

many severe afflictions completed the crucifixion of the old man in his heart. The same all the saints assure us by their own example. But in the divine love they found a recompense, which richly paid them for all its cost, this love being its own present reward, as it is a fire which is its own fuel.

ST. CHRYSOGONUS, M.

THE name of this holy martyr, who was apprehended at Rome, but beheaded at Aquileia in the persecution of Dioclesian, occurs in the canon of the mass, and is mentioned in the ancient Calendar of Carthage of the fifth century,¹ and in all Western martyrologies since that time. The church in Rome of which he is titular saint, is mentioned in a council held by pope Symmachus, and in the epistles of St. Gregory the Great; it gives title to a cardinal priest. The head of St. Chrysogonus is shown there in a rich case; but his body is at Venice.

SS. FLORA AND MARY, VV. MM.

IN the reign of Abderramene II. king of the Saracens at Cordova in Spain, Flora, because she was of Mahometan extraction by her father, but had been secretly instructed in the faith by her mother, was impeached by her own brother before the *cadi*, or judge of the city. This magistrate caused her to be scourged, and beaten on the head till in some parts her skull was bare. Then he put her into the hands of her brother that he might overcome her resolution. After some time she made her escape over a high wall, and took shelter with a sister at Ossaria. Having lain concealed some time, she ventured back to

¹ Ap. Mabil, Annal. t, 3. p. 417,

Cordova, and prayed publicly in the church of St. Aciclus the martyr. There she met with Mary, sister to the deacon Valabonsus, who had lately received the crown of martyrdom. The zealous virgins agreed to present themselves in the court of the cadì, by whose order they were apprehended, and confined to a close dungeon, where no one had access to them, but certain impious lewd women. St. Eulogius, who was at that time detained in another prison, wrote and sent to them his Exhortation to Martyrdom. After a third examination the cadì commanded them both to be beheaded. The sentence was executed on the same day, the 24th of November, in 851. They are named in the Roman Martyrology.

See St. Eulogius, Memor. l. 2. c. 8.

SAINT CIANAN OR KENAN,

BISHOP OF DULEEK, IN IRELAND.

ACCORDING to his Acts quoted by Usher, he was a pupil of the religious man, Nathan; and, when a youth, was one of the fifty hostages whom the princes of Ireland gave to king Leogair, by whom he was set free at the intercession of bishop Kiaran. He then went into France, and passed some time with great fervour at Tours in the monastery of St. Martin. Returning to his native country, he converted great numbers to Christianity in Connaught. Thence he proceeded to Leinster, and founded a church in a place called to this day *The wood of Cianan*. At length he went into the territory of Owen, (that is, Tir-oen,) so called from king Owen, whose niece, Ethne, was St. Cianan's mother. There he broke down an idol with an altar that was dedicated to it, and on the place built a Christian church. In the office of St. Cianan