitating the fidelity of Blessed Titus and by our patience may we come to share the eternal life you have promised. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.

**Study text, The Carmelite Sacramentary,
North American Carmelite Conference.*

