# PROPER CALENDAR
# OF THE PIOUS SOCIETY OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
# FOR THE FOREIGN MISSIONS
# (XAVERIAN MISSIONARIES)

## NOVEMBER

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | SAINT GUIDO MARIA CONFORTI,<br>BISHOP AND FOUNDER | Solemnity |
| 28 | *Blessed Giovanni Didonè, Presbyiter and Companions, Martyrs*[*] | |

## DECEMBER

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER, PRESBYITER<br>(Patronal Feastday of the Institute) | Solemnity |

[*] When the degree of celebration is not indicated, it is an Optional Memorial.

# PROPER
# OF THE MASSES

28 November

## Blessed Giovanni Didonè, Presbyiter, and Companions, Martyrs

Giovanni Didonè (Cusinati di Rosà, March 18, 1930 – Fizi, Congo DR, November 28, 1964) was a priest, a Xaverian missionary, sent to the diocese of Uvira in Congo in 1959 and the first superior of the parish of Fizi. In the complex situation of the Simba rebellion and in front of a group that persecuted the Christian faith, he bore witness to the primacy of the Gospel with the sacrifice of his life. He died next to Albert Joubert (Saint Louis de Mrumbi, November 21, 1908), a Congolese priest killed a few moments later. Thirty kilometers away, on the same day, two other Xaverian missionaries were killed in Baraka, Father Luigi Carrara (Cornale di Pradalunga, March 3, 1933) and Brother Vittorio Faccin (Villaverla, January 4, 1934). The killers thus eliminated two communities of consecrated people: shepherds according to the heart of Christ, zealous in charity, and in the proclamation of the Gospel, who did not abandon the flock in danger but defended it to the point of shedding their blood.

From the Common of Martyrs.

### Collect

O God, shepherd of souls and savior of your people,
who filled blessed Giovanni, presbyter, and his companions, fraternally united in martyrdom,
with zeal and faithful love,
grant, we pray, through their intercession,
that we may also adhere faithfully to Christ
and work in your Church
for the salvation of our brothers and sisters.
Through our Lord…

# READINGS

From: New American Bible (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) 2011

28 NOVEMBER

*Blessed Giovanni Didonè*
*Presbyiter*
*and Companions*
*Martyrs*

FIRST READING

*He accepted them like an entirely burned offering*

**A reading from the book of Wisdom**
*3: 1-9*

**The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,**
**and no torment shall touch them.**
**They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;**
**and their passing away was thought an affliction**
**and their going forth from us, utter destruction.**
**But they are in peace.**
**For if to others, indeed, they seem punished,**
**yet is their hope full of immortality;**

**Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,**
**because God tried them**
**and found them worthy of himself.**
**As gold in the furnace, he proved them,**
**and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.**
**In the time of their judgment* they shall shine**
**and dart about as sparks through stubble;**
**They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,**
**and the LORD shall be their King forever.**

**Those who trust in him shall understand truth,**
**and the faithful shall abide with him in love:**
**Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,**
**and his care is with the elect.**

**The word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*From Psalm 30 (31)*

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℟. **Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

**I n you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;**
**let me never be put to shame;**
**deliver me in your righteousness.**
**Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.** ℟.

**Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,**
**for you are my crag and my stronghold;**
**for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.** ℟.

**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,**
**for you are my tower of strength.**
**Into your hands I commend my spirit,**
**for you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.** ℟.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*James 1, 12*

℟. **Alleluia, alleluia**

**Blessed is the man who perseveres in temptation,**
**for when he has been proved he will receive the crown of life.**
℟. **Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL

*If the grain of wheat dies, it produces much fruit.*

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**
*12: 24-26*

**Jesus said to his disciples:**

**« Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.**

**Whoever loves his life* loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life.**

**Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me ».**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**