

Rogate

Rogate comes from the Latin *rogare* which means “to ask,” a reference to the strong theme of prayer in the Propers for today. In ancient practice, the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday prior to the Ascension of our Lord were known as Rogation Days. These days of early summer were times of special prayer for the protection of the crops. The Major Rogation was on April 25th, also the Feast of St. Mark. The rite used in the ancient church was derived from the litanies of St. Mamertus of Vienne (d. 470), when that region (then called Gaul) was threatened by volcanic activity. The Introit for Rogate, “With the voice of singing declare ye, and tell this: utter it even to the end of the earth...” is taken from Isaiah 48:20, a joyful proclamation of the freedom of Israel from Babylonian captivity, and of God’s gracious deliverance of His people. The Gospel reading appointed for Rogate, like those for Cantate and Jubilate, all point to the Ascension of our Lord, and hence point the eyes of the faithful to our risen Lord’s eternal reign in heaven.

Cover Art – *David at Prayer*

An illumination introducing the penitential Psalms
from the Glasgow Book of Hours prayer book

Printed in north-east France, c. 1460.

In the collection of the Glasgow University Library, Special Collections

The Latin reads “*Domine ne in furore tuo arguas me
neque in ira tua corripas me*”, Psalm 6 verse 2,
“*O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger,
Nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure.*”



**The Fifth Sunday
After Easter**