

February 7

Anniversary of Deceased Parents of Dominicans

The Libera and special prayers are said on this day for the deceased parents of Dominicans.

The Libera Me ("Deliver me") is a responsory sung in the Office of the Dead. This text asks God to have mercy upon the deceased person at the Last Judgment.

Deliver me, O Lord, from death eternal on that fearful day,  
When the heavens and the earth shall be moved,  
When thou shalt come to judge the world by fire.

I am made to tremble, and I fear, till the judgment be upon us, and the coming wrath,  
When the heavens and the earth shall be moved.

That day, day of wrath, calamity and misery, day of great and exceeding bitterness,  
When thou shalt come to judge the world by fire.

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them.

The responsory is begun by a cantor, who sings the [versicles](#) alone, and the responses are sung by the choir. The text is written in the [first-person singular](#), "Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death on that fearful day", a dramatic substitution in which the choir speaks for the dead person.<sup>[2]</sup>

In the traditional Office, "Libera me" is also said on [All Souls' Day](#) (2 November) and whenever all three [nocturns](#) of [Matins](#) of the Dead are recited. On other occasions, the ninth responsory of Matins for the Dead begins with *Libera me*, but continues with a different text