



NAAS, SALLINS &  
TWO MILE HOUSE  
PARISHES



*Pastoral Pack for the Third Week of Easter*  
*Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2020*

# *A Word from Fr. Liam*

## A FAMILIAR SONG!

While a curate in Carlow, some Sundays would take me out for Mass at 11am to a small country church on the edge of Carlow Town. Over a ten year period of ministering in Bennekerry I could safely say that I knew almost everyone by first name in the congregation. That familiarity brought a unique closeness, indeed an affection. On Sundays, after Mass I would stand at the door of the church and impart a fond farewell to each person as they left the Church. Light-hearted banter was often mingled with news of a sick relative or some particular worry or concern discreetly shared.



The memory of one parishioner continues to be somehow etched upon my memory. No real reason, except that he always exuded warmth and friendliness, always the kind, affirming, and encouraging word. One of those people where you feel blessed by the encounter, by the crossing of life's paths. His name was Séan. Sadly on the 1st May 2014, Séan lost his life in a freak and tragic farmyard accident. In the sorrow filled days that followed; both shock and tear-filled memory fused uneasily together. Over those days his family frequently mentioned Séan's deep love for the month of May and most especially as a farmer, for the First Day of May. Now, each year as the first day of May dawns, I think of Séan! And I think too of that much loved hymn to Mary: 'The Queen of the May'.



Thankfully, RTE presenters, following tradition created by Uncle Gaybo (God rest him) still generously respond to the radio listenership clamour, to play yet again the Canon Sydney MacEwan famed song. This first day of May, Month of Mary, we place all our loved ones; living and deceased under her maternal mantle of care and protection. And so, with full hearts swelling and with glad voices telling... we'll sing:

*'O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today.  
Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May'*

# The Month of May

The close of this week will introduce the month of May, the month when Catholics traditionally focus on Mary, the Mother of Jesus. The practice dates back at least 700 years and is still observed around the world today. May is seen as the beginning of new life and the start of summer, which makes this a logical time for the celebrations of Mary, who brought life into the world. This month of devotions in the church calendar is characterised by special hymns and the use of flowers, which bring nature into the church. There are several Marian feast days in May, including Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The celebration of May as a holy month for Mary has been ratified by several popes through the ages. Pope Benedict XV ordered a prayer for peace in 1915 during World War I and Pope Pius XII called for May devotions in 1939, at the start of World War II.

In this current time of worry and difficulty several Bishops conferences throughout the world have called for the consecration of their nations to the Immaculate Heart of Mary to invoke her special protection and her maternal intercession for the protection and wellbeing of all.



# *Letter from Pope Francis – May 2020*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020 - Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist

Pope Francis

## *First Prayer*

O Mary,

You shine continuously on our journey  
as a sign of salvation and hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who, at the foot of the cross,  
were united with Jesus’ suffering,  
and persevered in your faith.

“Protectress of the Roman people”,  
you know our needs,  
and we know that you will provide,  
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,  
joy and celebration may return  
after this time of trial.



Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father  
and to do what Jesus tells us.  
For he took upon himself our suffering,  
and burdened himself with our sorrows  
to bring us, through the cross,  
to the joy of the Resurrection.  
Amen.

*We fly to your protection,  
O Holy Mother of God;  
Do not despise our petitions  
in our necessities,  
but deliver us always  
from every danger,  
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*



### *Second Prayer*

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

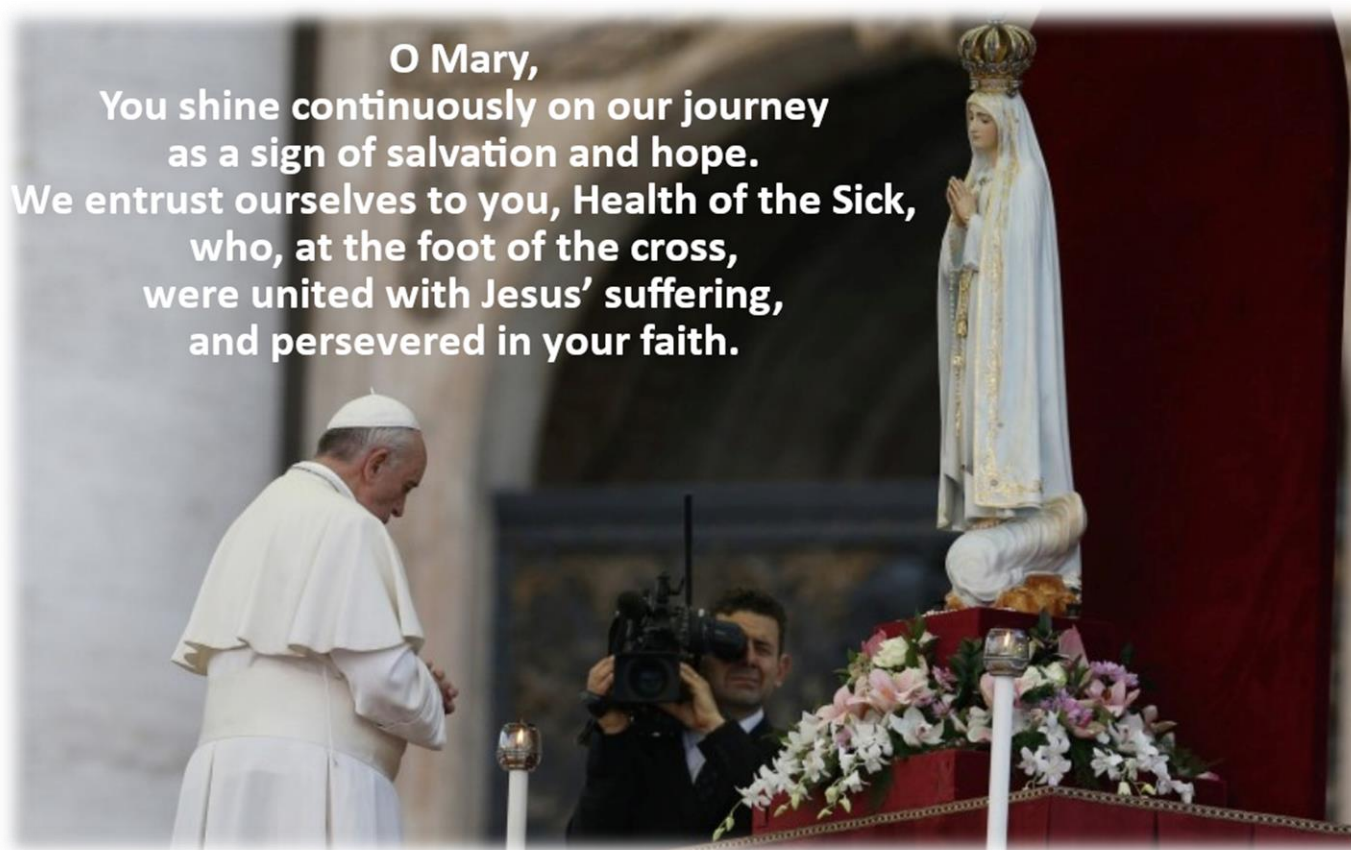
Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.



# *Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020*

Sunday is the Sabbath and keeping it sacred through Mass and prayer (and refraining from unnecessary servile work) is how we keep the Third Commandment. But Sunday is also special because it is the day of the week dedicated to the Holy Trinity and the Resurrection. So along with going to Mass on Sundays, may we take the time to pray the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, with particular attention to the mystery of the Resurrection and perhaps pray this very inspiring prayer to the Holy Trinity, which reminds us:

“Thy holy Name was invoked over my cradle to be my profession of faith, my plan of action, and the only goal of my earthly pilgrimage; grant, O most Holy Trinity, that I may ever be inspired by this faith, and may carry out this plan with perseverance, so that, when I have reached the end of my journey upon earth, I may be able to fix my gaze upon the blessed splendours of Thy glory. Amen.”

## *A Prayer to the Holy Trinity*



Glory be to the Father, Who by His almighty power and love created me, making me in the image and likeness of God.

Glory be to the Son, Who by His Precious Blood delivered me from hell, and opened for me the gates of heaven.

Glory be to the Holy Spirit, Who has sanctified me in the sacrament of Baptism, and continues to sanctify me by the graces I receive daily from His bounty.

Glory be to the Three adorable Persons of the Holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

It is customary to pray the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary on Sundays.

1. The Resurrection of the Lord
2. The Ascension of the Lord
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit Upon the Infant Church
4. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven
5. The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin as Queen of Heaven and Earth



*Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020*

In our Catholic tradition, Mondays are devoted to **the Holy Spirit**, and the **souls in Purgatory**. It is great to begin the work week with extra devotion to the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Trinity to whom we pray for enlightenment, for wisdom, for the right words to help others. We ask the Holy Spirit to work through us over the course of the day and remind us we are instruments, not the ultimate Music-Maker, and the good things that come forth from us are all led by the Holy Spirit. What a hopeful way to start the work week and enter the secular world again after the peace and sanctity of Sunday!

Monday is also the day when the Novena prayers in honour of **Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal**. The Miraculous Medal, originally known as the medal of the Immaculate Conception, was shown to Saint Catherine Labouré on November 27, 1830 by the Blessed Virgin Mary. Catherine saw Our Lady standing on a globe, with Brilliant rays of light streaming down from her outstretched fingers. Around the figure was the inscription: O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Mary instructed Catherine: "Have a medal struck upon this model. Those who wear it will receive great graces, especially if they wear it around the neck."

On the reverse she was shown the letter M with a cross monogram, below it was the Sacred Heart of Jesus crowned with thorns, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary pierced with a sword. The medals were first made and distributed in Paris in 1832, upon approval by the Catholic Church. Almost immediately many blessings were bestowed upon wearers of the medal, just as Mary had promised. Use of the medal today is worldwide, and the stories of the blessings continue to be spread.



## *A Prayer to the Holy Spirit by St. Augustine*



Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.  
Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.  
Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy.  
Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy.  
Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy.

## *A Prayer for the Holy Souls*

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

## *Novena Prayer in Honour of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal*

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray: O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Spirit we may be truly wise, and ever rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, who has glorified your mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, immaculate from the first moment of her conception, grant that all who devoutly implore her protection on earth may eternally enjoy your presence in heaven. Lord Jesus Christ, who for the accomplishment of your greatest works have chosen the weak things of the world, that no flesh may glory in your sight, and who for a better and more widely diffused belief in the Immaculate Conception of your Mother, have wished that the Miraculous

Medal be manifested to Saint Catherine Labouré, grant, we ask you that filled with like humility, we may glorify this mystery by word and work. Amen.



## *Novena Prayer*

Immaculate Virgin Mary, mother of our Lord Jesus and our mother, we have confidence in your powerful and never-failing intercession, manifested often through the Miraculous Medal. We your loving and trustful children, ask you to obtain for us the graces and favours we ask during this novena if they will be for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. (Here privately form your petitions.) You know, O Mary, how often our souls have been the sanctuaries of your Son who hates iniquity. Obtain for us then a deep hatred of sin and that purity of heart which will attach us to God alone so that our every thought, word, and deed may tend to his greater glory. Obtain for us also a spirit of prayer and self-denial that we may recover by penance what we have lost by sin and at length attain to that blessed abode where you are the queen of angels and of men. Amen.



### *Prayer to our Lady of the Miraculous Medal*

Leader and People: Virgin Mother of God, Mary Immaculate, we unite ourselves to you under your title of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. May this medal be for each one of us a sure sign of your motherly affection for us and a constant reminder of our filial duties towards you. While wearing it, may we be blessed by your loving protection and preserved in the grace of your Son. Most powerful Virgin, Mother of our Saviour, keep us close to you every moment of our lives so that like you we may live and act according to the teaching and example of your Son. Obtain for us, your children, the grace of a happy death so that in union with you we may enjoy the happiness of heaven forever. Amen.

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.

It is customary to pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary on Mondays.

1. The Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary
2. The Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth
3. The Birth of Christ
4. The Presentation of the Christ Child in the Temple
5. The Finding of the Christ Child in the Temple



## *Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020*

Tuesday is the day to honour **the Holy Face of Jesus**. “I firmly wish that My Face reflecting the intimate pains of My Soul, the suffering and love of My Heart, be more honoured,” Blessed Maria Pierina was told by Jesus. It is an especially great day to try to assist at daily Mass, with the intention of making special reparation to the Holy Face, and to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, where the Holy Face is present.



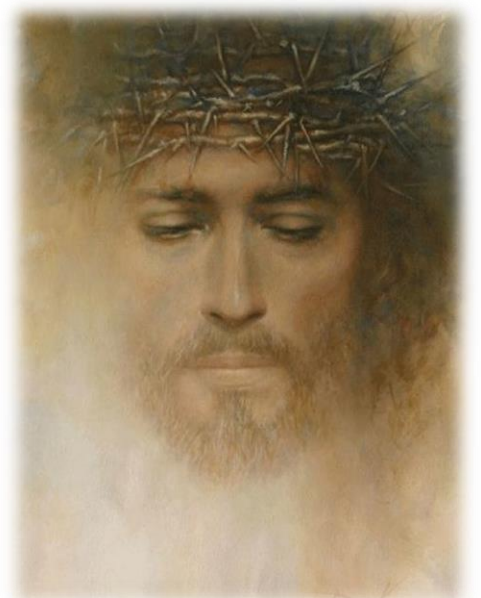
In our Catholic tradition, Tuesdays are also appointed for extra devotions to **the Angels**. From the Catechism of the Catholic Church: “From infancy to death, human life is surrounded by their (the angels) watchful care and intercession. Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life. Already here on earth the Christian life shares by faith in the blessed company of angels and men united to God (CCC #336).”

Some also dedicate Tuesdays to **the Apostles**. And here is one idea for making Tuesdays special for the children in your family. Find a small box and fill it with post-it size pieces of paper with the names of each of the archangels (Michael, Gabriel, Raphael) and apostles (include St. Paul; although not one of the original twelve, he is referred to as an apostle, and don't forget to include St. Matthias who took the place of Judas the Betrayer). This box can be as elaborate or as simple as you like. Call it “The Angels & Apostles Box.” Make it a Tuesday tradition that at dinner, one member of the family gets to pick out which angel or apostle will be invoked in prayer as part of your grace before meals.

Unofficially, Tuesday is also a common day to honour **St. Anthony of Padua**, (since many miracles occurred the Tuesday after his death) especially through prayer or a novena.

### *Prayer of St. Therese to the Holy Face of Jesus*

Jesus! Thy dear and holy Face  
Is the bright star that guides my way;  
Thy gentle glance, so full of grace,  
Is my true heaven on earth, today.  
My love finds out the holy charm  
Of Thy dear eyes with tear drops wet;  
Through mine own tears I smile at Thee,  
And in Thy griefs my pains forget.  
So, in the secret of Thy Face,  
Oh! hide me, hide me, Jesus blest!  
There let me find its hidden grace,  
Its holy fires, and, in heaven's rest,  
Its rapturous kiss, in Thy embrace!



## *Prayer to my Guardian Angel*

O Angel of God, my guardian dear to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day (night) be at my side, to light and guard to rule and guide. Amen.

## *Prayer to All the Saints*

God our Father, You have given the saints in heaven eternal happiness and they now live in the fullness of your glory. Because of their holy love for you, they also care about me and my family, my friends, my church, and my neighbours. Thank you for the gift of their friendship and the witness of their holy lives. I ask our patron saints and every saint who has become especially dear to me to intercede for us. I ask them to help us journey safely on the narrow path that leads to heaven. O Lord, give us their protection. Grant us their assistance in overcoming temptation and gaining the fullness of life with you. Amen.

## *Tuesday Novena Prayer to St Anthony*

O wonderful St. Anthony, glorious on account of the fame of your miracles, and through the condescension of Jesus in coming in the form of a little child to rest in your arms, obtain for me of His bounty the grace which I ardently desire from the depths of my heart . (State your intention).



You who were so compassionate toward miserable sinners, regard not the unworthiness of those who pray to you, but the glory of God that it may once again be magnified by the granting of the particular request (State your intention) which I now ask for with persevering earnestness. Amen

Pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and Glory Be to the Father, in honour of Saint Anthony.

Saint Anthony, pray for us!

It is customary to pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary on Tuesdays.

1. The Agony of Jesus in the Garden
2. The Scourging of Jesus at the Pilar
3. The Crowning of Jesus with Thorns
4. The Crucifixion of Jesus
5. The Death of Jesus on the Cross



## Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020

In our Catholic tradition, Wednesday is the day of the week devoted to St. Joseph. The steady centre of the Holy Family, this saint is the patron saint of workers, families, homes, and a happy death. Here are a few suggestions for how to make a run-of-the-mill Wednesday more special by honouring St. Joseph:

- send prayers, a Mass card or devotional to the dying, or someone who is elderly
- drop off a meal to a caregiver
- send extra love to your own father
- give alms to a charity that assists the dying, gives aid to families, or helps children
- take a few minutes to educate yourself on the Church's teaching about death and dying



The more one learns of the sacrifices of parenthood and family life, the more one marvels at how St. Joseph took such good care of Jesus and Mary. The more one sees of mortality and the worries of life, the more one is drawn to this humble saint who often found sacred answers to problems through the trusting state of sleep. What better saint for us to trust with our worries?

Even other saints have found comfort in Christ's earthly father. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote of St. Joseph, "our holy patron St. Joseph has the power to assist us in all cases, in every necessity, in every undertaking." And St. Teresa of Avila wrote of St. Joseph, "Our Lord would have us understand that as He was subject to St. Joseph on earth — for St. Joseph, bearing the title of father and being His guardian, could command Him — so now in Heaven Our Lord grants all his petitions." Pope St. John XXIII simply wrote "Go to Joseph".

### *A Prayer of St. Joseph*

O blessed Joseph, faithful guardian of my Redeemer, Jesus Christ, protector of your chaste spouse, the virgin Mother of God, I choose you this day to be my special patron and advocate and I firmly resolve to honour you all the days of my life. Therefore I humbly beseech you to receive me as your client, to instruct me in every doubt, to comfort me in every affliction, to obtain for me and for all the knowledge and love of the Heart of Jesus, and finally to defend and protect me at the hour of my death. Amen.

It is customary to pray the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary on Wednesdays.

1. The Resurrection of the Lord
2. The Ascension of the Lord
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit Upon the Infant Church
4. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven
5. The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin as Queen of Heaven and Earth



## Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Thursday is the day of the week in the Catholic Church devoted to **the Holy Eucharist**. To remember and live out Thursday's greater meaning, we can try to attend daily Mass. Another option is to spend an hour in Eucharistic Adoration, known as a "Holy Hour," as an act of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Also, a traditional prayer said after receiving Communion is the Anima Christi and even if you can't make it to Mass on Thursday, this is a great prayer to remember that Jesus is present "in body and blood, soul and divinity" in the Most Blessed Sacrament.



It was a Thursday night that Jesus instituted the Eucharist and shared a luminous Passover with his apostles, and it was also the agonizing night in the garden of Gethsemane. Whatever hardship you might be going through, you have only to recall the Agony in the Garden and Christ's friends denying him, betraying him, and falling asleep ... and you should be able to find great strength to get through the rest of your day or night! Finally, Eucharist means Thanksgiving, so bring a spirit of thanks to the whole of Thursday. Perhaps at dinner, or whenever you are around the table with the family, each of you might name something you are particularly grateful for as part of grace before your meal.

### *Act of Spiritual Communion*

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### *The Anima Christi*

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesus, hear me. Within Thy wounds hide me. Separated from Thee let me never be. From the malignant enemy, defend me. At the hour of death, call me. And close to Thee bid me. That with Thy saints I may be Praising Thee, forever and ever. Amen.

It is customary to pray the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary on Thursdays.

1. The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan
2. The Wedding Feast at Cana
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom and the call to Repentance
4. The Ascension of Jesus to Heaven
5. The Institution of the Eucharist



## *Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020*

In our Catholic Church, Fridays are devoted to the Passion of Jesus, Divine Mercy, and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Ideally, all Fridays, not just the ones in Lent, are meant to be days of some penance and sacrifice (unless it's a solemnity!), to better remember the sufferings of Christ. So here are a few possibilities and ideas of how to include that spirit in the day:

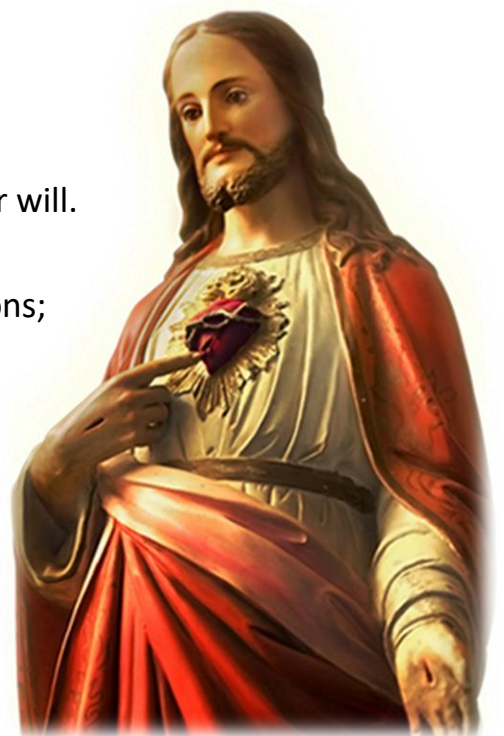
- Some Catholics choose to give up meat every Friday (and there really are so many great seafood, vegetable and pasta recipes!)
- The "First Fridays" devotion: going to Mass and making reparation to the Sacred Heart on the first Friday of the month for nine months in a row.
- Spending time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament
- Saying the Divine Mercy chaplet
- Saying a special Friday prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Since Friday is also dedicated to Divine Mercy, praying the Divine Mercy chaplet is an excellent devotion for the day. If you don't have time for the whole chaplet, just praying "For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world," whenever you need a boost or feel moved to offer praise during the day, is a great way to make your Friday more meaningful.

And remember, three o'clock in the afternoon is the most meaningful time to invoke Divine Mercy, as it is the exact time of Christ's death on the cross. In His revelations to St. Faustina, Jesus requested that His Passion be remembered at that hour. The Divine Mercy chaplet prayed at three o'clock on a Friday, the very day of the week He passed away, is all the more special.

### *Prayer to the Sacred Heart*

O most holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing,  
I adore you, I love you and will a lively sorrow for my sins.  
I offer you this poor heart of mine.  
Make me humble, patient, pure, and wholly obedient to your will.  
Grant, good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you.  
Protect me in the midst of danger; comfort me in my afflictions;  
give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs,  
your blessings on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death.  
Within your heart I place my every care.  
In every need let me come to you with humble trust saying,  
Heart of Jesus, help me.  
Amen.



## *The Three O'Clock Prayer*

You expired, O Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls and an ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us. O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You. Amen.



It is customary to pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary on Fridays.

1. The Agony of Jesus in the Garden
2. The Scourging of Jesus at the Pillar
3. The Crowning of Jesus with Thorns
4. The Crucifixion of Jesus
5. The Death of Jesus



## *Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2020*

Saturday is the day of the week our Catholic Church dedicates to the Blessed Virgin Mary, with a special focus on her Immaculate Heart.

On Saturdays, many Catholics make what is called the “First Saturdays Devotion,” which entails going to Mass and receiving Communion for the first Saturday of the month for five consecutive months in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, as Our Lady requested at Fatima. What better day indeed than Saturday to focus on Mary and let her prepare you for receiving her son either in the Eucharist, either on Saturday Vigil or on Sunday.



Saturdays are also, traditionally, the days Catholics go to Confession in preparation for receiving the Eucharist on Sundays. Many churches have Eucharistic Adoration available on Saturdays, to accompany confessions. Through going to Adoration on Saturday, we can deepen our bond with Mary and honour her through spending time with her son.

A fun way to make our domestic church reflective of Mary's glory on Saturdays? Why not start a new tradition of decorating the Saturday table with visuals to remember Our Lady? Try a blue tablecloth that is perhaps reserved just for this one day of the week: a cue to the family that it must be Our Lady's

day! Even a vase of blue flowers or a small statue of Mary in the centre with a lit candle would be a nice way to honour our mother.

### *Prayer Before Holy Communion*

Come, O blessed Saviour, and nourish my soul with heavenly Food, the Food which contains every sweetness and every delight.

Come, Bread of Angels, and satisfy the hunger of my soul.

Come, glowing Furnace of Charity and enkindle in my heart the flame of divine love.

Come, Light of the World, and enlighten the darkness of my mind.

Come, King of Kings, and make me obedient to your holy will.

Come, loving Saviour, and make me meek and humble.

Come, Friend of the Sick, and heal the infirmities of my body and the weakness of my soul.

Come, Good Shepherd, my God and my All, and take me to yourself.

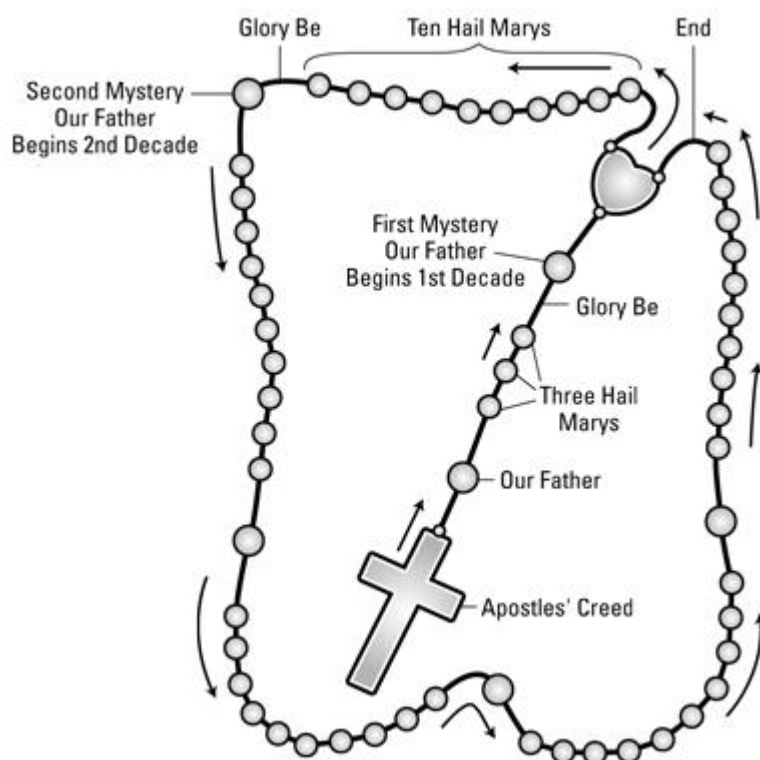
O most holy Mother, Mary Immaculate, prepare my heart to receive my Saviour. Amen.

It is customary to pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary on Saturdays.

# *How to Pray the Rosary*

Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, *"The rosary is the book of the blind, where souls see and there enact the greatest drama of love the world has ever known; it is the book of the simple, which initiates them into mysteries and knowledge more satisfying than the education of other men; it is the book of the aged, whose eyes close upon the shadow of this world, and open on the substance of the next. The power of the rosary is beyond description."*

While the rosary and the indulgences attached to it by the Church essentially concerns the decades and the meditation upon the mysteries only, the following is a customary way of preparing for the rosary and concluding it.



On the crucifix, make the **sign of the cross** and then pray the **Apostles' Creed**.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified; died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come

to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

On the next large bead, say **the Our Father**.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

On the following three small beads, pray **three Hail Marys**.

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

On the chain, pray the **Glory Be**.

Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

On the large bead, **meditate** on the **first mystery** and pray the Our Father.

You pray one mystery for each of the five sections (decades) of the rosary according to the day of the week:

Mondays and Saturdays:

The Joyful Mysteries remind the faithful of Christ's birth: The Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38); The Visitation (Luke 1:39–56); The Nativity (Luke 2:1–21); The Presentation (Luke 2:22–38); The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41–52)

Tuesdays and Fridays:

The Sorrowful Mysteries recall Jesus' passion and death: The Agony of Jesus in the Garden (Matthew 26:36–56); The Scouring at the Pillar (Matthew 27:26); The Crowning with Thorns (Matthew 27:27–31); The Carrying of the Cross (Matthew 27:32); The Crucifixion (Matthew 27:33–56).

Wednesdays and Sundays:

The Glorious Mysteries focus on the resurrection of Jesus and the glories of heaven: The Resurrection (John 20:1–29); The Ascension (Luke 24:36–53); The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1–41); The Assumption of Mary, the Mother of God, into heaven; The Coronation of Mary in heaven.

Thursdays:

Pope John Paul II added The Mysteries of Light, also known as the Luminous Mysteries, in 2002: The Baptism in the River Jordan (Matthew 3:13–16); The Wedding Feast at Cana (John 2:1–11); The Preaching of the coming of the Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14–15); The Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–8); The Institution of the Holy Eucharist (Matthew 26).

Skip the centre piece medal, and on the ten beads after that, pray a Hail Mary on each bead; on the chain, pray a Glory Be.

Many Catholics add the Fatima Prayer after the Glory Be and before the next Our Father as follows:

O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy. Amen.

Repeat Steps 5 and 6 four more times to finish the next four decades.

At the end of your Rosary, say the Hail Holy Queen.

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve, to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb Jesus, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

O God, whose only-begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal salvation; grant we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



## *How to Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet*



According to Faustina's visions, written in her diary, the chaplet's prayers for mercy are threefold: to obtain mercy, to trust in Christ's mercy, and to show mercy to others.[6][11][12] Faustina wrote that Jesus promised that all who recite this chaplet at the hour of death or in the presence of the dying will receive great mercy. She wrote that Jesus said:

"...When they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying not as the just judge but as the Merciful Saviour." The chaplet is prayed on ordinary rosary beads that are also used to pray the Rosary.

### Opening Prayer

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.[16] O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You![16]



The Eternal Father prayer opens each decade of the Chaplet:

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.[16]

The following prayer is then repeated 10 times in succession:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.[16]

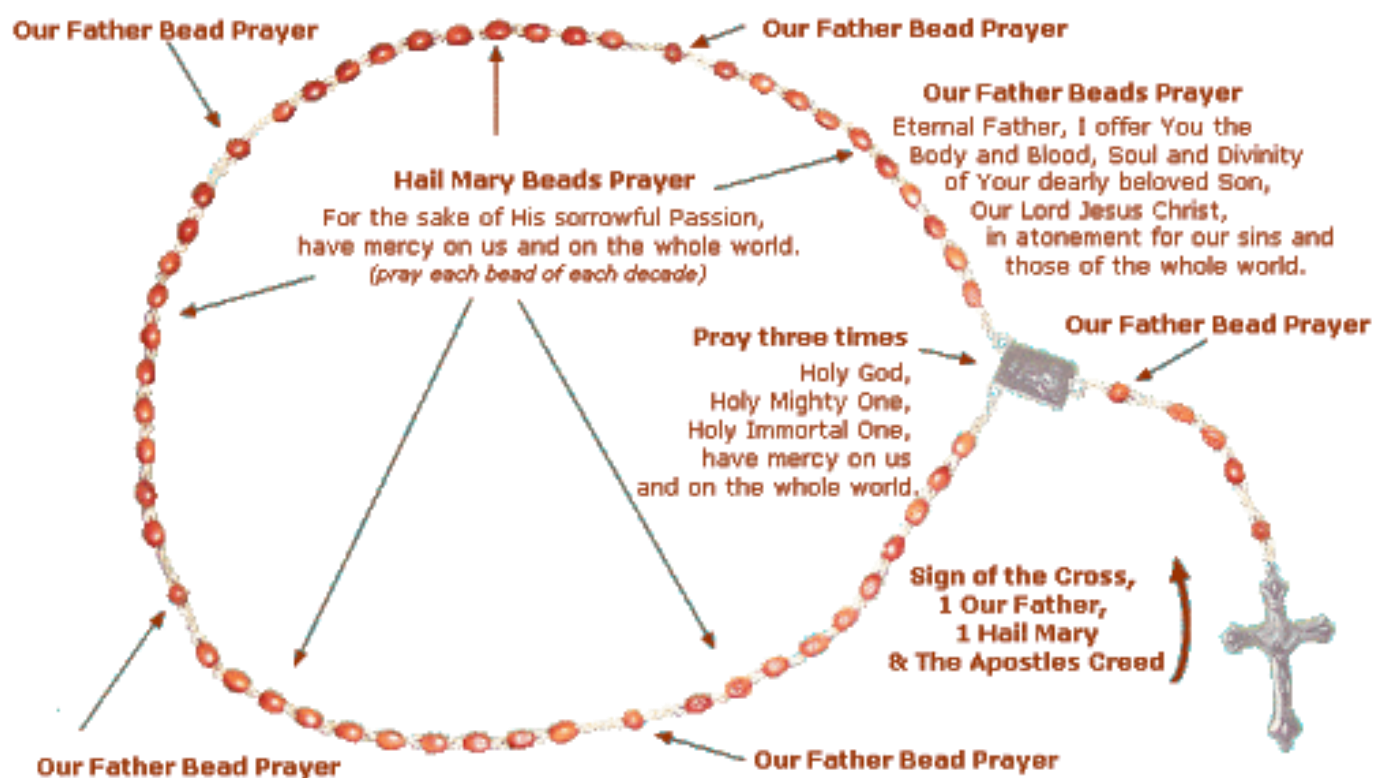
The 'Holy God' prayer is repeated three times in succession when the five decades of the Chaplet are concluded:

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.[16]

#### Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion — inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.[16]

Amen



## *Setting up a May Altar*



May has traditionally been known as the 'Month of Mary' and the annual setting up of the May Altar heralds the start of summer. Over the years, the tradition of building the small May Altar in the kitchen window has brought the colourful primroses, cherry blossom and daisies into the house. In our younger days our mothers would add the statue of the Blessed Virgin and surround it with flowers and perhaps a votive candle. The same statue was used every year, usually purchased from Knock Shrine, (depending on what part of the country you lived in) or further afield from Lourdes in France. These were small plastic statues of what was called the "Holy Lady" about 6 inches in height, though any statue could be used. When purchased, they were filled with holy water and topped with a blue crown. Almost every house in the country had one and most houses still have them today.

The May Altar would be erected on the 1st of May until May 31st and it is surprising the amount of small, colourful flowers that are available at that time of year. Usually the weather hasn't warmed up but in looking for those flowers you discover that indeed, the land has certainly awakened from its winter hibernation. We invite you to reconnect with this beautiful tradition and in case you're not too sure where to begin, here are three tips for pulling together a May altar simply and easily.

### 1. Find a spot.

If you can see it when you are in the midst of your flurried activities, maybe it will bring calm to you. Then again, maybe you will prefer to set it up as something that is more of a destination. You decide.

### 2. Make it special.

If you have a statue of Mary, however large or small, make sure it is part of your spot. A special cloth underneath—a pretty napkin or a doily, for example—and a vase or two (or even just a fancy glass), and you are ready to go!

### 3. Involve your whole family.

I know my children will love the ongoing task of keeping the vase filled with pretty flowers. At least one of them will probably also be inspired to include some artwork or maybe even a toy or two.

Almost every town and village in Ireland has a few Marian Shrines, with many houses and communities creating these quiet corners of reflection, adorned with a statue of Mary and usually with a place to sit or kneel. Spotting these can be a great way to pass the time on long car journeys around Ireland and they are particularly interesting in May when Marion Shrines will be decorated too with the simple flowers. Some of these shrines are associated with apparitions or healing cures or just mark the paths along places of devotion. The old hymn records the act of veneration of the Blessed Virgin:

Bring flowers of the rarest  
bring blossoms the fairest,  
from garden and woodland and hillside and dale;  
our full hearts are swelling,  
our glad voices telling  
the praise of the loveliest flower of the vale!

O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today!  
Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May.  
O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today,  
Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May...



The tradition of the May Altar has been handed down in many parts of the country, usually from mother to daughter. It is nice to think that in this quiet, simple task each year we remember our mothers and our connection to her mother and all those who came before.

# Children's Pages

## Saint of the Week: St Catherine of Sienna - April 29<sup>th</sup>



EWTN have a child friendly video on the life of St. Catherine for our younger parishioners. You can view it at this address <https://youtu.be/8UvUzmvBzt4>

St. Catherine was an amazing saint who had a great impact on the world. An influential saint from the 14th century, Catherine of Siena is known and beloved by many for her holiness and tenacity of spirit. Here are five quick facts that give you a little introduction into the life of this amazing woman.

### **1. She had 24 brothers and sisters**

Caterina Benincasa grew up in Siena, Italy, the 23rd child of Lapa Piagenti and Giacomo di Benincasa. Unfortunately, about half of their children died at an early age, including Catherine's twin sister. Suffice to say, it was a busy household.

### **2. Catherine had a vision of Jesus at age 5**

As a young girl Catherine had a vision of Christ seated in glory with Sts. Peter, Paul and John next to him, and it inspired her to make a private vow, dedicating her life to God. It was only the beginning of the numerous mystical visions she experienced in her lifetime.

### **3. She had a private cell in her parent's home**

When she refused to get married, Catherine's parents recognized the holiness of their daughter and made a private cell — like the room of a nun — that Catherine could live and pray in.

#### **4. Even though she looks like a nun, Catherine was a lay woman**

Feeling called to a unique vocation, Catherine became a Dominican tertiary, or "Third Order" member and — as was common for the time — was permitted to wear the habit of the Dominican Order. She was active in the world, catechizing the young, giving spiritual direction, caring for the sick and serving the poor.

#### **5. Catherine wasn't afraid to confront anyone, even the Pope**

She travelled to Avignon, France, where Pope Gregory XI was residing and spent three months trying to convince him to return to Rome. Going against his closest advisors, Gregory eventually did go back to Rome and returned the papacy to the Eternal City.

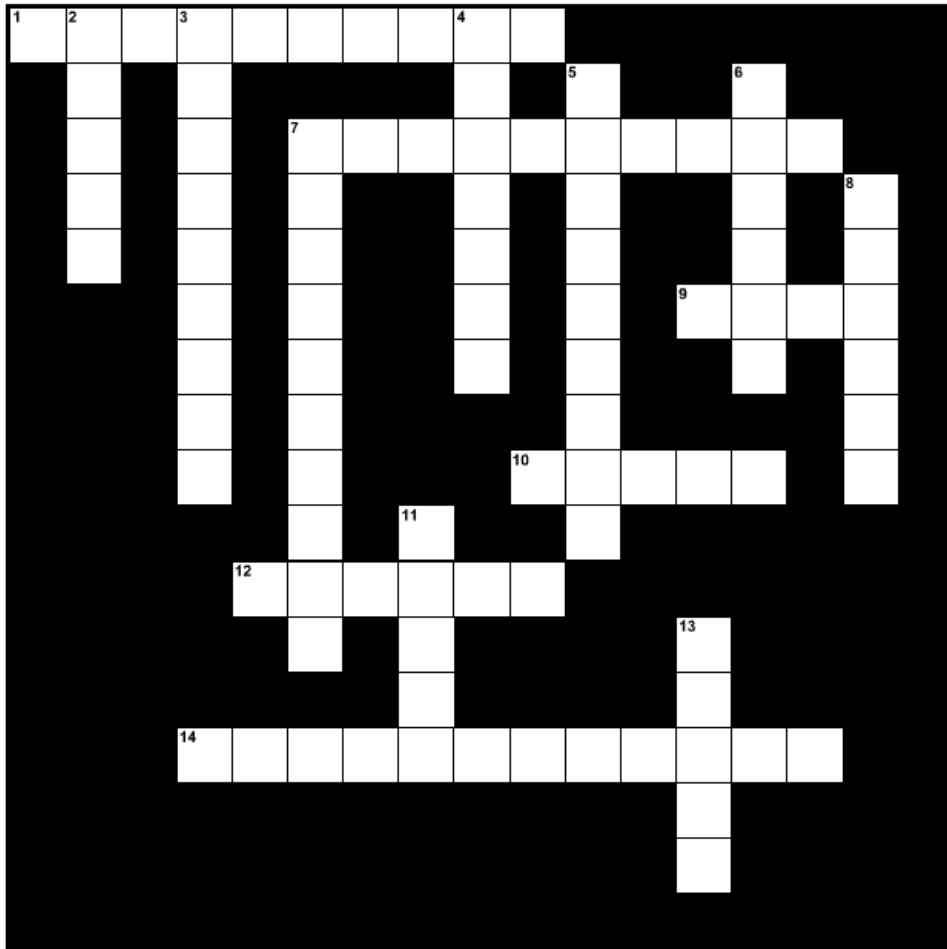
## **Quiz of the Week**

- True or false: Easter has a fixed date?
- What type of bun is traditionally eaten on Good Friday?
- When do Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus?
- Can you unscramble the name of a famous Easter character: RESTEA NYNUB?
- Which of the following is distributed from the Church at Easter time: a) Ashes, b) Holy Water, c) Palm Branches?
- True or false: The Thursday before Easter is known by Christians as Holy Thursday?
- Which plant is a symbol of the resurrection of Jesus: a) Rose, b) Lily, c) Tulip?
- What type of fancy hat begins with the letter B and is worn at Easter?
- Who shared the final meal, known as the Last Supper, with Jesus?
- What type of newly hatched bird is a symbol of Easter?
- The period of Lent reflects the 40 days that Jesus spent in the: a) Garden of Gethsemane, b) Town of Bethlehem, c) Desert?
- Which famous Easter song includes the lyrics, 'One a penny two a penny'?

- True or false: Easter occurs on the Sunday before Good Friday?
- Good Friday honours the day that Jesus was: a) Crucified, b) Baptized, c) Resurrected?
- Can you unscramble the following word to reveal the name of a gift that we share at Easter time: TSAERE GSEG?

## Puzzle of the Week

### THE MASS



#### ACROSS

1. For consecrated hosts
7. The first Mass
9. What holds holy water
10. Responsorial this
12. Celebrates Mass
14. Visiting priests do this

#### DOWN

2. Where consecration occurs
3. Lifting Body and Blood
4. Of the Word and Eucharist
5. Body and Blood of Jesus
6. Assists the priest
7. Contains readings
8. What we call priests
11. Hand shaking sign
13. State of this to receive

## Prayer of the Week

Lord God, you loved this world so much that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Sunday, every day. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice.



# *Naas Parish Media*

Our parish now has several platforms on which you can keep up with all parish and many town events along with the daily parish liturgies.



Morning Prayer, Daily Mass, Evening Prayer and Night Prayer along with all other parish liturgies can be viewed live on our parish webcam stream:

<https://www.naasparish.ie/our-parish/naas-webcam/>



Parish News and items of Catholic interest are frequently added to our parish Twitter stream:

<https://twitter.com/naasparish> or simply [@naasparish](https://twitter.com/naasparish)



Our parish Facebook site offers a wider view of the activities of many of parish based and other Naas based groups:

<https://www.facebook.com/naasparish/>



If you wish to revisit any of the Easter or regular Sunday Parish Masses that were live streamed, you can view them on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJ-MEFmcFzOsvSPm137Rjpw>

The following section of this pastoral pack contains Morning Prayer, Mass Readings, Evening Prayer, Night Prayer and a Lectio Divina exercise for each day of the coming week.

It is hoped that it will bring you into a deeper participation of our daily prayer life here at Naas Parish during the time that we are separated out of care for one another.

Our daily prayers are offered for all our parishioners and their loved ones. We think of those who are sick and those who are caring for them. We pray for those worried anxious or afraid at this time that the peace of the Risen Lord will be theirs in abundance.

In our hearts and minds also are all those who are working on the front lines of care and defence to keep us safe and protected. We pray the Lord's care and protection over them all.



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## **Sunday 26 April 2020**

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

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**Sunday 26 April 2020**

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

## **Lectio Divina**

### **Introduction**

*Make whatever preparations you need to leave the shadow world behind and encounter the fire of the Spirit and the light of God.*

*If you have chosen a specific bodily position, adopt it. If you have chosen to prepare the space and the place in some way (perhaps drawing a curtain or lighting a candle), make that preparation.*

*Eliminate distractions and the possibility of interruption.*

### **Sign of the Cross**

*We invoke God, in whose name we act and to whom we are about to open ourselves.*

In the name of the Father, ✠  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

### **Invocation of the Holy Spirit**

*We invoke the Holy Spirit, who will speak to us and listen in us.*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.  
**And you shall renew the face of the earth.**

### **Act of Contrition**

*By acknowledging our sinfulness and admitting that by ourselves we can do nothing that is not flawed, we ask God to take the initiative in this encounter.*

Have mercy on us, O Lord:  
**For we have sinned against you.**  
Show us, O Lord, your mercy:  
**And grant us your salvation.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## **The Gospel**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*The Gospel should be read slowly, meditatively, with pauses between sentences or whenever the sense requires it. The aim is not to tell the text to God, who knows it already, but to let God tell it to us. For this, there have to be silences so that what God is telling us can be heard. When a group is doing Lectio Divina, it is usually best to take turns in reading the words of the Gospel, since for many people speaking will bring the words to mind better than hearing does. But do not let this become a distraction in itself: have a clear order known in advance, and a simple signal for handing over the baton from one person to the next.*

**Luke 24:13-35**

### **They recognised him at the breaking of bread**

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, ‘What matters are you discussing as you walk along?’ They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, ‘You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.’ ‘What things?’ he asked. ‘All about Jesus of Nazareth’ they answered ‘who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and

how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

---

## The Response

### **Meditatio (reflection)**

*What does the Gospel say to me?*

*God has willed me to be here, now, today, for a reason. Now is the time to reflect, and find that reason, and hear what God has chosen to tell me.*

*A good pattern is this:*

- *What has drawn my attention or struck me in some way?*
- *Why? Was it a person? A word? A situation? A gesture?*
- *What, therefore, is God saying to me through these words, here and now, today?*

*The “I” and the “me” are important. To say “we” or “us” is to evade the encounter by softening the focus and hiding behind membership of a group. The meeting with Jesus is face to face, one to one.*

## **The shared echo**

*When several people are doing Lectio together, especially if they do so regularly, then there is the opportunity for each person to share the words that have had the most impact in today’s passage, or the message it has conveyed.*

*There is no obligation to share an echo, and some members may take many meetings before sharing one, or may even never do so.*

*An echo is what struck me – not “you” or “us”. It is not a mini-sermon or a carefully crafted uplifting thought. Echoes do not have echoes. The sharing of echoes and the listening to echoes are not a discussion aiming at a conclusion, but the opening of one heart to another.*

*The experience of sharing echoes brings the group closer together. Over time, its power grows.*

## **Oratio (prayer)**

*God has spoken to me. What do I reply?*

*Silently, each of us responds to what God has said to him through the passage we have read and even through the echoes we have heard.*

*As a matter of human practicality, one person should be responsible for deciding the time taken for silent prayer. Even better, a timer or hourglass can be used. Otherwise “Are we nearly there yet?” can be a potent distraction.*

## **Contemplatio (contemplation)**

*Sometimes we may be led beyond prayer into a quiet and attentive resting in the presence of God.*

## **Conclusion**

*We prepare to return to the everyday world, carrying with us what we have received in our minds and our hearts today.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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## Sunday 26 April 2020

3rd Sunday of Easter

### Invitatory Psalm

---

Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 66 (67)**

“Let it be known to you that this salvation from God has been sent to all peoples” (Acts 28:28).

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its fruit  
for God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God still give us his blessing

till the ends of the earth revere him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

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## Sunday 26 April 2020

3rd Sunday of Easter

### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky,

Heav'n thunders forth its victor cry:

The glad earth shouts her triumph high,

And groaning hell makes wild reply.

While he, the King of sovereign might,

Treads down death's strength in death's despite,

And trampling hell by victor's right,

Brings forth his sleeping saints to light.

Fast barred beneath the stone of late,

In watch and ward where soldiers wait,

Now shining in triumphant state,

He rises victor from death's gate.

Hell's pains are loosed and tears are fled:  
Captivity is captive led:  
The angel, crowned with light, hath said:  
'The Lord is risen from the dead.'

Author of all, be thou our guide  
In this our joy of Eastertide;  
Whene'er assaults of death impend,  
Thy people strengthen and defend.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, thy people give:  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.

---

**Psalm 92 (93)**  
**The magnificence of the Creator**

“The Lord, our God, the Almighty is king: let us be glad and rejoice  
and give him praise” (Rev 19:6,7).

*The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed. Alleluia.*

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;  
the Lord has robed himself with might,  
he has girded himself with power.

The world you made firm, not to be moved;  
your throne has stood firm from of old.  
From all eternity, O Lord, you are.

The waters have lifted up, O Lord,  
the waters have lifted up their voice,  
the waters have lifted up their thunder.

Greater than the roar of mighty waters

more glorious than the surgings of the sea,  
the Lord is glorious on high.

Truly your decrees are to be trusted.  
Holiness is fitting to your house,  
O Lord, until the end of time.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

All power and all authority in heaven and on earth have been given to you, Lord Jesus; you rule with decrees that are firm and trustworthy. Be with us always so that we may make disciples whose holiness will be worthy of your house.

### **Or:**

Lord Jesus, king of glory, when you rose from death in the power of the Spirit, you firmly established your kingdom not to be shaken or destroyed by death. May your will be done on earth as in heaven until the Church is made holy by your embrace.

---

### **Canticle**

**Daniel 3:57-88,56**

**All creatures, bless the Lord**

**“Praise our God, all you his servants” (Rev 19:5).**

*The whole creation will be freed and will enjoy the glory and freedom of the children of God. Alleluia.*

O all you works of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, angels of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, the heavens of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
And you, clouds of the sky, O bless the Lord.  
And you, all armies of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, sun and moon, O bless the Lord.  
And you, the stars of the heavens, O bless the Lord.  
And you, showers and rain, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, all you breezes and winds, O bless the Lord.  
And you, fire and heat, O bless the Lord.  
And you, cold and heat, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, showers and dew, O bless the Lord.  
And you, frosts and cold, O bless the Lord.  
And you, frost and snow, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, night-time and day, O bless the Lord.  
And you, darkness and light, O bless the Lord.  
And you, lightning and clouds, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O let the earth bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, mountains and hills, O bless the Lord.  
And you, all plants of the earth, O bless the Lord.  
And you, fountains and springs, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, rivers and seas, O bless the Lord.

And you, creatures of the sea, O bless the Lord.  
And you, every bird in the sky, O bless the Lord.  
And you, wild beasts and tame, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, children of men, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O Israel, bless the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
And you, priests of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
And you, servants of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, spirits and souls of the just, O bless the Lord.  
And you, holy and humble of heart, O bless the Lord.  
Ananias, Azarias, Mizael, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

Let us praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit:  
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.  
May you be blessed, O Lord, in the heavens:  
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.

*The whole creation will be freed and will enjoy the glory and freedom of the children of God. Alleluia.*

---

## **Psalm 148**

### **An anthem to the Lord, the Creator**

**“To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever” (Rev 5:13).**

*The name of the Lord is praised, in heaven and on earth. Alleluia.*

Praise the Lord from the heavens,  
praise him in the heights.  
Praise him, all his angels,  
praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon,  
praise him, shining stars.  
Praise him, highest heavens  
and the waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord.  
He commanded: they were made.  
He fixed them for ever,  
gave a law which shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth,  
sea creatures and all oceans,  
fire and hail, snow and mist,  
stormy winds that obey his word;

all mountains and hills,  
all fruit trees and cedars,  
beasts, wild and tame,  
reptiles and birds on the wing;

all earth's kings and peoples,  
earth's princes and rulers,  
young men and maidens,  
old men together with children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord  
for he alone is exalted.  
The splendour of his name  
reaches beyond heaven and earth.

He exalts the strength of his people.  
He is the praise of all his saints,  
of the sons of Israel,  
of the people to whom he comes close.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.  
Amen.

*The name of the Lord is praised, in heaven and on earth. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord, extolled in the heights by angelic powers, you are also praised by all earth's creatures, each in its own way. With all the splendour of heavenly worship, you still delight in such tokens of love as earth can offer. May heaven and earth together acclaim you as King; may the praise that is sung in heaven resound in the heart of every creature on earth.

### **Or:**

God most high, by your Word you created a wondrous universe, and through your Spirit you breathed into it the breath of life. Accept creation's hymn of praise from our lips; may it raise your people above both heaven and earth.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Acts 10:40-43**

God raised Jesus to life on the third day and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.

---

### **Short Responsory**

Have mercy on us, Christ, Son of the living God, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Have mercy on us, Christ, Son of the living God, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have risen from the dead.  
– *Have mercy on us, Christ, Son of the living God, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Have mercy on us, Christ, Son of the living God, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## Canticle

## Benedictus

### **The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*It was necessary that Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!  
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*It was necessary that Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to Christ, the author of life. God raised him from the dead, and  
he himself will raise us to life by his own power.  
– *Christ, our life, save us.*

Christ, you are the light that drives out darkness and draws men to holiness;  
let us make this day a living hymn of praise.  
– *Christ, our life, save us.*

Lord, you followed the way of suffering, even to the cross;  
grant that we may die with you and come to life with you.  
– *Christ, our life, save us.*

Our master and our brother, you have made us a kingdom of priests to serve  
God our Father;  
let us offer you with joy the sacrifice of praise.  
– *Christ, our life, save us.*

King of glory, we look forward to the day of your coming,  
then we shall see your face and share in your splendour.  
– *Christ, our life, save us.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Lord God,  
grant your people constant joy  
in the renewed vigour of their souls.  
They rejoice because you have restored them  
to the glory of your adopted children:  
let them look forward gladly  
in the certain hope of resurrection.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

---

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## Sunday 26 April 2020

3rd Sunday of Easter

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

The Lamb's high banquet we await,  
In snow-white robes of royal state;  
And now, the Red Sea's channel past,  
To Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the altar of the Cross  
His body hath redeemed our loss;  
And tasting of his scarlet blood,  
Our life is hid with him in God.

Now Christ our paschal Lamb is slain,  
The Lamb of God that knows no stain,  
The true oblation offered here,  
Our own unleavened bread sincere.

O thou, from whom hell's monarch flies,  
O great, O very Sacrifice,  
Thy captive people are set free,  
And endless life restored in thee.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, thy people give:  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.

---

**Psalm 109 (110)**  
**The Messiah, king and priest**

*“He must be king so that he may put all his enemies under his feet” (1 Cor 15:25).*

*When he had made purification for sin, he sat at the right hand of the Majesty on high. Alleluia.*

The Lord's revelation to my Master:  
‘Sit on my right:  
your foes I will put beneath your feet.’

The Lord will wield from Sion  
your sceptre of power:  
rule in the midst of all your foes.

A prince from the day of your birth  
on the holy mountains;  
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.  
‘You are a priest for ever,  
a priest like Melchizedek of old.’

The Master standing at your right hand  
will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.

He shall drink from the stream by the wayside  
and therefore he shall lift up his head.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*When he had made purification for sin, he sat at the right hand of the  
Majesty on high. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Father, we ask you to give us victory and peace. In Jesus Christ, our Lord and King, we are already seated at your right hand. We look forward to praise you in the fellowship of all your saints in our heavenly homeland.

**Or:**

Almighty God, bring the kingdom of Christ, your anointed one, to its fullness. May the perfect offering of your Son, eternal priest of the new Jerusalem, be offered in every place to your name and make all nations a holy people for you.

---

### **Psalm 110 (111) Great are the works of the Lord**

**“How great and wonderful are all your works, Lord God Almighty”  
(Rev 15:3).**

*The Lord has delivered his people. Alleluia.*

I will thank the Lord with all my heart  
in the meeting of the just and their assembly.  
Great are the works of the Lord,  
to be pondered by all who love them.

Majestic and glorious his work,  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
He makes us remember his wonders.  
The Lord is compassion and love.

He gives food to those who fear him;  
keeps his covenant ever in mind.  
He has shown his might to his people  
by giving them the lands of the nations.

His works are justice and truth,  
his precepts are all of them sure,  
standing firm for ever and ever;  
they are made in uprightness and truth.

He has sent deliverance to his people  
and established his covenant for ever.  
Holy his name, to be feared.

To fear the Lord is the first stage of wisdom;  
all who do so prove themselves wise.  
His praise shall last for ever!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord has delivered his people. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Merciful and gentle Lord, you are the crowning glory of all the saints. Give us, your children, the gift of obedience which is the beginning of wisdom, so that we may do what you command and be filled with your mercy.

**Or:**

Merciful God, splendour of the Church and crown of all saints, give us that firm faith which begets wisdom and nourish us with heavenly bread in the holy assembly. May we renew the memory of your wondrous deeds in the one sacrifice worthy of you, until we enjoy the fullness of your covenant in an eternity of happiness.

---

**Canticle**

**(Apocalypse 19)**

### **The wedding of the Lamb**

*Alleluia. The Lord our God is king: let us rejoice and give glory to him.  
Alleluia.*

Alleluia.  
Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,  
his judgements are true and just.  
Alleluia.

Alleluia.  
Praise our God, all you his servants,  
you who fear him, small and great.  
Alleluia.

Alleluia.  
The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns,  
let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.  
Alleluia.

Alleluia.  
The marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his bride has made herself ready.  
Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Alleluia. The Lord our God is king: let us rejoice and give glory to him.  
Alleluia.*

---

## Short Reading

**Hebrews 10:12-14**

Christ has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place forever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying.

---

## Short Responsory

The Lord has truly risen, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord has truly risen, alleluia, alleluia.*  
He has appeared to Simon.  
– *The Lord has truly risen, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The Lord has truly risen, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## Canticle

## Magnificat

### My soul rejoices in the Lord

*While he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing;  
then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened  
and they recognised him. Alleluia. (Year A)*

*Or: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.'  
Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of  
fish. Alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.

Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*While he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing;  
then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened  
and they recognised him. Alleluia. (Year A)*

*Or: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.'  
Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of  
fish. Alleluia.*

---

## **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray with joy to Christ the Lord. He rose from the dead and is living  
now to intercede for us.

– *Victorious king, hear us.*

Christ, you are the light of the world and the salvation of nations;

set us on fire with your Spirit as we proclaim the wonder of your resurrection.

– *Victorious king, hear us.*

Let Israel recognize in you the Messiah it has longed for;  
fill all men with the knowledge of your glory.

– *Victorious king, hear us.*

Keep us united in the communion of saints;  
may we find rest with them, when life's work is done.

– *Victorious king, hear us.*

You have overcome death, the last enemy of man;  
destroy everything in us that is at enmity with God.

– *Victorious king, hear us.*

Christ, our Saviour, you became obedient to death, but God raised you to the heights;

receive our brothers into the kingdom of your glory.

– *Victorious king, hear us.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

Lord God,

grant your people constant joy

in the renewed vigour of their souls.

They rejoice because you have restored them

to the glory of your adopted children:

let them look forward gladly

in the certain hope of resurrection.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

---

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## Sunday 26 April 2020

3rd Sunday of Easter

### Compline (Night Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Examination of Conscience

*This is an excellent moment for an examination of conscience. In a communal celebration of Compline, one of the penitential acts given in the Missal may be recited.*

---

#### Hymn

Jesu, the world's redeeming Lord,  
The Father's co-eternal Word,  
Of light invisible true Light,  
Thine Israel's Keeper day and night.

Our great Creator and our Guide,  
Who times and seasons dost divide,  
Refresh at night with quiet rest,  
Our limbs by daily toil oppressed.

We pray thee, while we dwell below,  
Preserve us from our ghostly foe;  
Nor let his wiles victorious be  
O'er them that are redeemed by thee.

That while in this frail house of clay  
A little longer here we stay,  
Our flesh in thee may sweetly sleep,  
Our souls with thee their vigils keep.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 90 (91)**  
**The protection of the Most High**

“Behold, I have given you power to tread under foot both serpents and  
scorpions” (Lk 10:19).

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
and abides in the shade of the Almighty  
says to the Lord: ‘My refuge,  
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!’

It is he who will free you from the snare  
of the fowler who seeks to destroy you;  
he will conceal you with his pinions  
and under his wings you will find refuge.

You will not fear the terror of the night  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the plague that prowls in the darkness  
nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.

A thousand may fall at your side,  
ten thousand fall at your right,  
you, it will never approach;  
his faithfulness is buckler and shield.

Your eyes have only to look  
to see how the wicked are repaid,  
you who have said: 'Lord, my refuge!'  
and have made the Most High your dwelling.

Upon you no evil shall fall,  
no plague approach where you dwell.  
For you has he commanded his angels,  
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread  
and trample the young lion and the dragon.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him;  
protect him for he knows my name.  
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you,'  
I will save him in distress and give him glory.

With length of life I will content him;  
I shall let him see my saving power.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, when tempted by the devil, you remained loyal to your Father whose angels watched over you at his command. Guard your Church and keep us safe from the plague of sin so that we may remain loyal to the day we enjoy your salvation and your glory.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Apocalypse 22:4-5**

They will see the Lord face to face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. It will never be night again and they will not need lamplight or sunlight, because the Lord God will be shining on them. They will reign for ever and ever.

---

### **Short Responsory**

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Nunc Dimittis**

### **Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel**

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

At last, all-powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may  
keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

---

**Let us pray.**

God our Father,  
as we have celebrated today the mystery of the Lord's resurrection,  
grant our humble prayer:  
free us from all harm  
that we may sleep in peace  
and rise in joy to sing your praise.

Through Christ our Lord,

**Amen.**

---

The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**Amen.**

---

**Regina Caeli**

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia!  
for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!  
has risen as he said, alleluia!  
Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Regína cæli, lætare, allelúia,  
quia quem meruísti portáre, allelúia,  
resurréxit sicut dixit, allelúia;  
ora pro nobis Deum, allelúia.

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## Sunday 26 April 2020

### 3rd Sunday of Easter

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

## Readings at Mass

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### Entrance Antiphon

**Cf. Ps 65: 1-2**

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

---

### Collect

May your people exult for ever, O God,  
in renewed youthfulness of spirit,  
so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption,  
we may look forward in confident hope  
to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

---

### First reading

**Acts 2:14,22-33**

**God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to this**

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: ‘Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among

you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,  
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.  
So my heart was glad  
and my tongue cried out with joy;  
my body, too, will rest in the hope  
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.  
You have made known the way of life to me,  
you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

‘Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God’s right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.’

---

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 15(16):1-2,5,7-11**

*Show us, Lord, the path of life.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

I say to the Lord: ‘You are my God.  
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.’

*Show us, Lord, the path of life.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
    who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
    since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

*Show us, Lord, the path of life.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
    even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
    nor let your beloved know decay.

*Show us, Lord, the path of life.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

You will show me the path of life,  
    the fullness of joy in your presence,  
    at your right hand happiness for ever.

*Show us, Lord, the path of life.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

**Second reading**

**1 Peter 1:17-21**

**Your ransom was paid in the precious blood of Christ**

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors

handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

---

**Gospel Acclamation**

**cf.Lk24:32**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, explain the Scriptures to us.

Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.

Alleluia!

---

**Gospel**

**Luke 24:13-35**

**They recognised him at the breaking of bread**

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, ‘What matters are you discussing as you walk along?’ They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, ‘You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.’ ‘What things?’ he asked. ‘All about Jesus of Nazareth’ they answered ‘who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he

was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

---

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Receive, O Lord, we pray,  
these offerings of your exultant Church,  
and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness,  
grant also that the gifts we bring  
may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Lk 24: 35**

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus  
in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord,  
and grant, we pray,  
that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries  
may attain in their flesh  
the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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**Monday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

*see also* [Saint Asicus, Bishop](#)

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## Monday 27 April 2020

**Monday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**  
*or* **Saint Asicus, Bishop**

### Lectio Divina

#### Introduction

*Make whatever preparations you need to leave the shadow world behind and encounter the fire of the Spirit and the light of God.*

*If you have chosen a specific bodily position, adopt it. If you have chosen to prepare the space and the place in some way (perhaps drawing a curtain or lighting a candle), make that preparation.*

*Eliminate distractions and the possibility of interruption.*

#### Sign of the Cross

*We invoke God, in whose name we act and to whom we are about to open ourselves.*

In the name of the Father, ✠  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

#### Invocation of the Holy Spirit

*We invoke the Holy Spirit, who will speak to us and listen in us.*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.  
**And you shall renew the face of the earth.**

## Act of Contrition

*By acknowledging our sinfulness and admitting that by ourselves we can do nothing that is not flawed, we ask God to take the initiative in this encounter.*

Have mercy on us, O Lord:  
**For we have sinned against you.**  
Show us, O Lord, your mercy:  
**And grant us your salvation.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## The Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*The Gospel should be read slowly, meditatively, with pauses between sentences or whenever the sense requires it. The aim is not to tell the text to God, who knows it already, but to let God tell it to us. For this, there have to be silences so that what God is telling us can be heard.*

*When a group is doing Lectio Divina, it is usually best to take turns in reading the words of the Gospel, since for many people speaking will bring the words to mind better than hearing does. But do not let this become a distraction in itself: have a clear order known in advance, and a simple signal for handing over the baton from one person to the next.*

**John 6:22-29**

**Do not work for food that cannot last, but for food that endures to eternal life**

After Jesus had fed the five thousand, his disciples saw him walking on the water. Next day, the crowd that had stayed on the other side saw that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not got into the boat with his disciples, but that the disciples had set off by themselves. Other boats, however, had put in from Tiberias, near the place where the bread had been eaten. When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into those boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When

they found him on the other side, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’

Jesus answered:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs  
but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.  
Do not work for food that cannot last,  
but work for food that endures to eternal life,  
the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you,  
for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.’

Then they said to him, ‘What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?’ Jesus gave them this answer, ‘This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.’

---

## The Response

### Meditatio (reflection)

*What does the Gospel say to me?*

*God has willed me to be here, now, today, for a reason. Now is the time to reflect, and find that reason, and hear what God has chosen to tell me.*

*A good pattern is this:*

- What has drawn my attention or struck me in some way?*
- Why? Was it a person? A word? A situation? A gesture?*
- What, therefore, is God saying to me through these words, here and now, today?*

*The “I” and the “me” are important. To say “we” or “us” is to evade the encounter by softening the focus and hiding behind membership of a group. The meeting with Jesus is face to face, one to one.*

### The shared echo

*When several people are doing Lectio together, especially if they do so regularly, then there is the opportunity for each person to share the words that have had the most impact in today’s passage, or the message it has conveyed.*

*There is no obligation to share an echo, and some members may take many meetings before sharing one, or may even never do so.*

*An echo is what struck me – not “you” or “us”. It is not a mini-sermon or a carefully crafted uplifting thought. Echoes do not have echoes. The sharing of echoes and the listening to echoes are not a discussion aiming at a conclusion, but the opening of one heart to another.*

*The experience of sharing echoes brings the group closer together. Over time, its power grows.*

## **Oratio (prayer)**

*God has spoken to me. What do I reply?*

*Silently, each of us responds to what God has said to him through the passage we have read and even through the echoes we have heard.*

*As a matter of human practicality, one person should be responsible for deciding the time taken for silent prayer. Even better, a timer or hourglass can be used. Otherwise “Are we nearly there yet?” can be a potent distraction.*

## **Contemplatio (contemplation)**

*Sometimes we may be led beyond prayer into a quiet and attentive resting in the presence of God.*

## **Conclusion**

*We prepare to return to the everyday world, carrying with us what we have received in our minds and our hearts today.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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### Invitatory Psalm

---

Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 23 (24)**

*“The gates of heaven were opened to Christ because he was lifted up in the flesh” (St Irenaeus).*

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place?

The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things,  
who has not sworn so as to deceive his neighbour.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.

Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory?

The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads;

grow higher, ancient doors.

Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is he, the king of glory?

He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

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Lord, open our lips.

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**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 23 (24)**

*“The gates of heaven were opened to Christ because he was lifted up in the flesh” (St Irenaeus).*

*Christ is the chief shepherd, the leader of his flock: come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place?

The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things,  
who has not sworn so as to deceive his neighbour.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

O gates, lift high your heads;

grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory?  
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is he, the king of glory?  
He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Christ is the chief shepherd, the leader of his flock: come, let us adore him,  
alleluia.*

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## Monday 27 April 2020

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### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky,

Heav'n thunders forth its victor cry:

The glad earth shouts her triumph high,

And groaning hell makes wild reply.

While he, the King of sovereign might,

Treads down death's strength in death's despite,

And trampling hell by victor's right,

Brings forth his sleeping saints to light.

Fast barred beneath the stone of late,

In watch and ward where soldiers wait,

Now shining in triumphant state,  
He rises victor from death's gate.

Hell's pains are loosed and tears are fled:  
Captivity is captive led:  
The angel, crowned with light, hath said:  
'The Lord is risen from the dead.'

Author of all, be thou our guide  
In this our joy of Eastertide;  
Whene'er assaults of death impend,  
Thy people strengthen and defend.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, thy people give:  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.

---

**Psalm 83 (84)**  
**Longing for the Lord's temple**

“We have no lasting city in this life, but we look for one in the life to come” (Heb 13:14).

*My heart and my soul ring out their joy to the living God. Alleluia.*

How lovely is your dwelling place,  
Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,  
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.  
My heart and my soul ring out their joy  
to God, the living God.

The sparrow herself finds a home  
and the swallow a nest for her brood;  
she lays her young by your altars,  
Lord of hosts, my king and my God.

They are happy, who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.

They are happy, whose strength is in you,  
in whose hearts are the roads to Sion.

As they go through the Bitter Valley  
they make it a place of springs,  
the autumn rain covers it with blessings.

They walk with ever growing strength,  
they will see the God of gods in Sion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer,  
give ear, O God of Jacob.

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,  
look on the face of your anointed.

One day within your courts  
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

The threshold of the house of God  
I prefer to the dwellings of the wicked.

For the Lord God is a rampart, a shield;  
he will give us his favour and glory.

The Lord will not refuse any good  
to those who walk without blame.

Lord, God of hosts,  
happy the man who trusts in you!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*My heart and my soul ring out their joy to the living God. Alleluia.*

**Psalm-prayer**

Bless your people, Lord. You have given us the law that we may walk from strength to strength and raise our minds to you from this valley of tears. May we receive the gifts you have gained for us.

**Or:**

Almighty God, you listened to the prayer of Christ, your Chosen One, and granted him the lasting joy of your presence. Help us to love your Church on her pilgrimage toward you and to offer the sacrifice of praise at your altar. May we hasten to your home and joyfully look upon your glorious splendour.

---

**Canticle**

**Isaiah 2**

**The mountain of the house of the Lord**

**“All the peoples will come and worship you” (Rev 15:4).**

*Great is the Temple of the Lord: all the nations will go there to worship,  
alleluia.*

It shall come to pass in the latter days  
that the mountain of the house of the Lord  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
and all the nations shall flow to it,

And many peoples shall come, and say:  
‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.’  
For out of Sion shall go forth the law,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall decide for many peoples;  
and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,

and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come,  
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Great is the Temple of the Lord: all the nations will go there to worship,  
alleluia.*

---

### **Psalm 95 (96)**

#### **The Lord, the universal King and judge**

*“They were singing a new hymn in front of the throne, in the presence  
of the Lamb” (cf Rev 14:3).*

*Proclaim to the nations, ‘God is king,’ alleluia.*

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples.

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,  
to be feared above all gods;  
the gods of the heathens are naught.

It was the Lord who made the heavens,

his are majesty and state and power  
and splendour in his holy place.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.

Bring an offering and enter his courts,  
worship the Lord in his temple.  
O earth, tremble before him.

Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'  
The world he made firm in its place;  
he will judge the peoples in fairness.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,  
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,  
let the land and all it bears rejoice,  
all the trees of the wood shout for joy

at the presence of the Lord for he comes,  
he comes to rule the earth.  
With justice he will rule the world,  
he will judge the peoples with his truth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Proclaim to the nations, 'God is king,' alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord, you have renewed the face of the earth. Your Church throughout the world sings you a new song, announcing your wonders to all. Through a virgin, you have brought forth a new birth in our world; through your

miracles, a new power; through your suffering, a new patience; in your resurrection, a new hope, and in your ascension, new majesty.

**Or:**

Lord Jesus, the incarnate Word, when you consented to dwell with us, the heavens were glad and earth rejoiced. In hope and love we await your return. Help us to proclaim your glory to those who do not know you, until the whole earth sings to you a new song.

---

**Short Reading**

**Romans 10:8-10**

The word is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart: the word, that is, of the faith we proclaim. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved.

---

**Short Responsory**

The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*  
For our sake he died on the cross, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

**Canticle**

**Benedictus**

**The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*Work not for the food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life. Alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour

in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Work not for the food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to  
eternal life. Alleluia.*

---

**Prayers and intercessions**

The Father has glorified Jesus and handed over to him the whole of  
creation. Let us praise him in our morning prayer.

– *Lord, save us through your victory.*

Lord Jesus, you have broken the power of hell, destroying sin and death;  
do not let us be defeated in our struggle with temptation.

– *Lord, save us through your victory.*

You have ended death for ever and given us new life;  
guide our steps today along the path that leads to God.

– *Lord, save us through your victory.*

You rose from the dead to renew all men;  
grant eternal life to everyone we meet.

– *Lord, save us through your victory.*

The disciples rejoiced when you came back from the grave;  
fill the hearts of your servants with overflowing joy.

– *Lord, save us through your victory.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

God and Father,

to those who go astray

you reveal the light of your truth

and enable them to return to the right path.

Grant that all who have received the grace of baptism

may strive to be worthy of their Christian calling

and reject everything opposed to it.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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## Monday 27 April 2020

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### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Who are these like stars appearing,  
these, before God's throne who stand?

Each a golden crown is wearing;  
who are all this glorious band?

Alleluia! Hark, they sing,  
praising loud their heavenly King.

Who are these of dazzling brightness,  
clothed in God's own righteousness?  
These, whose robes of purest whiteness,  
shall their lustre still possess,  
still untouched by time's rude hand?

Whence came all this glorious band?

These are they who have contended  
for their Saviour's honour long,  
wrestling on till life was ended,  
following not the sinful throng;  
these who well the fight sustained,  
triumph through the Lamb have gained.

These are they whose hearts were riven,  
sore with woe and anguish tried,  
who in prayer full oft have striven  
with the God they glorified;  
now, their painful conflict o'er,  
God has bid them weep no more.

These, the Almighty contemplating,  
did as priests before him stand,  
soul and body always waiting  
day and night at his command:  
now in God's most holy place  
blest they stand before his face.

---

**Psalm 83 (84)**  
**Longing for the Lord's temple**

**“We have no lasting city in this life, but we look for one in the life to come” (Heb 13:14).**

*My heart and my soul ring out their joy to the living God. Alleluia.*

How lovely is your dwelling place,  
Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,  
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.  
My heart and my soul ring out their joy  
to God, the living God.

The sparrow herself finds a home  
and the swallow a nest for her brood;  
she lays her young by your altars,  
Lord of hosts, my king and my God.

They are happy, who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.  
They are happy, whose strength is in you,  
in whose hearts are the roads to Sion.

As they go through the Bitter Valley  
they make it a place of springs,  
the autumn rain covers it with blessings.  
They walk with ever growing strength,  
they will see the God of gods in Sion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer,  
give ear, O God of Jacob.  
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,  
look on the face of your anointed.

One day within your courts  
is better than a thousand elsewhere.  
The threshold of the house of God  
I prefer to the dwellings of the wicked.

For the Lord God is a rampart, a shield;  
he will give us his favour and glory.  
The Lord will not refuse any good  
to those who walk without blame.

Lord, God of hosts,  
happy the man who trusts in you!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*My heart and my soul ring out their joy to the living God. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Bless your people, Lord. You have given us the law that we may walk from strength to strength and raise our minds to you from this valley of tears. May we receive the gifts you have gained for us.

### **Or:**

Almighty God, you listened to the prayer of Christ, your Chosen One, and granted him the lasting joy of your presence. Help us to love your Church on her pilgrimage toward you and to offer the sacrifice of praise at your altar. May we hasten to your home and joyfully look upon your glorious splendour.

---

### **Canticle**

### **Isaiah 2**

#### **The mountain of the house of the Lord**

*“All the peoples will come and worship you” (Rev 15:4).*

*Great is the Temple of the Lord: all the nations will go there to worship, alleluia.*

It shall come to pass in the latter days  
that the mountain of the house of the Lord  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
and all the nations shall flow to it,

And many peoples shall come, and say:  
‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.’  
For out of Sion shall go forth the law,

and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall decide for many peoples;  
and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come,  
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Great is the Temple of the Lord: all the nations will go there to worship,  
alleluia.*

---

### **Psalm 95 (96)**

#### **The Lord, the universal King and judge**

*“They were singing a new hymn in front of the throne, in the presence  
of the Lamb” (cf Rev 14:3).*

*Proclaim to the nations, ‘God is king,’ alleluia.*

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples.

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,  
to be feared above all gods;  
the gods of the heathens are naught.

It was the Lord who made the heavens,  
his are majesty and state and power  
and splendour in his holy place.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.

Bring an offering and enter his courts,  
worship the Lord in his temple.  
O earth, tremble before him.

Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'  
The world he made firm in its place;  
he will judge the peoples in fairness.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,  
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,  
let the land and all it bears rejoice,  
all the trees of the wood shout for joy

at the presence of the Lord for he comes,  
he comes to rule the earth.  
With justice he will rule the world,  
he will judge the peoples with his truth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Proclaim to the nations, 'God is king,' alleluia.*

**Psalm-prayer**

Lord, you have renewed the face of the earth. Your Church throughout the world sings you a new song, announcing your wonders to all. Through a virgin, you have brought forth a new birth in our world; through your miracles, a new power; through your suffering, a new patience; in your resurrection, a new hope, and in your ascension, new majesty.

**Or:**

Lord Jesus, the incarnate Word, when you consented to dwell with us, the heavens were glad and earth rejoiced. In hope and love we await your return. Help us to proclaim your glory to those who do not know you, until the whole earth sings to you a new song.

---

**Short Reading**

**Hebrews 13:7-9**

Remember your leaders, who preached the word of God to you, and as you reflect on the outcome of their lives, imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same today as he was yesterday and as he will be for ever. Do not let yourselves be led astray by all sorts of strange doctrines.

---

**Short Responsory**

I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.  
– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
They will never cease to tell of the name of the Lord, by day and by night.  
– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

**Canticle**

**Benedictus**

**The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*It is not you who speak: the Spirit of your Father speaks in you. Alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*It is not you who speak: the Spirit of your Father speaks in you. Alleluia.*

---

**Prayers and intercessions**

Christ, the good shepherd, laid down his life for his sheep. Let us praise him  
with grateful hearts, as we pray:  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

Christ our Lord, in the holy pastors you reveal your love for us;  
may we never be deprived of the care you show through them.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

Through your sacred ministers you are present in our midst as the shepherd  
of our souls;  
never cease to guide us through their teaching and encouragement.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

In the saints who lead your people, you manifest your power of healing  
souls and bodies;  
remain always with us to renew our lives in holiness.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

By the example of the saints you instruct your faithful in the ways of  
wisdom and love;  
through our pastors, help us grow to the full stature of perfection.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

O God of heaven, by whose grace Saint Asicus became a disciple of Patrick  
and worked for the beauty of your worship,  
be pleased, by his prayers,  
to make of our lives a work of art fashioned for the glory of your name.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

---

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## Monday 27 April 2020

**Monday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

*see also* [Saint Asicus, Bishop](#)

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

O Christ, the heavens' eternal King,

Creator, unto thee we sing,

With God the Father ever One,

Co-equal, co-eternal Son.

Thy hand, when first the world began,

Made in thine own pure image man,

And linked to fleshly form of earth

A living soul of heavenly birth.

And when the envious crafty foe

Had marred thy noblest work below,

Thou didst our ruined state repair

By deigning flesh thyself to wear.

Once of a virgin born to save,  
And now new born from death's dark grave,  
O Christ, thou bidd'st us rise with thee  
From death to immortality.

Eternal Shepherd, thou art wont  
To cleanse Thy sheep within the font,  
That mystic bath, that grave of sin,  
Where ransomed souls new life begin.

Divine Redeemer, thou didst deign  
To bear for us the cross of pain,  
And freely pay the precious price  
Of all thy blood in sacrifice.

Jesu, do thou to every heart  
Unceasing Paschal joy impart;  
From death of sin and guilty strife  
Set free the new born sons of life.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 122 (123)**  
**The Lord guards his people**

*“The two blind men cried out, ‘Lord, have pity on us, Son of David’”  
(Mt 20:30).*

*The Lord will be your everlasting light, your God will be your glory,  
alleluia.*

To you have I lifted up my eyes,  
you who dwell in the heavens;  
my eyes, like the eyes of slaves  
on the hand of their lords.

Like the eyes of a servant  
on the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes are on the Lord our God  
till he show us his mercy.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.  
We are filled with contempt.  
Indeed all too full is our soul  
with the scorn of the rich,  
with the proud man's disdain.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*The Lord will be your everlasting light, your God will be your glory,  
alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Father in heaven, we lift our eyes to you and pray: confound the scorn of  
the proud and graciously show us your mercy.

**Or:**

Lord Jesus Christ, you will wait on the servants who have kept faithful  
watch for you. Teach us to keep our eyes fixed on every trace of the work of  
your hands, so that we may watch for your coming and enter your home,  
our lamps radiant with light.

---

### **Psalm 123 (124) Our help is in the name of the Lord**

“The Lord said to Paul, ‘Do not fear; for I am with you’”  
(Acts 18:9,10).

*The snare has been broken and we have escaped, alleluia.*

‘If the Lord had not been on our side,’  
this is Israel’s song.

‘If the Lord had not been on our side  
when men rose up against us,  
then would they have swallowed us alive  
when their anger was kindled.

‘Then would the waters have engulfed us,  
the torrent gone over us;  
over our head would have swept  
the raging waters.’

Blessed be the Lord who did not give us  
a prey to their teeth!  
Our life, like a bird, has escaped  
from the snare of the fowler.

Indeed the snare has been broken  
and we have escaped.  
Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The snare has been broken and we have escaped, alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus, you foretold that your disciples would be despised on account of your name, but that not a hair of their heads is ever forgotten. In times of persecution, defend and revive us by the power and comfort of the Holy Spirit, so that we can be freed from our enemies and praise your saving help.

**God the Saviour**

*When I am lifted up above the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.  
Alleluia.*

Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

He chose us in him  
before the foundation of the world,  
that we should be holy  
and blameless before him.

He destined us in love  
to be his sons through Jesus Christ,  
according to the purpose of his will,  
to the praise of his glorious grace  
which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of his grace  
which he lavished upon us.

He has made known to us  
in all wisdom and insight  
the mystery of his will,  
according to his purpose  
which he set forth in Christ.

His purpose he set forth in Christ  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
to unite all things in him,  
things in heaven and things on earth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*When I am lifted up above the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.  
Alleluia.*

---

### **Short Reading**

**Hebrews 8:1-3**

Our High Priest has his place at the right of the throne of divine Majesty in the heavens, and he is the minister of the sanctuary and of the true Tent of Meeting which the Lord, and not any man, set up. It is the duty of every high priest to offer gifts and sacrifices.

---

### **Short Responsory**

The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*  
They saw the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Magnificat**

### **My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*This is the work that God requires: believe in the one whom he has sent.  
Alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.

Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*This is the work that God requires: believe in the one whom he has sent.  
Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to Christ, who was raised up by the Holy Spirit in his living and  
life-giving body.

– *Lord, renew the whole of your creation.*

Christ, Saviour of the world, king of the new creation, you are enthroned at  
God's right hand;  
set our hearts on the things that are of heaven.

– *Lord, renew the whole of your creation.*

Lord, you are living always in your Church:  
lead her through the Holy Spirit into the fullness of your truth.  
– *Lord, renew the whole of your creation.*

Have pity on the sick, the distressed and the dying;  
strengthen, comfort and sustain them.  
– *Lord, renew the whole of your creation.*

Christ, unfailing light, accept our devotion at the close of this day;  
shed the radiance of your glory on the faithful departed.  
– *Lord, renew the whole of your creation.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

God and Father,  
to those who go astray  
you reveal the light of your truth  
and enable them to return to the right path.  
Grant that all who have received the grace of baptism  
may strive to be worthy of their Christian calling  
and reject everything opposed to it.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

---

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## Monday 27 April 2020

**Saint Asicus, Bishop**

*see also* [Monday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Who are these like stars appearing,  
these, before God's throne who stand?

Each a golden crown is wearing;

who are all this glorious band?

Alleluia! Hark, they sing,

praising loud their heavenly King.

Who are these of dazzling brightness,  
clothed in God's own righteousness?

These, whose robes of purest whiteness,

shall their lustre still possess,

still untouched by time's rude hand?

Whence came all this glorious band?

These are they who have contended  
for their Saviour's honour long,  
wrestling on till life was ended,  
following not the sinful throng;  
these who well the fight sustained,  
triumph through the Lamb have gained.

These are they whose hearts were riven,  
sore with woe and anguish tried,  
who in prayer full oft have striven  
with the God they glorified;  
now, their painful conflict o'er,  
God has bid them weep no more.

These, the Almighty contemplating,  
did as priests before him stand,  
soul and body always waiting  
day and night at his command:  
now in God's most holy place  
blest they stand before his face.

---

**Psalm 122 (123)**  
**The Lord guards his people**

**“The two blind men cried out, ‘Lord, have pity on us, Son of David’”  
(Mt 20:30).**

*The Lord will be your everlasting light, your God will be your glory,  
alleluia.*

To you have I lifted up my eyes,  
you who dwell in the heavens;  
my eyes, like the eyes of slaves  
on the hand of their lords.

Like the eyes of a servant  
on the hand of her mistress,

so our eyes are on the Lord our God  
till he show us his mercy.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

We are filled with contempt.

Indeed all too full is our soul  
with the scorn of the rich,  
with the proud man's disdain.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord will be your everlasting light, your God will be your glory,  
alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Father in heaven, we lift our eyes to you and pray: confound the scorn of  
the proud and graciously show us your mercy.

**Or:**

Lord Jesus Christ, you will wait on the servants who have kept faithful  
watch for you. Teach us to keep our eyes fixed on every trace of the work of  
your hands, so that we may watch for your coming and enter your home,  
our lamps radiant with light.

---

### **Psalm 123 (124)**

**Our help is in the name of the Lord**

*“The Lord said to Paul, ‘Do not fear; for I am with you’”  
(Acts 18:9,10).*

*The snare has been broken and we have escaped, alleluia.*

‘If the Lord had not been on our side,’  
this is Israel’s song.

‘If the Lord had not been on our side  
when men rose up against us,  
then would they have swallowed us alive  
when their anger was kindled.

‘Then would the waters have engulfed us,  
the torrent gone over us;  
over our head would have swept  
the raging waters.’

Blessed be the Lord who did not give us  
a prey to their teeth!  
Our life, like a bird, has escaped  
from the snare of the fowler.

Indeed the snare has been broken  
and we have escaped.  
Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The snare has been broken and we have escaped, alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus, you foretold that your disciples would be despised on account of your name, but that not a hair of their heads is ever forgotten. In times of persecution, defend and revive us by the power and comfort of the Holy Spirit, so that we can be freed from our enemies and praise your saving help.

---

**God the Saviour**

*When I am lifted up above the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.  
Alleluia.*

Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

He chose us in him  
before the foundation of the world,  
that we should be holy  
and blameless before him.

He destined us in love  
to be his sons through Jesus Christ,  
according to the purpose of his will,  
to the praise of his glorious grace  
which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of his grace  
which he lavished upon us.

He has made known to us  
in all wisdom and insight  
the mystery of his will,  
according to his purpose  
which he set forth in Christ.

His purpose he set forth in Christ  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
to unite all things in him,  
things in heaven and things on earth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*When I am lifted up above the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.  
Alleluia.*

---

### **Short Reading**

**1 Peter 5:1-4**

Now I have something to tell your elders: I am an elder myself, and a witness to the sufferings of Christ, and with you I have a share in the glory that is to be revealed. Be the shepherds of the flock of God that is entrusted to you: watch over it, not simply as a duty but gladly, because God wants it; not for sordid money, but because you are eager to do it. Never be a dictator over any group that is put in your charge, but be an example that the whole flock can follow. When the chief shepherd appears, you will be given the crown of unfading glory.

---

### **Short Responsory**

This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people. Alleluia, alleluia.

– *This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people.  
Alleluia, alleluia.*

He laid down his life for his brothers.

– *This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people.  
Alleluia, alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people.  
Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Magnificat**

**My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*This is the faithful and wise steward whom the Master placed over his household to give them their measure of food at the proper time. Alleluia.*

*Or: I thank you, Christ, for honouring me by leading me to this glory. You are the good shepherd; I pray that the sheep which you have placed in my charge will share with me in your glory for ever. Alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*This is the faithful and wise steward whom the Master placed over his household to give them their measure of food at the proper time.*

*Alleluia.*

*Or: I thank you, Christ, for honouring me by leading me to this glory. You are the good shepherd; I pray that the sheep which you have placed in my charge will share with me in your glory for ever. Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to Christ, the high priest, who was appointed to represent men in their relations with God.

– *Lord, save your people.*

Lord Jesus, in times past you have lighted the way for your people through wise and holy leaders;

may Christians always enjoy this sign of your loving kindness.

– *Lord, save your people.*

You forgave the sins of your people when holy pastors prayed;  
continually cleanse your Church through their powerful intercession.

– *Lord, save your people.*

In the presence of their brothers, you anointed your holy ones and poured on them your Spirit;

fill with your Holy Spirit all the leaders of your people.

– *Lord, save your people.*

Nothing could ever separate the holy pastors from your love;  
do not lose even one of those whom you redeemed by your passion.

– *Lord, save your people.*

Through the pastors of your Church you give your sheep eternal life, and no one can steal them from you;

save the faithful departed, for whom you laid down your life.

– *Lord, save your people.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

O God of heaven, by whose grace Saint Asicus became a disciple of Patrick  
and worked for the beauty of your worship,  
be pleased, by his prayers,  
to make of our lives a work of art fashioned for the glory of your name.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

---

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## Monday 27 April 2020

**Monday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**  
*or Saint Asicus, Bishop*

### Compline (Night Prayer)

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Examination of Conscience

*This is an excellent moment for an examination of conscience. In a communal celebration of Compline, one of the penitential acts given in the Missal may be recited.*

---

#### Hymn

Jesu, the world's redeeming Lord,  
The Father's co-eternal Word,  
Of light invisible true Light,  
Thine Israel's Keeper day and night.

Our great Creator and our Guide,  
Who times and seasons dost divide,  
Refresh at night with quiet rest,  
Our limbs by daily toil oppressed.

We pray thee, while we dwell below,  
Preserve us from our ghostly foe;  
Nor let his wiles victorious be  
O'er them that are redeemed by thee.

That while in this frail house of clay  
A little longer here we stay,  
Our flesh in thee may sweetly sleep,  
Our souls with thee their vigils keep.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 85 (86)**  
**A poor man's prayer in time of trouble**

“Blessed be God, who comforts us in all our sorrows” (2 Cor 1:3-4).

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Turn your ear, O Lord, and give answer  
for I am poor and needy.  
Preserve my life, for I am faithful;  
save the servant who trusts in you.

You are my God, have mercy on me, Lord,  
for I cry to you all the day long.  
Give joy to your servant, O Lord,  
for to you I lift up my soul.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of love to all who call.  
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer  
and attend to the sound of my voice.

In the day of distress I will call

and surely you will reply.  
Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord;  
nor work to compare with yours.

All the nations shall come to adore you  
and glorify your name, O Lord:  
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,  
you who alone are God.

Show me, Lord, your way  
so that I may walk in your truth.  
Guide my heart to fear your name.

I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart  
and glorify your name for ever;  
for your love to me has been great:  
you have saved me from the depths of the grave.

The proud have risen against me;  
ruthless men seek my life;  
to you they pay no heed.

But you, God of mercy and compassion,  
slow to anger, O Lord,  
abounding in love and truth,  
turn and take pity on me.

O give your strength to your servant  
and save your handmaid's son.  
Show me a sign of your favour  
that my foes may see to their shame  
that you console me and give me your help.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

God of mercy and goodness, when Christ called out to you in torment, you heard him and gave him victory over death because of his love for you. We already know the affection you have for us; fill us with a greater love of your name and we will proclaim you more boldly before men and happily lead them to celebrate your glory.

---

### **Short Reading**

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:9-10**

God chose us to possess salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us in order that we might live together with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes.

---

### **Short Responsory**

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

### **Nunc Dimittis**

#### **Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel**

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

At last, all-powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation

which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may  
keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

---

**Let us pray.**

Lord, give our bodies restful sleep;  
and let the work we have done today  
be sown for an eternal harvest.

Through Christ our Lord,

**Amen.**

---

The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**Amen.**

---

**Regina Caeli**

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia!  
for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!  
has risen as he said, alleluia!  
Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Regína cæli, lætare, allelúia,  
quia quem meruísti portáre, allelúia,  
resurrexit sicut dixit, allelúia;  
ora pro nobis Deum, allelúia.

---

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## Monday 27 April 2020

**Monday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

*see also* [Saint Asicus, Bishop](#)

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

### Readings at Mass

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#### Entrance Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen,  
who laid down his life for his sheep  
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

---

#### Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that, putting off our old self with all its ways,  
we may live as Christ did,  
for through the healing paschal remedies  
you have conformed us to his nature.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

---

#### First reading

**Acts 6:8-15**

**They could not get the better of Stephen because the Spirit prompted  
what he said**

Stephen was filled with grace and power and began to work miracles and great signs among the people. But then certain people came forward to debate with Stephen, some from Cyrene and Alexandria who were members

of the synagogue called the Synagogue of Freedmen, and others from Cilicia and Asia. They found they could not get the better of him because of his wisdom, and because it was the Spirit that prompted what he said. So they procured some men to say, ‘We heard him using blasphemous language against Moses and against God.’ Having in this way turned the people against him as well as the elders and scribes, they took Stephen by surprise, and arrested him and brought him before the Sanhedrin. There they put up false witnesses to say, ‘This man is always making speeches against this Holy Place and the Law. We have heard him say that Jesus the Nazarene is going to destroy this Place and alter the traditions that Moses handed down to us.’ The members of the Sanhedrin all looked intently at Stephen, and his face appeared to them like the face of an angel.

---

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 118(119):23-24,26-27,29-30**

*They are happy whose life is blameless.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Though princes sit plotting against me

I ponder on your statutes.

Your will is my delight;

your statutes are my counsellors.

*They are happy whose life is blameless.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

I declared my ways and you answered;

teach me your statutes.

Make me grasp the way of your precepts

and I will muse on your wonders.

*They are happy whose life is blameless.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Keep me from the way of error  
and teach me your law.  
I have chosen the way of truth  
with your decrees before me.

*They are happy whose life is blameless.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn20:29**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
‘You believe, Thomas, because you can see me.  
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.  
Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Mt4:4**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Man does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
Alleluia!

---

**Gospel**

**John 6:22-29**

**Do not work for food that cannot last, but for food that endures to eternal life**

After Jesus had fed the five thousand, his disciples saw him walking on the water. Next day, the crowd that had stayed on the other side saw that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not got into the boat with his disciples, but that the disciples had set off by themselves. Other boats, however, had put in from Tiberias, near the place where the bread had been eaten. When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into those boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’

Jesus answered:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs  
but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.  
Do not work for food that cannot last,  
but work for food that endures to eternal life,  
the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you,  
for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.’

Then they said to him, ‘What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?’ Jesus gave them this answer, ‘This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.’

---

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,  
together with the sacrificial offerings,  
so that, purified by your graciousness,  
we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Jn 14: 27**

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
Not as the world gives do I give it to you, says the Lord, alleluia.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who restore us to eternal life  
in the Resurrection of Christ,  
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament  
and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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## Monday 27 April 2020

**Saint Asicus, Bishop**

*see also* [Monday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

### Readings at Mass

---

#### Entrance Antiphon

The Lord chose him for himself as high priest,  
and, opening his treasure house,  
made him rich in all good things, alleluia.

**Or:**

**Cf. Sir 50: 1; 44: 16, 22**

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God;  
therefore, in accordance with his promise,  
the Lord gave him growth for the good of his people, alleluia.

---

#### Collect

O God of heaven, by whose grace Saint Asicus became a disciple of Patrick  
and worked for the beauty of your worship,  
be pleased, by his prayers,  
to make of our lives a work of art fashioned for the glory of your name.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

[Readings for the feria](#)

[Readings for the memorial](#)

*These are the readings for the feria*

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## **First reading**

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Stephen was filled with grace and power and began to work miracles and great signs among the people. But then certain people came forward to debate with Stephen, some from Cyrene and Alexandria who were members of the synagogue called the Synagogue of Freedmen, and others from Cilicia and Asia. They found they could not get the better of him because of his wisdom, and because it was the Spirit that prompted what he said. So they procured some men to say, 'We heard him using blasphemous language against Moses and against God.' Having in this way turned the people against him as well as the elders and scribes, they took Stephen by surprise, and arrested him and brought him before the Sanhedrin. There they put up false witnesses to say, 'This man is always making speeches against this Holy Place and the Law. We have heard him say that Jesus the Nazarene is going to destroy this Place and alter the traditions that Moses handed down to us.' The members of the Sanhedrin all looked intently at Stephen, and his face appeared to them like the face of an angel.

---

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 118(119):23-24,26-27,29-30**

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**or**

*Alleluia!*

Though princes sit plotting against me  
I ponder on your statutes.  
Your will is my delight;  
your statutes are my counsellors.

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I declared my ways and you answered;  
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Make me grasp the way of your precepts  
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Keep me from the way of error  
and teach me your law.  
I have chosen the way of truth  
with your decrees before me.

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**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn20:29**

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‘You believe, Thomas, because you can see me.  
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.  
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**Or:**

**Mt4:4**

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Alleluia!

---

**Gospel**

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Jesus answered:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs  
but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.  
Do not work for food that cannot last,  
but work for food that endures to eternal life,  
the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you,  
for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.’

Then they said to him, ‘What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?’ Jesus gave them this answer, ‘This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.’

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*These are the readings for the memorial*

[Acts 13:46-49](#) Since you have rejected the word of God, we must turn to the pagans

[Acts 20:17-18,28-32,36](#) I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, and its power

[Acts 26:19-23](#) I have stood firm to this day, testifying to great and small alike

**First reading**

**Acts 13:46-49**

**Since you have rejected the word of God, we must turn to the pagans**

Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly. 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

*I have made you a light for the nations,  
so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'*

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

[Continue](#)

**First reading**

**Acts 20:17-18,28-32,36**

**I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, and its power**

From Miletus Paul sent for the elders of the church of Ephesus. When they arrived he addressed these words to them:

'Be on your guard for yourselves and for all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you the overseers, to feed the Church of God which he bought with his own blood. I know

quite well that when I have gone fierce wolves will invade you and will have no mercy on the flock. Even from your own ranks there will be men coming forward with a travesty of the truth on their lips to induce the disciples to follow them. So be on your guard, remembering how night and day for three years I never failed to keep you right, shedding tears over each one of you. And now I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace that has power to build you up and to give you your inheritance among all the sanctified.'

When he had finished speaking he knelt down with them all and prayed.

[Continue](#)

**First reading**

**Acts 26:19-23**

**I have stood firm to this day, testifying to great and small alike**

Paul said: 'King Agrippa, I could not disobey the heavenly vision. On the contrary I started preaching, first to the people of Damascus, then to those of Jerusalem and all the countryside of Judaea, and also to the pagans, urging them to repent and turn to God, proving their change of heart by their deeds. This was why the Jews laid hands on me in the Temple and tried to do away with me. But I was blessed with God's help, and so I have stood firm to this day, testifying to great and small alike, saying nothing more than what the prophets and Moses himself said would happen: that the Christ was to suffer and that, as the first to rise from the dead, he was to proclaim that light now shone for our people and for the pagans too.'

[Continue](#)

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 88(89):2-5,21-22,25,27**

*I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.*

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;  
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.  
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,  
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

*I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.*

‘I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
I will establish your dynasty for ever  
and set up your throne through all ages.

*I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.*

‘I have found David my servant  
and with my holy oil anointed him.  
My hand shall always be with him  
and my arm shall make him strong.

*I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.*

‘My truth and my love shall be with him;  
by my name his might shall be exalted.  
He will say to me: “You are my father,  
my God, the rock who saves me.”’

*I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.*

---

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Mt23:9,10**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You have only one Father, and he is in heaven;  
you have only one Teacher, the Christ.  
Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Mt28:19,20**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go, make disciples of all the nations.

I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.

Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Mk1:17**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Follow me, says the Lord,

and I will make you into fishers of men.

Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Lk4:18**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,  
to proclaim liberty to captives.

Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Jn10:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Jn15:5**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the vine,

you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me, with me in him,

bears fruit in plenty,

says the Lord.

Alleluia!

**Or:**

**2Co5:19**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,  
and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.  
Alleluia!

---

## **Gospel**

**Matthew 9:35-37**

### **The harvest is rich but the labourers are few**

Jesus made a tour through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness.

And when he saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

[Continue](#)

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## **Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept this sacrifice from your people, we pray, O Lord,  
and make what is offered for your glory,  
in honour of blessed **N.**,  
a means to our eternal salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

## **Communion Antiphon**

**Cf. Jn 10: 11**

The Good Shepherd has laid down his life  
for his sheep, alleluia.

---

## **Prayer after Communion**

May the Sacrament we have received, O Lord our God,  
stir up in us that fire of charity

with which blessed **N.** burned ardently  
as he gave himself unceasingly for your Church.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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**Tuesday 28 April 2020**

**Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

*or* **Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr**

*or* **Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest**

## **Lectio Divina**

### **Introduction**

*Make whatever preparations you need to leave the shadow world behind and encounter the fire of the Spirit and the light of God.*

*If you have chosen a specific bodily position, adopt it. If you have chosen to prepare the space and the place in some way (perhaps drawing a curtain or lighting a candle), make that preparation.*

*Eliminate distractions and the possibility of interruption.*

### **Sign of the Cross**

*We invoke God, in whose name we act and to whom we are about to open ourselves.*

In the name of the Father, ✠  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

### **Invocation of the Holy Spirit**

*We invoke the Holy Spirit, who will speak to us and listen in us.*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.  
**And you shall renew the face of the earth.**

## Act of Contrition

*By acknowledging our sinfulness and admitting that by ourselves we can do nothing that is not flawed, we ask God to take the initiative in this encounter.*

Have mercy on us, O Lord:  
**For we have sinned against you.**  
Show us, O Lord, your mercy:  
**And grant us your salvation.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## The Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*The Gospel should be read slowly, meditatively, with pauses between sentences or whenever the sense requires it. The aim is not to tell the text to God, who knows it already, but to let God tell it to us. For this, there have to be silences so that what God is telling us can be heard.*

*When a group is doing Lectio Divina, it is usually best to take turns in reading the words of the Gospel, since for many people speaking will bring the words to mind better than hearing does. But do not let this become a distraction in itself: have a clear order known in advance, and a simple signal for handing over the baton from one person to the next.*

**John 6:30-35**

### **It is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven**

The people said to Jesus, ‘What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*’

Jesus answered:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven,  
it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven,  
the true bread;

for the bread of God  
is that which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world.’

‘Sir,’ they said ‘give us that bread always.’ Jesus answered:

‘I am the bread of life.  
He who comes to me will never be hungry;  
he who believes in me will never thirst.’

---

## The Response

### **Meditatio (reflection)**

*What does the Gospel say to me?*

*God has willed me to be here, now, today, for a reason. Now is the time to reflect, and find that reason, and hear what God has chosen to tell me.*

*A good pattern is this:*

- What has drawn my attention or struck me in some way?*
- Why? Was it a person? A word? A situation? A gesture?*
- What, therefore, is God saying to me through these words, here and now, today?*

*The “I” and the “me” are important. To say “we” or “us” is to evade the encounter by softening the focus and hiding behind membership of a group. The meeting with Jesus is face to face, one to one.*

### **The shared echo**

*When several people are doing Lectio together, especially if they do so regularly, then there is the opportunity for each person to share the words that have had the most impact in today’s passage, or the message it has conveyed.*

*There is no obligation to share an echo, and some members may take many meetings before sharing one, or may even never do so.*

*An echo is what struck me – not “you” or “us”. It is not a mini-sermon or a carefully crafted uplifting thought. Echoes do not have echoes. The sharing of echoes and the listening to echoes are not a discussion aiming at a conclusion, but the opening of one heart to another.*

*The experience of sharing echoes brings the group closer together. Over time, its power grows.*

## Oratio (prayer)

*God has spoken to me. What do I reply?*

*Silently, each of us responds to what God has said to him through the passage we have read and even through the echoes we have heard.*

*As a matter of human practicality, one person should be responsible for deciding the time taken for silent prayer. Even better, a timer or hourglass can be used. Otherwise “Are we nearly there yet?” can be a potent distraction.*

## Contemplatio (contemplation)

*Sometimes we may be led beyond prayer into a quiet and attentive resting in the presence of God.*

## Conclusion

*We prepare to return to the everyday world, carrying with us what we have received in our minds and our hearts today.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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### Invitatory Psalm

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Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 99 (100)**

**“The Lord calls all those he has redeemed to sing a hymn of victory”  
(St Athanasius).**

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him,

we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Go within his gates, giving thanks.

Enter his courts with songs of praise.

Give thanks to him and bless his name.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,

eternal his merciful love.

He is faithful from age to age.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

---

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr**

*see also* [Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

*see also* [Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest](#)

### Invitatory Psalm

---

Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 99 (100)**

**“The Lord calls all those he has redeemed to sing a hymn of victory”  
(St Athanasius).**

*The Lord is the king of martyrs: come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him,

we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Go within his gates, giving thanks.

Enter his courts with songs of praise.

Give thanks to him and bless his name.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,

eternal his merciful love.

He is faithful from age to age.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord is the king of martyrs: come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

---

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Saint Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort, Priest**

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### Invitatory Psalm

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**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 99 (100)**

**“The Lord calls all those he has redeemed to sing a hymn of victory”  
(St Athanasius).**

*Christ is the chief shepherd, the leader of his flock: come, let us adore him,  
alleluia.*

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him,

we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Go within his gates, giving thanks.

Enter his courts with songs of praise.

Give thanks to him and bless his name.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,

eternal his merciful love.

He is faithful from age to age.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Christ is the chief shepherd, the leader of his flock: come, let us adore him,  
alleluia.*

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

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### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky,

Heav'n thunders forth its victor cry:

The glad earth shouts her triumph high,

And groaning hell makes wild reply.

While he, the King of sovereign might,

Treads down death's strength in death's despite,

And trampling hell by victor's right,

Brings forth his sleeping saints to light.

Fast barred beneath the stone of late,

In watch and ward where soldiers wait,  
Now shining in triumphant state,  
He rises victor from death's gate.

Hell's pains are loosed and tears are fled:  
Captivity is captive led:  
The angel, crowned with light, hath said:  
'The Lord is risen from the dead.'

Author of all, be thou our guide  
In this our joy of Eastertide;  
Whene'er assaults of death impend,  
Thy people strengthen and defend.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, thy people give:  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.

---

**Psalm 84 (85)**  
**Our salvation is very near**

**“When our Saviour came on earth God blessed his land” (Origen).**

*You will restore our life again, Lord, and your people will rejoice in you.*  
*Alleluia.*

O Lord, you once favoured your land  
and revived the fortunes of Jacob,  
you forgave the guilt of your people  
and covered all their sins.  
You averted all your rage,  
you calmed the heat of your anger.

Revive us now, God, our helper!  
Put an end to your grievance against us.  
Will you be angry with us for ever,  
will your anger never cease?

Will you not restore again our life  
that your people may rejoice in you?  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people and his friends  
and those who turn to him in their hearts.  
His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*You will restore our life again, Lord, and your people will rejoice in you.  
Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Show us your mercy, Lord; our misery is known to us. May no evil desires prevail over us, for your glory and love dwell in our hearts.

**Or:**

God of love and fidelity, you loved the world enough to give your only Son as Saviour and from a virgin brought him forth to the world. May we receive him as both Lord and brother and freely celebrate him as our gracious redeemer.

---

**Canticle**

**Isaiah 26**

**Hymn after victory over the enemy**

*“The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones” (cf. Rev 21:14).*

*We put our trust in the Lord and he gave us peace. Alleluia.*

We have a strong city;  
    he sets up salvation as walls and bulwarks.  
Open the gates  
    that the righteous nation which keeps faith may enter in.

You keep him in perfect peace,  
    whose mind is stayed on you,  
    because he trusts in you.  
Trust in the Lord for ever,  
    for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

The way of the righteous is level;  
    you make smooth the path of the righteous.  
In the path of your judgements, O Lord,  
    we wait for you.

My soul yearns for you in the night,  
    my spirit within me earnestly seeks you;  
for when your judgements are in the earth,  
    the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

O Lord, you will ordain peace for us;  
    you have wrought for us all our works.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*We put our trust in the Lord and he gave us peace. Alleluia.*

---

**Psalm 66 (67)**  
**All peoples, praise the Lord**

“Let it be known to you that this salvation from God has been sent to all peoples” (Acts 28:28).

*The earth has yielded its fruit: let the nations be glad and exult. Alleluia.*

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its fruit  
for God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
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Amen.

*The earth has yielded its fruit: let the nations be glad and exult. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Be gracious and bless us, Lord, and let your face shed its light on us, so that we can make you known with reverence and bring forth a harvest of justice.

**Or:**

All peoples praise you, Father, because through your kindly power the earth has brought forth its fruit, the tree of the cross. We ask that this cross unite all peoples in its embrace and feed them with its fruit, everlasting life.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Acts 13:30-33**

God raised Jesus from the dead, and for many days he appeared to those who had accompanied him from Galilee to Jerusalem: and it is these same companions of his who are now his witnesses before our people. We have come here to tell you the Good News. It was to our ancestors that God made the promise but it is to us, their children, that he has fulfilled it, by raising Jesus from the dead. As scripture says in the second psalm: *You are my son: today I have become your father.*

---

### **Short Responsory**

The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*  
For our sake he died on the cross, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## **Canticle**

## **Benedictus**

### **The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*I tell you solemnly, Moses did not give you bread from heaven, it is my  
Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. Alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,

and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*I tell you solemnly, Moses did not give you bread from heaven, it is my  
Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

By his own power Christ rebuilt the temple of his body, when it was torn  
down by death. Let us pray to him with joy.  
– *Lord, grant us the blessings of your resurrection.*

Lord Jesus, in your risen body you brought the good news of salvation to  
the women and the apostles;  
let us be your witnesses in this present age.  
– *Lord, grant us the blessings of your resurrection.*

You gave all men the promise of rising from the dead;  
make us heralds of your gospel, bringing men new hope.  
– *Lord, grant us the blessings of your resurrection.*

You appeared to the apostles and breathed the Holy Spirit upon them;  
pour out on us the Spirit who creates and renews.  
– *Lord, grant us the blessings of your resurrection.*

You promised to be with your disciples to the end of time;  
stay with us throughout this day and remain with us for ever.  
– *Lord, grant us the blessings of your resurrection.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

God our Father,  
you open the gates of the kingdom of heaven  
to those who are born again of water and the Holy Spirit  
Increase the grace you have given,  
so that the people you have purified from all sin  
may not forfeit the promised blessings of your love.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr**

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## Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

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### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

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is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

### Hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' name;

Let Angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem

To crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye Martyrs of your God,

Who from his altar call;

Praise him whose way of pain ye trod,

And crown him Lord of all.

Hail him, ye heirs of David's line,

Whom David Lord did call;  
The God Incarnate, Man Divine,  
And crown him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue  
To him their hearts enthrall,  
Lift high the universal song,  
And crown him Lord of all.

---

**Psalm 84 (85)**  
**Our salvation is very near**

*“When our Saviour came on earth God blessed his land” (Origen).*

*You will restore our life again, Lord, and your people will rejoice in you.*  
*Alleluia.*

O Lord, you once favoured your land  
and revived the fortunes of Jacob,  
you forgave the guilt of your people  
and covered all their sins.  
You averted all your rage,  
you calmed the heat of your anger.

Revive us now, God, our helper!  
Put an end to your grievance against us.  
Will you be angry with us for ever,  
will your anger never cease?

Will you not restore again our life  
that your people may rejoice in you?  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people and his friends  
and those who turn to him in their hearts.

His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
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Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
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Amen.

*You will restore our life again, Lord, and your people will rejoice in you.  
Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Show us your mercy, Lord; our misery is known to us. May no evil desires prevail over us, for your glory and love dwell in our hearts.

**Or:**

God of love and fidelity, you loved the world enough to give your only Son as Saviour and from a virgin brought him forth to the world. May we receive him as both Lord and brother and freely celebrate him as our gracious redeemer.

---

**Canticle**

**Isaiah 26**

**Hymn after victory over the enemy**

“The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones” (cf. Rev 21:14).

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We have a strong city;

he sets up salvation as walls and bulwarks.

Open the gates

that the righteous nation which keeps faith may enter in.

You keep him in perfect peace,

whose mind is stayed on you,

because he trusts in you.

Trust in the Lord for ever,

for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

The way of the righteous is level;

you make smooth the path of the righteous.

In the path of your judgements, O Lord,

we wait for you.

My soul yearns for you in the night,

my spirit within me earnestly seeks you;

for when your judgements are in the earth,

the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

O Lord, you will ordain peace for us;

you have wrought for us all our works.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

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“Let it be known to you that this salvation from God has been sent to all peoples” (Acts 28:28).

*The earth has yielded its fruit: let the nations be glad and exult. Alleluia.*

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its fruit  
for God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
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**Or:**

All peoples praise you, Father, because through your kindly power the earth has brought forth its fruit, the tree of the cross. We ask that this cross unite all peoples in its embrace and feed them with its fruit, everlasting life.

---

### **Short Reading**

**1 John 5:3-5**

This is what loving God is – keeping his commandments;  
and his commandments are not difficult,  
because anyone who has been begotten by God  
has already overcome the world.  
This is the victory over the world – our faith.  
Who can overcome the world?  
Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

---

### **Short Responsory**

The Lord is my strength. I will sing praise to him. Alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord is my strength. I will sing praise to him. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
He is my salvation.  
– *The Lord is my strength. I will sing praise to him. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The Lord is my strength. I will sing praise to him. Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Benedictus**

### **The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*Rejoice, all you saints, and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,  
alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!  
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Rejoice, all you saints, and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,  
alleluia.*

---

## Prayers and intercessions

Through the martyrs who were slain for God's word, let us give glory to our  
Saviour, the faithful and true witness.

– *You redeemed us by your precious blood.*

Through the martyrs, who bore witness to your love,  
set us free to live for you.

– *You redeemed us by your precious blood.*

Through the martyrs, who proclaimed your saving death,  
give us a deep and constant faith.

– *You redeemed us by your precious blood.*

Through the martyrs, who took up your cross,  
grant us courage for every trial.

– *You redeemed us by your precious blood.*

Through the martyrs, washed in the blood of the Lamb,  
give us grace to conquer our weakness.

– *You redeemed us by your precious blood.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

Lord God, you made the martyrdom of Saint Peter Chanel  
serve the growth of your Church.

Give us grace, in these days of Easter joy,

so to celebrate the mysteries of Christ's death and resurrection

that we may give witness of newness of life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

---

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest**

see also [Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

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## Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

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### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

### Hymn

Who are these like stars appearing,  
these, before God's throne who stand?

Each a golden crown is wearing;  
who are all this glorious band?

Alleluia! Hark, they sing,  
praising loud their heavenly King.

Who are these of dazzling brightness,  
clothed in God's own righteousness?  
These, whose robes of purest whiteness,  
shall their lustre still possess,

still untouched by time's rude hand?  
Whence came all this glorious band?

These are they who have contended  
for their Saviour's honour long,  
wrestling on till life was ended,  
following not the sinful throng;  
these who well the fight sustained,  
triumph through the Lamb have gained.

These are they whose hearts were riven,  
sore with woe and anguish tried,  
who in prayer full oft have striven  
with the God they glorified;  
now, their painful conflict o'er,  
God has bid them weep no more.

These, the Almighty contemplating,  
did as priests before him stand,  
soul and body always waiting  
day and night at his command:  
now in God's most holy place  
blest they stand before his face.

---

**Psalm 84 (85)**  
**Our salvation is very near**

**“When our Saviour came on earth God blessed his land” (Origen).**

*You will restore our life again, Lord, and your people will rejoice in you.*  
*Alleluia.*

O Lord, you once favoured your land  
and revived the fortunes of Jacob,  
you forgave the guilt of your people  
and covered all their sins.  
You averted all your rage,

you calmed the heat of your anger.

Revive us now, God, our helper!

Put an end to your grievance against us.

Will you be angry with us for ever,  
will your anger never cease?

Will you not restore again our life  
that your people may rejoice in you?

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people and his friends  
and those who turn to him in their hearts.  
His help is near for those who fear him  
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Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
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The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
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Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
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God of love and fidelity, you loved the world enough to give your only Son as Saviour and from a virgin brought him forth to the world. May we receive him as both Lord and brother and freely celebrate him as our gracious redeemer.

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**Canticle**

**Isaiah 26**

**Hymn after victory over the enemy**

**“The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones” (cf. Rev 21:14).**

*We put our trust in the Lord and he gave us peace. Alleluia.*

We have a strong city;

he sets up salvation as walls and bulwarks.

Open the gates

that the righteous nation which keeps faith may enter in.

You keep him in perfect peace,

whose mind is stayed on you,

because he trusts in you.

Trust in the Lord for ever,

for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

The way of the righteous is level;

you make smooth the path of the righteous.

In the path of your judgements, O Lord,

we wait for you.

My soul yearns for you in the night,

my spirit within me earnestly seeks you;

for when your judgements are in the earth,

the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

O Lord, you will ordain peace for us;  
you have wrought for us all our works.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*We put our trust in the Lord and he gave us peace. Alleluia.*

---

**Psalm 66 (67)**  
**All peoples, praise the Lord**

**“Let it be known to you that this salvation from God has been sent to  
all peoples” (Acts 28:28).**

*The earth has yielded its fruit: let the nations be glad and exult. Alleluia.*

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its fruit  
for God, our God, has blessed us.

May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*The earth has yielded its fruit: let the nations be glad and exult. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Be gracious and bless us, Lord, and let your face shed its light on us, so that we can make you known with reverence and bring forth a harvest of justice.

**Or:**

All peoples praise you, Father, because through your kindly power the earth has brought forth its fruit, the tree of the cross. We ask that this cross unite all peoples in its embrace and feed them with its fruit, everlasting life.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Hebrews 13:7-9**

Remember your leaders, who preached the word of God to you, and as you reflect on the outcome of their lives, imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same today as he was yesterday and as he will be for ever. Do not let yourselves be led astray by all sorts of strange doctrines.

---

### **Short Responsory**

I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.  
– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
They will never cease to tell of the name of the Lord, by day and by night.  
– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

**Canticle**

**Benedictus**

**The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*It is not you who speak: the Spirit of your Father speaks in you. Alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,

and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*It is not you who speak: the Spirit of your Father speaks in you. Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Christ, the good shepherd, laid down his life for his sheep. Let us praise him  
with grateful hearts, as we pray:  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

Christ our Lord, in the holy pastors you reveal your love for us;  
may we never be deprived of the care you show through them.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

Through your sacred ministers you are present in our midst as the shepherd  
of our souls;  
never cease to guide us through their teaching and encouragement.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

In the saints who lead your people, you manifest your power of healing  
souls and bodies;  
remain always with us to renew our lives in holiness.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

By the example of the saints you instruct your faithful in the ways of  
wisdom and love;  
through our pastors, help us grow to the full stature of perfection.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Father, you made your Church grow  
through the Christian zeal and apostolic work  
of Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort.  
By the help of his prayers  
give your Church continued growth in holiness and faith.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

---

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

*see also* [Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr](#)

*see also* [Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest](#)

## Vespers (Evening Prayer)

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### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

### Hymn

O Christ, the heavens' eternal King,

Creator, unto thee we sing,

With God the Father ever One,

Co-equal, co-eternal Son.

Thy hand, when first the world began,

Made in thine own pure image man,

And linked to fleshly form of earth

A living soul of heavenly birth.

And when the envious crafty foe

Had marred thy noblest work below,

Thou didst our ruined state repair

By deigning flesh thyself to wear.

Once of a virgin born to save,  
And now new born from death's dark grave,  
O Christ, thou bidd'st us rise with thee  
From death to immortality.

Eternal Shepherd, thou art wont  
To cleanse Thy sheep within the font,  
That mystic bath, that grave of sin,  
Where ransomed souls new life begin.

Divine Redeemer, thou didst deign  
To bear for us the cross of pain,  
And freely pay the precious price  
Of all thy blood in sacrifice.

Jesu, do thou to every heart  
Unceasing Paschal joy impart;  
From death of sin and guilty strife  
Set free the new born sons of life.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 124 (125)**  
**The Lord guards his people**

**“Peace to the Israel of God” (Gal 6:16).**

*Peace be with you, it is I: do not be afraid. Alleluia.*

Those who put their trust in the Lord  
are like Mount Sion, that cannot be shaken,  
that stands for ever.

Jerusalem! The mountains surround her,  
so the Lord surrounds his people  
both now and for ever.

For the sceptre of the wicked shall not rest  
over the land of the just  
for fear that the hands of the just  
should turn to evil.

Do good, Lord, to those who are good,  
to the upright of heart;  
but the crooked and those who do evil,  
drive them away!  
On Israel, peace!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Peace be with you, it is I: do not be afraid. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Surround your people, Lord, within the safety of your Church, which you preserve on her rock foundation. Do not let us stretch out our hands to evil deeds, nor be destroyed by the insidious snares of the enemy, but bring us to share the lot of the saints in light.

---

### **Psalm 130 (131) Childlike trust in God**

**“Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart” (Mt 11:29).**

*O Israel, hope in the Lord. Alleluia.*

O Lord, my heart is not proud  
nor haughty my eyes.  
I have not gone after things too great  
nor marvels beyond me.

Truly I have set my soul  
in silence and peace.  
A weaned child on its mother's breast,  
even so is my soul.

O Israel, hope in the Lord  
both now and for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*O Israel, hope in the Lord. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, you declared that whoever receives a little child in your name receives you, and you promised your kingdom to those who are like children. Never let pride reign in our hearts, but may the Father's compassion reward and embrace all who willingly bear your gentle yoke.

---

**Canticle**

**Apocalypse 4,5**

### **The song of the redeemed**

*May your whole creation serve you, for you spoke and they came into being. Alleluia.*

Worthy are you, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honour and power,

for you created all things,  
and by your will they existed and were created.

Worthy are you, O Lord,  
to take the scroll and to open its seals,  
for you were slain,  
and by your blood you ransomed men for God  
from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

You have made us a kingdom and priests to our God,  
and we shall reign on earth.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
to receive power and wealth  
and wisdom and might  
and honour and glory and blessing.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*May your whole creation serve you, for you spoke and they came into  
being. Alleluia.*

---

## **Short Reading**

**1 Peter 2:4-5**

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house.

---

## **Short Responsory**

The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*  
They saw the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.

– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

**Canticle**

**Magnificat**

### **My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*The bread of God is that which came down from heaven and gives life to the world. Alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.  
Amen.

*The bread of God is that which came down from heaven and gives life to the world. Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Rejoicing, let us pray to Christ who was buried in the heart of the earth to  
awake in the light of glory.  
– *King of glory, hear us.*

We pray for bishops, priests and deacons: may they be dedicated to their  
ministry;  
grant that they may present to you a people ready for every kind of good  
work.  
– *King of glory, hear us.*

We pray for those who serve the Church as teachers of the faith:  
may they always seek your truth with sincerity of heart.  
– *King of glory, hear us.*

We pray for all the faithful: may they run the great race, finish the course;  
let them receive the crown of victory in the kingdom of heaven.  
– *King of glory, hear us.*

Lord, you cancelled on the cross our sentence of damnation;  
free us from the darkness of our sins.  
– *King of glory, hear us.*

You descended into hell and opened wide its gates;  
receive the faithful departed into your Father's house.  
– *King of glory, hear us.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

God our Father,  
you open the gates of the kingdom of heaven  
to those who are born again of water and the Holy Spirit  
Increase the grace you have given,  
so that the people you have purified from all sin  
may not forfeit the promised blessings of your love.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

---

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr**

*see also* [Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

*see also* [Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest](#)

## Vespers (Evening Prayer)

---

### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

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world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

### Hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' name;

Let Angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem

To crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye Martyrs of your God,

Who from his altar call;

Praise him whose way of pain ye trod,

And crown him Lord of all.

Hail him, ye heirs of David's line,

Whom David Lord did call;

The God Incarnate, Man Divine,

And crown him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue  
To him their hearts enthrall,  
Lift high the universal song,  
And crown him Lord of all.

---

**Psalm 124 (125)**  
**The Lord guards his people**

*“Peace to the Israel of God” (Gal 6:16).*

*Peace be with you, it is I: do not be afraid. Alleluia.*

Those who put their trust in the Lord  
are like Mount Sion, that cannot be shaken,  
that stands for ever.

Jerusalem! The mountains surround her,  
so the Lord surrounds his people  
both now and for ever.

For the sceptre of the wicked shall not rest  
over the land of the just  
for fear that the hands of the just  
should turn to evil.

Do good, Lord, to those who are good,  
to the upright of heart;  
but the crooked and those who do evil,  
drive them away!  
On Israel, peace!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Peace be with you, it is I: do not be afraid. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Surround your people, Lord, within the safety of your Church, which you preserve on her rock foundation. Do not let us stretch out our hands to evil deeds, nor be destroyed by the insidious snares of the enemy, but bring us to share the lot of the saints in light.

---

### **Psalm 130 (131) Childlike trust in God**

*“Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart” (Mt 11:29).*

*O Israel, hope in the Lord. Alleluia.*

O Lord, my heart is not proud  
nor haughty my eyes.  
I have not gone after things too great  
nor marvels beyond me.

Truly I have set my soul  
in silence and peace.  
A weaned child on its mother's breast,  
even so is my soul.

O Israel, hope in the Lord  
both now and for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
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Amen.

*O Israel, hope in the Lord. Alleluia.*

## **Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, you declared that whoever receives a little child in your name receives you, and you promised your kingdom to those who are like children. Never let pride reign in our hearts, but may the Father's compassion reward and embrace all who willingly bear your gentle yoke.

---

## **Canticle**

## **Apocalypse 4,5**

### **The song of the redeemed**

*May your whole creation serve you, for you spoke and they came into being. Alleluia.*

Worthy are you, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honour and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they existed and were created.

Worthy are you, O Lord,  
to take the scroll and to open its seals,  
for you were slain,  
and by your blood you ransomed men for God  
from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

You have made us a kingdom and priests to our God,  
and we shall reign on earth.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
to receive power and wealth  
and wisdom and might  
and honour and glory and blessing.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.  
Amen.

*May your whole creation serve you, for you spoke and they came into being. Alleluia.*

---

## **Short Reading**

### **Apocalypse 7:14-17**

These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.

---

## **Short Responsory**

You have tested us, God, and you have brought us out into freedom again.

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

– *You have tested us, God, and you have brought us out into freedom again.*

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

You have refined us like silver.

– *You have tested us, God, and you have brought us out into freedom again.*

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *You have tested us, God, and you have brought us out into freedom again.*

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## **Canticle**

## **Magnificat**

### **My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*Unless the wheat grain falls on the earth and dies, it remains itself alone;  
but if it dies it yields much fruit, alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Unless the wheat grain falls on the earth and dies, it remains itself alone;  
but if it dies it yields much fruit, alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us give thanks to the king of martyrs, for this is the hour when he  
offered himself in the last supper and laid down his life on the cross.  
— *We praise you, Christ the Lord.*

We praise you, Christ our Saviour, example and strength of the martyrs,  
because you have loved us to the end;  
– *We praise you, Christ the Lord.*

Because you have promised repentant sinners the reward of eternal life,  
– *We praise you, Christ the Lord.*

Because you have called the Church to offer the blood of the new and  
eternal covenant, the blood shed for the remission of sins,  
– *We praise you, Christ the Lord.*

Because you have brought us to this day with the gift of faith intact,  
– *We praise you, Christ the Lord.*

Because of the many brothers who today have come to share in your saving  
death,  
– *We praise you, Christ the Lord.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Lord God, you made the martyrdom of Saint Peter Chanel  
serve the growth of your Church.  
Give us grace, in these days of Easter joy,  
so to celebrate the mysteries of Christ's death and resurrection  
that we may give witness of newness of life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

---

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest**

*see also* [Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

*see also* [Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr](#)

## Vespers (Evening Prayer)

---

### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

### Hymn

Who are these like stars appearing,

these, before God's throne who stand?

Each a golden crown is wearing;

who are all this glorious band?

Alleluia! Hark, they sing,

praising loud their heavenly King.

Who are these of dazzling brightness,

clothed in God's own righteousness?

These, whose robes of purest whiteness,

shall their lustre still possess,

still untouched by time's rude hand?

Whence came all this glorious band?

These are they who have contended  
for their Saviour's honour long,  
wrestling on till life was ended,  
following not the sinful throng;  
these who well the fight sustained,  
triumph through the Lamb have gained.

These are they whose hearts were riven,  
sore with woe and anguish tried,  
who in prayer full oft have striven  
with the God they glorified;  
now, their painful conflict o'er,  
God has bid them weep no more.

These, the Almighty contemplating,  
did as priests before him stand,  
soul and body always waiting  
day and night at his command:  
now in God's most holy place  
blest they stand before his face.

---

**Psalm 124 (125)**  
**The Lord guards his people**

**“Peace to the Israel of God” (Gal 6:16).**

*Peace be with you, it is I: do not be afraid. Alleluia.*

Those who put their trust in the Lord  
are like Mount Sion, that cannot be shaken,  
that stands for ever.

Jerusalem! The mountains surround her,  
so the Lord surrounds his people  
both now and for ever.

For the sceptre of the wicked shall not rest  
over the land of the just

for fear that the hands of the just  
should turn to evil.

Do good, Lord, to those who are good,  
to the upright of heart;  
but the crooked and those who do evil,  
drive them away!  
On Israel, peace!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Peace be with you, it is I: do not be afraid. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Surround your people, Lord, within the safety of your Church, which you preserve on her rock foundation. Do not let us stretch out our hands to evil deeds, nor be destroyed by the insidious snares of the enemy, but bring us to share the lot of the saints in light.

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### **Psalm 130 (131) Childlike trust in God**

**“Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart” (Mt 11:29).**

*O Israel, hope in the Lord. Alleluia.*

O Lord, my heart is not proud  
nor haughty my eyes.  
I have not gone after things too great  
nor marvels beyond me.

Truly I have set my soul

in silence and peace.  
A weaned child on its mother's breast,  
even so is my soul.

O Israel, hope in the Lord  
both now and for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*O Israel, hope in the Lord. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, you declared that whoever receives a little child in your name receives you, and you promised your kingdom to those who are like children. Never let pride reign in our hearts, but may the Father's compassion reward and embrace all who willingly bear your gentle yoke.

---

### **Canticle**

### **Apocalypse 4,5**

### **The song of the redeemed**

*May your whole creation serve you, for you spoke and they came into being. Alleluia.*

Worthy are you, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honour and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they existed and were created.

Worthy are you, O Lord,  
to take the scroll and to open its seals,  
for you were slain,

and by your blood you ransomed men for God  
from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

You have made us a kingdom and priests to our God,  
and we shall reign on earth.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
to receive power and wealth  
and wisdom and might  
and honour and glory and blessing.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*May your whole creation serve you, for you spoke and they came into  
being. Alleluia.*

---

### **Short Reading**

**1 Peter 5:1-4**

Now I have something to tell your elders: I am an elder myself, and a witness to the sufferings of Christ, and with you I have a share in the glory that is to be revealed. Be the shepherds of the flock of God that is entrusted to you: watch over it, not simply as a duty but gladly, because God wants it; not for sordid money, but because you are eager to do it. Never be a dictator over any group that is put in your charge, but be an example that the whole flock can follow. When the chief shepherd appears, you will be given the crown of unfading glory.

---

### **Short Responsory**

This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people. Alleluia,  
alleluia.

– *This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people.  
Alleluia, alleluia.*

He laid down his life for his brothers.

– *This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people.*

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people.*

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## **Canticle**

## **Magnificat**

### **My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*I made myself all things to all men in order to save them all. Alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I made myself all things to all men in order to save them all. Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to Christ, the high priest, who was appointed to represent men  
in their relations with God.

– *Lord, save your people.*

Lord Jesus, in times past you have lighted the way for your people through  
wise and holy leaders;

may Christians always enjoy this sign of your loving kindness.

– *Lord, save your people.*

You forgave the sins of your people when holy pastors prayed;  
continually cleanse your Church through their powerful intercession.

– *Lord, save your people.*

In the presence of their brothers, you anointed your holy ones and poured  
on them your Spirit;

fill with your Holy Spirit all the leaders of your people.

– *Lord, save your people.*

Nothing could ever separate the holy pastors from your love;  
do not lose even one of those whom you redeemed by your passion.

– *Lord, save your people.*

Through the pastors of your Church you give your sheep eternal life, and no  
one can steal them from you;

save the faithful departed, for whom you laid down your life.

– *Lord, save your people.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Father, you made your Church grow  
through the Christian zeal and apostolic work  
of Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort.  
By the help of his prayers  
give your Church continued growth in holiness and faith.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide

*or* Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr

*or* Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest

### Compline (Night Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Examination of Conscience

*This is an excellent moment for an examination of conscience. In a communal celebration of Compline, one of the penitential acts given in the Missal may be recited.*

---

#### Hymn

Jesu, the world's redeeming Lord,  
The Father's co-eternal Word,  
Of light invisible true Light,  
Thine Israel's Keeper day and night.

Our great Creator and our Guide,  
Who times and seasons dost divide,  
Refresh at night with quiet rest,

Our limbs by daily toil oppressed.

We pray thee, while we dwell below,  
Preserve us from our ghostly foe;  
Nor let his wiles victorious be  
O'er them that are redeemed by thee.

That while in this frail house of clay  
A little longer here we stay,  
Our flesh in thee may sweetly sleep,  
Our souls with thee their vigils keep.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 142 (143)**  
**A prayer in time of trouble**

“A man is made righteous not by obedience to the Law, but by faith in Jesus Christ” (Gal 2:16).

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Lord, listen to my prayer:  
    turn your ear to my appeal.  
    You are faithful, you are just; give answer.  
Do not call your servant to judgement  
    for no one is just in your sight.

The enemy pursues my soul;  
    he has crushed my life to the ground;  
he has made me dwell in darkness  
    like the dead, long forgotten.  
Therefore my spirit fails;  
    my heart is numb within me.

I remember the days that are past:  
I ponder all your works.  
I muse on what your hand has wrought  
and to you I stretch out my hands.  
Like a parched land my soul thirsts for you.

Lord, make haste and answer;  
for my spirit fails within me.  
Do not hide your face  
lest I become like those in the grave.

In the morning let me know your love  
for I put my trust in you.  
Make me know the way I should walk:  
to you I lift up my soul.

Rescue me, Lord, from my enemies;  
I have fled to you for refuge.  
Teach me to do your will  
for you, O Lord, are my God.  
Let your good spirit guide me  
in ways that are level and smooth.

For your name's sake, Lord, save my life;  
in your justice save my soul from distress.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus, early in the morning of your resurrection, you made your love known and brought the first light of dawn to those who dwell in darkness.

Your death has opened a path for us. Do not enter into judgement with your servants; let your Holy Spirit guide us together into the land of justice.

---

### **Short Reading**

**1 Peter 5:8-9**

Be calm but vigilant, because your enemy the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion, looking for someone to eat. Stand up to him, strong in faith.

---

### **Short Responsory**

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Nunc Dimittis**

#### **Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel**

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

At last, all-powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.  
Amen.

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may  
keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

---

### **Let us pray.**

In your mercy, Lord,  
dispel the darkness of this night.  
Let your household so sleep in peace  
that at the dawn of a new day  
they may, with joy, waken in your name.  
Through Christ our Lord,  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.  
**Amen.**

---

### **Regina Caeli**

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia!  
for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!  
has risen as he said, alleluia!  
Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Regína cæli, lætare, allelúia,  
quia quem meruísti portáre, allelúia,  
resurréxit sicut dixit, allelúia;  
ora pro nobis Deum, allelúia.

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

*see also* [Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr](#)

*see also* [Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest](#)

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

### Readings at Mass

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#### Entrance Antiphon

**Rv 19: 5; 12: 10**

Sing praise to our God,  
all you who fear God, both small and great,  
for now salvation and strength have come,  
and the power of his Christ, alleluia.

---

#### Collect

O God, who open wide the gates of the heavenly Kingdom  
to those reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,  
pour out on your servants  
an increase of the grace you have bestowed,  
that, having been purged of all sins,  
they may lack nothing  
that in your kindness you have promised.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

---

#### First reading

**Acts 7:51-8:1**

## **'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit'**

Stephen said to the people, the elders and the scribes: 'You stubborn people, with your pagan hearts and pagan ears. You are always resisting the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Can you name a single prophet your ancestors never persecuted? In the past they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, and now you have become his betrayers, his murderers. You who had the Law brought to you by angels are the very ones who have not kept it.'

They were infuriated when they heard this, and ground their teeth at him.

But Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at God's right hand. 'I can see heaven thrown open' he said 'and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' At this all the members of the council shouted out and stopped their ears with their hands; then they all rushed at him, sent him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses put down their clothes at the feet of a young man called Saul. As they were stoning him, Stephen said in invocation, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and said aloud, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them'; and with these words he fell asleep. Saul entirely approved of the killing.

---

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 30(31):3-4,6,8,17,21**

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Be a rock of refuge for me,  
a mighty stronghold to save me,  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Into your hands I commend my spirit.  
It is you who will redeem me, Lord.  
As for me, I trust in the Lord:  
let me be glad and rejoice in your love.

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Let your face shine on your servant.  
Save me in your love.  
You hide them in the shelter of your presence  
from the plotting of men.

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn10:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my own sheep and my own know me.  
Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Jn6:35**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the bread of life, says the Lord.  
He who comes to me will never be hungry;  
he who believes in me will never thirst.  
Alleluia!

---

**Gospel**

**John 6:30-35**

**It is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven**

The people said to Jesus, ‘What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*’

Jesus answered:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven,  
it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven,  
the true bread;  
for the bread of God  
is that which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world.’

‘Sir,’ they said ‘give us that bread always.’ Jesus answered:

‘I am the bread of life.  
He who comes to me will never be hungry;  
he who believes in me will never thirst.’

---

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Receive, O Lord, we pray,  
these offerings of your exultant Church,  
and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness,  
grant also that the gifts we bring  
may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Rm 6: 8**

If we have died with Christ,  
we believe that we shall also live with Christ, alleluia.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord,  
and grant, we pray,  
that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries

may attain in their flesh  
the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr**

*see also* [Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

*see also* [Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest](#)

*Liturgical Colour: Red.*

### Readings at Mass

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#### Entrance Antiphon

**Cf. Phil 2: 30**

This Saint went as far as death,  
handing over his life to destruction  
for the work of Christ, alleluia.

---

#### Collect

O God, who for the spreading of your Church  
crowned Saint Peter Chanel with martyrdom,  
grant that, in these days of paschal joy,  
we may so celebrate the mysteries of Christ's Death and Resurrection  
as to bear worthy witness to newness of life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

[Readings for the feria](#)

[Readings for the memorial](#)

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*These are the readings for the feria*

---

**'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit'**

Stephen said to the people, the elders and the scribes: 'You stubborn people, with your pagan hearts and pagan ears. You are always resisting the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Can you name a single prophet your ancestors never persecuted? In the past they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, and now you have become his betrayers, his murderers. You who had the Law brought to you by angels are the very ones who have not kept it.'

They were infuriated when they heard this, and ground their teeth at him.

But Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at God's right hand. 'I can see heaven thrown open' he said 'and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' At this all the members of the council shouted out and stopped their ears with their hands; then they all rushed at him, sent him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses put down their clothes at the feet of a young man called Saul. As they were stoning him, Stephen said in invocation, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and said aloud, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them'; and with these words he fell asleep. Saul entirely approved of the killing.

---

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 30(31):3-4,6,8,17,21**

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Be a rock of refuge for me,  
a mighty stronghold to save me,  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

It is you who will redeem me, Lord.

As for me, I trust in the Lord:

let me be glad and rejoice in your love.

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Let your face shine on your servant.

Save me in your love.

You hide them in the shelter of your presence

from the plotting of men.

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn10:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Jn6:35**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the bread of life, says the Lord.

He who comes to me will never be hungry;

he who believes in me will never thirst.

Alleluia!

---

### **Gospel**

**John 6:30-35**

## **It is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven**

The people said to Jesus, ‘What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*’

Jesus answered:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven,  
it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven,  
the true bread;  
for the bread of God  
is that which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world.’

‘Sir,’ they said ‘give us that bread always.’ Jesus answered:

‘I am the bread of life.  
He who comes to me will never be hungry;  
he who believes in me will never thirst.’

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*These are the readings for the memorial*

### **First reading**

**1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

### **We preach a crucified Christ, the power and wisdom of God**

The language of the cross may be illogical to those who are not on the way to salvation, but those of us who are on the way see it as God’s power to save. As scripture says: *I shall destroy the wisdom of the wise and bring to nothing all the learning of the learned. Where are the philosophers now? Where are the scribes? Where are any of our*

thinkers today? Do you see now how God has shown up the foolishness of human wisdom? If it was God's wisdom that human wisdom should not know God, it was because God wanted to save those who have faith through the foolishness of the message that we preach. And so, while the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

---

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 116(117):1-2**

*Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples!

*Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever.

*Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Mk1:17**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Follow me, says the Lord,  
and I will make you into fishers of men.

Alleluia!

---

**Gospel**

**Mark 1:14-20**

**I will make you into fishers of men**

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

[Continue](#)

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**Prayer over the Offerings**

As we commemorate the martyrdom of blessed **N.**, O Lord,  
we make our offerings at your altar,  
praying that we, who celebrate the mysteries of our Lord's Passion,  
may imitate what we now do.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

**Communion Antiphon**

**Mk 8: 35**

Whoever loses his life for the sake of the Gospel  
will save it, says the Lord, alleluia.

---

**Prayer after Communion**

As we celebrate the heavenly banquet,  
we beseech you, Lord,  
that, in following such a great example of faith,  
we may be encouraged by the remembrance of the blessed Martyr **N.**  
and led on by his (her) gracious intercession.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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## Tuesday 28 April 2020

**Saint Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort, Priest**

see also [Tuesday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

see also [Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr](#)

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

### Readings at Mass

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#### Entrance Antiphon

**Ps15:5-6**

The Lord is my inheritance and my cup; he alone will give me my reward.  
The measuring line has marked a lovely place for me; my  
inheritance is my great delight.

---

#### Collect

O God, who willed to direct the steps of the Priest Saint Louis  
along the way of salvation and of the love of Christ,  
in the company of the Blessed Virgin,  
grant us, by his example,  
that, meditating on the mysteries of your love,  
we may strive tirelessly for the building up of your Church.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

[Readings for the feria](#)

[Readings for the memorial](#)

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*These are the readings for the feria*

---

**'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit'**

Stephen said to the people, the elders and the scribes: 'You stubborn people, with your pagan hearts and pagan ears. You are always resisting the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Can you name a single prophet your ancestors never persecuted? In the past they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, and now you have become his betrayers, his murderers. You who had the Law brought to you by angels are the very ones who have not kept it.'

They were infuriated when they heard this, and ground their teeth at him.

But Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at God's right hand. 'I can see heaven thrown open' he said 'and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' At this all the members of the council shouted out and stopped their ears with their hands; then they all rushed at him, sent him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses put down their clothes at the feet of a young man called Saul. As they were stoning him, Stephen said in invocation, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and said aloud, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them'; and with these words he fell asleep. Saul entirely approved of the killing.

---

**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 30(31):3-4,6,8,17,21**

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Be a rock of refuge for me,  
a mighty stronghold to save me,  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

It is you who will redeem me, Lord.

As for me, I trust in the Lord:

let me be glad and rejoice in your love.

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Let your face shine on your servant.

Save me in your love.

You hide them in the shelter of your presence

from the plotting of men.

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

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn10:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my own sheep and my own know me.

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**Or:**

**Jn6:35**

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I am the bread of life, says the Lord.

He who comes to me will never be hungry;

he who believes in me will never thirst.

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---

### **Gospel**

**John 6:30-35**

## **It is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven**

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Jesus answered:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven,  
it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven,  
the true bread;  
for the bread of God  
is that which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world.’

‘Sir,’ they said ‘give us that bread always.’ Jesus answered:

‘I am the bread of life.  
He who comes to me will never be hungry;  
he who believes in me will never thirst.’

[Continue](#)

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*These are the readings for the memorial*

### **First reading**

**1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

### **We preach a crucified Christ, the power and wisdom of God**

The language of the cross may be illogical to those who are not on the way to salvation, but those of us who are on the way see it as God’s power to save. As scripture says: *I shall destroy the wisdom of the wise and bring to nothing all the learning of the learned. Where are the philosophers now? Where are the scribes? Where are any of our*

thinkers today? Do you see now how God has shown up the foolishness of human wisdom? If it was God's wisdom that human wisdom should not know God, it was because God wanted to save those who have faith through the foolishness of the message that we preach. And so, while the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

---

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 39(40):2,4,7-10**

*Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.*

I waited, I waited for the Lord  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry.  
He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God.

*Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.*

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I.

*Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.*

In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart.

*Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.*

Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord.

*Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.*

---

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Lk4:17**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,  
to proclaim liberty to captives.  
Alleluia!

---

### **Gospel**

**Matthew 28:16-20**

#### **Go and make disciples of all nations**

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

[Continue](#)

---

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

God of all mercy,  
you transformed Saint Louis  
and made him a new creature

in your image.  
Renew us in the same way  
by making our gifts of peace acceptable to you.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

**cf.Mt 19:27-29**

I solemnly tell you: those who have left everything and followed me will be repaid a hundredfold and will gain eternal life.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

All-powerful God,  
may we who are strengthened by the power of this sacrament  
learn from the example of Saint Louis to seek you above all things  
and to live in this world as your new creation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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## Wednesday 29 April 2020

**Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor – *Feast***

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**Wednesday 29 April 2020**

**Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor – Feast**

## **Lectio Divina**

### **Introduction**

*Make whatever preparations you need to leave the shadow world behind and encounter the fire of the Spirit and the light of God.*

*If you have chosen a specific bodily position, adopt it. If you have chosen to prepare the space and the place in some way (perhaps drawing a curtain or lighting a candle), make that preparation.*

*Eliminate distractions and the possibility of interruption.*

### **Sign of the Cross**

*We invoke God, in whose name we act and to whom we are about to open ourselves.*

In the name of the Father, ✠  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

### **Invocation of the Holy Spirit**

*We invoke the Holy Spirit, who will speak to us and listen in us.*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.  
**And you shall renew the face of the earth.**

### **Act of Contrition**

*By acknowledging our sinfulness and admitting that by ourselves we can do nothing that is not flawed, we ask God to take the initiative in this encounter.*

Have mercy on us, O Lord:  
**For we have sinned against you.**  
Show us, O Lord, your mercy:  
**And grant us your salvation.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## **The Gospel**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*The Gospel should be read slowly, meditatively, with pauses between sentences or whenever the sense requires it. The aim is not to tell the text to God, who knows it already, but to let God tell it to us. For this, there have to be silences so that what God is telling us can be heard. When a group is doing Lectio Divina, it is usually best to take turns in reading the words of the Gospel, since for many people speaking will bring the words to mind better than hearing does. But do not let this become a distraction in itself: have a clear order known in advance, and a simple signal for handing over the baton from one person to the next.*

### **Matthew 11:25-30**

**You have hidden these things from the wise and revealed them to little children**

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

---

# The Response

## Meditatio (reflection)

*What does the Gospel say to me?*

*God has willed me to be here, now, today, for a reason. Now is the time to reflect, and find that reason, and hear what God has chosen to tell me.*

*A good pattern is this:*

- What has drawn my attention or struck me in some way?*
- Why? Was it a person? A word? A situation? A gesture?*
- What, therefore, is God saying to me through these words, here and now, today?*

*The “I” and the “me” are important. To say “we” or “us” is to evade the encounter by softening the focus and hiding behind membership of a group. The meeting with Jesus is face to face, one to one.*

## The shared echo

*When several people are doing Lectio together, especially if they do so regularly, then there is the opportunity for each person to share the words that have had the most impact in today’s passage, or the message it has conveyed.*

*There is no obligation to share an echo, and some members may take many meetings before sharing one, or may even never do so.*

*An echo is what struck me – not “you” or “us”. It is not a mini-sermon or a carefully crafted uplifting thought. Echoes do not have echoes. The sharing of echoes and the listening to echoes are not a discussion aiming at a conclusion, but the opening of one heart to another.*

*The experience of sharing echoes brings the group closer together. Over time, its power grows.*

## Oratio (prayer)

*God has spoken to me. What do I reply?*

*Silently, each of us responds to what God has said to him through the passage we have read and even through the echoes we have heard.*

*As a matter of human practicality, one person should be responsible for deciding the time taken for silent prayer. Even better, a timer or hourglass can be used. Otherwise “Are we nearly there*

*yet?” can be a potent distraction.*

## **Contemplatio (contemplation)**

*Sometimes we may be led beyond prayer into a quiet and attentive resting in the presence of God.*

## **Conclusion**

*We prepare to return to the everyday world, carrying with us what we have received in our minds and our hearts today.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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## Wednesday 29 April 2020

**Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor – Feast**

### Invitatory Psalm

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Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 94 (95)**

“Every day, as long as this ‘today’ lasts, keep encouraging one another” (Heb 3:13).

*The Lord is the king of virgins: come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;

hail the God who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks,

with songs let us hail the Lord.

A mighty God is the Lord,

a great king above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his.

To him belongs the sea, for he made it

and the dry land shaped by his hands.

Come in; let us bow and bend low;

let us kneel before the God who made us:

for he is our God and we

the people who belong to his pasture,

the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!

‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.

For forty years I was wearied of these people  
and I said: “Their hearts are astray,  
these people do not know my ways.”  
Then I took an oath in my anger:  
“Never shall they enter my rest.””

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord is the king of virgins: come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

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## Wednesday 29 April 2020

Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor – *Feast*

### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' name;

Let Angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem

To crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye Martyrs of your God,

Who from his altar call;

Praise him whose way of pain ye trod,

And crown him Lord of all.

Hail him, ye heirs of David's line,

Whom David Lord did call;

The God Incarnate, Man Divine,

And crown him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue  
To him their hearts enthrall,  
Lift high the universal song,  
And crown him Lord of all.

---

**Psalm 62 (63)**  
**Thirsting for God**

*“Let the man who has put away the deeds of the night watch for God.”*

*I will bear witness to Christ; it is Christ that I seek; with Christ I desire to  
be united, alleluia.*

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.  
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise.  
So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I will bear witness to Christ; it is Christ that I seek; with Christ I desire to  
be united, alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Father, creator of unfailing light, give that same light to those who call to you. May our lips praise you; our lives proclaim your goodness; our work give you honour, and our voices celebrate you for ever.

### **Or:**

This morning, Lord, we lift up our hands to praise you. We thirst for you; we long for you. Help us to love you more than life itself and fill us with good gifts from your banquet table.

---

### **Canticle**

**Daniel 3:57-88,56**

### **All creatures, bless the Lord**

**“Praise our God, all you his servants” (Rev 19:5).**

*Virgins, bless the Lord; he who planted his wisdom in you now crowns the  
fruit that you have borne, alleluia.*

O all you works of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, angels of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, the heavens of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
And you, clouds of the sky, O bless the Lord.  
And you, all armies of the Lord, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, sun and moon, O bless the Lord.

And you, the stars of the heavens, O bless the Lord.

And you, showers and rain, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, all you breezes and winds, O bless the Lord.

And you, fire and heat, O bless the Lord.

And you, cold and heat, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, showers and dew, O bless the Lord.

And you, frosts and cold, O bless the Lord.

And you, frost and snow, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, night-time and day, O bless the Lord.

And you, darkness and light, O bless the Lord.

And you, lightning and clouds, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O let the earth bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, mountains and hills, O bless the Lord.

And you, all plants of the earth, O bless the Lord.

And you, fountains and springs, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, rivers and seas, O bless the Lord.

And you, creatures of the sea, O bless the Lord.

And you, every bird in the sky, O bless the Lord.

And you, wild beasts and tame, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, children of men, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O Israel, bless the Lord, O bless the Lord.

And you, priests of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
And you, servants of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, spirits and souls of the just, O bless the Lord.  
And you, holy and humble of heart, O bless the Lord.  
Ananias, Azarias, Mizael, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

Let us praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit:  
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.  
May you be blessed, O Lord, in the heavens:  
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.

*Virgins, bless the Lord; he who planted his wisdom in you now crowns the  
fruit that you have borne, alleluia.*

---

### **Psalm 149** **The saints rejoice**

**“The members of the Church, God’s new people, will rejoice in their  
king, who is Christ” (Hesychius).**

*The saints will rejoice in glory; their victory shines forth in their bodies,  
alleluia.*

Sing a new song to the Lord,  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel rejoice in its Maker,  
let Sion’s sons exult in their king.  
Let them praise his name with dancing  
and make music with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.  
He crowns the poor with salvation.  
Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,  
shout for joy and take their rest.  
Let the praise of God be on their lips

and a two-edged sword in their hand,  
to deal out vengeance to the nations  
and punishment on all the peoples;  
to bind their kings in chains  
and their nobles in fetters of iron;  
to carry out the sentence pre-ordained:  
this honour is for all his faithful.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The saints will rejoice in glory; their victory shines forth in their bodies,  
alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Let Israel rejoice in you, Lord, and acknowledge you as creator and redeemer. We put our trust in your faithfulness and proclaim the wonderful truths of salvation. May your loving kindness embrace us now and for ever.

### **Or:**

Lord Jesus, you came to your own people and gave to all who welcomed you power to become children of God. In your merciful love watch over the Church and through her ministry bring salvation to the meek and lowly. May we avoid the snares of the impious, and come to rejoice in glory with your saints.

---

### **Short Reading**

#### **Song of Songs 8:7**

Love is something that no flood can quench, no torrents drown. Were a man to offer all the wealth of his house to buy love, contempt is all he would purchase.

---

## Short Responsory

My heart has said of you: I have sought your presence, Lord. Alleluia,  
alleluia.

– *My heart has said of you: I have sought your presence, Lord. Alleluia,  
alleluia.*

It is your face that I will continue to seek.

– *My heart has said of you: I have sought your presence, Lord. Alleluia,  
alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *My heart has said of you: I have sought your presence, Lord. Alleluia,  
alleluia.*

---

## Canticle

## Benedictus

### The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

*The holy virgin, Saint Catherine, never ceased praying to God to let peace  
return to his holy Church, alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.

So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The holy virgin, Saint Catherine, never ceased praying to God to let peace  
return to his holy Church, alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

With great joy let us praise Christ, the bridegroom of all virgins.  
– *Jesus, crown of virgins, hear us.*

Lord Jesus, the holy virgins loved you as their only spouse;  
may we never be separated from you.  
– *Jesus, crown of virgins, hear us.*

You crowned your mother Mary as queen of all virgins;  
by her prayers grant that we may serve you in purity of life.  
– *Jesus, crown of virgins, hear us.*

The holy virgins followed you with undivided hearts;

do not allow us to be fascinated by this passing world and drawn away  
from you.

– *Jesus, crown of virgins, hear us.*

Lord Jesus, you are the bridegroom that the wise virgins were ready to  
meet;

let us watch for your coming with longing and hope.

– *Jesus, crown of virgins, hear us.*

May Saint **N.**, who reigns in your kingdom, intercede for us;  
through her prayers grant us wisdom and innocence of life.

– *Jesus, crown of virgins, hear us.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty God, you made Saint Catherine of Siena  
a contemplative lover of the Lord's sufferings  
and an ardent servant of your church.

Grant through her prayer

that your people may be united to Christ in his mystery,

and rejoice for ever in the revelation of his glory.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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## Wednesday 29 April 2020

Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor – *Feast*

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' name;

Let Angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem

To crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye Martyrs of your God,

Who from his altar call;

Praise him whose way of pain ye trod,

And crown him Lord of all.

Hail him, ye heirs of David's line,

Whom David Lord did call;

The God Incarnate, Man Divine,

And crown him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue  
To him their hearts enthrall,  
Lift high the universal song,  
And crown him Lord of all.

---

**Psalm 121 (122)**  
**Jerusalem, the holy city**

*“You have come to Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem” (Heb 12:22).*

*I will keep myself chaste for you. I will meet you, the bridegroom, carrying a brightly shining lamp, alleluia.*

I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
‘Let us go to God’s house.’  
And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.  
It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel’s law it is,  
there to praise the Lord’s name.  
There were set the thrones of judgement  
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:  
‘Peace be to your homes!  
May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peace!’

For love of my brethren and friends  
I say: ‘Peace upon you!’  
For love of the house of the Lord  
I will ask for your good.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*I will keep myself chaste for you. I will meet you, the bridegroom, carrying  
a brightly shining lamp, alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

When you rose from the dead, Lord Jesus, you formed the Church into your new body and made of her the new Jerusalem, united in your Spirit. Give us peace in our day. Make all nations come to your Church to share your gifts in fellowship, that they may render you thanks without end and come to your eternal city.

---

### **Psalm 126 (127) Without the Lord, we labour in vain**

**“You are God’s building” (1 Cor 3:9).**

*Blessed are the pure in heart: they shall see God, alleluia.*

If the Lord does not build the house,  
in vain do its builders labour;  
if the Lord does not watch over the city,  
in vain does the watchman keep vigil.

In vain is your earlier rising,  
your going later to rest,  
you who toil for the bread you eat,  
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.

Truly sons are a gift from the Lord,  
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.  
Indeed the sons of youth

are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

O the happiness of the man  
who has filled his quiver with these arrows!  
He will have no cause for shame  
when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Blessed are the pure in heart: they shall see God, alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

You command the seed to rise, Lord God, though the farmer is unaware.  
Grant that those who labour for you may trust not in their own work but in  
your help. Remembering that the land is brought to flower not with human  
tears but with those of your Son, may the Church rely only upon your gifts.

---

### **Canticle**

**Ephesians 1**

### **God the Saviour**

*My firm hope will not be moved; it is based on Christ like a house on a  
rock, alleluia.*

Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

He chose us in him  
before the foundation of the world,  
that we should be holy  
and blameless before him.

He destined us in love  
to be his sons through Jesus Christ,  
according to the purpose of his will,  
to the praise of his glorious grace  
which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of his grace  
which he lavished upon us.

He has made known to us  
in all wisdom and insight  
the mystery of his will,  
according to his purpose  
which he set forth in Christ.

His purpose he set forth in Christ  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
to unite all things in him,  
things in heaven and things on earth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*My firm hope will not be moved; it is based on Christ like a house on a  
rock, alleluia.*

---

## **Short Reading**

**1 Corinthians 7:32,34**

An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord. In the same way an unmarried woman,

like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit.

---

### **Short Responsory**

The virgins come before the king. They sing for joy. Alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The virgins come before the king. They sing for joy. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
They are led into the temple of the king.  
– *The virgins come before the king. They sing for joy. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The virgins come before the king. They sing for joy. Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

### **Magnificat**

#### **My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*At all times and in all places, Catherine sought God. She found him and  
was united to him in love, alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,

remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*At all times and in all places, Catherine sought God. She found him and  
was united to him in love, alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Christ the Lord praised those who follow the way of virginity for the sake  
of the kingdom of heaven. Let us proclaim his love and pray:  
– *Jesus, king of virgins, hear us.*

Christ our Lord, you presented the Church to yourself, as a chaste virgin to  
her only husband;  
make her pure, holy and faultless.  
– *Jesus, king of virgins, hear us.*

Christ Jesus, the holy virgins went to meet you with lamps burning bright;  
keep alive the flame of fidelity in the hearts of religious women.  
– *Jesus, king of virgins, hear us.*

Lord, you have always preserved your Church in purity and soundness of  
faith;  
grant to all Christians a faith that is true and complete.  
– *Jesus, king of virgins, hear us.*

You bring joy to the lives of your faithful as they celebrate the feast of your  
holy virgin **N.**;  
may they also rejoice in her constant intercession.  
– *Jesus, king of virgins, hear us.*

You have welcomed your holy virgins to the wedding feast of heaven;  
invite all the dead to the feast of eternal life.  
– *Jesus, king of virgins, hear us.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty God, you made Saint Catherine of Siena  
a contemplative lover of the Lord's sufferings  
and an ardent servant of your church.  
Grant through her prayer  
that your people may be united to Christ in his mystery,  
and rejoice for ever in the revelation of his glory.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

---

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## Wednesday 29 April 2020

**Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor – *Feast***

### Compline (Night Prayer)

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Examination of Conscience

*This is an excellent moment for an examination of conscience. In a communal celebration of Compline, one of the penitential acts given in the Missal may be recited.*

---

#### Hymn

Jesu, the world's redeeming Lord,  
The Father's co-eternal Word,  
Of light invisible true Light,  
Thine Israel's Keeper day and night.

Our great Creator and our Guide,  
Who times and seasons dost divide,  
Refresh at night with quiet rest,  
Our limbs by daily toil oppressed.

We pray thee, while we dwell below,  
Preserve us from our ghostly foe;  
Nor let his wiles victorious be  
O'er them that are redeemed by thee.

That while in this frail house of clay  
A little longer here we stay,  
Our flesh in thee may sweetly sleep,  
Our souls with thee their vigils keep.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 30 (31)**  
**Trustful prayer in time of adversity**

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit” (Lk 23:46).

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

In you, O Lord, I take refuge.  
Let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice, set me free,  
hear me and speedily rescue me.

Be a rock of refuge for me,  
a mighty stronghold to save me,  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

Release me from the snares they have hidden  
for you are my refuge, Lord.  
Into your hands I commend my spirit.  
It is you who will redeem me, Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

---

**Psalm 129 (130)**  
**Out of the depths**

“He will save his people from their sins” (Mt 1:21).

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,  
Lord, hear my voice!  
O let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,  
Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness:  
for this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord.  
I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord  
more than watchman for daybreak.  
Let the watchman count on daybreak  
and Israel on the Lord.

Because with the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption,  
Israel indeed he will redeem  
from all its iniquity.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.  
Amen.

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Listen with compassion to our prayers, Lord. The forgiveness of sins is yours. Do not look on the wrong we have done, but grant us your merciful kindness.

### **Or:**

God of might and compassion, you sent your Word into the world, a watchman to announce to men the dawn of salvation. Do not leave us in the depths of our sins but listen to your Church pleading with you. Respond to her trust, and pour out in her the fullness of your redeeming grace.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Ephesians 4:26-27**

Do not let resentment lead you into sin; the sunset must not find you still angry. Do not give the devil his opportunity.

---

### **Short Responsory**

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Nunc Dimittis**

**Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel**

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

At last, all-powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

---

**Let us pray.**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
meek and humble of heart,  
you offer to those who follow you  
a yoke that is good to bear,  
a burden that is light.

Accept, we beg you, our prayer and work of this day,  
and grant us the rest we need  
that we may be ever more willing to serve you,  
who live and reign for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**Amen.**

---

## Regina Caeli

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia!  
for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!  
has risen as he said, alleluia!  
Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Regína cæli, lætare, allelúia,  
quia quem meruísti portáre, allelúia,  
resurrexit sicut dixit, allelúia;  
ora pro nobis Deum, allelúia.

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## Wednesday 29 April 2020

**Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor – *Feast***

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

### Readings at Mass

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#### Entrance Antiphon

Here is a wise virgin, from among the number of the prudent,  
who went forth with lighted lamp to meet Christ, alleluia.

---

#### Collect

O God, who set Saint Catherine of Siena on fire with divine love  
in her contemplation of the Lord's Passion  
and her service of your Church,  
grant, through her intercession,  
that your people,  
participating in the mystery of Christ,  
may ever exult in the revelation of his glory.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

---

#### First reading

**1 John 1:5-2:2**

#### **The blood of Jesus Christ purifies us all from sin**

This is what we have heard from Jesus Christ,  
and the message that we are announcing to you:  
God is light; there is no darkness in him at all.  
If we say that we are in union with God

while we are living in darkness,  
we are lying because we are not living the truth.  
But if we live our lives in the light,  
as he is in the light,  
we are in union with one another,  
and the blood of Jesus, his Son,  
purifies us from all sin.

If we say we have no sin in us,  
we are deceiving ourselves  
and refusing to admit the truth;  
but if we acknowledge our sins,  
then God who is faithful and just  
will forgive our sins and purify us  
from everything that is wrong.  
To say that we have never sinned  
is to call God a liar  
and to show that his word is not in us.

I am writing this, my children,  
to stop you sinning;  
but if anyone should sin,  
we have our advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ, who is just;  
he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away,  
and not only ours,  
but the whole world's.

---

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 102(103):1-4,8-9,13-14,17-18**

*My soul, give thanks to the Lord.*

My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings.

*My soul, give thanks to the Lord.*

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
    who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
    who crowns you with love and compassion.

*My soul, give thanks to the Lord.*

The Lord is compassion and love,  
    slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
His wrath will come to an end;  
    he will not be angry for ever.

*My soul, give thanks to the Lord.*

As a father has compassion on his sons,  
    the Lord has pity on those who fear him;  
for he knows of what we are made,  
    he remembers that we are dust.

*My soul, give thanks to the Lord.*

But the love of the Lord is everlasting  
    upon those who hold him in fear;  
his justice reaches out to children's children  
    when they keep his covenant in truth,  
    when they keep his will in their mind.

*My soul, give thanks to the Lord.*

---

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Mt11:25**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessed are you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom  
to mere children.  
Alleluia!

---

## **Gospel**

**Matthew 11:25-30**

**You have hidden these things from the wise and revealed them to little children**

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

---

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept, O Lord, the saving sacrifice we offer  
in commemoration of Saint Catherine,  
so that, instructed by her teaching,  
we may give ever more fervent thanks  
to you, the one true God.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Cf. 1 Jn 1: 7**

If we walk in the light, as God is in the light,  
then we have fellowship with one another,  
and the blood of his Son Jesus Christ  
cleanses us from all sin, alleluia.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

May the heavenly table

at which we have been fed, O Lord,  
confer eternal life upon us,  
as even in this world  
it nourished the life of Saint Catherine.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

**Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

*see also* [Saint Pius V, Pope](#)

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

**Saint Pius V, Pope**

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide  
or Saint Pius V, Pope

### Lectio Divina

#### Introduction

*Make whatever preparations you need to leave the shadow world behind and encounter the fire of the Spirit and the light of God.*

*If you have chosen a specific bodily position, adopt it. If you have chosen to prepare the space and the place in some way (perhaps drawing a curtain or lighting a candle), make that preparation.*

*Eliminate distractions and the possibility of interruption.*

#### Sign of the Cross

*We invoke God, in whose name we act and to whom we are about to open ourselves.*

In the name of the Father, ✠  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

#### Invocation of the Holy Spirit

*We invoke the Holy Spirit, who will speak to us and listen in us.*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.  
**And you shall renew the face of the earth.**

## Act of Contrition

*By acknowledging our sinfulness and admitting that by ourselves we can do nothing that is not flawed, we ask God to take the initiative in this encounter.*

Have mercy on us, O Lord:  
**For we have sinned against you.**  
Show us, O Lord, your mercy:  
**And grant us your salvation.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## The Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*The Gospel should be read slowly, meditatively, with pauses between sentences or whenever the sense requires it. The aim is not to tell the text to God, who knows it already, but to let God tell it to us. For this, there have to be silences so that what God is telling us can be heard.*

*When a group is doing Lectio Divina, it is usually best to take turns in reading the words of the Gospel, since for many people speaking will bring the words to mind better than hearing does. But do not let this become a distraction in itself: have a clear order known in advance, and a simple signal for handing over the baton from one person to the next.*

**John 6:44-51**

**I am the living bread which has come down from heaven**

Jesus said to the crowd:

‘No one can come to me  
unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me,  
and I will raise him up at the last day.

It is written in the prophets:  
*They will all be taught by God,*  
and to hear the teaching of the Father,  
and learn from it,

is to come to me.  
Not that anybody has seen the Father,  
except the one who comes from God:  
he has seen the Father.  
I tell you most solemnly,  
everybody who believes has eternal life.

‘I am the bread of life.  
Your fathers ate the manna in the desert  
and they are dead;  
but this is the bread that comes down from heaven,  
so that a man may eat it and not die.  
I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.  
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;  
and the bread that I shall give is my flesh,  
for the life of the world.’

---

## The Response

### **Meditatio (reflection)**

*What does the Gospel say to me?*

*God has willed me to be here, now, today, for a reason. Now is the time to reflect, and find that reason, and hear what God has chosen to tell me.*

*A good pattern is this:*

- What has drawn my attention or struck me in some way?*
- Why? Was it a person? A word? A situation? A gesture?*
- What, therefore, is God saying to me through these words, here and now, today?*

*The “I” and the “me” are important. To say “we” or “us” is to evade the encounter by softening the focus and hiding behind membership of a group. The meeting with Jesus is face to face, one to one.*

### **The shared echo**

*When several people are doing Lectio together, especially if they do so regularly, then there is the opportunity for each person to share the words that have had the most impact in today's passage, or the message it has conveyed.*

*There is no obligation to share an echo, and some members may take many meetings before sharing one, or may even never do so.*

*An echo is what struck me – not “you” or “us”. It is not a mini-sermon or a carefully crafted uplifting thought. Echoes do not have echoes. The sharing of echoes and the listening to echoes are not a discussion aiming at a conclusion, but the opening of one heart to another.*

*The experience of sharing echoes brings the group closer together. Over time, its power grows.*

## **Oratio (prayer)**

*God has spoken to me. What do I reply?*

*Silently, each of us responds to what God has said to him through the passage we have read and even through the echoes we have heard.*

*As a matter of human practicality, one person should be responsible for deciding the time taken for silent prayer. Even better, a timer or hourglass can be used. Otherwise “Are we nearly there yet?” can be a potent distraction.*

## **Contemplatio (contemplation)**

*Sometimes we may be led beyond prayer into a quiet and attentive resting in the presence of God.*

## **Conclusion**

*We prepare to return to the everyday world, carrying with us what we have received in our minds and our hearts today.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide

see also [Saint Pius V, Pope](#)

### Invitatory Psalm

---

Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 66 (67)**

“Let it be known to you that this salvation from God has been sent to all peoples” (Acts 28:28).

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its fruit  
for God, our God, has blessed us.

May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

---

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

**Saint Pius V, Pope**

*see also* [Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

### Invitatory Psalm

---

Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 66 (67)**

“Let it be known to you that this salvation from God has been sent to all peoples” (Acts 28:28).

*Christ is the chief shepherd, the leader of his flock: come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
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The earth has yielded its fruit

for God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Christ is the chief shepherd, the leader of his flock: come, let us adore him,  
alleluia.*

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide

see also [Saint Pius V](#), [Pope](#)

### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky,

Heav'n thunders forth its victor cry:

The glad earth shouts her triumph high,

And groaning hell makes wild reply.

While he, the King of sovereign might,

Treads down death's strength in death's despite,

And trampling hell by victor's right,

Brings forth his sleeping saints to light.

Fast barred beneath the stone of late,

In watch and ward where soldiers wait,

Now shining in triumphant state,  
He rises victor from death's gate.

Hell's pains are loosed and tears are fled:  
Captivity is captive led:  
The angel, crowned with light, hath said:  
'The Lord is risen from the dead.'

Author of all, be thou our guide  
In this our joy of Eastertide;  
Whene'er assaults of death impend,  
Thy people strengthen and defend.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, thy people give:  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.

---

**Psalm 86 (87)**  
**Jerusalem, mother of all nations**

*“The Jerusalem which is above is free and is our mother” (Gal 4:26).*

*We will dance and sing; you are the source of life and our joy, city of God!*  
*Alleluia.*

On the holy mountain is his city  
cherished by the Lord.  
The Lord prefers the gates of Sion  
to all Jacob's dwellings.  
Of you are told glorious things,  
O city of God!

'Babylon and Egypt I will count  
among those who know me;  
Philistia, Tyre, Ethiopia,  
these will be her children  
and Sion shall be called "Mother"

for all shall be her children.’

It is he, the Lord Most High,  
who gives each his place.  
In his register of peoples he writes:  
‘These are her children,’  
and while they dance they will sing:  
‘In you all find their home.’

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*We will dance and sing; you are the source of life and our joy, city of God!*  
*Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord God, your only Son wept over ancient Jerusalem, soon to be destroyed for its lack of faith. He established the new Jerusalem firmly upon rock and made it the mother of the faithful. Make us rejoice in your Church and grant that all people may be reborn into the freedom of your Spirit.

---

### **Canticle**

**Isaiah 40**

### **The good shepherd is God, the Most High**

“Behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me” (Rev 22:12).

*He will tend his flock like a shepherd and carry them in his arms. Alleluia.*

Behold, the Lord God comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
behold, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd,  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young.

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand  
and marked off the heavens with a span,  
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure  
and weighed the mountains in scales  
and the hills in a balance?

Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord,  
or as his counsellor has instructed him?  
Whom did he consult for his enlightenment,  
and who taught him the path of justice,  
taught him knowledge,  
and showed him the way of understanding?

Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket,  
and are accounted as the dust on the scales;  
behold, he takes up the isles  
like fine dust.

Lebanon would not suffice for fuel,  
nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering.  
All the nations are as nothing before him,  
they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*He will tend his flock like a shepherd and carry them in his arms. Alleluia.*

---

**Psalm 98 (99)**  
**The Lord our God is holy**

“You are higher than the Cherubim; you changed the bad state of the earth, when you came in a nature like ours” (St Athanasius).

*The Lord is great in Sion; he is supreme above all peoples. Alleluia.*

The Lord is king; the peoples tremble.  
He is throned on the cherubim; the earth quakes.  
The Lord is great in Sion.

He is supreme over all the peoples.  
Let them praise his name, so terrible and great,  
he is holy, full of power.

You are a king who loves what is right;  
you have established equity, justice and right;  
you have established them in Jacob.

Exalt the Lord our God;  
bow down before Sion, his footstool.  
He the Lord is holy.

Among his priests were Aaron and Moses,  
among those who invoked his name was Samuel.  
They invoked the Lord and he answered.

To them he spoke in the pillar of cloud.  
They did his will; they kept the law,  
which he, the Lord, had given.

O Lord our God, you answered them.  
For them you were a God who forgives;  
yet you punished all their offences.

Exalt the Lord our God;  
bow down before his holy mountain  
for the Lord our God is holy.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*The Lord is great in Sion; he is supreme above all peoples. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

God, you are the source of all holiness. Though no one can see you and live, you give life most generously and in an even greater way restore it. Sanctify your priests through your life-giving Word and consecrate your people in his blood until our eyes see your face.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Romans 8:10-11**

Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

---

### **Short Responsory**

The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*  
For our sake he died on the cross, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Benedictus**

**The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*I tell you solemnly, everybody who believes in me has eternal life. Alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I tell you solemnly, everybody who believes in me has eternal life. Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us offer our prayer to Christ, who rose from the dead and is living  
always in his Church.

– *Lord, stay always with us.*

Lord, you triumphed over sin and death;  
be present in our midst with your eternal life.

– *Lord, stay always with us.*

Come to us with your untiring strength;  
and reveal in our lives the loving-kindness of God.

– *Lord, stay always with us.*

You alone can reconcile men and create a new spirit within them;  
end the conflicts which divide our world.

– *Lord, stay always with us.*

Deepen our faith in your final victory;  
let us find strength in the hope of your coming.

– *Lord, stay always with us.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty, ever-living God,

make our hearts more open to your love

in these days of Eastertide,

when you have made known to us the depth of that love.

You have rescued us from the darkness of error:  
make us adhere more firmly to the teachings of your truth.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

**Saint Pius V, Pope**

*see also* [Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Who are these like stars appearing,  
these, before God's throne who stand?

Each a golden crown is wearing;  
who are all this glorious band?

Alleluia! Hark, they sing,  
praising loud their heavenly King.

Who are these of dazzling brightness,  
clothed in God's own righteousness?  
These, whose robes of purest whiteness,  
shall their lustre still possess,  
still untouched by time's rude hand?

Whence came all this glorious band?

These are they who have contended  
for their Saviour's honour long,  
wrestling on till life was ended,  
following not the sinful throng;  
these who well the fight sustained,  
triumph through the Lamb have gained.

These are they whose hearts were riven,  
sore with woe and anguish tried,  
who in prayer full oft have striven  
with the God they glorified;  
now, their painful conflict o'er,  
God has bid them weep no more.

These, the Almighty contemplating,  
did as priests before him stand,  
soul and body always waiting  
day and night at his command:  
now in God's most holy place  
blest they stand before his face.

---

**Psalm 86 (87)**  
**Jerusalem, mother of all nations**

**“The Jerusalem which is above is free and is our mother” (Gal 4:26).**

*We will dance and sing; you are the source of life and our joy, city of God!*  
*Alleluia.*

On the holy mountain is his city  
cherished by the Lord.  
The Lord prefers the gates of Sion  
to all Jacob's dwellings.  
Of you are told glorious things,  
O city of God!

‘Babylon and Egypt I will count  
among those who know me;  
Philistia, Tyre, Ethiopia,  
these will be her children  
and Sion shall be called “Mother”  
for all shall be her children.’

It is he, the Lord Most High,  
who gives each his place.  
In his register of peoples he writes:  
‘These are her children,’  
and while they dance they will sing:  
‘In you all find their home.’

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*We will dance and sing; you are the source of life and our joy, city of God!*  
*Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord God, your only Son wept over ancient Jerusalem, soon to be destroyed for its lack of faith. He established the new Jerusalem firmly upon rock and made it the mother of the faithful. Make us rejoice in your Church and grant that all people may be reborn into the freedom of your Spirit.

---

### **Canticle**

**Isaiah 40**

### **The good shepherd is God, the Most High**

**“Behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me” (Rev 22:12).**

*He will tend his flock like a shepherd and carry them in his arms. Alleluia.*

Behold, the Lord God comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
behold, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd,  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young.

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand  
and marked off the heavens with a span,  
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure  
and weighed the mountains in scales  
and the hills in a balance?

Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord,  
or as his counsellor has instructed him?  
Whom did he consult for his enlightenment,  
and who taught him the path of justice,  
taught him knowledge,  
and showed him the way of understanding?

Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket,  
and are accounted as the dust on the scales;  
behold, he takes up the isles  
like fine dust.

Lebanon would not suffice for fuel,  
nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering.  
All the nations are as nothing before him,  
they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*He will tend his flock like a shepherd and carry them in his arms. Alleluia.*

---

**Psalm 98 (99)**  
**The Lord our God is holy**

*“You are higher than the Cherubim; you changed the bad state of the earth, when you came in a nature like ours” (St Athanasius).*

*The Lord is great in Sion; he is supreme above all peoples. Alleluia.*

The Lord is king; the peoples tremble.  
He is throned on the cherubim; the earth quakes.  
The Lord is great in Sion.

He is supreme over all the peoples.  
Let them praise his name, so terrible and great,  
he is holy, full of power.

You are a king who loves what is right;  
you have established equity, justice and right;  
you have established them in Jacob.

Exalt the Lord our God;  
bow down before Sion, his footstool.  
He the Lord is holy.

Among his priests were Aaron and Moses,  
among those who invoked his name was Samuel.  
They invoked the Lord and he answered.

To them he spoke in the pillar of cloud.  
They did his will; they kept the law,  
which he, the Lord, had given.

O Lord our God, you answered them.  
For them you were a God who forgives;  
yet you punished all their offences.

Exalt the Lord our God;

bow down before his holy mountain  
for the Lord our God is holy.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*The Lord is great in Sion; he is supreme above all peoples. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

God, you are the source of all holiness. Though no one can see you and live, you give life most generously and in an even greater way restore it. Sanctify your priests through your life-giving Word and consecrate your people in his blood until our eyes see your face.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Hebrews 13:7-9**

Remember your leaders, who preached the word of God to you, and as you reflect on the outcome of their lives, imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same today as he was yesterday and as he will be for ever. Do not let yourselves be led astray by all sorts of strange doctrines.

---

### **Short Responsory**

I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.  
– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
They will never cease to tell of the name of the Lord, by day and by night.  
– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem. Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Benedictus**

**The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*It is not you who speak: the Spirit of your Father speaks in you. Alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*It is not you who speak: the Spirit of your Father speaks in you. Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Christ, the good shepherd, laid down his life for his sheep. Let us praise him  
with grateful hearts, as we pray:

– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

Christ our Lord, in the holy pastors you reveal your love for us;  
may we never be deprived of the care you show through them.

– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

Through your sacred ministers you are present in our midst as the shepherd  
of our souls;

never cease to guide us through their teaching and encouragement.

– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

In the saints who lead your people, you manifest your power of healing  
souls and bodies;

remain always with us to renew our lives in holiness.

– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

By the example of the saints you instruct your faithful in the ways of  
wisdom and love;

through our pastors, help us grow to the full stature of perfection.

– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

Lord God, in your providence you called Pope Saint Pius

to defend the faith  
and to enhance the dignity of divine worship.  
Give us grace, through his prayer,  
to worship you in your sacred mysteries  
with an ardent faith and an active charity.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

---

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide

see also [Saint Pius V](#), [Pope](#)

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

O Christ, the heavens' eternal King,

Creator, unto thee we sing,

With God the Father ever One,

Co-equal, co-eternal Son.

Thy hand, when first the world began,

Made in thine own pure image man,

And linked to fleshly form of earth

A living soul of heavenly birth.

And when the envious crafty foe

Had marred thy noblest work below,

Thou didst our ruined state repair

By deigning flesh thyself to wear.

Once of a virgin born to save,  
And now new born from death's dark grave,  
O Christ, thou bidd'st us rise with thee  
From death to immortality.

Eternal Shepherd, thou art wont  
To cleanse Thy sheep within the font,  
That mystic bath, that grave of sin,  
Where ransomed souls new life begin.

Divine Redeemer, thou didst deign  
To bear for us the cross of pain,  
And freely pay the precious price  
Of all thy blood in sacrifice.

Jesu, do thou to every heart  
Unceasing Paschal joy impart;  
From death of sin and guilty strife  
Set free the new born sons of life.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 131 (132)**  
**God's promise to the house of David**

*“The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father”  
(Lk 1:32).*

*The Lord God gave him the throne of David, his father. Alleluia.*

O Lord, remember David  
and all the many hardships he endured,  
the oath he swore to the Lord,  
his vow to the Strong One of Jacob.

‘I will not enter the house where I live  
nor go to the bed where I rest.  
I will give no sleep to my eyes,  
to my eyelids I will give no slumber  
till I find a place for the Lord,  
a dwelling for the Strong One of Jacob.’

At Ephrata we heard of the ark;  
we found it in the plains of Yearim.  
‘Let us go to the place of his dwelling;  
let us go to kneel at his footstool.’

Go up, Lord, to the place of your rest,  
you and the ark of your strength.  
Your priests shall be clothed with holiness;  
your faithful shall ring out their joy.  
For the sake of David your servant  
do not reject your anointed.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*The Lord God gave him the throne of David, his father. Alleluia.*

---

### **Psalm 131 (132)**

*Jesus Christ is the only Ruler over all, the King of kings and Lord of lords.  
Alleluia.*

The Lord swore an oath to David;  
he will not go back on his word:  
‘A son, the fruit of your body,  
will I set upon your throne.

‘If they keep my covenant in truth  
and my laws that I have taught them,  
their sons also shall rule  
on your throne from age to age.’

For the Lord has chosen Sion;  
he has desired it for his dwelling:  
‘This is my resting-place for ever;  
here have I chosen to live.

‘I will greatly bless her produce,  
I will fill her poor with bread.  
I will clothe her priests with salvation  
and her faithful shall ring out their joy.

‘There David’s stock will flower;  
I will prepare a lamp for my anointed.  
I will cover his enemies with shame  
but on him my crown shall shine.’

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Jesus Christ is the only Ruler over all, the King of kings and Lord of lords.  
Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

You are our King, Lord God. Help us to find a place for you in our hearts.  
Clothe your priests with saving power, fill the needy with bread, and let  
your holiness shine on us all.

### **Or:**

You have chosen the new Zion as your dwelling place, Lord God, the  
Church as your place of rest. You have kindled in her a lamp that will burn

brightly for ever before Christ your Anointed One. Make our hearts your tabernacle, clothe your priests with justice, your faithful with holiness and give bread to the poor. May all rejoice with you in heaven.

---

**Canticle**

**Apocalypse 11**

### **The Judgement**

*Lord, who is your like, majestic in strength and holiness? Alleluia.*

We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,  
    who are and who were,  
that you have taken your great power  
    and begun to reign.

The nations raged,  
    but your wrath came,  
and the time for the dead to be judged,  
    for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints,  
and those who fear your name,  
    both small and great.

Now the salvation and the power  
    and the kingdom of our God  
    and the authority of his Christ have come,  
for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down,  
    who accuses them day and night before our God.

And they have conquered him  
    by the blood of the Lamb  
and by the word of their testimony,  
    for they loved not their lives even unto death.  
Rejoice, then, O heaven,  
    and you that dwell therein.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
    and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Lord, who is your like, majestic in strength and holiness? Alleluia.*

---

## **Short Reading**

**1 Peter 3:18,21-22**

Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life. And now you are saved, not by the washing off of physical dirt but by a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

---

## **Short Responsory**

The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*  
They saw the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## **Canticle**

## **Magnificat**

### **My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*I am the bread of life that has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever: and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world. Alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;

henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.

Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.

He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I am the bread of life that has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats  
this bread will live for ever: and the bread that I shall give is my  
flesh, for the life of the world. Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Christ has risen from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

Let us praise him in our prayer.

– *Risen Lord, hear us.*

Lord, remember the Church you built on the apostles;  
bless all those who believe in you.

– *Risen Lord, hear us.*

You are the healer of body and soul;  
come to us with your salvation.

– *Risen Lord, hear us.*

Comfort the sick and renew their strength;  
deliver them from all pain and distress.

– *Risen Lord, hear us.*

Help the anguished and the oppressed;  
in your love uphold the needy.

– *Risen Lord, hear us.*

Through your cross and resurrection you have won immortal life;  
grant to our dead the joys of your kingdom.

– *Risen Lord, hear us.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty, ever-living God,  
make our hearts more open to your love  
in these days of Eastertide,  
when you have made known to us the depth of that love.

You have rescued us from the darkness of error:  
make us adhere more firmly to the teachings of your truth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

**Saint Pius V, Pope**

*see also* [Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Who are these like stars appearing,  
these, before God's throne who stand?

Each a golden crown is wearing;

who are all this glorious band?

Alleluia! Hark, they sing,

praising loud their heavenly King.

Who are these of dazzling brightness,  
clothed in God's own righteousness?

These, whose robes of purest whiteness,

shall their lustre still possess,

still untouched by time's rude hand?

Whence came all this glorious band?

These are they who have contended  
for their Saviour's honour long,  
wrestling on till life was ended,  
following not the sinful throng;  
these who well the fight sustained,  
triumph through the Lamb have gained.

These are they whose hearts were riven,  
sore with woe and anguish tried,  
who in prayer full oft have striven  
with the God they glorified;  
now, their painful conflict o'er,  
God has bid them weep no more.

These, the Almighty contemplating,  
did as priests before him stand,  
soul and body always waiting  
day and night at his command:  
now in God's most holy place  
blest they stand before his face.

---

**Psalm 131 (132)**  
**God's promise to the house of David**

**“The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father”  
(Lk 1:32).**

*The Lord God gave him the throne of David, his father. Alleluia.*

O Lord, remember David  
and all the many hardships he endured,  
the oath he swore to the Lord,  
his vow to the Strong One of Jacob.

‘I will not enter the house where I live  
nor go to the bed where I rest.  
I will give no sleep to my eyes,

to my eyelids I will give no slumber  
till I find a place for the Lord,  
a dwelling for the Strong One of Jacob.'

At Ephrata we heard of the ark;  
we found it in the plains of Yearim.  
'Let us go to the place of his dwelling;  
let us go to kneel at his footstool.'

Go up, Lord, to the place of your rest,  
you and the ark of your strength.  
Your priests shall be clothed with holiness;  
your faithful shall ring out their joy.  
For the sake of David your servant  
do not reject your anointed.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*The Lord God gave him the throne of David, his father. Alleluia.*

---

### **Psalm 131 (132)**

*Jesus Christ is the only Ruler over all, the King of kings and Lord of lords.  
Alleluia.*

The Lord swore an oath to David;  
he will not go back on his word:  
'A son, the fruit of your body,  
will I set upon your throne.

'If they keep my covenant in truth  
and my laws that I have taught them,  
their sons also shall rule

on your throne from age to age.’

For the Lord has chosen Sion;  
he has desired it for his dwelling:  
‘This is my resting-place for ever;  
here have I chosen to live.

‘I will greatly bless her produce,  
I will fill her poor with bread.  
I will clothe her priests with salvation  
and her faithful shall ring out their joy.

‘There David’s stock will flower;  
I will prepare a lamp for my anointed.  
I will cover his enemies with shame  
but on him my crown shall shine.’

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Jesus Christ is the only Ruler over all, the King of kings and Lord of lords.  
Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

You are our King, Lord God. Help us to find a place for you in our hearts.  
Clothe your priests with saving power, fill the needy with bread, and let  
your holiness shine on us all.

### **Or:**

You have chosen the new Zion as your dwelling place, Lord God, the  
Church as your place of rest. You have kindled in her a lamp that will burn  
brightly for ever before Christ your Anointed One. Make our hearts your  
tabernacle, clothe your priests with justice, your faithful with holiness and  
give bread to the poor. May all rejoice with you in heaven.

---

**The Judgement**

*Lord, who is your like, majestic in strength and holiness? Alleluia.*

We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,  
who are and who were,  
that you have taken your great power  
and begun to reign.

The nations raged,  
but your wrath came,  
and the time for the dead to be judged,  
for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints,  
and those who fear your name,  
both small and great.

Now the salvation and the power  
and the kingdom of our God  
and the authority of his Christ have come,  
for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down,  
who accuses them day and night before our God.

And they have conquered him  
by the blood of the Lamb  
and by the word of their testimony,  
for they loved not their lives even unto death.  
Rejoice, then, O heaven,  
and you that dwell therein.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Lord, who is your like, majestic in strength and holiness? Alleluia.*

---

## **Short Reading**

**1 Peter 5:1-4**

Now I have something to tell your elders: I am an elder myself, and a witness to the sufferings of Christ, and with you I have a share in the glory that is to be revealed. Be the shepherds of the flock of God that is entrusted to you: watch over it, not simply as a duty but gladly, because God wants it; not for sordid money, but because you are eager to do it. Never be a dictator over any group that is put in your charge, but be an example that the whole flock can follow. When the chief shepherd appears, you will be given the crown of unfading glory.

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## **Short Responsory**

This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people. Alleluia, alleluia.

– *This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people.*  
*Alleluia, alleluia.*

He laid down his life for his brothers.

– *This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people.*  
*Alleluia, alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *This is a man who loves his brothers and intercedes for the people.*  
*Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## **Canticle**

## **Magnificat**

### **My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*This is the faithful and wise steward whom the Master placed over his household to give them their measure of food at the proper time.*  
*Alleluia.*

*Or: I thank you, Christ, for honouring me by leading me to this glory. You are the good shepherd; I pray that the sheep which you have placed in my charge will share with me in your glory for ever. Alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*This is the faithful and wise steward whom the Master placed over his household to give them their measure of food at the proper time. Alleluia.*

*Or: I thank you, Christ, for honouring me by leading me to this glory. You are the good shepherd; I pray that the sheep which you have placed in my charge will share with me in your glory for ever. Alleluia.*

---

**Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to Christ, the high priest, who was appointed to represent men  
in their relations with God.

– *Lord, save your people.*

Lord Jesus, in times past you have lighted the way for your people through  
wise and holy leaders;

may Christians always enjoy this sign of your loving kindness.

– *Lord, save your people.*

You forgave the sins of your people when holy pastors prayed;  
continually cleanse your Church through their powerful intercession.

– *Lord, save your people.*

In the presence of their brothers, you anointed your holy ones and poured  
on them your Spirit;

fill with your Holy Spirit all the leaders of your people.

– *Lord, save your people.*

Nothing could ever separate the holy pastors from your love;  
do not lose even one of those whom you redeemed by your passion.

– *Lord, save your people.*

Through the pastors of your Church you give your sheep eternal life, and no  
one can steal them from you;

save the faithful departed, for whom you laid down your life.

– *Lord, save your people.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

Lord God, in your providence you called Pope Saint Pius

to defend the faith  
and to enhance the dignity of divine worship.  
Give us grace, through his prayer,  
to worship you in your sacred mysteries  
with an ardent faith and an active charity.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

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The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide  
or Saint Pius V, Pope

### Compline (Night Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Examination of Conscience

*This is an excellent moment for an examination of conscience. In a communal celebration of Compline, one of the penitential acts given in the Missal may be recited.*

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#### Hymn

Jesu, the world's redeeming Lord,  
The Father's co-eternal Word,  
Of light invisible true Light,  
Thine Israel's Keeper day and night.

Our great Creator and our Guide,  
Who times and seasons dost divide,  
Refresh at night with quiet rest,  
Our limbs by daily toil oppressed.

We pray thee, while we dwell below,  
Preserve us from our ghostly foe;  
Nor let his wiles victorious be  
O'er them that are redeemed by thee.

That while in this frail house of clay  
A little longer here we stay,  
Our flesh in thee may sweetly sleep,  
Our souls with thee their vigils keep.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 15 (16)**  
**The Lord, my inheritance**

“God raised up Jesus, freeing him from the pains of death”  
(Acts 2:24).

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.  
I say to the Lord: ‘You are my God.  
My happiness lies in you alone.’

He has put into my heart a marvellous love  
for the faithful ones who dwell in his land.  
Those who choose other gods increase their sorrows.  
Never will I offer their offerings of blood.  
Never will I take their name upon my lips.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.  
The lot marked out for me is my delight:  
welcome indeed the heritage that falls to me!

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus, uphold those who hope in you and give us your counsel, so that we may know the joy of your resurrection and deserve to be among the saints at your right hand.

### **Or:**

Father, in the mysterious plan of your love, you offered your Son the bitter cup of death, and yet you would not let your Holy One know decay, but opened to him the way of life. Help us to look for happiness in you alone and to share one day the glory of your Son's resurrection.

---

### **Short Reading**

**1 Thessalonians 5:23**

May the God who gives us peace make you completely his, and keep your whole being, spirit, soul, and body, free from all fault, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

---

### **Short Responsory**

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

### **Nunc Dimittis**

#### **Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel**

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

At last, all-powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

---

**Let us pray.**

Lord our God,  
    restore us again by the repose of sleep  
    after the fatigue of our daily work,  
so that, continually renewed by your help,  
    we may serve you in body and soul.  
Through Christ our Lord,  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.  
**Amen.**

---

## **Regina Caeli**

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia!  
for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!  
has risen as he said, alleluia!  
Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Regína cæli, lætare, allelúia,  
quia quem meruísti portáre, allelúia,  
resurréxit sicut dixit, allelúia;  
ora pro nobis Deum, allelúia.

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

**Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

*see also* [Saint Pius V, Pope](#)

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

### Readings at Mass

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#### Entrance Antiphon

**Cf. Ex 15: 1-2**

Let us sing to the Lord, for he has gloriously triumphed.  
The Lord is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation, alleluia.

---

#### Collect

Almighty ever-living God,  
let us feel your compassion more readily  
during these days when, by your gift,  
we have known it more fully,  
so that those you have freed from the darkness of error  
may cling more firmly to the teachings of your truth.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

---

#### First reading

**Acts 8:26-40**

#### Philip baptizes a eunuch

The angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, 'Be ready to set out at noon along the road that goes from Jerusalem down to Gaza, the desert road.' So

he set off on his journey. Now it happened that an Ethiopian had been on pilgrimage to Jerusalem; he was a eunuch and an officer at the court of the kandake, or queen, of Ethiopia, and was in fact her chief treasurer. He was now on his way home; and as he sat in his chariot he was reading the prophet Isaiah. The Spirit said to Philip, 'Go up and meet that chariot.' When Philip ran up, he heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' 'How can I' he replied 'unless I have someone to guide me?' So he invited Philip to get in and sit by his side. Now the passage of scripture he was reading was this:

*Like a sheep that is led to the slaughter-house,  
like a lamb that is dumb in front of its shearers,  
like these he never opens his mouth.  
He has been humiliated and has no one to defend him.  
Who will ever talk about his descendants,  
since his life on earth has been cut short!*

The eunuch turned to Philip and said, 'Tell me, is the prophet referring to himself or someone else?' Starting, therefore, with this text of scripture Philip proceeded to explain the Good News of Jesus to him.

Further along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, 'Look, there is some water here; is there anything to stop me being baptised?' He ordered the chariot to stop, then Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water and Philip baptised him. But after they had come up out of the water again Philip was taken away by the Spirit of the Lord, and the eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. Philip found that he had reached Azotus and continued his journey proclaiming the Good News in every town as far as Caesarea.

---

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 65(66):8-9,16-17,20**

*Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.  
or  
Alleluia!*

O peoples, bless our God,  
let the voice of his praise resound,

of the God who gave life to our souls  
and kept our feet from stumbling.

*Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Come and hear, all who fear God.

I will tell what he did for my soul:  
to him I cried aloud,  
with high praise ready on my tongue.

*Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Blessed be God

who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me.

*Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord, who hung for us upon the tree,  
has risen from the tomb.

Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Jn6:51**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven,  
says the Lord.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia!

---

**I am the living bread which has come down from heaven**

Jesus said to the crowd:

‘No one can come to me  
unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me,  
and I will raise him up at the last day.

It is written in the prophets:  
*They will all be taught by God,*  
and to hear the teaching of the Father,  
and learn from it,  
is to come to me.

Not that anybody has seen the Father,  
except the one who comes from God:  
he has seen the Father.

I tell you most solemnly,  
everybody who believes has eternal life.

‘I am the bread of life.

Your fathers ate the manna in the desert  
and they are dead;  
but this is the bread that comes down from heaven,  
so that a man may eat it and not die.

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.  
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;  
and the bread that I shall give is my flesh,  
for the life of the world.’

---

**Prayer over the Offerings**

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice  
have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead,  
grant, we pray,  
that, as we have come to know your truth,  
we may make it ours by a worthy way of life.

Through Christ our Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

**2 Cor 5: 15**

Christ died for all, that those who live  
may live no longer for themselves,  
but for him, who died for them and is risen, alleluia.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord,  
and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries  
to pass from former ways to newness of life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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## Thursday 30 April 2020

**Saint Pius V, Pope**

*see also* [Thursday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

### Readings at Mass

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#### Entrance Antiphon

The Lord chose him for himself as high priest,  
and, opening his treasure house,  
made him rich in all good things, alleluia.

**Or:**

**Cf. Sir 50: 1; 44: 16, 22**

Behold a great priest, who in his days pleased God;  
therefore, in accordance with his promise,  
the Lord gave him growth for the good of his people, alleluia.

---

#### Collect

O God, who in your providence  
raised up Pope Saint Pius the Fifth in your Church  
that the faith might be safeguarded  
and more fitting worship be offered to you,  
grant, through his intercession,  
that we may participate in your mysteries  
with lively faith and fruitful charity.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

## [Readings for the feria](#)

## [Readings for the memorial](#)

*These are the readings for the feria*

### **First reading**

**Acts 8:26-40**

### **Philip baptizes a eunuch**

The angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, 'Be ready to set out at noon along the road that goes from Jerusalem down to Gaza, the desert road.' So he set off on his journey. Now it happened that an Ethiopian had been on pilgrimage to Jerusalem; he was a eunuch and an officer at the court of the kandake, or queen, of Ethiopia, and was in fact her chief treasurer. He was now on his way home; and as he sat in his chariot he was reading the prophet Isaiah. The Spirit said to Philip, 'Go up and meet that chariot.' When Philip ran up, he heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' 'How can I' he replied 'unless I have someone to guide me?' So he invited Philip to get in and sit by his side. Now the passage of scripture he was reading was this:

*Like a sheep that is led to the slaughter-house,  
like a lamb that is dumb in front of its shearers,  
like these he never opens his mouth.  
He has been humiliated and has no one to defend him.  
Who will ever talk about his descendants,  
since his life on earth has been cut short!*

The eunuch turned to Philip and said, 'Tell me, is the prophet referring to himself or someone else?' Starting, therefore, with this text of scripture Philip proceeded to explain the Good News of Jesus to him.

Further along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, 'Look, there is some water here; is there anything to stop me being baptised?' He ordered the chariot to stop, then Philip and the

eunuch both went down into the water and Philip baptised him. But after they had come up out of the water again Philip was taken away by the Spirit of the Lord, and the eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. Philip found that he had reached Azotus and continued his journey proclaiming the Good News in every town as far as Caesarea.

---

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 65(66):8-9,16-17,20**

*Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

O peoples, bless our God,  
let the voice of his praise resound,  
of the God who gave life to our souls  
and kept our feet from stumbling.

*Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
to him I cried aloud,  
with high praise ready on my tongue.

*Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Blessed be God  
who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me.

*Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Lord, who hung for us upon the tree,  
has risen from the tomb.  
Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Jn6:51**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the living bread which has come down from heaven,  
says the Lord.  
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.  
Alleluia!

---

## **Gospel**

**John 6:44-51**

### **I am the living bread which has come down from heaven**

Jesus said to the crowd:

‘No one can come to me  
unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me,  
and I will raise him up at the last day.

It is written in the prophets:

*They will all be taught by God,*  
and to hear the teaching of the Father,  
and learn from it,  
is to come to me.

Not that anybody has seen the Father,  
except the one who comes from God:  
he has seen the Father.

I tell you most solemnly,  
everybody who believes has eternal life.

‘I am the bread of life.  
Your fathers ate the manna in the desert

and they are dead;  
but this is the bread that comes down from heaven,  
so that a man may eat it and not die.  
I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.  
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;  
and the bread that I shall give is my flesh,  
for the life of the world.'

[Continue](#)

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*These are the readings for the memorial*

### **First reading**

**1 Corinthians 4:1-5**

### **The Lord alone is our judge**

People must think of us as Christ's servants, stewards entrusted with the mysteries of God. What is expected of stewards is that each one should be found worthy of his trust. Not that it makes the slightest difference to me whether you, or indeed any human tribunal, find me worthy or not. I will not even pass judgement on myself. True, my conscience does not reproach me at all, but that does not prove that I am acquitted: the Lord alone is my judge. There must be no passing of premature judgement. Leave that until the Lord comes; he will light up all that is hidden in the dark and reveal the secret intentions of men's hearts. Then will be the time for each one to have whatever praise he deserves, from God.

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### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 109(110):1-4**

*You are a priest for ever, a priest like Melchizedek of old.*

The Lord's revelation to my Master:

‘Sit on my right:  
your foes I will put beneath your feet.’

*You are a priest for ever, a priest like Melchizedek of old.*

The Lord will wield from Zion  
your sceptre of power:  
rule in the midst of all your foes.

*You are a priest for ever, a priest like Melchizedek of old.*

A prince from the day of your birth  
on the holy mountains;  
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

*You are a priest for ever, a priest like Melchizedek of old.*

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.  
‘You are a priest for ever,  
a priest like Melchizedek of old.’

*You are a priest for ever, a priest like Melchizedek of old.*

---

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn10:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my own sheep and my own know me.  
Alleluia!

---

### **Gospel**

**John 21:15-17**

### **Feed my lambs, feed my sheep**

Jesus showed himself to his disciples, and after they had eaten he said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?’ He answered, ‘Yes Lord, you know I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He replied, ‘Yes, Lord, you know I love you.’

Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'

[Continue](#)

---

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept this sacrifice from your people, we pray, O Lord,  
and make what is offered for your glory,  
in honour of blessed **N.**,  
a means to our eternal salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Cf. Jn 10: 11**

The Good Shepherd has laid down his life  
for his sheep, alleluia.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

May the Sacrament we have received, O Lord our God,  
stir up in us that fire of charity  
with which blessed **N.** burned ardently  
as he gave himself unceasingly for your Church.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

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## Friday 1 May 2020

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see also [Saint Joseph the Worker](#)

## Lectio Divina

### Introduction

*Make whatever preparations you need to leave the shadow world behind and encounter the fire of the Spirit and the light of God.*

*If you have chosen a specific bodily position, adopt it. If you have chosen to prepare the space and the place in some way (perhaps drawing a curtain or lighting a candle), make that preparation.*

*Eliminate distractions and the possibility of interruption.*

### Sign of the Cross

*We invoke God, in whose name we act and to whom we are about to open ourselves.*

In the name of the Father, ✠  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

### Invocation of the Holy Spirit

*We invoke the Holy Spirit, who will speak to us and listen in us.*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.  
**And you shall renew the face of the earth.**

## Act of Contrition

*By acknowledging our sinfulness and admitting that by ourselves we can do nothing that is not flawed, we ask God to take the initiative in this encounter.*

Have mercy on us, O Lord:  
**For we have sinned against you.**  
Show us, O Lord, your mercy:  
**And grant us your salvation.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## The Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*The Gospel should be read slowly, meditatively, with pauses between sentences or whenever the sense requires it. The aim is not to tell the text to God, who knows it already, but to let God tell it to us. For this, there have to be silences so that what God is telling us can be heard.*

*When a group is doing Lectio Divina, it is usually best to take turns in reading the words of the Gospel, since for many people speaking will bring the words to mind better than hearing does. But do not let this become a distraction in itself: have a clear order known in advance, and a simple signal for handing over the baton from one person to the next.*

**John 6:52-59**

### **My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink**

The Jews started arguing with one another: ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’ they said. Jesus replied:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood,  
you will not have life in you.  
Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood  
has eternal life,  
and I shall raise him up on the last day.’

For my flesh is real food  
and my blood is real drink.  
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
lives in me  
and I live in him.  
As I, who am sent by the living Father,  
myself draw life from the Father,  
so whoever eats me will draw life from me.  
This is the bread come down from heaven;  
not like the bread our ancestors ate:  
they are dead,  
but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.’  
He taught this doctrine at Capernaum, in the synagogue.

---

## The Response

### Meditatio (reflection)

*What does the Gospel say to me?*

*God has willed me to be here, now, today, for a reason. Now is the time to reflect, and find that reason, and hear what God has chosen to tell me.*

*A good pattern is this:*

- What has drawn my attention or struck me in some way?*
- Why? Was it a person? A word? A situation? A gesture?*
- What, therefore, is God saying to me through these words, here and now, today?*

*The “I” and the “me” are important. To say “we” or “us” is to evade the encounter by softening the focus and hiding behind membership of a group. The meeting with Jesus is face to face, one to one.*

### The shared echo

*When several people are doing Lectio together, especially if they do so regularly, then there is the opportunity for each person to share the words that have had the most impact in today’s passage, or the message it has conveyed.*

*There is no obligation to share an echo, and some members may take many meetings before sharing one, or may even never do so.*

*An echo is what struck me – not “you” or “us”. It is not a mini-sermon or a carefully crafted uplifting thought. Echoes do not have echoes. The sharing of echoes and the listening to echoes are not a discussion aiming at a conclusion, but the opening of one heart to another.*

*The experience of sharing echoes brings the group closer together. Over time, its power grows.*

## **Oratio (prayer)**

*God has spoken to me. What do I reply?*

*Silently, each of us responds to what God has said to him through the passage we have read and even through the echoes we have heard.*

*As a matter of human practicality, one person should be responsible for deciding the time taken for silent prayer. Even better, a timer or hourglass can be used. Otherwise “Are we nearly there yet?” can be a potent distraction.*

## **Contemplatio (contemplation)**

*Sometimes we may be led beyond prayer into a quiet and attentive resting in the presence of God.*

## **Conclusion**

*We prepare to return to the everyday world, carrying with us what we have received in our minds and our hearts today.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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**Amen.**

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A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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**Matthew 13:54-58**

### **A prophet is only despised in his own country**

Coming to his home town, Jesus taught the people in their synagogue in such a way that they were astonished and said, 'Where did the man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers? This is the carpenter's son, surely? Is not his mother the woman called Mary, and his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Jude? His sisters, too, are they not all here with us? So where did the man get it all?' And they would not accept him. But Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country and in his own

house', and he did not work many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

---

## The Response

### Meditatio (reflection)

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    hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
    Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
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    and forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.

---

May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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### Invitatory Psalm

---

Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 23 (24)**

*“The gates of heaven were opened to Christ because he was lifted up in the flesh” (St Irenaeus).*

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place?

The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things,  
who has not sworn so as to deceive his neighbour.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.

Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory?

The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads;

grow higher, ancient doors.

Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is he, the king of glory?

He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

---

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**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 23 (24)**

**“The gates of heaven were opened to Christ because he was lifted up in the flesh” (St Irenaeus).**

*Christ the Lord allowed himself to be considered the son of a carpenter:  
come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

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The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things,  
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He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

O gates, lift high your heads;

grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory?  
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is he, the king of glory?  
He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Christ the Lord allowed himself to be considered the son of a carpenter:  
come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

---

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### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky,

Heav'n thunders forth its victor cry:

The glad earth shouts her triumph high,

And groaning hell makes wild reply.

While he, the King of sovereign might,

Treads down death's strength in death's despite,

And trampling hell by victor's right,

Brings forth his sleeping saints to light.

Fast barred beneath the stone of late,

In watch and ward where soldiers wait,

Now shining in triumphant state,  
He rises victor from death's gate.

Hell's pains are loosed and tears are fled:  
Captivity is captive led:  
The angel, crowned with light, hath said:  
'The Lord is risen from the dead.'

Author of all, be thou our guide  
In this our joy of Eastertide;  
Whene'er assaults of death impend,  
Thy people strengthen and defend.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, thy people give:  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.

---

**Psalm 50 (51)**  
**God, have mercy on me**

*“You must be made new in mind and spirit, and put on the new nature of God's creating” (Eph 4:23,24).*

*O Lord, wash me more and more from my guilt. Alleluia.*

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

My offences truly I know them;  
my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence  
and be without reproach when you judge,

O see, in guilt I was born,  
a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;  
then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.  
O purify me, then I shall be clean;  
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,  
that the bones you have crushed may revive.  
From my sins turn away your face  
and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you.

O rescue me, God, my helper,  
and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight,  
burnt offering from me you would refuse,  
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit.  
A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

In your goodness, show favour to Sion:  
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.  
Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice,  
holocausts offered on your altar.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*O Lord, wash me more and more from my guilt. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Father, he who knew no sin was made sin for us, to save us and restore us to your friendship. Look upon our contrite heart and afflicted spirit and heal our troubled conscience, so that in the joy and strength of the Holy Spirit we may proclaim your praise and glory before all the nations.

---

### **Canticle**

### **Jeremiah 14**

#### **Lamentation of the people in the time of famine and war**

**“The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel”  
(Mk 1:15).**

*Christ bore our sins in his own body on the cross. Alleluia.*

Let my eyes run down with tears night and day,  
and let them not cease,  
for the virgin daughter of my people is smitten with a great wound,  
with a very grievous blow.

If I go out into the field,  
behold, those slain by the sword!  
And if I enter the city,  
behold, the diseases of famine!  
For both prophet and priest ply their trade through the land,  
and have no knowledge.

Have you utterly rejected Judah?  
Does your soul loathe Sion?  
Why have you smitten us

so that there is no healing for us?

We looked for peace,  
but no good came;  
for a time of healing,  
but behold, terror.

We acknowledge our wickedness, O Lord,  
and the iniquity of our fathers,  
for we have sinned against you.  
Do not spurn us, for your name's sake,  
do not dishonour your glorious throne;  
remember and do not break your covenant with us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Christ bore our sins in his own body on the cross. Alleluia.*

---

**Psalm 99 (100)**  
**Enter the Temple with joy**

**“The Lord calls all those he has redeemed to sing a hymn of victory”  
(St Athanasius).**

*Come before the Lord, singing for joy. Alleluia.*

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.  
He made us, we belong to him,  
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Go within his gates, giving thanks.  
Enter his courts with songs of praise.  
Give thanks to him and bless his name.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,  
eternal his merciful love.  
He is faithful from age to age.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Come before the Lord, singing for joy. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

With joy and gladness we cry out to you, Lord, and ask you: open our hearts to sing your praises and announce your goodness and truth.

**Or:**

God, devoted to us as a Father, you created us as a sign of your power and elected us your people to show your goodness. Accept the thanks your children offer that all men may enter your courts praising you in song.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Acts 5:30-32**

It was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.

---

### **Short Responsory**

The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.

– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*  
For our sake he died on the cross, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The Lord has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## **Canticle**

## **Benedictus**

### **The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him. Alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God

who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him. Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to God the Father, who has given us new life through the  
resurrection of Christ.

– *Make us radiant with Christ's glory.*

Almighty God, creator of the world, you revealed the old covenant by your  
mighty deeds and were faithful to men down through the ages;  
loving Father, hear the prayer of your children.

– *Make us radiant with Christ's glory.*

Cleanse our hearts by your truth and guide our lives by your holiness;  
may we do what is right and pleasing to you.

– *Make us radiant with Christ's glory.*

Let the light of your face shine upon us;  
free us from sin and fill us with your goodness.

– *Make us radiant with Christ's glory.*

Peace was your Son's parting gift to the apostles;  
grant your peace to us and to people everywhere.

– *Make us radiant with Christ's glory.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty God,  
we have come to know the grace of our Lord's resurrection.  
Grant that through the love of your Spirit  
we may rise to new life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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## Friday 1 May 2020

**Saint Joseph the Worker**

*see also* [Friday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

O Blessed Joseph, yours the praise

The choirs of angels sing,

The guardian of the Virgin blest,

And of her Child and King.

The prophets told of God to come:

The Son of God on earth;

Yours was the glory then to be

There at the Saviour's birth.

To him, the Father's only Son

You served as father here;

He was subjected to your will  
He, whom the heavens revere.

As once you sought and found again  
The Christ, the Lord of light;  
So may we walk with him, like you  
All humble in his sight.

O Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
The God of truth and grace,  
By holy Joseph's prayers grant  
That we may see your face.

Stanbrook Abbey Hymnal

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**Psalm 50 (51)**  
**God, have mercy on me**

“You must be made new in mind and spirit, and put on the new nature  
of God’s creating” (Eph 4:23,24).

*O Lord, wash me more and more from my guilt. Alleluia.*

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

My offences truly I know them;  
my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence  
and be without reproach when you judge,  
O see, in guilt I was born,  
a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;

then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.  
O purify me, then I shall be clean;  
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,  
that the bones you have crushed may revive.  
From my sins turn away your face  
and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you.

O rescue me, God, my helper,  
and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight,  
burnt offering from me you would refuse,  
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit.  
A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

In your goodness, show favour to Sion:  
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.  
Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice,  
holocausts offered on your altar.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*O Lord, wash me more and more from my guilt. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Father, he who knew no sin was made sin for us, to save us and restore us to your friendship. Look upon our contrite heart and afflicted spirit and heal our troubled conscience, so that in the joy and strength of the Holy Spirit we may proclaim your praise and glory before all the nations.

---

### **Canticle**

### **Jeremiah 14**

#### **Lamentation of the people in the time of famine and war**

*“The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel”  
(Mk 1:15).*

*Christ bore our sins in his own body on the cross. Alleluia.*

Let my eyes run down with tears night and day,  
and let them not cease,  
for the virgin daughter of my people is smitten with a great wound,  
with a very grievous blow.

If I go out into the field,  
behold, those slain by the sword!  
And if I enter the city,  
behold, the diseases of famine!  
For both prophet and priest ply their trade through the land,  
and have no knowledge.

Have you utterly rejected Judah?  
Does your soul loathe Sion?  
Why have you smitten us  
so that there is no healing for us?

We looked for peace,  
but no good came;

for a time of healing,  
but behold, terror.

We acknowledge our wickedness, O Lord,  
and the iniquity of our fathers,  
for we have sinned against you.  
Do not spurn us, for your name's sake,  
do not dishonour your glorious throne;  
remember and do not break your covenant with us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Christ bore our sins in his own body on the cross. Alleluia.*

---

**Psalm 99 (100)**  
**Enter the Temple with joy**

**“The Lord calls all those he has redeemed to sing a hymn of victory”  
(St Athanasius).**

*Come before the Lord, singing for joy. Alleluia.*

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.  
He made us, we belong to him,  
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Go within his gates, giving thanks.  
Enter his courts with songs of praise.  
Give thanks to him and bless his name.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,  
eternal his merciful love.  
He is faithful from age to age.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Come before the Lord, singing for joy. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

With joy and gladness we cry out to you, Lord, and ask you: open our hearts to sing your praises and announce your goodness and truth.

**Or:**

God, devoted to us as a Father, you created us as a sign of your power and elected us your people to show your goodness. Accept the thanks your children offer that all men may enter your courts praising you in song.

---

### **Short Reading**

**2 Samuel 7:28-29**

Lord, you are God indeed, your words are true and you have made this fair promise to your servant. Be pleased, then, to bless the House of your servant, that it may continue for ever in your presence; for you, Lord, have spoken; and with your blessing the House of your servant will be for ever blessed.

---

### **Short Responsory**

The Lord made him master of his own house. Alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The Lord made him master of his own house. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
He constituted him ruler of all that he possessed.  
– *The Lord made him master of his own house. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The Lord made him master of his own house. Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## **Canticle**

## **Benedictus**

### **The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*Saint Joseph worked faithfully as a carpenter. He shines as an example to all workmen, alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!  
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,

those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Saint Joseph worked faithfully as a carpenter. He shines as an example to  
all workmen, alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Whatever we do or say, let us do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving  
thanks to God the Father through him.  
— *Lord, hear us.*

As Joseph believed what you had told him, and became the guardian of  
your only Son:  
so may we put our faith in you, and receive the fulfilment of your  
promise.  
— *Lord, hear us.*

Father, give us that faith which gives substance to our hopes,  
and make us certain of realities we do not see.  
— *Lord, hear us.*

Joseph took the child Jesus into his care, loving and accepting him as his  
own Son:  
may we accept all that God gives us, and care for those entrusted to us.  
— *Lord, hear us.*

You have given man authority over the work of your hands and invited him  
to share in your creation:  
help us to accept our responsibility by working for your glory and the  
good of all mankind.  
— *Lord, hear us.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Lord God and Creator of the universe,  
you imposed on mankind the law of work.  
Give us grace, by Saint Joseph's example and at his intercession,  
to finish the works you give us to do,  
and to come to the rewards you promise.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

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The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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## Friday 1 May 2020

Friday of the 3rd week of Eastertide  
*see also* [Saint Joseph the Worker](#)

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

O Christ, the heavens' eternal King,

Creator, unto thee we sing,

With God the Father ever One,

Co-equal, co-eternal Son.

Thy hand, when first the world began,

Made in thine own pure image man,

And linked to fleshly form of earth

A living soul of heavenly birth.

And when the envious crafty foe

Had marred thy noblest work below,

Thou didst our ruined state repair

By deigning flesh thyself to wear.

Once of a virgin born to save,  
And now new born from death's dark grave,  
O Christ, thou bidd'st us rise with thee  
From death to immortality.

Eternal Shepherd, thou art wont  
To cleanse Thy sheep within the font,  
That mystic bath, that grave of sin,  
Where ransomed souls new life begin.

Divine Redeemer, thou didst deign  
To bear for us the cross of pain,  
And freely pay the precious price  
Of all thy blood in sacrifice.

Jesu, do thou to every heart  
Unceasing Paschal joy impart;  
From death of sin and guilty strife  
Set free the new born sons of life.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 134 (135)**  
**Praise the Lord, the wonder-worker**

**“You are a chosen race. Sing the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light” (1 Pet 2:9).**

*I, the Lord, am your Saviour, I am your Redeemer. Alleluia.*

Praise the name of the Lord,  
    praise him, servants of the Lord,  
who stand in the house of the Lord  
    in the courts of the house of our God.

Praise the Lord for the Lord is good.  
Sing a psalm to his name for he is loving.  
For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself  
and Israel for his own possession.

For I know the Lord is great,  
that our Lord is high above all gods.  
The Lord does whatever he wills,  
in heaven, on earth, in the seas.

He summons clouds from the ends of the earth;  
makes lightning produce the rain;  
from his treasures he sends forth the wind.

The first-born of the Egyptians he smote,  
of man and beast alike.  
Signs and wonders he worked  
in the midst of your land, O Egypt,  
against Pharaoh and all his servants.

Nations in their greatness he struck  
and kings in their splendour he slew.  
Sihon, king of the Amorites,  
Og, the king of Bashan,  
and all the kingdoms of Canaan.  
He let Israel inherit their land;  
on his people their land he bestowed.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I, the Lord, am your Saviour, I am your Redeemer. Alleluia.*

---

**Psalm 134 (135)**

*Blessed is the kingdom of our father David which has come among us.  
Alleluia.*

Lord, your name stands for ever,  
unforgotten from age to age,  
for the Lord does justice for his people;  
the Lord takes pity on his servants.

Pagan idols are silver and gold,  
the work of human hands.  
They have mouths but they cannot speak;  
they have eyes but they cannot see.

They have ears but they cannot hear;  
there is never a breath on their lips.  
Their makers will come to be like them  
and so will all who trust in them!

Sons of Israel, bless the Lord!  
Sons of Aaron, bless the Lord!  
Sons of Levi, bless the Lord!  
You who fear him, bless the Lord!

From Sion may the Lord be blessed,  
he who dwells in Jerusalem!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Blessed is the kingdom of our father David which has come among us.  
Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Father, your name and your memory last for ever. We stand to pray in your house and praise you with psalms of joy. We ask you in your kindness to

have mercy on us in our lowliness.

**Or:**

Father, you shattered the powers of darkness, with all their evil plots, to give strength to your servants and make them magnanimous in the struggle for eternal life. Have mercy on us and do not permit us to be deceived by false idols. May we praise your name for ever and receive the eternal gift of our inheritance.

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**Canticle**

**Apocalypse 15**

**A hymn of adoration**

*Let us sing to the Lord: great is his triumph. Alleluia.*

Great and wonderful are your deeds,

O Lord God the Almighty!

Just and true are your ways,

O King of the ages!

Who shall not fear and glorify your name, O Lord?

For you alone are holy.

All nations shall come and worship you,

for your judgements have been revealed.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen.

*Let us sing to the Lord: great is his triumph. Alleluia.*

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**Short Reading**

**Hebrews 5:8-10**

Christ, although he was Son, learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation and was acclaimed by God with the title of high priest *of the order of Melchizedek*.

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### **Short Responsory**

The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*  
They saw the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*

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### **Canticle**

### **Magnificat**

#### **My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*Christ died on the cross and rose again from the dead to redeem us.  
Alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Christ died on the cross and rose again from the dead to redeem us.  
Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to Christ, the way, the truth and the life.  
– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

We pray for all the ministers of your Church:  
may they be nourished and sustained as they break for their brothers the  
bread of life.  
– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

We pray for the whole Christian people:  
may they be faithful to their calling and hold fast in bonds of peace the  
unity of the spirit.  
– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

We pray for those who govern our country that they may exercise their  
office with justice and compassion;  
help them to promote the peace of the world.  
– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

Make us worthy to adore you in the communion of saints;  
grant eternal joy to the faithful departed, whom we entrust to your care.  
– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty God,

we have come to know the grace of our Lord's resurrection.

Grant that through the love of your Spirit  
we may rise to new life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

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The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

---

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## Friday 1 May 2020

**Saint Joseph the Worker**

*see also* [Friday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

O Blessed Joseph, yours the praise

The choirs of angels sing,

The guardian of the Virgin blest,

And of her Child and King.

The prophets told of God to come:

The Son of God on earth;

Yours was the glory then to be

There at the Saviour's birth.

To him, the Father's only Son

You served as father here;

He was subjected to your will

He, whom the heavens revere.

As once you sought and found again  
The Christ, the Lord of light;  
So may we walk with him, like you  
All humble in his sight.

O Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
The God of truth and grace,  
By holy Joseph's prayers grant  
That we may see your face.

Stanbrook Abbey Hymnal

---

**Psalm 134 (135)**  
**Praise the Lord, the wonder-worker**

*“You are a chosen race. Sing the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light” (1 Pet 2:9).*

*I, the Lord, am your Saviour, I am your Redeemer. Alleluia.*

Praise the name of the Lord,  
praise him, servants of the Lord,  
who stand in the house of the Lord  
in the courts of the house of our God.

Praise the Lord for the Lord is good.  
Sing a psalm to his name for he is loving.  
For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself  
and Israel for his own possession.

For I know the Lord is great,  
that our Lord is high above all gods.  
The Lord does whatever he wills,  
in heaven, on earth, in the seas.

He summons clouds from the ends of the earth;  
makes lightning produce the rain;  
from his treasures he sends forth the wind.

The first-born of the Egyptians he smote,  
of man and beast alike.

Signs and wonders he worked  
in the midst of your land, O Egypt,  
against Pharaoh and all his servants.

Nations in their greatness he struck  
and kings in their splendour he slew.

Sihon, king of the Amorites,  
Og, the king of Bashan,  
and all the kingdoms of Canaan.

He let Israel inherit their land;  
on his people their land he bestowed.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I, the Lord, am your Saviour, I am your Redeemer. Alleluia.*

---

### **Psalm 134 (135)**

*Blessed is the kingdom of our father David which has come among us.  
Alleluia.*

Lord, your name stands for ever,  
unforgotten from age to age,  
for the Lord does justice for his people;  
the Lord takes pity on his servants.

Pagan idols are silver and gold,  
the work of human hands.  
They have mouths but they cannot speak;  
they have eyes but they cannot see.

They have ears but they cannot hear;  
there is never a breath on their lips.  
Their makers will come to be like them  
and so will all who trust in them!

Sons of Israel, bless the Lord!  
Sons of Aaron, bless the Lord!  
Sons of Levi, bless the Lord!  
You who fear him, bless the Lord!

From Sion may the Lord be blessed,  
he who dwells in Jerusalem!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Blessed is the kingdom of our father David which has come among us.  
Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Father, your name and your memory last for ever. We stand to pray in your house and praise you with psalms of joy. We ask you in your kindness to have mercy on us in our lowliness.

### **Or:**

Father, you shattered the powers of darkness, with all their evil plots, to give strength to your servants and make them magnanimous in the struggle for eternal life. Have mercy on us and do not permit us to be deceived by false idols. May we praise your name for ever and receive the eternal gift of our inheritance.

## A hymn of adoration

*Let us sing to the Lord: great is his triumph. Alleluia.*

Great and wonderful are your deeds,  
O Lord God the Almighty!  
Just and true are your ways,  
O King of the ages!

Who shall not fear and glorify your name, O Lord?  
For you alone are holy.  
All nations shall come and worship you,  
for your judgements have been revealed.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Let us sing to the Lord: great is his triumph. Alleluia.*

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## Short Reading

**Colossians 3:23-24**

Whatever your work is, put your heart into it as if it were for the Lord and not for men, knowing that the Lord will repay you by making you his heirs. It is Christ the Lord that you are serving.

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## Short Responsory

The virtuous man will bloom like the lily. Alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The virtuous man will bloom like the lily. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
He will grow for ever before the Lord.  
– *The virtuous man will bloom like the lily. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The virtuous man will bloom like the lily. Alleluia, alleluia.*

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**Canticle**

**Magnificat**

**My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*Christ the Lord allowed himself to be considered the son of a carpenter,  
alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Christ the Lord allowed himself to be considered the son of a carpenter,  
alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to God our Father, for from him all fatherhood in heaven and on earth takes its name.

– *Father, hallowed be your name*

Father, in your Son you revealed to Joseph the mystery kept secret for endless ages:

help us to acknowledge your Son as God and man.

– *Father, hallowed be your name*

Father, you enabled Joseph to spend his life in your service:

set our minds on your kingdom and your justice before all other things.

– *Father, hallowed be your name*

Father, your will is that every man should accept and answer your call:

by the prayer of Joseph, give us the grace to live in accord with your will.

– *Father, hallowed be your name*

Creator of all things, you have entrusted your work to our hands:

grant that our labours may prove worthy of you.

– *Father, hallowed be your name*

Father, in whom all men live, grant to those who have died new life,

through your Son;

with Mary, and Joseph, and all your saints for ever.

– *Father, hallowed be your name*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
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Lord God and Creator of the universe,  
you imposed on mankind the law of work.  
Give us grace, by Saint Joseph's example and at his intercession,  
to finish the works you give us to do,  
and to come to the rewards you promise.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

---

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## Friday 1 May 2020

**Friday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**  
*or Saint Joseph the Worker*

### Compline (Night Prayer)

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Examination of Conscience

*This is an excellent moment for an examination of conscience. In a communal celebration of Compline, one of the penitential acts given in the Missal may be recited.*

---

#### Hymn

Jesu, the world's redeeming Lord,  
The Father's co-eternal Word,  
Of light invisible true Light,  
Thine Israel's Keeper day and night.

Our great Creator and our Guide,  
Who times and seasons dost divide,  
Refresh at night with quiet rest,  
Our limbs by daily toil oppressed.

We pray thee, while we dwell below,  
Preserve us from our ghostly foe;  
Nor let his wiles victorious be  
O'er them that are redeemed by thee.

That while in this frail house of clay  
A little longer here we stay,  
Our flesh in thee may sweetly sleep,  
Our souls with thee their vigils keep.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 87 (88)**  
**The prayer of one gravely ill**

**“This is your hour; this is the reign of darkness” (Lk 22:53).**

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Lord my God, I call for help by day;  
I cry at night before you.  
Let my prayer come into your presence.  
O turn your ear to my cry.

For my soul is filled with evils;  
my life is on the brink of the grave.  
I am reckoned as one in the tomb:  
I have reached the end of my strength,

like one alone among the dead;  
like the slain lying in their graves;  
like those you remember no more,  
cut off, as they are, from your hand.

You have laid me in the depths of the tomb,

in places that are dark, in the depths.  
Your anger weighs down upon me:  
I am drowned beneath your waves.

You have taken away my friends  
and made me hateful in their sight.  
Imprisoned, I cannot escape;  
my eyes are sunken with grief.

I call to you, Lord, all the day long;  
to you I stretch out my hands.  
Will you work your wonders for the dead?  
Will the shades stand and praise you?

Will your love be told in the grave  
or your faithfulness among the dead?  
Will your wonders be known in the dark  
or your justice in the land of oblivion?

As for me, Lord, I call to you for help:  
in the morning my prayer comes before you.  
Lord, why do you reject me?  
Why do you hide your face?

Wretched, close to death from my youth,  
I have borne your trials; I am numb.  
Your fury has swept down upon me;  
your terrors have utterly destroyed me.

They surround me all the day like a flood,  
they assail me all together.  
Friend and neighbour you have taken away:  
my one companion is darkness.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus, redeemer of all and author of our salvation, for us you went down to the realm of death and became free of death. Hear the prayers of your family and lift us from our slavery to evil, that we may be redeemed by you and see your Father's glory.

**Or:**

Lord Jesus Christ, you chose to suffer and be overwhelmed by death in order to open the gates of death in triumph. Stay with us to help us on our pilgrimage; free us from all evil by the power of your resurrection. In the company of your saints, and constantly remembering your love for us, may we sing of your wonders in our Father's house.

---

### **Short Reading**

**(Jeremiah 14:9)**

Lord, you are in our midst, we are called by your name. Do not desert us, O Lord our God!

---

### **Short Responsory**

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Nunc Dimittis**

**Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel**

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

At last, all-powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

---

**Let us pray.**

Give us grace, almighty God,  
so to unite ourselves in faith with your only Son,  
who underwent death and lay buried in the tomb,  
that we may rise again in newness of life with him,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**Amen.**

---

**Regina Caeli**

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia!

for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!  
has risen as he said, alleluia!  
Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Regína cæli, lætare, allelúia,  
quia quem meruísti portáre, allelúia,  
resurréxit sicut dixit, allelúia;  
ora pro nobis Deum, allelúia.

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## Friday 1 May 2020

**Friday of the 3rd week of Eastertide**

*see also* [Saint Joseph the Worker](#)

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

### Readings at Mass

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#### Entrance Antiphon

**Rv 5: 12**

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and divinity, and wisdom  
and strength and honour, alleluia.

---

#### Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that we, who have come to know  
the grace of the Lord's Resurrection,  
may, through the love of the Spirit,  
ourselves rise to newness of life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

---

#### First reading

**Acts 9:1-20**

**This man is my chosen instrument to bring my name before the pagans**

Saul was still breathing threats to slaughter the Lord's disciples. He had gone to the high priest and asked for letters addressed to the synagogues in

Damascus, that would authorise him to arrest and take to Jerusalem any followers of the Way, men or women, that he could find.

Suddenly, while he was travelling to Damascus and just before he reached the city, there came a light from heaven all round him. He fell to the ground, and then he heard a voice saying, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ ‘Who are you, Lord?’ he asked, and the voice answered, ‘I am Jesus, and you are persecuting me. Get up now and go into the city, and you will be told what you have to do.’ The men travelling with Saul stood there speechless, for though they heard the voice they could see no one. Saul got up from the ground, but even with his eyes wide open he could see nothing at all, and they had to lead him into Damascus by the hand. For three days he was without his sight, and took neither food nor drink.

A disciple called Ananias who lived in Damascus had a vision in which he heard the Lord say to him, ‘Ananias!’ When he replied, ‘Here I am, Lord’, the Lord said, ‘You must go to Straight Street and ask the house of Judas for someone called Saul, who comes from Tarsus. At this moment he is praying, having had a vision of a man called Ananias coming in and laying hands on him to give him back his sight.’

When he heard that, Ananias said, ‘Lord, several people have told me about this man and all the harm he has been doing to your saints in Jerusalem. He has only come here because he holds a warrant from the chief priests to arrest everybody who invokes your name.’ The Lord replied, ‘You must go all the same, because this man is my chosen instrument to bring my name before pagans and pagan kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he himself must suffer for my name.’ Then Ananias went. He entered the house, and at once laid his hands on Saul and said, ‘Brother Saul, I have been sent by the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on your way here so that you may recover your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’ Immediately it was as though scales fell away from Saul’s eyes and he could see again. So he was baptised there and then, and after taking some food he regained his strength.

He began preaching in the synagogues, ‘Jesus is the Son of God.’

---

## **Responsorial Psalm**

## **Psalm 116(117)**

*Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples!

*Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever.

*Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

**Gospel Acclamation**

**cf.Lk24:46,26**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
It was ordained that the Christ should suffer  
and rise from the dead,  
and so enter into his glory.  
Alleluia!

**Or:**

**Jn6:56**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
lives in me, and I live in him,  
says the Lord.  
Alleluia!

---

**Gospel**

**John 6:52-59**

**My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink**

The Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly,  
if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood,  
you will not have life in you.  
Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood  
has eternal life,  
and I shall raise him up on the last day.  
For my flesh is real food  
and my blood is real drink.  
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
lives in me  
and I live in him.  
As I, who am sent by the living Father,  
myself draw life from the Father,  
so whoever eats me will draw life from me.  
This is the bread come down from heaven;  
not like the bread our ancestors ate:  
they are dead,  
but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

He taught this doctrine at Capernaum, in the synagogue.

---

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord, we pray,  
and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice,  
make of us an eternal offering to you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

The Crucified is risen from the dead  
and has redeemed us, alleluia.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery,  
humbly imploring, O Lord,  
that what your Son commanded us to do  
in memory of him  
may bring us growth in charity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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## Friday 1 May 2020

**Saint Joseph the Worker**

*see also* [Friday of the 3rd week of Eastertide](#)

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

## Readings at Mass

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### Entrance Antiphon

**Ps 127: 1-2**

Blessed are all who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat;  
blessed are you, and blessed will you be, alleluia.

---

### Collect

O God, Creator of all things,  
who laid down for the human race the law of work,  
graciously grant  
that by the example of Saint Joseph and under his patronage  
we may complete the works you set us to do  
and attain the rewards you promise.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

[Readings for the feria](#)

[Readings for the memorial](#)

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*These are the readings for the feria*

---

**This man is my chosen instrument to bring my name before the  
pagans**

Saul was still breathing threats to slaughter the Lord's disciples. He had gone to the high priest and asked for letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, that would authorise him to arrest and take to Jerusalem any followers of the Way, men or women, that he could find.

Suddenly, while he was travelling to Damascus and just before he reached the city, there came a light from heaven all round him. He fell to the ground, and then he heard a voice saying, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' 'Who are you, Lord?' he asked, and the voice answered, 'I am Jesus, and you are persecuting me. Get up now and go into the city, and you will be told what you have to do.' The men travelling with Saul stood there speechless, for though they heard the voice they could see no one. Saul got up from the ground, but even with his eyes wide open he could see nothing at all, and they had to lead him into Damascus by the hand. For three days he was without his sight, and took neither food nor drink.

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When he heard that, Ananias said, 'Lord, several people have told me about this man and all the harm he has been doing to your saints in Jerusalem. He has only come here because he holds a warrant from the chief priests to arrest everybody who invokes your name.' The Lord replied, 'You must go all the same, because this man is my chosen instrument to bring my name before pagans and pagan kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he himself must suffer for my name.' Then Ananias went. He entered the house, and at once laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, I

have been sent by the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on your way here so that you may recover your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' Immediately it was as though scales fell away from Saul's eyes and he could see again. So he was baptised there and then, and after taking some food he regained his strength.

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---

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 116(117)**

*Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples!

*Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever.

*Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Ps67:20**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Lord be blessed day after day:  
he bears our burdens, God our saviour.

Alleluia!

---

*The following reading is proper to the memorial, and must be used even if you have otherwise chosen to use the ferial readings.*

### **Gospel**

**Matthew 13:54-58**

## **A prophet is only despised in his own country**

Coming to his home town, Jesus taught the people in their synagogue in such a way that they were astonished and said, 'Where did the man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers? This is the carpenter's son, surely? Is not his mother the woman called Mary, and his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Jude? His sisters, too, are they not all here with us? So where did the man get it all?' And they would not accept him. But Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country and in his own house', and he did not work many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

[Continue](#)

*These are the readings for the memorial*

[Genesis 1:26-2:3](#) Fill the earth and conquer it

[Colossians 3:14-15, 17, 23-24](#) Whatever your work is, put your heart into it as for the Lord

### **First reading**

**Genesis 1:26-2:3**

### **Fill the earth and conquer it**

God said, 'Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth.'

God created man in the image of himself,  
in the image of God he created him,

male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying to them, 'Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and conquer it. Be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all living animals on the earth.' God said, 'See, I give you all the seed-bearing plants that are upon the whole earth, and all the trees with seed-bearing fruit; this shall be your food. To all wild beasts, all birds of heaven and all living reptiles on the earth I give all the foliage of plants for food.' And so it was. God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good. Evening came and morning came: the sixth day.

Thus heaven and earth were completed with all their array. On the seventh day God completed the work he had been doing. He rested on the seventh day after all the work he had been doing. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on that day he had rested after all his work of creating.

[Continue](#)

### **First reading**

**Colossians 3:14-15,17,23-24**

### **Whatever your work is, put your heart into it as for the Lord**

Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Whatever your work is, put your heart into it as if it were for the Lord and not for men, knowing that the Lord will repay you by making you his heirs. It is Christ the Lord that you are serving.

[Continue](#)

## Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 89(90):2-4,12-14,16

*Give success to the work of our hands, O Lord.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Before the mountains were born  
or the earth or the world brought forth,  
you are God, without beginning or end.

*Give success to the work of our hands, O Lord.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

You turn men back to dust  
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'  
To your eyes a thousand years  
are like yesterday, come and gone,  
no more than a watch in the night.

*Give success to the work of our hands, O Lord.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Make us know the shortness of our life  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?  
Show pity to your servants.

*Give success to the work of our hands, O Lord.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

In the morning, fill us with your love;  
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
Show forth your work to your servants;  
let your glory shine on their children.

*Give success to the work of our hands, O Lord.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

**Second reading**

**Colossians 3:14-15,17,23-24**

**Whatever your work is, put your heart into it as for the Lord**

Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Whatever your work is, put your heart into it as if it were for the Lord and not for men, knowing that the Lord will repay you by making you his heirs. It is Christ the Lord that you are serving.

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**Gospel Acclamation**

**Ps67:20**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Lord be blessed day after day:  
he bears our burdens, God our saviour.

Alleluia!

---

**Gospel**

**Matthew 13:54-58**

**A prophet is only despised in his own country**

Coming to his home town, Jesus taught the people in their synagogue in such a way that they were astonished and said, 'Where did the man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers? This is the carpenter's son, surely? Is not his mother the woman called Mary, and his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Jude? His sisters, too, are they not

all here with us? So where did the man get it all?’ And they would not accept him. But Jesus said to them, ‘A prophet is only despised in his own country and in his own house’, and he did not work many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

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### **Prayer over the Offerings**

O God, fount of all mercy,  
look upon our offerings,  
which we bring before your majesty  
in commemoration of Saint Joseph,  
and mercifully grant that the gifts we offer  
may become the means of protection for those who call upon you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Cf. Col 3: 17**

Whatever you do in word or deed,  
do everything in the name of the Lord,  
giving thanks to God through him, alleluia.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

Having fed upon heavenly delights,  
we humbly ask you, O Lord,  
that, by Saint Joseph’s example,  
cherishing in our hearts the signs of your love,  
we may ever enjoy the fruit of perpetual peace.  
Through Christ our Lord.

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## Saturday 2 May 2020

**Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor**

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**Saturday 2 May 2020**

**Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor**

## **Lectio Divina**

### **Introduction**

*Make whatever preparations you need to leave the shadow world behind and encounter the fire of the Spirit and the light of God.*

*If you have chosen a specific bodily position, adopt it. If you have chosen to prepare the space and the place in some way (perhaps drawing a curtain or lighting a candle), make that preparation.*

*Eliminate distractions and the possibility of interruption.*

### **Sign of the Cross**

*We invoke God, in whose name we act and to whom we are about to open ourselves.*

In the name of the Father, ✠  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

### **Invocation of the Holy Spirit**

*We invoke the Holy Spirit, who will speak to us and listen in us.*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.  
**And you shall renew the face of the earth.**

### **Act of Contrition**

*By acknowledging our sinfulness and admitting that by ourselves we can do nothing that is not flawed, we ask God to take the initiative in this encounter.*

Have mercy on us, O Lord:  
**For we have sinned against you.**  
Show us, O Lord, your mercy:  
**And grant us your salvation.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## **The Gospel**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*The Gospel should be read slowly, meditatively, with pauses between sentences or whenever the sense requires it. The aim is not to tell the text to God, who knows it already, but to let God tell it to us. For this, there have to be silences so that what God is telling us can be heard.*

*When a group is doing Lectio Divina, it is usually best to take turns in reading the words of the Gospel, since for many people speaking will bring the words to mind better than hearing does. But do not let this become a distraction in itself: have a clear order known in advance, and a simple signal for handing over the baton from one person to the next.*

**John 6:60-69**

### **Who shall we go to? You are the Holy One of God**

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, ‘This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?’ Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, ‘Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?’

‘It is the spirit that gives life,  
the flesh has nothing to offer.  
The words I have spoken to you are spirit  
and they are life.

‘But there are some of you who do not believe.’ For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, ‘This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.’ After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, ‘What about you, do you want to go away too?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.’

---

## The Response

### Meditatio (reflection)

*What does the Gospel say to me?*

*God has willed me to be here, now, today, for a reason. Now is the time to reflect, and find that reason, and hear what God has chosen to tell me.*

*A good pattern is this:*

- What has drawn my attention or struck me in some way?*
- Why? Was it a person? A word? A situation? A gesture?*
- What, therefore, is God saying to me through these words, here and now, today?*

*The “I” and the “me” are important. To say “we” or “us” is to evade the encounter by softening the focus and hiding behind membership of a group. The meeting with Jesus is face to face, one to one.*

### The shared echo

*When several people are doing Lectio together, especially if they do so regularly, then there is the opportunity for each person to share the words that have had the most impact in today’s passage, or the message it has conveyed.*

*There is no obligation to share an echo, and some members may take many meetings before sharing one, or may even never do so.*

*An echo is what struck me – not “you” or “us”. It is not a mini-sermon or a carefully crafted uplifting thought. Echoes do not have echoes. The sharing of echoes and the listening to echoes are not a discussion aiming at a conclusion, but the opening of one heart to another.*

*The experience of sharing echoes brings the group closer together. Over time, its power grows.*

## **Oratio (prayer)**

*God has spoken to me. What do I reply?*

*Silently, each of us responds to what God has said to him through the passage we have read and even through the echoes we have heard.*

*As a matter of human practicality, one person should be responsible for deciding the time taken for silent prayer. Even better, a timer or hourglass can be used. Otherwise “Are we nearly there yet?” can be a potent distraction.*

## **Contemplatio (contemplation)**

*Sometimes we may be led beyond prayer into a quiet and attentive resting in the presence of God.*

## **Conclusion**

*We prepare to return to the everyday world, carrying with us what we have received in our minds and our hearts today.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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**Saturday 2 May 2020**

**Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor**

## **Invitatory Psalm**

---

Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 99 (100)**

*“The Lord calls all those he has redeemed to sing a hymn of victory”  
(St Athanasius).*

*The Lord is the source of all wisdom: come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him,

we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Go within his gates, giving thanks.

Enter his courts with songs of praise.

Give thanks to him and bless his name.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,

eternal his merciful love.

He is faithful from age to age.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The Lord is the source of all wisdom: come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

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**Saturday 2 May 2020**

**Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor**

## **Morning Prayer (Lauds)**

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

---

### **INTRODUCTION**

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

### **Hymn**

Who are these like stars appearing,  
these, before God's throne who stand?

Each a golden crown is wearing;  
who are all this glorious band?

Alleluia! Hark, they sing,  
praising loud their heavenly King.

Who are these of dazzling brightness,  
clothed in God's own righteousness?  
These, whose robes of purest whiteness,  
shall their lustre still possess,  
still untouched by time's rude hand?  
Whence came all this glorious band?

These are they who have contended  
for their Saviour's honour long,  
wrestling on till life was ended,  
following not the sinful throng;  
these who well the fight sustained,  
triumph through the Lamb have gained.

These are they whose hearts were riven,  
sore with woe and anguish tried,  
who in prayer full oft have striven  
with the God they glorified;  
now, their painful conflict o'er,  
God has bid them weep no more.

These, the Almighty contemplating,  
did as priests before him stand,  
soul and body always waiting  
day and night at his command:  
now in God's most holy place  
blest they stand before his face.

---

**Psalm 118 (119): 145-152**  
**Meditating the word of the Lord in the Law**

**“When anyone obeys what he has said, God's love comes to perfection  
in him” (1 John 2:5)**

*The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. Alleluia.*

I call with all my heart; Lord, hear me,  
I will keep your commands.  
I call upon you, save me  
and I will do your will.

I rise before dawn and cry for help,  
I hope in your word.  
My eyes watch through the night

to ponder your promise.

In your love hear my voice, O Lord;  
give me life by your decrees.  
Those who harm me unjustly draw near;  
they are far from your law.

But you, O Lord, are close,  
your commands are truth.  
Long have I known that your will  
is established for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Save us by the power of your hand, Father, for our enemies have ignored your words. May the fire of your word consume our sins and its brightness illumine our hearts.

---

### **Canticle**

### **Wisdom 9**

#### **Lord, give me wisdom**

**“I myself will give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist” (Lk 21:15).**

*Lord, you have set up your temple and altar on your holy mountain.  
Alleluia.*

O God of my fathers and Lord of mercy,  
who have made all things by your word;

and by your wisdom have formed man  
to have dominion over the creatures you have made,  
and rule the world in holiness and righteousness,  
and pronounce judgement in uprightness of soul,  
give me the wisdom that sits by your throne,  
and do not reject me from among your servants.

For I am your slave  
and the son of your maidservant,  
a man who is weak and short-lived,  
with little understanding of judgement and laws;  
for even if one is perfect among the sons of men,  
yet without the wisdom that comes from you  
he will be regarded as nothing.

With you is wisdom, who knows your works  
and was present when you made the world,  
and who understands what is pleasing in your sight  
and what is right according to your commandments.

Send her forth from the holy heavens,  
and from the throne of your glory send her,  
that she may be with me and toil,  
and that I may learn what is pleasing to you;  
for she knows and understands all things,  
and she will guide me wisely in my actions  
and guard me with her glory.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Lord, you have set up your temple and altar on your holy mountain.  
Alleluia.*

---

**Psalm 116 (117)**  
**Praise of the merciful Lord**

**“I ask the nations to give praise to God for his mercy” (Rom 15:8,9).**

*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. Alleluia.*

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples!

Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. Alleluia.*

**Psalm-prayer**

God our Father, may all nations and peoples praise you. May Jesus, who is called faithful and true and who lives with you eternally, possess our hearts for ever.

**Or:**

Lord God, everything you have promised has been done to show your faithfulness; and you have revealed your kindness to all peoples. Gather all nations into your Church that in all the various tongues of this world one hymn of praise may be offered you.

---

**Short Reading**

**Wisdom 7:13-14**

What I learned without self-interest, I pass on without reserve; I do not intend to hide her riches. For she is an inexhaustible treasure to men, and

those who acquire her win God's friendship, commended as they are to him by the benefits of her teaching.

---

### **Short Responsory**

The people tell about the wisdom of the saints. Alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The people tell about the wisdom of the saints. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
The Church sings their praises.  
– *The people tell about the wisdom of the saints. Alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The people tell about the wisdom of the saints. Alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

### **Benedictus**

#### **The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue will shine like stars for all eternity. Alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!  
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who  
have instructed many in virtue will shine like stars for all eternity.  
Alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Christ, the good shepherd, laid down his life for his sheep. Let us praise him  
with grateful hearts, as we pray:  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

Christ our Lord, in the holy pastors you reveal your love for us;  
may we never be deprived of the care you show through them.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

Through your sacred ministers you are present in our midst as the shepherd  
of our souls;  
never cease to guide us through their teaching and encouragement.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

In the saints who lead your people, you manifest your power of healing  
souls and bodies;  
remain always with us to renew our lives in holiness.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

By the example of the saints you instruct your faithful in the ways of  
wisdom and love;  
through our pastors, help us grow to the full stature of perfection.  
– *Lord, nourish the lives of your people.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty, ever-living God and Father,  
you raised up Saint Athanasius  
as the great champion of your Son's divinity.  
Through the doctrine and patronage of your saint, in which we rejoice,  
let our knowledge and love of you grow ever deeper and stronger.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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**Saturday 2 May 2020**

**Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor**

**(First Vespers of tomorrow, 4th Sunday of Easter)**

## **Vespers (Evening Prayer)**

---

### **INTRODUCTION**

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

### **Hymn**

The Lamb's high banquet we await,  
In snow-white robes of royal state;  
And now, the Red Sea's channel past,  
To Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the altar of the Cross  
His body hath redeemed our loss;  
And tasting of his scarlet blood,  
Our life is hid with him in God.

Now Christ our paschal Lamb is slain,  
The Lamb of God that knows no stain,  
The true oblation offered here,

Our own unleavened bread sincere.

O thou, from whom hell's monarch flies,  
O great, O very Sacrifice,  
Thy captive people are set free,  
And endless life restored in thee.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, thy people give:  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.

---

**Psalm 121 (122)**  
**Jerusalem, the holy city**

**“You have come to Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem” (Heb 12:22).**

*May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts. Alleluia.*

I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
‘Let us go to God's house.’  
And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.  
It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,  
there to praise the Lord's name.  
There were set the thrones of judgement  
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:  
‘Peace be to your homes!  
May peace reign in your walls,

in your palaces, peace!’

For love of my brethren and friends

I say: ‘Peace upon you!’

For love of the house of the Lord

I will ask for your good.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen.

*May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

When you rose from the dead, Lord Jesus, you formed the Church into your new body and made of her the new Jerusalem, united in your Spirit. Give us peace in our day. Make all nations come to your Church to share your gifts in fellowship, that they may render you thanks without end and come to your eternal city.

---

### **Psalm 129 (130) Out of the depths**

**“He will save his people from their sins” (Mt 1:21).**

*In your blood, you redeemed us for God. Alleluia.*

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,

Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,

Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:  
for this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord.  
I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord  
more than watchman for daybreak.  
Let the watchman count on daybreak  
and Israel on the Lord.

Because with the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption,  
Israel indeed he will redeem  
from all its iniquity.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*In your blood, you redeemed us for God. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Listen with compassion to our prayers, Lord. The forgiveness of sins is yours. Do not look on the wrong we have done, but grant us your merciful kindness.

### **Or:**

God of might and compassion, you sent your Word into the world, a watchman to announce to men the dawn of salvation. Do not leave us in the depths of our sins but listen to your Church pleading with you. Respond to her trust, and pour out in her the fullness of your redeeming grace.

## Christ, God's servant

*Was it not necessary that Christ should suffer thus and so enter into his glory? Alleluia.*

Though he was in the form of God,  
Jesus did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped.

He emptied himself,  
taking the form of a servant,  
being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself and became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name which is above every name,

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Was it not necessary that Christ should suffer thus and so enter into his glory? Alleluia.*

---

### Short Reading

### 1 Peter 2:9-10

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his

wonderful light. Once you were not a people at all and now you are the People of God; once you were outside the mercy and now you have been given mercy.

---

### Short Responsory

The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*  
They saw the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### Canticle

### Magnificat

#### My soul rejoices in the Lord

*I tell you most solemnly, the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock. He goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. Alleluia. (Year A)*

*Or: I am the door, says the Lord. Anyone who enters through me shall be safe and he will find a place of pasture, alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I tell you most solemnly, the one who enters through the gate is the  
shepherd of the flock. He goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow  
because they know his voice. Alleluia. (Year A)*

*Or: I am the door, says the Lord. Anyone who enters through me shall be  
safe and he will find a place of pasture, alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to Christ, who rose from the dead to restore our life.  
– *Ever-living Christ, hear us.*

Jesus, you are the stone rejected by the builders but you have proved to be  
the keystone of God's house;  
make us living stones in the temple of your Church.  
– *Ever-living Christ, hear us.*

You are the faithful and true witness, the first-born from the dead;  
may the Church never cease to proclaim you to the world.  
– *Ever-living Christ, hear us.*

Through your death and resurrection you took the Church to yourself as a  
bride:  
cherish her, and keep her faithful, and prepare her for the day of your  
coming.

– *Ever-living Christ, hear us.*

You are the first and the last, you were dead and now you are alive;  
may all the baptized be faithful unto death and gain the crown of glory.

– *Ever-living Christ, hear us.*

You are the light and joy of the city of God;  
shine on the faithful departed that they may reign for ever.

– *Ever-living Christ, hear us.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty, ever-living God,  
bring us to the joy of your heavenly city:  
so that we, your little flock,  
may follow where Christ, our Good Shepherd,  
has gone before us by the power of his resurrection.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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**Saturday 2 May 2020**

**Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor**

## **Compline (Night Prayer)**

---

### **INTRODUCTION**

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

### **Examination of Conscience**

*This is an excellent moment for an examination of conscience. In a communal celebration of Compline, one of the penitential acts given in the Missal may be recited.*

---

### **Hymn**

Jesu, the world's redeeming Lord,  
The Father's co-eternal Word,  
Of light invisible true Light,  
Thine Israel's Keeper day and night.

Our great Creator and our Guide,  
Who times and seasons dost divide,  
Refresh at night with quiet rest,  
Our limbs by daily toil oppressed.

We pray thee, while we dwell below,  
Preserve us from our ghostly foe;  
Nor let his wiles victorious be  
O'er them that are redeemed by thee.

That while in this frail house of clay  
A little longer here we stay,  
Our flesh in thee may sweetly sleep,  
Our souls with thee their vigils keep.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 4**  
**Thanksgiving**

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;  
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

O men, how long will your hearts be closed,  
will you love what is futile and seek what is false?

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves;  
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still  
Make justice your sacrifice, and trust in the Lord.

‘What can bring us happiness?’ many say.  
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

You have put into my heart a greater joy  
than they have from abundance of corn and new wine.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once

for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

---

**Psalm 133 (134)**  
**Evening prayer in the Temple**

“Praise our God, all you his servants, and all who revere him, both  
great and small” (Rev 19:5).

O come, bless the Lord,  
all you who serve the Lord,  
who stand in the house of the Lord,  
in the courts of the house of our God.

Lift up your hands to the holy place  
and bless the Lord through the night.

May the Lord bless you from Sion,  
he who made both heaven and earth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**Psalm-prayer**

All your servants praise and thank you, Lord. Be our light as night descends. We lift up to you the good works of our hands; grant us your generous blessing.

**Or:**

Where two or three gather in your name, Lord, you promised to be with them and share their fellowship. Look down upon your family gathered here in your name, and graciously pour out your blessing upon us.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Deuteronomy 6:4-7**

Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

---

### **Short Responsory**

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

**Canticle**

**Nunc Dimittis**

**Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel**

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

At last, all-powerful Master,

you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may  
keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

---

**Let us pray.**

Come to visit us, Lord, this night,  
so that by your strength we may rise at daybreak  
to rejoice in the resurrection of Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

---

The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**Amen.**

---

**Regina Caeli**

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia!  
for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!  
has risen as he said, alleluia!  
Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Regína cæli, lætare, allelúia,

quia quem meruísti portáre, allelúia,  
resurrexit sicut dixit, allelúia;  
ora pro nobis Deum, allelúia.

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## Saturday 2 May 2020

**Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor**

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

### Readings at Mass

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#### Entrance Antiphon

**Cf. Sir 15: 5**

In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth,  
and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding  
and clothed him in a robe of glory, alleluia.

---

#### Collect

Almighty ever-living God,  
who raised up the Bishop Saint Athanasius  
as an outstanding champion of your Son's divinity,  
mercifully grant,  
that, rejoicing in his teaching and his protection,  
we may never cease to grow in knowledge and love of you.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

[Readings for the feria](#)

[Readings for the memorial](#)

---

*These are the readings for the feria*

**First reading**

**Acts 9:31-42**

## **The churches grew and were filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit**

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Peter visited one place after another and eventually came to the saints living down in Lydda. There he found a man called Aeneas, a paralytic who had been bedridden for eight years. Peter said to him, 'Aeneas, Jesus Christ cures you: get up and fold up your sleeping mat.' Aeneas got up immediately; everybody who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they were all converted to the Lord.

At Jaffa there was a woman disciple called Tabitha, or Dorcas in Greek, who never tired of doing good or giving in charity. But the time came when she got ill and died, and they washed her and laid her out in a room upstairs. Lydda is not far from Jaffa, so when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two men with an urgent message for him, 'Come and visit us as soon as possible.'

Peter went back with them straightaway, and on his arrival they took him to the upstairs room, where all the widows stood round him in tears, showing him tunics and other clothes Dorcas had made when she was with them. Peter sent them all out of the room and knelt down and prayed. Then he turned to the dead woman and said, 'Tabitha, stand up.' She opened her eyes, looked at Peter and sat up. Peter helped her to her feet, then he called in the saints and widows and showed them she was alive. The whole of Jaffa heard about it and many believed in the Lord.

---

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 115(116):12-17**

*How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

How can I repay the Lord  
for his goodness to me?

The cup of salvation I will raise;  
I will call on the Lord's name.

*How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people.  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.

*How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;  
I will call on the Lord's name.

*How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
We know that Christ is truly risen from the dead:  
have mercy on us, triumphant King.  
Alleluia!

**Or:**

**cf. Jn6:63,68**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

---

**Who shall we go to? You are the Holy One of God**

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, ‘This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?’ Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, ‘Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?’

‘It is the spirit that gives life,  
the flesh has nothing to offer.  
The words I have spoken to you are spirit  
and they are life.

‘But there are some of you who do not believe.’ For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, ‘This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.’ After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, ‘What about you, do you want to go away too?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.’

[Continue](#)

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*These are the readings for the memorial*

**First reading**

**1 John 5:1-5**

**Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has already overcome  
the world**

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ

has been begotten by God;  
and whoever loves the Father that begot him  
loves the child whom he begets.  
We can be sure that we love God's children  
if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;  
this is what loving God is –  
keeping his commandments;  
and his commandments are not difficult,  
because anyone who has been begotten by God  
has already overcome the world;  
this is the victory over the world –  
our faith.

Who can overcome the world?  
Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

---

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 36(37):3-6,30-31**

*The just man's mouth utters wisdom.*

If you trust in the Lord and do good,  
then you will live in the land and be secure.  
If you find your delight in the Lord,  
he will grant your heart's desire.

*The just man's mouth utters wisdom.*

Commit your life to the Lord,  
trust in him and he will act,  
so that your justice breaks forth like the light,  
your cause like the noon-day sun.

*The just man's mouth utters wisdom.*

The just man's mouth utters wisdom  
and his lips speak what is right;  
the law of his God is in his heart,  
his steps shall be saved from stumbling.

*The just man's mouth utters wisdom.*

---

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Mt5:10**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy those who are persecuted  
in the cause of right,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Alleluia!

---

**Gospel**

**Matthew 10:22-25**

**The disciple is not superior to his teacher**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You will be hated by all men on account of my name; but the man who stands firm to the end will be saved. If they persecute you in one town, take refuge in the next; and if they persecute you in that, take refuge in another. I tell you solemnly, you will not have gone the round of the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

'The disciple is not superior to his teacher, nor the slave to his master. It is enough for the disciple that he should grow to be like his teacher, and the slave like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, what will they not say of his household?'

[Continue](#)

---

**Prayer over the Offerings**

Look, O Lord, upon the offerings we present to you  
in commemoration of Saint Athanasius,  
and may witnessing to your truth  
bring salvation to those  
who profess the same unblemished faith as him.

Through Christ our Lord.

---

### **Communion Antiphon**

**1 Cor 3: 11**

No one can lay a foundation other than the one that is there,  
namely, Jesus Christ, alleluia.

---

### **Prayer after Communion**

Grant us, we pray, almighty God,  
that the true divinity of your Only Begotten Son,  
which we firmly profess with Saint Athanasius,  
may, through this Sacrament, ever give us life and protection.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

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## Sunday 3 May 2020

**4th Sunday of Easter**

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**Sunday 3 May 2020**

**4th Sunday of Easter**

## **Lectio Divina**

### **Introduction**

*Make whatever preparations you need to leave the shadow world behind and encounter the fire of the Spirit and the light of God.*

*If you have chosen a specific bodily position, adopt it. If you have chosen to prepare the space and the place in some way (perhaps drawing a curtain or lighting a candle), make that preparation.*

*Eliminate distractions and the possibility of interruption.*

### **Sign of the Cross**

*We invoke God, in whose name we act and to whom we are about to open ourselves.*

In the name of the Father, ✠  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

### **Invocation of the Holy Spirit**

*We invoke the Holy Spirit, who will speak to us and listen in us.*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.  
**And you shall renew the face of the earth.**

### **Act of Contrition**

*By acknowledging our sinfulness and admitting that by ourselves we can do nothing that is not flawed, we ask God to take the initiative in this encounter.*

Have mercy on us, O Lord:  
**For we have sinned against you.**  
Show us, O Lord, your mercy:  
**And grant us your salvation.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## **The Gospel**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*The Gospel should be read slowly, meditatively, with pauses between sentences or whenever the sense requires it. The aim is not to tell the text to God, who knows it already, but to let God tell it to us. For this, there have to be silences so that what God is telling us can be heard. When a group is doing Lectio Divina, it is usually best to take turns in reading the words of the Gospel, since for many people speaking will bring the words to mind better than hearing does. But do not let this become a distraction in itself: have a clear order known in advance, and a simple signal for handing over the baton from one person to the next.*

**John 10:1-10**

### **I am the gate of the sheepfold**

Jesus said:

‘I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.’

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
I am the gate of the sheepfold.  
All others who have come  
are thieves and brigands;  
but the sheep took no notice of them.  
I am the gate.  
Anyone who enters through me will be safe:  
he will go freely in and out  
and be sure of finding pasture.  
The thief comes  
only to steal and kill and destroy.  
I have come  
so that they may have life and have it to the full.’

---

## The Response

### Meditatio (reflection)

*What does the Gospel say to me?*

*God has willed me to be here, now, today, for a reason. Now is the time to reflect, and find that reason, and hear what God has chosen to tell me.*

*A good pattern is this:*

- What has drawn my attention or struck me in some way?*
- Why? Was it a person? A word? A situation? A gesture?*
- What, therefore, is God saying to me through these words, here and now, today?*

*The “I” and the “me” are important. To say “we” or “us” is to evade the encounter by softening the focus and hiding behind membership of a group. The meeting with Jesus is face to face, one to one.*

### The shared echo

*When several people are doing Lectio together, especially if they do so regularly, then there is the opportunity for each person to share the words that have had the most impact in today’s passage, or*

*the message it has conveyed.*

*There is no obligation to share an echo, and some members may take many meetings before sharing one, or may even never do so.*

*An echo is what struck me – not “you” or “us”. It is not a mini-sermon or a carefully crafted uplifting thought. Echoes do not have echoes. The sharing of echoes and the listening to echoes are not a discussion aiming at a conclusion, but the opening of one heart to another.*

*The experience of sharing echoes brings the group closer together. Over time, its power grows.*

## **Oratio (prayer)**

*God has spoken to me. What do I reply?*

*Silently, each of us responds to what God has said to him through the passage we have read and even through the echoes we have heard.*

*As a matter of human practicality, one person should be responsible for deciding the time taken for silent prayer. Even better, a timer or hourglass can be used. Otherwise “Are we nearly there yet?” can be a potent distraction.*

## **Contemplatio (contemplation)**

*Sometimes we may be led beyond prayer into a quiet and attentive resting in the presence of God.*

## **Conclusion**

*We prepare to return to the everyday world, carrying with us what we have received in our minds and our hearts today.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

---

May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

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## Sunday 3 May 2020

4th Sunday of Easter

### Invitatory Psalm

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Lord, open our lips.

*And we shall praise your name.*

**Invitatory Psalm**

**Psalm 94 (95)**

“Every day, as long as this ‘today’ lasts, keep encouraging one another” (Heb 3:13).

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;

hail the God who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks,

with songs let us hail the Lord.

A mighty God is the Lord,

a great king above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his.

To him belongs the sea, for he made it

and the dry land shaped by his hands.

Come in; let us bow and bend low;

let us kneel before the God who made us:

for he is our God and we

the people who belong to his pasture,

the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!

‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.

For forty years I was wearied of these people  
and I said: “Their hearts are astray,  
these people do not know my ways.”  
Then I took an oath in my anger:  
“Never shall they enter my rest.””

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

*The Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

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## Sunday 3 May 2020

4th Sunday of Easter

### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

*If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, you should precede it with the Invitatory Psalm and omit the Introduction.*

---

#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky,

Heav'n thunders forth its victor cry:

The glad earth shouts her triumph high,

And groaning hell makes wild reply.

While he, the King of sovereign might,

Treads down death's strength in death's despite,

And trampling hell by victor's right,

Brings forth his sleeping saints to light.

Fast barred beneath the stone of late,

In watch and ward where soldiers wait,

Now shining in triumphant state,

He rises victor from death's gate.

Hell's pains are loosed and tears are fled:  
Captivity is captive led:  
The angel, crowned with light, hath said:  
'The Lord is risen from the dead.'

Author of all, be thou our guide  
In this our joy of Eastertide;  
Whene'er assaults of death impend,  
Thy people strengthen and defend.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, thy people give:  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.

---

**Psalm 117 (118)**  
**A cry of rejoicing and triumph**

“This is the stone which was rejected by you builders, but which has  
become the cornerstone” (Acts 4:11).

*I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord. Alleluia.*

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love endures for ever.

Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love endures for ever.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:  
'His love endures for ever.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:  
'His love endures for ever.'

I called to the Lord in my distress;  
he answered and freed me.  
The Lord is at my side; I do not fear.

What can man do against me?  
The Lord is at my side as my helper;  
I shall look down on my foes.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in men;  
it is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in princes.

The nations all encompassed me;  
in the Lord's name I crushed them.

They compassed me, compassed me about;  
in the Lord's name I crushed them.

They compassed me about like bees;  
they blazed like a fire among thorns.  
In the Lord's name I crushed them.

I was hard-pressed and was falling,  
but the Lord came to help me.  
The Lord is my strength and my song;  
he is my saviour.  
There are shouts of joy and victory  
in the tents of the just.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me.  
The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds.  
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,  
but not doomed to die.

Open to me the gates of holiness:  
I will enter and give thanks.  
This is the Lord's own gate  
where the just may enter.  
I will thank you for you have answered

and you are my saviour.

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.

O Lord, grant us salvation;  
O Lord, grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
the Lord God is our light.

Go forward in procession with branches  
even to the altar.

You are my God, I thank you.  
My God, I praise you.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
for his love endures for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord God, you have given us the great day of rejoicing: Jesus Christ, the stone rejected by the builders, has become the cornerstone of the Church, our spiritual home. Shed upon your Church the rays of your glory, that she may be seen as the gate of salvation open to all nations. Let cries of joy and

exultation ring out from her tents, to celebrate the wonder of Christ's resurrection.

---

**Canticle**

**Daniel 3:52-57**

**Let every creature praise the Lord**

**“The Creator is blessed for ever” (Rom 1:25).**

*Blessed be your glorious and holy name. Alleluia.*

You are blest, Lord God of our fathers.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

Blest your glorious holy name.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

You are blest in the temple of your glory.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

You are blest who gaze into the depths.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

You are blest in the firmament of heaven.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

You who walk on the wings of the wind.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

May they bless you, the saints and the angels.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

From the heavens, the earth and the sea.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

You are blest, Lord God of our fathers.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Blessed be your glorious and holy name. Alleluia.*

---

## **Psalm 150**

### **Praise the Lord**

“Sing praise in your spirit, sing praise with your soul, that is: give glory to God in both your soul and your body” (Hesychius).

*Tell the greatness of our God. The works of God are perfect and all his ways are right. Alleluia.*

Praise God in his holy place,  
praise him in his mighty heavens.  
Praise him for his powerful deeds,  
praise his surpassing greatness.

O praise him with sound of trumpet,  
praise him with lute and harp.  
Praise him with timbrel and dance,  
praise him with strings and pipes.

O praise him with resounding cymbals,  
praise him with clashing of cymbals.  
Let everything that lives and that breathes  
give praise to the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Tell the greatness of our God. The works of God are perfect and all his ways are right. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord God, maker of heaven and earth and of all created things, you make your just one holy and you justify sinners who confess your name. Hear us as we humbly pray to you: give us eternal joy with your saints.

### **Or:**

Lord God, through your saving plan all things are ours, and we are Christ's and Christ is yours. Accept the praises of your Church. By these praises, through Christ, with him and in him, all your honour and glory is celebrated, all-powerful Father, in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Acts 10:40-43**

God raised Jesus to life on the third day and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.

---

### **Short Responsory**

Have mercy on us, Christ, Son of the living God, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Have mercy on us, Christ, Son of the living God, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have risen from the dead.  
– *Have mercy on us, Christ, Son of the living God, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Have mercy on us, Christ, Son of the living God, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Benedictus**

**The Messiah and the one who was sent before him**

*'I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe and be sure of finding pasture,' says the Lord. Alleluia. (Year A)*

*Or: I am the shepherd of the flock; I am the way, the truth and the life; I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!  
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*'I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe and be sure of finding pasture,' says the Lord. Alleluia. (Year A)*

*Or: I am the shepherd of the flock; I am the way, the truth and the life; I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to the Father, the all-powerful God, who raised up Jesus, our prince and our Saviour.

– *Glorify us, Lord, with the glory of Christ.*

Father, you brought your beloved Son from the darkness of death to the light of glory;

let us enter into the regions of your own wonderful light.

– *Glorify us, Lord, with the glory of Christ.*

You saved us through faith in Jesus Christ;

help us to live today in the grace of our baptism.

– *Glorify us, Lord, with the glory of Christ.*

You have told us to seek the things that are in heaven;

enable us to resist the attraction of sin.

– *Glorify us, Lord, with the glory of Christ.*

Reveal the riches of our hidden life in Christ

that men may see the signs of the new heaven and the new earth.

– *Glorify us, Lord, with the glory of Christ.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty, ever-living God,  
bring us to the joy of your heavenly city:  
so that we, your little flock,  
may follow where Christ, our Good Shepherd,  
has gone before us by the power of his resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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## Sunday 3 May 2020

4th Sunday of Easter

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Hymn

The Lamb's high banquet we await,  
In snow-white robes of royal state;  
And now, the Red Sea's channel past,  
To Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the altar of the Cross  
His body hath redeemed our loss;  
And tasting of his scarlet blood,  
Our life is hid with him in God.

Now Christ our paschal Lamb is slain,  
The Lamb of God that knows no stain,  
The true oblation offered here,  
Our own unleavened bread sincere.

O thou, from whom hell's monarch flies,  
O great, O very Sacrifice,  
Thy captive people are set free,  
And endless life restored in thee.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,  
All glory, Lord, thy people give:  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete.

---

**Psalm 109 (110)**  
**The Messiah, king and priest**

*“He must be king so that he may put all his enemies under his feet” (1 Cor 15:25).*

*You must look for the things of heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Alleluia.*

The Lord's revelation to my Master:  
‘Sit on my right:  
your foes I will put beneath your feet.’

The Lord will wield from Sion  
your sceptre of power:  
rule in the midst of all your foes.

A prince from the day of your birth  
on the holy mountains;  
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.  
‘You are a priest for ever,  
a priest like Melchizedek of old.’

The Master standing at your right hand  
will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.

He shall drink from the stream by the wayside  
and therefore he shall lift up his head.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*You must look for the things of heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's  
right hand. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Father, we ask you to give us victory and peace. In Jesus Christ, our Lord  
and King, we are already seated at your right hand. We look forward to  
praise you in the fellowship of all your saints in our heavenly homeland.

**Or:**

Almighty God, bring the kingdom of Christ, your anointed one, to its  
fullness. May the perfect offering of your Son, eternal priest of the new  
Jerusalem, be offered in every place to your name and make all nations a  
holy people for you.

---

### **Psalm 111 (112)** **How blessed are the just**

*“Be like the children of the light; for the fruits of the light are seen in  
complete goodness and right living and truth” (Eph 5:8,9).*

*He has risen as a light in the darkness, for the upright of heart. Alleluia.*

Happy the man who fears the Lord,  
who takes delight in all his commands.  
His sons will be powerful on earth;  
the children of the upright are blessed.

Riches and wealth are in his house;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
He is a light in the darkness for the upright:  
he is generous, merciful and just.

The good man takes pity and lends,  
he conducts his affairs with honour.  
The just man will never waver:  
he will be remembered for ever.

He has no fear of evil news;  
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.  
With a steadfast heart he will not fear;  
he will see the downfall of his foes.

Open-handed, he gives to the poor;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
His head will be raised in glory.

The wicked man sees and is angry,  
grinds his teeth and fades away;  
the desire of the wicked leads to doom.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*He has risen as a light in the darkness, for the upright of heart. Alleluia.*

### **Psalm-prayer**

Lord God, you are the eternal light which illumines the hearts of good people. Help us to love you, to rejoice in your glory, and so to live in this world as to avoid harsh judgement in the next. May we come to see the light of your countenance.

**Or:**

Lord Jesus, you are the light rising in darkness for the just. To show your love for us you offered yourself in our place as a victim to God. Teach us to love one another as you love us, that our love may bring peace and joy to the world and enable us to find the happiness of your home.

---

**Canticle**

**(Apocalypse 19)**

**The wedding of the Lamb**

*Alleluia. Victory and glory and power to our God! Alleluia.*

Alleluia.

Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,  
his judgements are true and just.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

Praise our God, all you his servants,  
you who fear him, small and great.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns,  
let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

The marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his bride has made herself ready.

Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Alleluia. Victory and glory and power to our God! Alleluia.*

---

## **Short Reading**

**Hebrews 10:12-14**

Christ has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place forever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying.

---

## **Short Responsory**

The Lord has truly risen, alleluia, alleluia.

– *The Lord has truly risen, alleluia, alleluia.*

He has appeared to Simon.

– *The Lord has truly risen, alleluia, alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *The Lord has truly risen, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

## **Canticle**

## **Magnificat**

### **My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*I am the good shepherd. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full. Alleluia. (Year A)*

*Or: The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; and I, the Lord, know them, alleluia.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*I am the good shepherd. I have come so that they may have life and have it  
to the full. Alleluia. (Year A)*

*Or: The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; and I, the Lord, know  
them, alleluia.*

---

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us pray to God the Father, who raised Jesus to life and exalted him at  
his own right hand.

– *Lord, protect your people through the glory of Christ.*

Father, through the victory of the cross you have lifted up Jesus from the  
earth;

may he draw all men to himself.

– *Lord, protect your people through the glory of Christ.*

Through the exaltation of Christ send your Spirit into the Church;  
make her the sign of unity for the whole human family.

– *Lord, protect your people through the glory of Christ.*

You have become the Father of men through water and the Spirit;  
keep them faithful to their baptism until they enter eternal life.  
– *Lord, protect your people through the glory of Christ.*

Through the exaltation of your Son raise up the sorrowful, set prisoners  
free, heal the sick;  
may the whole world rejoice in your wonderful gifts.  
– *Lord, protect your people through the glory of Christ.*

You nourished the faithful departed with Christ's body and blood;  
let them share in his glory on the day of resurrection.  
– *Lord, protect your people through the glory of Christ.*

---

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

---

Almighty, ever-living God,  
bring us to the joy of your heavenly city:  
so that we, your little flock,  
may follow where Christ, our Good Shepherd,  
has gone before us by the power of his resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

---

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

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## Sunday 3 May 2020

4th Sunday of Easter

### Compline (Night Prayer)

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#### INTRODUCTION

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

---

#### Examination of Conscience

*This is an excellent moment for an examination of conscience. In a communal celebration of Compline, one of the penitential acts given in the Missal may be recited.*

---

#### Hymn

Jesu, the world's redeeming Lord,  
The Father's co-eternal Word,  
Of light invisible true Light,  
Thine Israel's Keeper day and night.

Our great Creator and our Guide,  
Who times and seasons dost divide,  
Refresh at night with quiet rest,  
Our limbs by daily toil oppressed.

We pray thee, while we dwell below,  
Preserve us from our ghostly foe;  
Nor let his wiles victorious be  
O'er them that are redeemed by thee.

That while in this frail house of clay  
A little longer here we stay,  
Our flesh in thee may sweetly sleep,  
Our souls with thee their vigils keep.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,  
From death to endless life restored;  
All praise to God the Father be,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

---

**Psalm 90 (91)**  
**The protection of the Most High**

“Behold, I have given you power to tread under foot both serpents and scorpions” (Lk 10:19).

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
and abides in the shade of the Almighty  
says to the Lord: ‘My refuge,  
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!’

It is he who will free you from the snare  
of the fowler who seeks to destroy you;  
he will conceal you with his pinions  
and under his wings you will find refuge.

You will not fear the terror of the night  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the plague that prowls in the darkness  
nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.

A thousand may fall at your side,  
ten thousand fall at your right,  
you, it will never approach;  
his faithfulness is buckler and shield.

Your eyes have only to look  
to see how the wicked are repaid,  
you who have said: 'Lord, my refuge!'  
and have made the Most High your dwelling.

Upon you no evil shall fall,  
no plague approach where you dwell.  
For you has he commanded his angels,  
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread  
and trample the young lion and the dragon.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him;  
protect him for he knows my name.  
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you,'  
I will save him in distress and give him glory.

With length of life I will content him;  
I shall let him see my saving power.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**Psalm-prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, when tempted by the devil, you remained loyal to your Father whose angels watched over you at his command. Guard your Church and keep us safe from the plague of sin so that we may remain loyal to the day we enjoy your salvation and your glory.

---

### **Short Reading**

**Apocalypse 22:4-5**

They will see the Lord face to face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. It will never be night again and they will not need lamplight or sunlight, because the Lord God will be shining on them. They will reign for ever and ever.

---

### **Short Responsory**

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth, alleluia, alleluia.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*

---

### **Canticle**

**Nunc Dimittis**

### **Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel**

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

At last, all-powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

*Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may  
keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. Alleluia.*

---

**Let us pray.**

God our Father,  
as we have celebrated today the mystery of the Lord's resurrection,  
grant our humble prayer:  
free us from all harm  
that we may sleep in peace  
and rise in joy to sing your praise.

Through Christ our Lord,

**Amen.**

---

The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**Amen.**

---

**Regina Caeli**

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia!  
for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!  
has risen as he said, alleluia!  
Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Regína cæli, lætare, allelúia,  
quia quem meruísti portáre, allelúia,  
resurréxit sicut dixit, allelúia;  
ora pro nobis Deum, allelúia.

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## Sunday 3 May 2020

### 4th Sunday of Easter

*Liturgical Colour: White.*

## Readings at Mass

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### Entrance Antiphon

**Cf. Ps 32: 5-6**

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

---

### Collect

Almighty ever-living God,  
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,  
so that the humble flock may reach  
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

---

### First reading

**Acts 2:14,36-41**

### **'God has made him both Lord and Christ'**

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'

The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

---

## **Responsorial Psalm**

## **Psalm 22(23)**

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

---

**Second reading**

**1 Peter 2:20-25**

**You have come back to the shepherd of your souls**

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

---

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn10:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my own sheep and my own know me.  
Alleluia!

---

**Gospel**

**John 10:1-10**

## **I am the gate of the sheepfold**

Jesus said:

‘I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.’

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

‘I tell you most solemnly,  
I am the gate of the sheepfold.  
All others who have come  
are thieves and brigands;  
but the sheep took no notice of them.  
I am the gate.  
Anyone who enters through me will be safe:  
he will go freely in and out  
and be sure of finding pasture.  
The thief comes  
only to steal and kill and destroy.  
I have come  
so that they may have life and have it to the full.’

---

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Grant, we pray, O Lord,  
that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,  
so that the renewal constantly at work within us  
may be the cause of our unending joy.  
Through Christ our Lord.

---

## **Communion Antiphon**

The Good Shepherd has risen,  
who laid down his life for his sheep  
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

---

## **Prayer after Communion**

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,  
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures  
the sheep you have redeemed  
by the Precious Blood of your Son.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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