

Gregorian Hymn for the Feast of Saint Peter and Paul

June 29 : Saint Peter and Saint Paul. 1243

On Sunday the Postcommunion of the Sunday is added and its Gospel read as Last Gospel.

AT SECOND VESPERS.

[Where St Paul is not the titular of the Church.]

Antiphons and Psalms of II Vespers of the Common of Apostles. p. 1596.

Chapter.

Misit Heródes rex manus, ut affligeret quosdam de Ecclésia. † Occidit autem Jacóbum fratrem Joánnis gládio. * Videns autem quia placéret Judaéis, appósuit ut apprehénderet et Petrum.

Herod the king stretched forth his hands to afflict some of the Church: and he killed James, the brother of John, with the sword; and seeing that it pleased the Jews he proceeded to take up Peter also.

This Hymn is commonly ascribed to Elpis. She died about 493. The primitive version, that begins : *Aurea luce et decore roseo*, was considerably altered in XVII century.

Hymn. I

DE-córa lux aeterni-tá-tis áu-

re- am Dí-em be-á-tis irrigávit

ignibus, Aposto-ló-rum quae coronat

Príncipes, Re-ísque in ástra liberam pándit ví-am.

2. Múndi Magíster, atque caé-li Jáni-tor, Rómae pa-

1. The beauteous beams of heavenly light display their lambent fires, and gild the rising day whereon the Princes of Apostles crowned ascend their thrones, and acts of grace abound.

2. Heaven's sacred porter, and the Gentiles' light, Rome's better parents, equal

1244 Proper of the Saints.

rén-tes, arbitríque génti-um, Per én-

sis il-le, hic per crúcis víctor nécem

Vítæ sená-tum laure-á-ti póssident.

3. O Róma fé-lix, quae du-ó-rum Prín-

ci-pum Es con-secrá-ta glo-ri-ó-

so sángine : Hórum cru-ó-re purpurá-ta cé-teras Ex-

cél-lis ór-bis úna pulchri-túdines. 4. Sit Trini-tá-ti

sempi-térna gló-ri-a, Hónor, po-té-stas, atque jubi-lá-

ti-o, In u-ni-tá-te quae gubérnat ómni-a, Per u-ni-

vér-sa aeterni-tá-tis saécu-la. Amen.

deaths unite; and both to-day from fields of blood arise to take possession of the conquered skies.

3. O happy Rome, whose streams of princely blood prevail beyond the fame of Tiber's flood! Your sacred urns outshine the heathen pride and all the cities of the world beside.

4. To God, in nature one, in persons three, eternal glory, power and jubilee, whose sovereign sway and universal throne disposes all things with his word alone.

Trans. W. Shewring, by permission.