



NAAS, SALLINS &
TWO MILE HOUSE
PARISHES



Pastoral Pack for Sunday of Pentecost
Sunday 31st May - Saturday 6th June 2020

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Sunday 31 May 2020

Pentecost

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 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.'

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.’

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 31 May 2020

Pentecost

Spiritual Reading

Your Second Reading from the Office of Readings:

Pentecost

From the treatise "Against the Heresies" by St Irenaeus

The sending of the Holy Spirit

When the Lord told his disciples to *go and teach all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*, he conferred on them the power of giving men new life in God.

He had promised through the prophets that in these last days he would pour out his Spirit on his servants and handmaids, and that they would prophesy. So when the Son of God became the Son of Man, the Spirit also descended upon him, becoming accustomed in this way to dwelling with the human race, to living in men and to inhabiting God's creation. The Spirit accomplished the Father's will in men who had grown old in sin, and gave them new life in Christ.

Luke says that the Spirit came down on the disciples at Pentecost, after the Lord's ascension, with power to open the gates of life to all nations and to make known to them the new covenant. So it was that men of every language joined in singing one song of praise to God, and scattered tribes, restored to unity by the Spirit, were offered to the Father as the first-fruits of all the nations.

This was why the Lord had promised to send the Advocate: he was to prepare us as an offering to God. Like dry flour, which cannot become one lump of dough, one loaf of bread, without moisture, we who are many

could not become one in Christ Jesus without the water that comes down from heaven. And like parched ground, which yields no harvest unless it receives moisture, we who were once like a waterless tree could never have lived and borne fruit without this abundant rainfall from above. Through the baptism that liberates us from change and decay we have become one in body; through the Spirit we have become one in soul.

The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and strength, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of God came down upon the Lord, and the Lord in turn gave this Spirit to his Church, sending the Advocate from heaven into all the world into which, according to his own words, *the devil too had been cast down like lightning*.

If we are not to be scorched and made unfruitful, we need the dew of God. Since we have our accuser, we need an advocate as well. And so the Lord in his pity for man, who had fallen into the hands of brigands, having himself bound up his wounds and left for his care two coins bearing the royal image, entrusted him to the Holy Spirit. Now, through the Spirit, the image and inscription of the Father and the Son have been given to us, and it is our duty to use the coin committed to our charge and make it yield a rich profit for the Lord.

On this date in other years:

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A sermon by St Bede the Venerable

Mary proclaims the greatness of the Lord working in her soul

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour. With these words Mary first acknowledges the special gifts she has been given. Then she recalls God's universal favours, bestowed unceasingly on the human race.

When a man devotes all his thoughts to the praise and service of the Lord, he proclaims God's greatness. His observance of God's commands, moreover, shows that he has God's power and greatness always at heart. His

spirit rejoices in God his saviour and delights in the mere recollection of his creator who gives him hope for eternal salvation.

These words are often for all God's creations, but especially for the Mother of God. She alone was chosen, and she burned with spiritual love for the son she so joyously conceived. Above all other saints, she alone could truly rejoice in Jesus, her saviour, for she knew that he who was the source of eternal salvation would be born in time in her body, in one person both her own son and her Lord.

For the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. Mary attributes nothing to her own merits. She refers all her greatness to the gift of the one whose essence is power and whose nature is greatness, for he fills with greatness and strength the small and the weak who believe in him.

She did well to add: *and holy is his name*, to warn those who heard, and indeed all who would receive his words, that they must believe and call upon his name. For they too could share in everlasting holiness and true salvation according to the words of the prophet: *and it will come to pass, that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.* This is the name she spoke of earlier: *and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour.*

Therefore it is an excellent and fruitful custom of holy Church that we should sing Mary's hymn at the time of evening prayer. By meditating upon the incarnation, our devotion is kindled, and by remembering the example of God's Mother, we are encouraged to lead a life of virtue. Such virtues are best achieved in the evening. We are weary after the day's work and worn out by our distractions. The time for rest is near, and our minds are ready for contemplation.

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Sunday 31 May 2020

Pentecost

Liturgical Colour: Red.

Readings at Mass

These readings are for the extended-form Vigil Mass on the evening before the feast.

Almighty ever-living God,
who willed the Paschal Mystery
to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days,
grant that from out of the scattered nations
the confusion of many tongues
may be gathered by heavenly grace
into one great confession 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.

First reading

Genesis 11:1-9

The tower of Babel

Throughout the earth men spoke the same language, with the same vocabulary. Now as they moved eastwards they found a plain in the land of Shinar where they settled. They said to one another, 'Come, let us make bricks and bake them in the fire.' (For stone they used bricks, and for mortar they used bitumen). 'Come,' they said 'let us build ourselves a town and a tower with its top reaching heaven. Let us make a name for ourselves, so that we may not be scattered about the whole earth.'

Now the Lord came down to see the town and the tower that the sons of man had built. 'So they are all a single people with a single language!' said

the Lord. ‘This is but the start of their undertakings! There will be nothing too hard for them to do. Come, let us go down and confuse their language on the spot so that they can no longer understand one another.’ The Lord scattered them thence over the whole face of the earth, and they stopped building the town. It was named Babel therefore, because there the Lord confused the language of the whole earth. It was from there that the Lord scattered them over the whole face of the earth.

Psalm

Psalm 32(33):10-15

Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

He frustrates the designs of the nations,
he defeats the plans of the peoples.
His own designs shall stand for ever,
the plans of his heart from age to age.

Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own.
From the heavens the Lord looks forth,
he sees all the children of men.

Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

From the place where he dwells he gazes
on all the dwellers on the earth;
he who shapes the hearts of them all;
and considers all their deeds.

Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

Almighty ever-living God,
who willed the Paschal Mystery
to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days,
grant that from out of the scattered nations

the confusion of many tongues
may be gathered by heavenly grace
into one great confession 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.

Second reading

Exodus 19:3-8,16-20

Moses led the people out of the camp to meet God

Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, ‘Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel:

“‘You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagle’s wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.’”

‘Those are the words you are to speak to the sons of Israel.’

So Moses went and summoned the elders of the people, putting before them all that the Lord had bidden him. Then all the people answered as one, ‘All that the Lord has said, we will do.’

Now at daybreak on the third day there were peals of thunder on the mountain and lightning flashes, a dense cloud, and a loud trumpet blast, and inside the camp all the people trembled. Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet God; and they stood at the bottom of the mountain. The mountain of Sinai was entirely wrapped in smoke, because the Lord had descended on it in the form of fire. Like smoke from a furnace the smoke went up, and the whole mountain shook violently. Louder and louder grew the sound of the trumpet. Moses spoke, and God answered him with peals of thunder. The Lord came down on the mountain of Sinai, on the mountain top, and the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain.

[Daniel 3:52-56](#) You are blest, Lord God of our fathers

[Psalm 18\(19\):8-11](#) The law of the Lord is perfect

Canticle

Daniel 3:52-56

To you glory and praise for evermore.

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 on the throne of your kingdom.

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.

[Continue](#)

Psalm

Psalm 18(19):8-11

You have the message of eternal life, O Lord.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple.

You have the message of eternal life, O Lord.

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes.

You have the message of eternal life, O Lord.

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just.

You have the message of eternal life, O Lord.

They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb.

You have the message of eternal life, O Lord.

[Continue](#)

Almighty ever-living God,
who willed the Paschal Mystery
to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days,
grant that from out of the scattered nations
the confusion of many tongues
may be gathered by heavenly grace
into one great confession 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.

A vision of Israel's death and resurrection

The hand of the Lord was laid on me, and he carried me away by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley, a valley full of bones. He made me walk up and down among them. There were vast quantities of these bones on the ground the whole length of the valley; and they were quite dried up. He said to me, ‘Son of man, can these bones live?’ I said, ‘You know, Lord.’ He said, ‘Prophecy over these bones. Say, “Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. The Lord says this to these bones: I am now going to make the breath enter you, and you will live. I shall put sinews on you, I shall make flesh grow on you, I shall cover you with skin and give you breath, and you will live; and you will learn that I am the Lord.”’ I prophesied as I had been ordered. While I was prophesying, there was a noise, a sound of clattering; and the bones joined together. I looked, and saw that they were covered with sinews; flesh was growing on them and skin was covering them, but there was no breath in them. He said to me, ‘Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man. Say to the breath, “The Lord says this: Come from the four winds, breath; breathe on these dead; let them live!”’ I prophesied as he had ordered me, and the breath entered them; they came to life again and stood up on their feet, a great, an immense army.

Then he said, ‘Son of man, these bones are the whole House of Israel. They keep saying, “Our bones are dried up, our hope has gone; we are as good as dead.” So prophecy. Say to them, “The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.”’

O give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

or

Alleluia!

Let them say this, the Lord's redeemed,
whom he redeemed from the hand of the foe
and gathered from far-off lands,
from east and west, north and south.

O give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

or

Alleluia!

Some wandered in the desert, in the wilderness,
finding no way to a city they could dwell in.
Hungry they were and thirsty;
their soul was fainting within them.

O give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

or

Alleluia!

Then they cried to the Lord in their need
and he rescued them from their distress
and he led them along the right way,
to reach a city they could dwell in.

O give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

or

Alleluia!

Let them thank the Lord for his love,
for the wonders he does for men:
for he satisfies the thirsty soul;
he fills the hungry with good things.

O give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

or

Alleluia!

Almighty ever-living God,
who willed the Paschal Mystery
to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days,
grant that from out of the scattered nations
the confusion of many tongues
may be gathered by heavenly grace
into one great confession 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.

Fourth reading

Joel 3:1-5

I will pour out my spirit on all mankind

Thus says the Lord:

‘I will pour out my spirit on all mankind.
Your sons and daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men see visions.
Even on the slaves, men and women,
will I pour out my spirit in those days.
I will display portents in heaven and on earth,
blood and fire and columns of smoke.’

The sun will be turned into darkness,
and the moon into blood,
before the day of the Lord dawns,
that great and terrible day.
All who call on the name of the Lord will be saved,
for on Mount Zion there will be some who have escaped,
as the Lord has said,
and in Jerusalem some survivors whom the Lord will call.

Psalm

Psalm 103(104):1-2,24,27-30,35

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

How many are your works, O Lord!

In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
Bless the Lord, my soul.

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

All of these look to you

to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up:
you open your hand, they have their fill.

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

You take back your spirit, they die,

returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

Almighty ever-living God,
who willed the Paschal Mystery
to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days,
grant that from out of the scattered nations
the confusion of many tongues
may be gathered by heavenly grace
into one great confession 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.

Fifth reading

Romans 8:22-27

**The Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put
into words**

From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free. For we must be content to hope that we shall be saved – our salvation is not in sight, we should not have to be hoping for it if it were – but, as I say, we must hope to be saved since we are not saved yet – it is something we must wait for with patience.

The Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Almighty ever-living God,
who willed the Paschal Mystery
to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days,
grant that from out of the scattered nations
the confusion of many tongues
may be gathered by heavenly grace
into one great confession 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.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel

John 7:37-39

'If any man is thirsty, let him come to me!'

On the last day and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood there and cried out:

'If any man is thirsty, let him come to me!
Let the man come and drink who believes in me!'

As scripture says: *From his breast shall flow fountains of living water.*

He was speaking of the Spirit which those who believed in him were to receive; for there was no Spirit as yet because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

Prayer over the Offerings

Pour out upon these gifts the blessing of your Spirit,
we pray, O Lord,
so that through them your Church may be imbued with such love
that the truth of your saving mystery
may shine forth for the whole world.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Jn 7: 37

On the last day of the festival, Jesus stood and cried out:
If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

May these gifts we have consumed
benefit us, O Lord,
that we may always be aflame with the same Spirit,
whom you wondrously poured out on your Apostles.
Through Christ our Lord.

These readings are for the simple-form Vigil Mass on the evening before the feast.

Entrance Antiphon

Rm 5: 5; cf. 8: 11

The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
who willed the Paschal Mystery
to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days,
grant that from out of the scattered nations
the confusion of many tongues
may be gathered by heavenly grace
into one great confession 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.

Or:

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that the splendour of your glory
may shine forth upon us

and that, by the bright rays of the Holy Spirit,
the light of your light may confirm the hearts
of those born again by your grace.

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.

[Genesis 11:1-9](#) The tower of Babel

[Exodus 19:3-8,16-20](#) Moses led the people out of the camp to meet God

[Ezekiel 37:1-14](#) A vision of Israel's death and resurrection

[Joel 3:1-5](#) I will pour out my spirit on all mankind

First reading

Genesis 11:1-9

The tower of Babel

Throughout the earth men spoke the same language, with the same vocabulary. Now as they moved eastwards they found a plain in the land of Shinar where they settled. They said to one another, 'Come, let us make bricks and bake them in the fire.' (For stone they used bricks, and for mortar they used bitumen). 'Come,' they said 'let us build ourselves a town and a tower with its top reaching heaven. Let us make a name for ourselves, so that we may not be scattered about the whole earth.'

Now the Lord came down to see the town and the tower that the sons of man had built. 'So they are all a single people with a single language!' said the Lord. 'This is but the start of their undertakings! There will be nothing too hard for them to do. Come, let us go down and confuse their language on the spot so that they can no longer understand one another.' The Lord scattered them thence over the whole face of the earth, and they stopped building the town. It was named Babel therefore, because there the Lord confused the language

of the whole earth. It was from there that the Lord scattered them over the whole face of the earth.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Exodus 19:3-8,16-20

Moses led the people out of the camp to meet God

Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, ‘Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel:

“‘You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagle’s wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.’”

‘Those are the words you are to speak to the sons of Israel.’

So Moses went and summoned the elders of the people, putting before them all that the Lord had bidden him. Then all the people answered as one, ‘All that the Lord has said, we will do.’

Now at daybreak on the third day there were peals of thunder on the mountain and lightning flashes, a dense cloud, and a loud trumpet blast, and inside the camp all the people trembled. Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet God; and they stood at the bottom of the mountain. The mountain of Sinai was entirely wrapped in smoke, because the Lord had descended on it in the form of fire. Like smoke from a furnace the smoke went up, and the whole mountain shook violently. Louder and louder grew the sound of the trumpet. Moses spoke, and God answered him with peals of thunder. The Lord came down on the mountain of Sinai, on the mountain top, and the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain.

[Continue](#)

A vision of Israel's death and resurrection

The hand of the Lord was laid on me, and he carried me away by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley, a valley full of bones. He made me walk up and down among them. There were vast quantities of these bones on the ground the whole length of the valley; and they were quite dried up. He said to me, ‘Son of man, can these bones live?’ I said, ‘You know, Lord.’ He said, ‘Prophesy over these bones. Say, “Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. The Lord says this to these bones: I am now going to make the breath enter you, and you will live. I shall put sinews on you, I shall make flesh grow on you, I shall cover you with skin and give you breath, and you will live; and you will learn that I am the Lord.”’ I prophesied as I had been ordered. While I was prophesying, there was a noise, a sound of clattering; and the bones joined together. I looked, and saw that they were covered with sinews; flesh was growing on them and skin was covering them, but there was no breath in them. He said to me, ‘Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man. Say to the breath, “The Lord says this: Come from the four winds, breath; breathe on these dead; let them live!”’ I prophesied as he had ordered me, and the breath entered them; they came to life again and stood up on their feet, a great, an immense army.

Then he said, ‘Son of man, these bones are the whole House of Israel. They keep saying, “Our bones are dried up, our hope has gone; we are as good as dead.” So prophesy. Say to them, “The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.”’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Joel 3:1-5

I will pour out my spirit on all mankind

Thus says the Lord:

‘I will pour out my spirit on all mankind.
Your sons and daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men see visions.
Even on the slaves, men and women,
will I pour out my spirit in those days.
I will display portents in heaven and on earth,
blood and fire and columns of smoke.’

The sun will be turned into darkness,
and the moon into blood,
before the day of the Lord dawns,
that great and terrible day.
All who call on the name of the Lord will be saved,
for on Mount Zion there will be some who have escaped,
as the Lord has said,
and in Jerusalem some survivors whom the Lord will call.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 103(104):1-2,24,27-30,35

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
Bless the Lord, my soul.

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up:
you open your hand, they have their fill.

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

Second reading

Romans 8:22-27

**The Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put
into words**

From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free. For we must be content to hope that we shall be saved – our salvation is not in sight, we should not have to be hoping for it if it were – but, as I say, we must hope to be saved since we are not saved yet – it is something we must wait for with patience.

The Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 7:37-39

'If any man is thirsty, let him come to me!'

On the last day and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood there and cried out:

'If any man is thirsty, let him come to me!

Let the man come and drink who believes in me!'

As scripture says: *From his breast shall flow fountains of living water.*

He was speaking of the Spirit which those who believed in him were to receive; for there was no Spirit as yet because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

Prayer over the Offerings

Pour out upon these gifts the blessing of your Spirit,
we pray, O Lord,
so that through them your Church may be imbued with such love
that the truth of your saving mystery
may shine forth for the whole world.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Jn 7: 37

On the last day of the festival, Jesus stood and cried out:
If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

May these gifts we have consumed
benefit us, O Lord,
that we may always be aflame with the same Spirit,
whom you wondrously poured out on your Apostles.
Through Christ our Lord.

These readings are for the day of the feast itself:

Entrance Antiphon

Wis 1: 7

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

Or:

Rm 5: 5; cf. 8: 11

The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

Collect

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast

sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation,
pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit
across the face of the earth
and, with the divine grace that was at work
when the Gospel was first proclaimed,
fill now once more the hearts of believers.
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 2:1-11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. ‘Surely’ they said ‘all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.’

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 103(104):1,24,29-31,34

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches.

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord.

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

or

Alleluia!

Second reading

1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13

In the one Spirit we were all baptised

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Sequence

Veni, sancte Spiritus

Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow

Thou in toil art comfort sweet
Pleasant coolness in the heat
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew

On our dryness pour thy dew
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will
Melt the frozen, warm the chill
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die
Give us life with thee on high
Give us joys that never end.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel

John 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.'

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.’

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that, as promised by your Son,
the Holy Spirit may reveal to us more abundantly
the hidden mystery of this sacrifice
and graciously lead us into all truth.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Acts 2: 4, 11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

O God, who bestow heavenly gifts upon your Church,
safeguard, we pray, the grace you have given,
that the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon her
may retain all its force
and that this spiritual food
may gain her abundance of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

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Sunday 31 May 2020

Pentecost

Invitatory Psalm

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).

Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world. 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.

*Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world. Come, let us
adore him, alleluia.*

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Sunday 31 May 2020

Pentecost

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

Come, Holy Ghost, who ever one

Art with the Father and the Son,

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls possess

With thy full flood of holiness.

In will and deed, by heart and tongue,

With all our powers, thy praise be sung;

And love light up our mortal frame,

Till others catch the living flame.

Almighty Father, hear our cry

Through Jesus Christ our Lord most high,

Who with the Holy Ghost and thee

Doth live and reign eternally.

Psalm 62 (63)
Thirsting for God

“Let the man who has put away the deeds of the night watch for God.”

How good and how kind, O Lord, is your Spirit in us! 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.

How good and how kind, O Lord, is your Spirit in us! 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).

Let every spring of water bless the Lord; let everything that lives in water sing a hymn to 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, Mizaël, 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.

Let every spring of water bless the Lord; let everything that lives in water sing a hymn to God. 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 apostles spoke in different tongues and proclaimed the wonderful deeds of God. 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 apostles spoke in different tongues and proclaimed the wonderful deeds of God. 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

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

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.
– *They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*
They began to speak.
– *They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– *They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.*

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

*Receive the Holy Spirit. Those whose sins you forgive will be forgiven them.
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.

*Receive the Holy Spirit. Those whose sins you forgive will be forgiven them.
Alleluia.*

Prayers and intercessions

On this day of Pentecost, the Church is filled with joy. Strengthened with
measureless hope, we pray to Christ, who is calling his Church
together in the Holy Spirit.

– *Lord, renew the face of the earth.*

Lord Jesus, raised on the cross, you poured out the water of rebirth for the
life of the world.

Quicken the life of all men with the gift of the Spirit.

– *Lord, renew the face of the earth.*

Raised up to God's right hand, you bestowed on the apostles the Father's
Gift;

your Church now waits for the same Gift, the same hope.

– *Lord, renew the face of the earth.*

You breathed your Spirit upon the apostles, and gave them the power of
forgiveness:

set all men free today from the prison of sin.

– *Lord, renew the face of the earth.*

You promised to send us the Spirit of truth, that we might become your
heralds throughout the world.

Through his presence in the Church may we bear faithful witness to
you.

– *Lord, renew the face of the earth.*

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 sanctify your Church in every race and nation
by the mystery we celebrate on this day.

Pour out the gifts of the Holy Spirit on all mankind,
and fulfil now in the hearts of your faithful
what you accomplished when the Gospel was first preached on earth.

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 31 May 2020

Pentecost

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

Come, O Creator Spirit, come,
And make within our hearts thy home;
To us thy grace celestial give,
Who of thy breathing move and live.

O Comforter, that name is thine,
Of God most high the gift divine;
The well of life, the fire of love,
Our souls' anointing from above.

Our senses with thy light inflame,
Our hearts to heavenly love reclaim;
Our bodies' poor infirmity
With strength perpetual fortify.

May we by thee the Father learn,
And know the Son, and thee discern,
Who art of both; and thus adore
In perfect faith for evermore.

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).

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world. 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.

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world. 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 113A (114) Israel set free from Egypt

“You, who have renounced this world, have also been led forth from Egypt” (St Augustine).

Send forth your power, Lord, from your holy temple in Jerusalem, and bring to perfection your work among us. Alleluia.

When Israel came forth from Egypt,
Jacob’s sons from an alien people,
Judah became the Lord’s temple,
Israel became his kingdom.

The sea fled at the sight:
the Jordan turned back on its course,
the mountains leapt like rams
and the hills like yearling sheep.

Why was it, sea, that you fled,

that you turned back, Jordan, on your course?
Mountains, that you leapt like rams;
hills, like yearling sheep?

Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,
in the presence of the God of Jacob,
who turns the rock into a pool
and flint into a spring of water.

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.

*Send forth your power, Lord, from your holy temple in Jerusalem, and bring
to perfection your work among us. Alleluia.*

Psalm-prayer

Almighty God, ever-living mystery of unity and Trinity, you gave life to the new Israel by birth from water and the Spirit, and made it a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a people set apart as your eternal possession. May all those you have called to walk in the splendour of the new light render you fitting service and adoration.

Canticle

(Apocalypse 19)

The wedding of the Lamb

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak. 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.

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak. Alleluia.

Short Reading

Ephesians 4:3-6

Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Short Responsory

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world, alleluia, alleluia.
– *The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world, alleluia, alleluia.*
It is he who holds all things in being and understands every word that is spoken.
– *The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world, alleluia, alleluia.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world, alleluia, alleluia.*

Canticle

Magnificat

My soul rejoices in the Lord

This is the day of Pentecost, alleluia. Today the Holy Spirit appeared to the disciples in the form of fire and gave to them his special gifts; he sent them into the world to proclaim that whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. 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 day of Pentecost, alleluia. Today the Holy Spirit appeared to the disciples in the form of fire and gave to them his special gifts; he sent them into the world to proclaim that whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. Alleluia.

Prayers and intercessions

We know that the Father is with us because of the Spirit he has given us.

With this confidence we turn to you in prayer.

– *Father, send your Spirit into the Church!*

Father, you want to unite all men by baptism in the Spirit;
draw all believers together in mind and heart.

– *Father, send your Spirit into the Church!*

You sent the Spirit to fill the earth with your love;
let men build the human city in justice and peace.

– *Father, send your Spirit into the Church!*

Lord God, Father of all men, bring to your scattered children unity of faith:
make the world alive with the power of your Spirit.

– *Father, send your Spirit into the Church!*

By the work of the Spirit you create all minds afresh:

heal the sick, comfort the afflicted, and bring all men to salvation.

– *Father, send your Spirit into the Church!*

Through the Holy Spirit you raised your Son from the dead.

Raise us by the power of your Spirit when we come to your kingdom.

– *Father, send your Spirit into the Church!*

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 sanctify your Church in every race and nation
by the mystery we celebrate on this day.
Pour out the gifts of the Holy Spirit on all mankind,
and fulfil now in the hearts of your faithful
what you accomplished when the Gospel was first preached on earth.
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 31 May 2020

Pentecost

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 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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Monday 1 June 2020

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Monday 1 June 2020

Mary, Mother of the Church

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 Mark.

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.

Mark 12:1-12

They seized the beloved son, killed him and threw him out of the vineyard

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests, the scribes and the elders in parables: ‘A man planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug out a trough for the winepress and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce from the vineyard. But they seized the man, thrashed him and sent him away empty-handed. Next he sent another servant to them; him they beat about the head and treated shamefully. And he sent another and him they killed; then a number of others, and they thrashed some and killed the rest. He had still someone left: his beloved son. He sent him to them last of all. “They will respect my son” he said. But

those tenants said to each other, “This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.” So they seized him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. Now what will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and make an end of the tenants and give the vineyard to others. Have you not read this text of scripture:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.
This was the Lord’s doing
and it is wonderful to see?

And they would have liked to arrest him, because they realised that the parable was aimed at them, but they were afraid of the crowds. So they left him alone and went away.

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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Monday 1 June 2020

Mary, Mother of the Church

Spiritual Reading

Your Second Reading from the Office of Readings:

Mary, Mother of the Church

From an allocution by Pope Paul VI at the Second Vatican Council

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Meditating on the close relationships between Mary and the Church, for the glory of the Virgin Mary and for our own consolation, we proclaim the Most Blessed Mary Mother of the Church, that is to say of all the people of God, of the faithful as well as of the pastors, who call her the most loving Mother. And we wish that the Mother of God should be still more honoured and invoked by the entire Christian people by this most sweet title.

This is a title, venerable brothers, not new to Christian piety; it is precisely by this title, in preference to all others, that the faithful and the Church address Mary. It truly is part of the genuine substance of devotion to Mary, finding its justification in the very dignity of the Mother of the word Incarnate.

Just as, in fact, the divine maternity is the basis for her special relationship with Christ, and for her presence in the economy of salvation brought about by Jesus Christ, thus it also constitutes the principal basis for the relations between Mary and the Church, since she is the mother of him who, right from the time of his Incarnation in her virginal bosom, joined to himself as head his Mystical Body which is the Church. Mary, then, as mother of Christ, is mother also of all the faithful and of all the pastors.

It is therefore with a soul full of trust and filial love that we raise our glance to her, despite our unworthiness and weakness. She, who has given us in Jesus the fountainhead of grace, will not fail to succour the Church, now flourishing through the abundance of the gifts of the Holy Ghost and setting herself with new zeal to the fulfilment of its mission of salvation.

And our trust is even more lively and fully corroborated if we consider the very close links between this heavenly Mother of ours and mankind. Although adorned by God with the riches of admirable prerogatives, to make her a worthy Mother of the Word Incarnate, she is nevertheless very close to us. Daughter of Adam, like ourselves, and therefore our sister through ties of nature, she is, however, the creature who was preserved from original sin in view of the merits of the Saviour, and who possesses besides the privileges obtained the personal virtue of a total and exemplary faith, thus deserving the evangelical praise, *beata quae credidisti* (blessed art thou who believed). In her earthly life, she realised the perfect image of the disciple of Christ, reflected every virtue, and incarnated the evangelical beatitudes proclaimed by Christ. Therefore in her, the entire Church, in its incomparable variety of life and of work, attains the most authentic form of the perfect imitation of Christ.

The ferial reading for today:

Monday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

A colloquy of St Dorotheus

The reason for all disturbance is that no-one blames himself

My brethren, let us consider how it can happen so often that someone hears something unpleasant and goes away untroubled, as if he had not heard it; and yet sometimes he is disturbed and troubled as soon as he hears such words. What is the cause of this inconsistency? Is there one reason for it or many? I recognise several, but one in particular is the source of all the others. As someone has put it: it all comes from the person's state of mind at the time.

If someone is engaged in prayer or contemplation, he can easily take a rebuke from his brother and be unmoved by it. Or again, his affection towards a brother may be a strong reason; love bears all things with the utmost patience. Yet another reason may be contempt: if a person despises the one who is trying to trouble him, and acts as if he is the vilest of all creatures and considers it beneath his dignity even to look at him, or to answer him, or to mention the affront and insults to anyone else, he will not be moved by his words.

All in all, then, no-one is disturbed or troubled if he scorns and disregards what is said. But on the other hand, it is also possible for someone to be disturbed and troubled by his brother's words, either because he is not in a good frame of mind, or because he hates his brother. There are a great number of other reasons as well.

Yet the reason for all disturbance, if we look to its roots, is that no one finds fault with himself. This is the reason why we become angry and upset, why we sometimes have no peace in our soul. We should not be surprised, since holy men have taught us that there is no other path to peace but this.

We see that this is true in so many other people; and yet we hope, in our laziness and desire for peace, we hope or even believe that we are on the right path even when we are irritated by everything and cannot bear to accept any blame ourselves.

This is the way things are. However many virtues a man may have – they could be innumerable, they could be infinite – if he has left the path of self-accusation he will never have peace: he will be afflicted by others or he will be an affliction to them, and all his efforts will be wasted.

On this date in other years:

Saint Justin, Martyr

**From the Acts of the martyrdom of Saint Justin and his companion
saints**

I have accepted the true doctrines of the Christians

The saints were seized and brought before the prefect of Rome, whose name was Rusticus. As they stood before the judgement seat, Rusticus the prefect said to Justin: "Above all, have faith in the gods and obey the emperors." Justin said: "We cannot be accused or condemned for obeying the commands of our Saviour, Jesus Christ."

Rusticus said: "What system of teaching do you profess?" Justin said: "I have tried to learn about every system, but I have accepted the true doctrines of the Christians, though these are not approved by those who are held fast by error."

The prefect Rusticus said: "Are those doctrines approved by you, wretch that you are?" Justin said: "Yes, for I follow them with their correct teaching."

The prefect Rusticus said: "What sort of teaching is that?" Justin said: "Worship the God of the Christians. We hold him to be from the beginning the one creator and maker of the whole creation, of things seen and things unseen. We worship also the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He was foretold by the prophets as the future herald of salvation for the human race and the teacher of distinguished disciples. For myself, since I am a human being, I consider that what I say is insignificant in comparison with his infinite godhead. I acknowledge the existence of a prophetic power, for the one I have just spoken of as the Son of God was the subject of prophecy. I know that the prophets were inspired from above when they spoke of his coming among men."

Rusticus said: "You are a Christian, then?" Justin said: "Yes, I am a Christian."

The prefect said to Justin: "You are called a learned man and think that you know what is true teaching. Listen: if you were scourged and beheaded, are you convinced that you would go up to heaven?" Justin said: "I hope that I shall enter God's house if I suffer that way. For I know that God's favour is stored up until the end of the whole world for all who have lived good lives."

The prefect Rusticus said: "Do you have an idea that you will go up to heaven to receive some suitable rewards?" Justin said: "It is not an idea that I have; it is something I know well and hold to be most certain."

The prefect Rusticus said: "Now let us come to the point at issue, which is necessary and urgent. Gather round then and with one accord offer

sacrifice to the gods.” Justin said: “No one who is right thinking stoops from true worship to false worship.”

The prefect Rusticus said: “If you do not do as you are commanded you will be tortured without mercy.” Justin said: “We hope to suffer torment for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, and so be saved. For this will bring us salvation and confidence as we stand before the more terrible and universal judgement-seat of our Lord and Saviour.”

In the same way the other martyrs also said: “Do what you will. We are Christians; we do not offer sacrifice to idols.”

The prefect Rusticus pronounced sentence, saying: “Let those who have refused to sacrifice to the gods and to obey the command of the emperor be scourged and led away to suffer capital punishment according to the ruling of the laws.” Glorifying God, the holy martyrs went out to the accustomed place. They were beheaded, and so fulfilled their witness of martyrdom in confessing their faith in their Saviour.

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Monday 1 June 2020

Mary, Mother of the Church

Liturgical Colour: White.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

The disciples devoted themselves with one accord to prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Collect

O God, Father of mercies,
whose Only Begotten Son, as he hung upon the Cross,
chose the Blessed Virgin Mary, his Mother, to be our Mother also;
grant, we pray,
that with her loving help,
your Church may be more fruitful day by day,
and exulting in the holiness of her children,
may draw to her embrace all the families of the peoples.
Through our Lord.

[Readings for the feria](#)

[Readings for the memorial](#)

These are the readings for the feria

First reading

2 Peter 1:2-7

You will be able to share the divine nature if you add goodness to your faith

May you have more and more grace and peace as you come to know our Lord more and more.

By his divine power, he has given us all the things that we need for life and for true devotion, bringing us to know God himself, who has called us by his own glory and goodness. In making these gifts, he has given us the guarantee of something very great and wonderful to come: through them you will be able to share the divine nature and to escape corruption in a world that is sunk in vice. But to attain this, you will have to do your utmost yourselves, adding goodness to the faith that you have, understanding to your goodness, self-control to your understanding, patience to your self-control, true devotion to your patience, kindness towards your fellow men to your devotion, and, to this kindness, love.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 90(91):1-2,14-16

My God, in you I trust.

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!'

My God, in you I trust.

His love he set on me, so I will rescue him;
protect him for he knows my name.
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.'

My God, in you I trust.

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.

My God, in you I trust.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Col3:16a,17

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness,
find a home with you;
through him give thanks to God the Father.
Alleluia!

Or:

cf.Rv1:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

You, O Christ, are the faithful witness,
the First-born from the dead;
you have loved us and have washed away our sins with your blood.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:1-12

They seized the beloved son, killed him and threw him out of the vineyard

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests, the scribes and the elders in parables: ‘A man planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug out a trough for the winepress and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce from the vineyard. But they seized the man, thrashed him and sent him away empty-handed. Next he sent another servant to them; him they beat about the head and treated shamefully. And he sent another and him they killed; then a number of others, and they thrashed some and killed the rest. He had still someone left: his beloved son. He sent him to them last of all. “They will respect my son” he said. But those tenants said to each other, “This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.” So they seized him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. Now what will the owner of the vineyard do? He will

come and make an end of the tenants and give the vineyard to others.
Have you not read this text of scripture:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.
This was the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful to see?

And they would have liked to arrest him, because they realised that the parable was aimed at them, but they were afraid of the crowds. So they left him alone and went away.

[Continue](#)

These are the readings for the memorial

[Genesis 3:9-15,20](#) 'The offspring of the woman will crush your head'

[Acts 1:12-14](#) The apostles all joined in continuous prayer

First reading

Genesis 3:9-15,20

'The offspring of the woman will crush your head'

After Adam had eaten of the tree the Lord God called to him. 'Where are you?' he asked. 'I heard the sound of you in the garden,' he replied 'I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.' 'Who told you that you were naked?' he asked 'Have you been eating of the tree I forbade you to eat?' The man replied, 'It was the woman you put with me; she gave me the fruit, and I ate it.' Then the Lord God asked the woman, 'What is this you have done?' The woman replied, 'The serpent tempted me and I ate.'

Then the Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this,

‘Be accursed beyond all cattle,
all wild beasts.
You shall crawl on your belly and eat dust
every day of your life.
I will make you enemies of each other:
you and the woman,
your offspring and her offspring.
It will crush your head
and you will strike its heel.’

The man named his wife ‘Eve’ because she was the mother of all
those who live.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Acts 1:12-14

The apostles all joined in continuous prayer

After Jesus was taken up into heaven the apostles went back from
the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance
away, no more than a sabbath walk; and when they reached the
city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there
were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas,
Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon
the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous
prayer, together with several women, including Mary the mother
of Jesus, and with his brothers.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 86(87)

Of you are told glorious things, O city of God!

On the holy mountain is his city
cherished by the Lord.
The Lord prefers the gates of Zion
to all Jacob's dwellings.

Of you are told glorious things, O city of God!

Of you are told glorious things,
O city of God!
'Zion shall be called "Mother"
for all shall be her children.'

Of you are told glorious things, O city of God!

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.'

Of you are told glorious things, O city of God!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy are you, holy Virgin Mary, and most worthy of all praise,
for from you arose the sun of justice, Christ our God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 19:25-34

'Behold your son. Behold your mother.'

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother, 'Woman,

this is your son.’ Then to the disciple he said, ‘This is your mother.’ And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home.

After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed, and to fulfil the scripture perfectly he said, ‘I am thirsty.’

A jar full of vinegar stood there, so putting a sponge soaked in the vinegar on a hyssop stick they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said, ‘It is accomplished’; and bowing his head he gave up his spirit.

It was Preparation Day, and to prevent the bodies remaining on the cross during the sabbath – since that sabbath was a day of special solemnity – the Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken away. Consequently the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with him and then of the other. When they came to Jesus, they found he was already dead, and so instead of breaking his legs one of the soldiers pierced his side with a lance; and immediately there came out blood and water.

[Continue](#)

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive our offerings, O Lord, and transform them into the mystery of salvation,
so that by its power we may be set aflame
with the charity of the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church,
and with her may be united more closely to the work of redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Jn2:1,11

A wedding was held in Cana of Galilee,
and the mother of Jesus was there;
then Jesus performed the first of his signs and manifested his glory
and his disciples believed in him.

Or:

Cf. Jn 19: 26-27

As he hung upon the cross,
Jesus said to the disciple whom he loved:
Behold your mother.

Prayer after Communion

Having received the pledge of redemption and of life
we humbly pray, O Lord, that with the Blessed Virgin's motherly help
your Church may teach all nations
by proclaiming the Gospel
and, thanks to the outpouring of the Spirit, may fill the whole earth.
Through Christ our Lord.

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Monday 1 June 2020

Mary, Mother of the Church

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 son of Mary: come, let us adore him.

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.

Christ is the son of Mary: come, let us adore him.

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Monday 1 June 2020

Mary, Mother of the Church

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

Mary Immaculate, star of the morning,

Chosen before the creation began,

Chosen to bring in the light of thy dawning,

Woe to the serpent and rescue to man.

Here, in this world of both shadow and sadness

Veiling thy splendour, thy course hast thou run:

Now thou art throned in all glory and gladness,

Crowned by the hand of thy Saviour and Son.

Sinners, we worship thy sinless perfection;

Fallen and weak, for thy pity we plead:

Grant us the shield of thy sov'reign protection,

Measure thine aid by the depth of our need.

Bend from thy throne at the voice of our crying,
Bend to this earth which thy footsteps have trod:
Stretch out thine arms to us, living and dying,
Mary Immaculate, Mother of God.

Psalm 5
A morning prayer for help

“Those who have received the Word of God which dwells within will rejoice for ever.”

It is you whom I invoke, O Lord. In the morning you hear me.

To my words give ear, O Lord,
give heed to my groaning.
Attend to the sound of my cries,
my King and my God.

It is you whom I invoke, O Lord.
In the morning you hear me;
in the morning I offer you my prayer,
watching and waiting.

You are no God who loves evil;
no sinner is your guest.
The boastful shall not stand their ground
before your face.

You hate all who do evil;
you destroy all who lie.
The deceitful and bloodthirsty man
the Lord detests.

But I through the greatness of your love
have access to your house.
I bow down before your holy temple,

filled with awe.

Lead me, Lord, in your justice,
because of those who lie in wait;
make clear your way before me.

No truth can be found in their mouths,
their heart is all mischief,
their throat a wide-open grave,
all honey their speech.

All those you protect shall be glad
and ring out their joy.
You shelter them; in you they rejoice,
those who love your name.

It is you who bless the just man, Lord:
you surround him with favour as with a shield.

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 you whom I invoke, O Lord. In the morning you hear me.

Psalm-prayer

Lord, all justice and all goodness come from you; you hate evil and abhor lies. Lead us, your servants, in the path of your justice, so that all who hope in you may rejoice with the Church and in Christ.

Canticle

1 Chronicles 29

To God alone be honour and glory

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Eph 1:3).

Lord our God, we praise the splendour of your name.

Blessed are you, O Lord,
the God of Israel our father,
for ever and ever.

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power,
and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty;
for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

Yours is the kingdom, O Lord,
and you are exalted as head above all.

Both riches and honour come from you,
and you rule over all.
In your hand are power and might;
and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

And now we thank you, our God,
and praise your glorious name.

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 our God, we praise the splendour of your name.

Psalm 28 (29)
Praise the word of the Lord

“A voice was heard from heaven, saying, ‘This is my beloved Son’”
(Mt 3:17).

Adore the Lord in his holy court.

O give the Lord, you sons of God,

give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Adore the Lord in his holy court.

The Lord's voice resounding on the waters,
the Lord on the immensity of waters;
the voice of the Lord, full of power,
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour.

The Lord's voice shattering the cedars,
the Lord shatters the cedars of Lebanon;
he makes Lebanon leap like a calf
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The Lord's voice flashes flames of fire.
The Lord's voice shaking the wilderness,
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh;
the Lord's voice rending the oak tree
and stripping the forest bare.

The God of glory thunders.
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits as king for ever.

The Lord will give strength to his people,
the Lord will bless his people with 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.

Adore the Lord in his holy court.

Psalm-prayer

You live for ever, Lord and King. All things of the earth justly sing your glory and honour. Strengthen your people against evil that we may rejoice in your peace and trust in your eternal promise.

Or:

Your voice sounds over the waters, Lord, as you reign above the flood. May we, who are born again in Christ by the new gift of water, praise your wonderful deeds with him in your holy temple.

Short Reading

(Isaiah 61:10)

I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.

Short Responsory

The Lord chose her. He chose her before she was born.
– *The Lord chose her. He chose her before she was born.*
He made her live in his own dwelling-place.
– *The Lord chose her. He chose her before she was born.*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *The Lord chose her. He chose her before she was born.*

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

They all joined together in constant prayer, with Mary the mother of Jesus.

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.

They all joined together in constant prayer, with Mary the mother of Jesus.

[1. Mary, the mother](#)

[2. Mary, the holy.](#)

Prayers and intercessions

Let us proclaim the greatness of our Saviour who chose to be born of the Virgin Mary. Confident that he will hear us, we ask:

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Sun of justice, you showed your day was dawning in the immaculate Virgin Mary;

help us to walk in the daylight of your presence.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Eternal Word, in the living flesh of Mary you found a dwelling place on earth;

remain with us for ever in hearts free from sin.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Christ, our Saviour, you willed that your mother should be there when you died;

through her intercession may we rejoice to share your suffering.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Loving Saviour, while hanging on the cross, you gave your mother Mary to be the mother of John;

let us be known as her children by our way of living.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

[Continue](#)

Prayers and intercessions

Let us proclaim the greatness of our Saviour who chose to be born of the Virgin Mary. Confident that he will hear us, we ask:

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Saviour of the world, by your redemptive power you preserved your mother Mary from every stain of sin;

deliver us from the evil that lies hidden in our hearts.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Christ, our Redeemer, you made the Virgin Mary the sanctuary of your presence and the temple of the Spirit;
make us bearers of your Spirit, in mind, heart and body.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Eternal Word, you taught your mother Mary to choose the part that was best;
let us follow her example and hunger for the food of everlasting life.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

King of kings, you assumed Mary into heaven to be with you completely in body and soul;
may we seek the things that are above and keep our lives fixed on you.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

King of heaven and earth, you placed Mary at your side to reign as queen for ever;
grant us the joy of sharing in your glory.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

[Continue](#)

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, Father of mercies,

whose Only Begotten Son, as he hung upon the Cross,
chose the Blessed Virgin Mary, his Mother, to be our Mother also;
grant, we pray,
that with her loving help,
your Church may be more fruitful day by day,
and exulting in the holiness of her children,
may draw to her embrace all the families of the peoples.
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 1 June 2020

Mary, Mother of the Church

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

Hail, Queen of the heavens, hail Mistress of earth;

Hail, Virgin most pure of immaculate birth:

Clear star of the morning in beauty enshrined;

O Lady, make speed to the help of mankind.

Thee God in the depth of eternity chose,

And formed thee all fair as his glorious spouse,

And called thee his own Word's true Mother to be

By whom he created the earth, sky, and sea.

Hail, Mother most pure, hail, Virgin renowned,

Hail, Queen with the stars as a diadem crowned;

Above all the angels in glory untold,

Set next to the King in a vesture of gold.

These praises and prayers we lay at thy feet,
O Virgin of virgins, O Mary most sweet:
Be thou our true guide through this pilgrimage here,
And stand by our side when our death draweth near.

Psalm 10 (11)
The Lord, support of the just

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied” (Mt 5:6).

The Lord cares for the weak and oppressed.

In the Lord I have taken my refuge.
How can you say to my soul:
‘Fly like a bird to its mountain.

See the wicked bracing their bow;
they are fixing their arrows on the string
to shoot upright men in the dark.
Foundations once destroyed, what can the just do?’

The Lord is in his holy temple,
the Lord, whose throne is in heaven.
His eyes look down on the world;
his gaze tests mortal men.

The Lord tests the just and the wicked;
the lover of violence he hates.
He sends fire and brimstone on the wicked;
he sends a scorching wind as their lot.

The Lord is just and loves justice;
the upright shall see his face.

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 cares for the weak and oppressed.

Psalm-prayer

Lord God, you search the hearts of all, both the good and the wicked. May those who are in danger for love of you, find security in you now, and, in the day of judgement, may they rejoice in seeing you face to face.

Psalm 14 (15)

Who is worthy to face the Lord?

“You have come to Mount Sion, to the city of the living God”
(Heb 12:22).

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent
and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart;
he who does not slander with his tongue;

he who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord;

he who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm 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.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Psalm-prayer

Make our lives blameless, Lord. Help us to do what is right and to speak what is true, that we may dwell in your tent and find rest on your holy mountain.

Or:

You first chose to live among men, Lord Jesus, and in returning to your Father you made an eternal home for us. Help us walk blamelessly in your ways, that we may come at last to your holy mountain.

Canticle

Ephesians 1

God the Saviour

God chose us in his Son and made us his adopted sons.

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.

God chose us in his Son and made us his adopted sons.

Short Reading

Galatians 4:4-5

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons.

Short Responsory

Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.

– *Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.*

You are most blessed of all women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

– *Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.*

Canticle

Magnificat

My soul rejoices in the Lord

*Blessed are you, Mary, because you believed that all those things which
were said to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.*

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.

Blessed are you, Mary, because you believed that all those things which were said to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.

1. The glory and queenship of Mary.

2. Mary, Jesus' mother and ours

Prayers and intercessions

Let us praise God the Father who chose Mary as the mother of his Son and wanted all generations to call her blessed. With confidence we pray:

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

Father, you did great things for the Virgin Mary and brought her, body and soul, to the glory of heaven;
fill the hearts of your children with the hope of Christ's glory.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

Through the prayers of Mary, our mother, heal the sick, comfort the sorrowful, pardon sinners;
grant peace and salvation to all.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

You favoured Mary with the fullness of grace;
bestow on all men your overflowing blessings.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

May your Church be united heart and soul, held fast by love,
and may your faithful be joined in continuous prayer, with Mary the mother of Jesus.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

Father, you exalted the Virgin Mary and crowned her queen of heaven;

may the dead enter your kingdom and rejoice with your saints for ever.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

[Continue](#)

Prayers and intercessions

Let us praise God the Father who chose Mary as the mother of his Son and wanted all generations to call her blessed. With confidence we pray:

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

Father, you have looked on the Virgin Mary and made her the mother of mercy:

may those who are in danger experience the depth of her love.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

You called Mary to be the mother in the house of Jesus and Joseph: through her prayers help all mothers to make their homes places of love and holiness.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

You gave Mary the strength to stand beneath the cross and made her radiant with joy in the resurrection:

raise up the sorrowful and transform their lives with hope.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

Mary was your faithful handmaid who treasured your words in her heart:

through her intercession let us become true disciples of your Son, devoted to his service.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

Father, you exalted the Virgin Mary and crowned her queen of heaven:

may the dead enter your kingdom and rejoice with your saints for ever.

– *May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.*

[Continue](#)

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, Father of mercies,
whose Only Begotten Son, as he hung upon the Cross,
chose the Blessed Virgin Mary, his Mother, to be our Mother also;
grant, we pray,
that with her loving help,
your Church may be more fruitful day by day,
and exulting in the holiness of her children,
may draw to her embrace all the families of the peoples.
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 1 June 2020

Mary, Mother of the Church

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

Now that the daylight dies away,
By all thy grace and love,
Thee, Maker of the world, we pray
To watch our bed above.

Let dreams depart and phantoms fly,
The offspring of the night,
Keep us, like shrines, beneath thine eye,
Pure in our foe's despite.

This grace on thy redeemed confer,
Father, co-equal Son,
And Holy Ghost, the Comforter,
Eternal Three in One.

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).

You, Lord God, are slow to anger, abounding in love.

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.

You, Lord God, are slow to anger, abounding in love.

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.

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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.

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.

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.

Marian Anthem

Salve Regina

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.

Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
your eyes of mercy towards us;
and after this exile
show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Salve, Regina, mater misericordiæ;
vita, dulcedo et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, éxsules, filii Evæ.
Ad te suspiramus, geméntes et flentes

in hac lacrimárum valle.

Eia ergo, advocáta nostra,
illos tuos misericórdes óculos
ad nos convérte.

Et Iesum, benedíctum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exsílium osténde.

O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo María.

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Tuesday 2 June 2020

Tuesday of week 9 in Ordinary Time
or Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

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 Mark.

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.

Mark 12:13-17

Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God

The chief priests and the scribes and the elders sent to Jesus some Pharisees and some Herodians to catch him out in what he said. These came and said to him, ‘Master, we know you are an honest man, that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man’s rank means nothing to you, and that you teach the way of God in all honesty. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Should we pay, yes or no?’ Seeing through their hypocrisy he said to them, ‘Why do you set this trap for me? Hand me a denarius and let me see it.’

They handed him one and he said, ‘Whose head is this? Whose name?’ ‘Caesar’s’ they told him. Jesus said to them, ‘Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.’ This reply took them completely by surprise.

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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Spiritual Reading

Your Second Reading from the Office of Readings:

Tuesday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

A colloquy of St Dorotheus

On false spiritual peace

The man who finds fault with himself accepts all things cheerfully – misfortune, loss, disgrace, dishonour and any other kind of adversity. He believes that he is deserving of all these things and nothing can disturb him. No one could be more at peace than this man.

But perhaps you will offer me this objection: “Suppose my brother injures me, and on examining myself I find that I have not given him any cause. Why should I blame myself?”

Certainly if someone examines himself carefully and with fear of God, he will never find himself completely innocent. He will see that he has given some provocation by an action, a word or by his manner. If he does find that he is not guilty in any of these ways, certainly he must have injured that brother somehow at some other time. Or perhaps he has been a source of annoyance to some other brother. For this reason he deserves to endure the injury because of many other sins that he has committed on other occasions.

Someone else asks why he should accuse himself when he was sitting peacefully and quietly when a brother came upon him with an unkind or insulting word. He cannot tolerate it, and so he thinks that his anger is

justified. If that brother had not approached him and said those words and upset him, he never would have sinned.

This kind of thinking is surely ridiculous and has no rational basis. For the fact that he has said anything at all in this situation breaks the cover on the passionate anger within him, which is all the more exposed by his excessive anxiety. If he wished, he would do penance. He has become like a clean, shiny grain of wheat that, when broken, is full of dirt inside.

The man who thinks that he is quiet and peaceful has within him a passion that he does not see. A brother comes up, utters some unkind word and immediately all the venom and mire that lie hidden within him are spewed out. If he wishes mercy, he must do penance, purify himself and strive to become perfect. He will see that he should have returned thanks to his brother instead of returning the injury, because his brother has proven to be an occasion of profit to him. It will not be long before he will no longer be bothered by these temptations. The more perfect he grows, the less these temptations will affect him. For the more the soul advances, the stronger and more powerful it becomes in bearing the difficulties that it meets.

Other choices for today:

Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

The Exhortation to Martyrdom, by Origen

Sharing in Christ's sufferings, they will also share in his consolation

If we have passed out of death into life by passing out of unbelief into faith, we should not be surprised if the world hates us. For no one who does not pass from death to life but remains in death can love those who have passed out of this dark house of death, as it could be called, to the building that is lit by the light of life, built up of living stones.

Jesus laid down his life for us, and so we should lay down our lives, I do not say for him, but for ourselves, or rather, I suppose, for those who are going to be built up by our martyrdom.

Christians, the time has come for us to boast. For we read: 'That is not all we can boast about; we can boast about our sufferings. These sufferings

bring patience, as we know, and patience brings perseverance, and perseverance brings hope, and this hope is not deceptive. So much has the love of God been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit.'

If, as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in consolation too, then let us accept Christ's sufferings gladly. Let us share in them abundantly, if we are looking for abundant consolation. And this is what those who mourn will receive, although perhaps not in equal measure. If the consolation were exactly equal for each person, then Paul would not have written: 'As the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so also our consolation abounds.'

Those who share in his sufferings will also share in consolation, in proportion to the sufferings that they share with Christ. You learn this from the apostle's confident words: 'You know that as you share in sufferings, you will also share in consolation.'

God said through his prophet: 'In a time of favour I have answered you, in a day of salvation I have helped you.' What, then, could be a more favourable time than the day when we are led off under guard, paraded before the world, but triumphant rather than the objects of a triumph, and this because of our faithful service of God in Christ?

For Christian martyrs in the company of Christ completely overcome the principalities and powers; together with him they triumph over them; sharing in his sufferings, they also share in the victories that he has won by his courage in suffering. What other day of salvation is there than the day that we depart from the world in this way?

But, I beg you, put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God commend yourselves through great endurance. You should make your own the words: 'What do I wait for now, except the Lord?'

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Liturgical Colour: Green.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 24: 16, 18

Turn to me and have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I am alone and poor.

See my lowliness and suffering
and take away all my sins, my God.

Collect

O God, whose providence never fails in its design,
keep from us, we humbly beseech you,
all that might harm us
and grant all that works for our good.

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

2 Peter 3:11-15,17-18

We are waiting for the new heaven and the new earth

You should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace. Think of our Lord's patience as your opportunity to be saved. You have been warned about this, my friends; be careful not to get carried away by the errors of unprincipled people, from the firm ground that you are standing on. Instead, go on growing in the grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory, in time and in eternity. Amen.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 89(90):2-4,10,14,16

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

Before the mountains were born
or the earth or the world brought forth,
you are God, without beginning or end.

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

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.

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

Our span is seventy years,
or eighty for those who are strong.
And most of these are emptiness and pain.
They pass swiftly and we are gone.

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

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.

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

Gospel Acclamation

Heb4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
The word of God is something alive and active:
it can judge secret emotions and thoughts.
Alleluia!

Or:

cf.Ep1:17,18

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:13-17

Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God

The chief priests and the scribes and the elders sent to Jesus some Pharisees and some Herodians to catch him out in what he said. These came and said to him, ‘Master, we know you are an honest man, that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man’s rank means nothing to you, and that you teach the way of God in all honesty. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Should we pay, yes or no?’ Seeing through their hypocrisy he said to them, ‘Why do you set this trap for me? Hand me a denarius and let me see it.’ They handed him one and he said, ‘Whose head is this? Whose name?’ ‘Caesar’s’ they told him. Jesus said to them, ‘Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.’ This reply took them completely by surprise.

Prayer over the Offerings

Trusting in your compassion, O Lord,
we come eagerly with our offerings to your sacred altar,
that, through the purifying action of your grace,
we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 16: 6

To you I call, for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.

Or:

Mk 11: 23, 24

Amen, I say to you: Whatever you ask for in prayer,
believe you will receive it,
and it will be yours, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Govern by your Spirit, we pray, O Lord,
those you feed with the Body and Blood of your Son,
that, professing you not just in word or in speech,
but also in works and in truth,
we may merit to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

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Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

see also [Tue 9 Year](#)

Liturgical Colour: Red.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

The souls of the Saints are rejoicing in heaven,
the Saints who followed the footsteps of Christ,
and since for love of him they shed their blood,
they now exult with Christ for ever.

Or:

Holy men shed their glorious blood for the Lord;
they loved Christ in their life,
they imitated him in their death,
and therefore were crowned in triumph.

Collect

O God, who surround us with protection
through the glorious confession
of the Martyrs Saints Marcellinus and Peter,
grant that we may profit by imitating them
and be upheld by their prayer.
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

2 Peter 3:11-15,17-18

We are waiting for the new heaven and the new earth

You should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace. Think of our Lord's patience as your opportunity to be saved. You have been warned about this, my friends; be careful not to get carried away by the errors of unprincipled people, from the firm ground that you are standing on. Instead, go on growing in the grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory, in time and in eternity. Amen.

Responsorial Psalm

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To your eyes a thousand years

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Our span is seventy years,
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They pass swiftly and we are gone.

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

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.

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Gospel Acclamation

Heb4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
The word of God is something alive and active:
it can judge secret emotions and thoughts.
Alleluia!

Or:

cf.Ep1:17,18

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:13-17

**Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what
belongs to God**

The chief priests and the scribes and the elders sent to Jesus some Pharisees and some Herodians to catch him out in what he said. These came and said to him, ‘Master, we know you are an honest man, that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man’s rank means nothing to you, and that you teach the way of God in all honesty. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Should we pay, yes or no?’ Seeing through their hypocrisy he said to them, ‘Why do you set this trap for me? Hand me a denarius and let me see it.’ They handed him one and he said, ‘Whose head is this? Whose name?’ ‘Caesar’s’ they told him. Jesus said to them, ‘Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.’ This reply took them completely by surprise.

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These are the readings for the memorial

First reading

2 Corinthians 6:4-10

How we prove that we are God's servants

We prove we are servants of God by great fortitude in times of suffering: in times of hardship and distress; when we are flogged, or sent to prison, or mobbed; labouring, sleepless, starving. We prove we are God’s servants by our purity, knowledge, patience and kindness; by a spirit of holiness, by a love free from affectation; by the word of truth and by the power of God; by being armed with the weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left, prepared for honour or disgrace, for blame or praise; taken for impostors while we are genuine; obscure yet famous; said to be dying and here we are alive; rumoured to be executed before we are sentenced; thought most miserable and yet we are always rejoicing; taken for paupers though we make others rich, for people having nothing though we have everything.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 123(124):2-5,7-8

Our life, like a bird, has escaped from the snare of the fowler.

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.

Our life, like a bird, has escaped from the snare of the fowler.

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

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.

Our life, like a bird, has escaped from the snare of the fowler.

Gospel Acclamation

2Co1:3-4a

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed be God, a gentle Father
and the God of all consolation,
who comforts us in all our sorrows.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 17:11-19

Father, keep those you have given me true to your name

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

‘Holy Father,
keep those you have given me true to your name,
so that they may be one like us.
While I was with them,
I kept those you had given me true to your name.
I have watched over them
and not one is lost
except the one who chose to be lost,
and this was to fulfil the scriptures.
But now I am coming to you
and while still in the world I say these things
to share my joy with them to the full.
I passed your word on to them,
and the world hated them,
because they belong to the world
no more than I belong to the world.
I am not asking you to remove them from the world,
but to protect them from the evil one.
They do not belong to the world
any more than I belong to the world.
Consecrate them in the truth;
your word is truth.
As you sent me into the world,
I have sent them into the world,
and for their sake I consecrate myself
so that they too may be consecrated in truth.’

[Continue](#)

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, holy Father, the offerings we bring
in commemoration of the holy Martyrs,
and grant that we, your servants,

may be found steadfast in confessing your name.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Lk 22: 28-30

It is you who have stood by me in my trials;
and I confer a kingdom on you, says the Lord,
that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom.

Or:

See how rich is the Saints' reward from God;
they died for Christ and will live for ever.

Prayer after Communion

O God, who in your holy Martyrs
have wonderfully made known the mystery of the Cross,
graciously grant
that, drawing strength from this sacrifice,
we may cling faithfully to Christ
and labour in the Church for the salvation of all.
Through Christ our Lord.

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Invitatory Psalm

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 a great king: come, let us adore him.

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 a great king: come, let us adore him.

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To him belongs the sea, for he made it

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for he is our God and we

the people who belong to his pasture,

the flock that is led by his hand.

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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 martyrs: come, let us adore him.

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Tuesday 2 June 2020

Tuesday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

see also [SS. Marcellinus and Peter](#)

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

O Christ, the Light of heaven

And of the world true Light,

You come in all your radiance

To cleave the web of night.

May what is false within us

Before your truth give way,

That we may live untroubled,

With quiet hearts this day.

May steadfast faith sustain us,

And hope made firm in you;

The love that we have wasted,
O God of love, renew.

Blest Trinity we praise you
In whom our quest will cease;
Keep us with you for ever
In happiness and peace.

Stanbrook Abbey Hymnal

Psalm 23 (24)
The Lord comes to his temple

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

*The man with clean hands and pure heart will climb the mountain of the
Lord.*

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 man with clean hands and pure heart will climb the mountain of the
Lord.*

Psalm-prayer

King of glory, Lord of power and might, cleanse our hearts from all sin,
preserve the innocence of our hands, and keep our minds from vanity, so
that we may deserve your blessing in your holy place.

Or:

Lord God, ruler and guide of heaven and earth, you gave Christ a share in
our human race, made him a priest, and brought him into the temple of your
glory. Make our intentions pure and selfless and give virtue to our thoughts,
that the King of glory may enter our hearts and bring us rejoicing to your
holy mountain.

Canticle

Tobit 13

God punishes and God saves

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Because of his great love we have been born anew” (1 Peter 1:3).

Praise the king of the ages in all your deeds.

Blessed is God, who lives for ever,
and blessed is his kingdom.
For he afflicts, and he shows mercy;
he leads down to Hades, and brings up again,
and there is no one who can escape his hand.

Acknowledge him before the nations, O sons of Israel;
for he has scattered us among them.
Make his greatness known there,
and exalt him in the presence of all the living;
because he is our Lord and God,
he is our Father for ever.

He will afflict us for our iniquities;
and again he will show mercy,
but see what he will do with you;
give thanks to him with your full voice.
Praise the Lord of righteousness,
and exalt the King of the ages.

I give him thanks in the land of my captivity,
and I show his power and majesty to a nation of sinners.
Turn back, you sinners, and do right before him:
who knows if he will accept you and have mercy on you?

I exalt my God;
my soul exalts the King of heaven,
and will rejoice in his majesty.
Let all men speak,
and give him thanks 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.

Praise the king of the ages in all your deeds.

Psalm 32 (33)
The Lord provides

“All things were made through him” (Jn 1:3).

Praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed harp sing him songs.
O sing him a song that is new,
play loudly, with all your skill.

For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.

By his word the heavens were made,
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.
He collects the waves of the ocean;
he stores up the depths of the sea.

Let all the earth fear the Lord
all who live in the world revere him.
He spoke; and it came to be.
He commanded; it sprang into being.

He frustrates the designs of the nations,
he defeats the plans of the peoples.

His own designs shall stand for ever,
the plans of his heart from age to age.

They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own.
From the heavens the Lord looks forth,
he sees all the children of men.

From the place where he dwells he gazes
on all the dwellers on the earth;
he who shapes the hearts of them all;
and considers all their deeds.

A king is not saved by his army,
nor a warrior preserved by his strength.
A vain hope for safety is the horse;
despite its power it cannot save.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
In him do our hearts find joy.
We trust in his holy name.

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope 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.

Praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Psalm-prayer

Nourish your people, Lord, for we hunger for your word. Rescue us from the death of sin and fill us with your mercy, that we may share your presence and the joys of all the saints.

Or:

Your Son is the firstborn of creation, Lord, and the head of his body, the Church. Through him you founded the heavens and earth; through him you continue to accomplish the intentions of your heart. Make your chosen people witnesses of your truth among the nations and heralds of your glory in the heavens.

Short Reading

Romans 13:11,12-13

You must wake up now: the night is almost over, it will be daylight soon. Let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime.

Short Responsory

My helper is my God; I will place my trust in him.

– *My helper is my God; I will place my trust in him.*

He is my refuge; he sets me free.

– *My helper is my God; I will place my trust in him.*

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

– *My helper is my God; I will place my trust in him.*

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

The Lord has raised up a mighty saviour for us, as he promised through the lips of his prophets.

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 Lord has raised up a mighty saviour for us, as he promised through the lips of his prophets.

Prayers and intercessions

As Christians called to share the life of God, let us praise the Lord Jesus,
the high priest of our faith.

– *You are our Saviour and our God.*

Almighty King, you have baptized us, and made us a royal priesthood:
may we offer you a constant sacrifice of praise.

– *You are our Saviour and our God.*

Help us to keep your commandments;
so that through your Holy Spirit we may dwell in you, and you in us.

– *You are our Saviour and our God.*

Everlasting Wisdom, come to us:
dwell with us and work in us today.

– *You are our Saviour and our God.*

Help us to be considerate and kind;
grant that we may bring joy, not pain, to those we meet.

– *You are our Saviour and our God.*

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.

Look with favour on our morning prayer, Lord,
and in your saving love
let your light penetrate the hidden places of our hearts.

May no sordid desires darken our minds,
renewed and enlightened as we are by your heavenly grace.
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 2 June 2020

Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

see also [Tue 9 Year](#)

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 23 (24)
The Lord comes to his temple

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

*The man with clean hands and pure heart will climb the mountain of the
Lord.*

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 man with clean hands and pure heart will climb the mountain of the
Lord.*

Psalm-prayer

King of glory, Lord of power and might, cleanse our hearts from all sin,
preserve the innocence of our hands, and keep our minds from vanity, so
that we may deserve your blessing in your holy place.

Or:

Lord God, ruler and guide of heaven and earth, you gave Christ a share in
our human race, made him a priest, and brought him into the temple of your
glory. Make our intentions pure and selfless and give virtue to our thoughts,
that the King of glory may enter our hearts and bring us rejoicing to your
holy mountain.

Canticle

Tobit 13

God punishes and God saves

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Because of his great love we have been born anew” (1 Peter 1:3).

Praise the king of the ages in all your deeds.

Blessed is God, who lives for ever,
and blessed is his kingdom.
For he afflicts, and he shows mercy;
he leads down to Hades, and brings up again,
and there is no one who can escape his hand.

Acknowledge him before the nations, O sons of Israel;
for he has scattered us among them.
Make his greatness known there,
and exalt him in the presence of all the living;
because he is our Lord and God,
he is our Father for ever.

He will afflict us for our iniquities;
and again he will show mercy,
but see what he will do with you;
give thanks to him with your full voice.
Praise the Lord of righteousness,
and exalt the King of the ages.

I give him thanks in the land of my captivity,
and I show his power and majesty to a nation of sinners.
Turn back, you sinners, and do right before him:
who knows if he will accept you and have mercy on you?

I exalt my God;
my soul exalts the King of heaven,
and will rejoice in his majesty.
Let all men speak,
and give him thanks 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.

Praise the king of the ages in all your deeds.

Psalm 32 (33)
The Lord provides

“All things were made through him” (Jn 1:3).

Praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed harp sing him songs.
O sing him a song that is new,
play loudly, with all your skill.

For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.

By his word the heavens were made,
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.
He collects the waves of the ocean;
he stores up the depths of the sea.

Let all the earth fear the Lord
all who live in the world revere him.
He spoke; and it came to be.
He commanded; it sprang into being.

He frustrates the designs of the nations,
he defeats the plans of the peoples.

His own designs shall stand for ever,
the plans of his heart from age to age.

They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own.
From the heavens the Lord looks forth,
he sees all the children of men.

From the place where he dwells he gazes
on all the dwellers on the earth;
he who shapes the hearts of them all;
and considers all their deeds.

A king is not saved by his army,
nor a warrior preserved by his strength.
A vain hope for safety is the horse;
despite its power it cannot save.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
In him do our hearts find joy.
We trust in his holy name.

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope 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.

Praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Psalm-prayer

Nourish your people, Lord, for we hunger for your word. Rescue us from the death of sin and fill us with your mercy, that we may share your presence and the joys of all the saints.

Or:

Your Son is the firstborn of creation, Lord, and the head of his body, the Church. Through him you founded the heavens and earth; through him you continue to accomplish the intentions of your heart. Make your chosen people witnesses of your truth among the nations and heralds of your glory in the heavens.

Short Reading

2 Corinthians 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, a gentle Father and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows, so that we can offer others, in their sorrows, the consolation that we have received from God ourselves. Indeed, as the sufferings of Christ overflow to us, so, through Christ, does our consolation overflow.

Short Responsory

These were holy men: they will live for ever!
– *These were holy men: they will live for ever!*
The Lord himself is their reward.
– *These were holy men: they will live for ever!*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *These were holy men: they will live for ever!*

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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.

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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 give us an abiding, protecting grace

in the martyrdom of Saints Marcellinus and Peter.
Grant that their example may improve our lives,
and their prayer support our weakness.
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 2 June 2020

Tuesday of week 9 in Ordinary Time
see also [SS. Marcellinus and Peter](#)

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 Strength and Stay upholding all creation,
Who ever dost thyself unmoved abide,
Yet day by day the light in due gradation
From hour to hour in all its changes guide –

Grant to life's day a calm unclouded ending,
An eve untouched by shadows of decay,
The brightness of a holy death-bed blending
With dawning glories of the eternal day.

Hear us, O Father, gracious and forgiving,
Through Jesus Christ thy co-eternal Word,
Who, with the Holy Ghost, by all things living
Now and to endless ages art adored.

Psalm 19 (20)
Prayer for victory

“Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved” (Acts 2:21).

The Lord will give victory to his Anointed One.

May the Lord answer in time of trial;
may the name of Jacob’s God protect you.

May he send you help from his shrine
and give you support from Sion.
May he remember all your offerings
and receive your sacrifice with favour.

May he give you your heart’s desire
and fulfil every one of your plans.
May we ring out our joy at your victory
and rejoice in the name of our God.
May the Lord grant all your prayers.

I am sure now that the Lord
will give victory to his anointed,
will reply from his holy heaven
with the mighty victory of his hand.

Some trust in chariots or horses,
but we in the name of the Lord.
They will collapse and fall,
but we shall hold and stand firm.

Give victory to the king, O Lord,
give answer on the day we call.

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 give victory to his Anointed One.

Psalm-prayer

Lord, you accepted the perfect sacrifice of your Son upon the cross. Hear us during times of trouble and protect us by the power of his name, that we who share his struggle on earth may merit a share in his victory.

Psalm 20 (21) Thanksgiving for victory

“He accepted human life, so that he could rise from the dead and live for ever and ever” (St Irenaeus).

We shall sing and praise your power.

O Lord, your strength gives joy to the king;
how your saving help makes him glad!
You have granted him his heart's desire;
you have not refused the prayer of his lips.

You came to meet him with the blessings of success,
you have set on his head a crown of pure gold.
He asked you for life and this you have given,
days that will last from age to age.

Your saving help has given him glory.
You have laid upon him majesty and splendour,
you have granted your blessings to him for ever.
You have made him rejoice with the joy of your presence.

The king has put his trust in the Lord:
through the mercy of the Most High he shall stand firm.
O Lord, arise in your strength;
we shall sing and praise your 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.

We shall sing and praise your power.

Psalm-prayer

Father, you have given us life on this earth and have met us with the grace of redemption. Bestow your greatest blessing on us, the fullness of eternal life.

Or:

Lord, you have given your Son a crown of precious stones. Bless your Church that your people may overcome hardship and rejoice in your power and glory.

Canticle

Apocalypse 4,5

The song of the redeemed

Lord, you made us a kingdom and priests to serve our God.

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.

Lord, you made us a kingdom and priests to serve our God.

Short Reading

1 John 3:1,2

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.

My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.

Short Responsory

Your word, O Lord, will endure for ever.

– *Your word, O Lord, will endure for ever.*

Your truth will last from age to age.

– *Your word, O Lord, will endure for ever.*

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

– *Your word, O Lord, will endure for ever.*

Canticle

Magnificat

My soul rejoices in the Lord

My spirit exults in the Lord God, my saviour.

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.

My spirit exults in the Lord God, my saviour.

Prayers and intercessions

Through Christ we are sons of God: in him we see what we shall be when
we come to the Father. With confidence we pray:
– *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Guide leaders and governments:
give them wisdom and integrity.
– *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

You are the Lord and source of our freedom:
bring those in captivity of mind or body to the freedom of the children
of God.
– *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Give courage and strength to the young.
Help them to choose their work, and make the right decisions for their
way of life.
– *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Give patient tolerance to all who are no longer young;
open the hearts of the young to accept from them understanding and
love.
– *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Receive the departed into your eternal kingdom;
sustain our hope to reign with you for ever.
– *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

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.

We give you thanks, Lord God Almighty,
for bringing us safely to the evening of this day;
we humbly ask that the prayer we make with uplifted hands
may be an offering pleasing in your sight.
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 2 June 2020

Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

see also [Tue 9 Year](#)

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

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 enthral,
Lift high the universal song,
And crown him Lord of all.

Psalm 19 (20)
Prayer for victory

“Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved” (Acts 2:21).

The Lord will give victory to his Anointed One.

May the Lord answer in time of trial;
may the name of Jacob’s God protect you.

May he send you help from his shrine
and give you support from Sion.
May he remember all your offerings
and receive your sacrifice with favour.

May he give you your heart’s desire
and fulfil every one of your plans.
May we ring out our joy at your victory
and rejoice in the name of our God.
May the Lord grant all your prayers.

I am sure now that the Lord
will give victory to his anointed,
will reply from his holy heaven
with the mighty victory of his hand.

Some trust in chariots or horses,
but we in the name of the Lord.
They will collapse and fall,
but we shall hold and stand firm.

Give victory to the king, O Lord,
give answer on the day we call.

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 give victory to his Anointed One.

Psalm-prayer

Lord, you accepted the perfect sacrifice of your Son upon the cross. Hear us during times of trouble and protect us by the power of his name, that we who share his struggle on earth may merit a share in his victory.

Psalm 20 (21) Thanksgiving for victory

“He accepted human life, so that he could rise from the dead and live for ever and ever” (St Irenaeus).

We shall sing and praise your power.

O Lord, your strength gives joy to the king;
how your saving help makes him glad!
You have granted him his heart's desire;
you have not refused the prayer of his lips.

You came to meet him with the blessings of success,
you have set on his head a crown of pure gold.
He asked you for life and this you have given,
days that will last from age to age.

Your saving help has given him glory.
You have laid upon him majesty and splendour,
you have granted your blessings to him for ever.
You have made him rejoice with the joy of your presence.

The king has put his trust in the Lord:
through the mercy of the Most High he shall stand firm.
O Lord, arise in your strength;
we shall sing and praise your 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.

We shall sing and praise your power.

Psalm-prayer

Father, you have given us life on this earth and have met us with the grace of redemption. Bestow your greatest blessing on us, the fullness of eternal life.

Or:

Lord, you have given your Son a crown of precious stones. Bless your Church that your people may overcome hardship and rejoice in your power and glory.

Canticle

Apocalypse 4,5

The song of the redeemed

Lord, you made us a kingdom and priests to serve our God.

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.

Lord, you made us a kingdom and priests to serve our God.

Short Reading

1 Peter 4:13-14

Beloved, if you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you.

Short Responsory

Rejoice in the Lord. Let the just shout for joy.
– *Rejoice in the Lord. Let the just shout for joy.*
Let the upright sing praise.
– *Rejoice in the Lord. Let the just shout for joy.*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *Rejoice in the Lord. Let the just shout for joy.*

My soul rejoices in the Lord

The saints, who followed in the footsteps of Christ, rejoice in heaven. They gave their life for love of Christ: therefore, they will reign with him for ever.

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 saints, who followed in the footsteps of Christ, rejoice in heaven. They gave their life for love of Christ: therefore, they will reign with him for ever.

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 give us an abiding, protecting grace
in the martyrdom of Saints Marcellinus and Peter.
Grant that their example may improve our lives,
and their prayer support our weakness.
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 2 June 2020

Tuesday of week 9 in Ordinary Time
or Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

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

Now that the daylight dies away,
By all thy grace and love,
Thee, Maker of the world, we pray
To watch our bed above.

Let dreams depart and phantoms fly,
The offspring of the night,
Keep us, like shrines, beneath thine eye,
Pure in our foe's despite.

This grace on thy redeemed confer,
Father, co-equal Son,
And Holy Ghost, the Comforter,
Eternal Three in One.

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).

Do not hide your face from me, for in you have I put my trust.

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.

Do not hide your face from me, for in you have I put my trust.

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.
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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.*

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.*

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.

Marian Anthem

Salve Regina

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.

Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
your eyes of mercy towards us;
and after this exile
show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Salve, Regina, mater misericordiæ;
vita, dulcedo et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, éxsules, filii Evæ.
Ad te suspiramus, geméntes et flentes
in hac lacrimárum valle.

Eia ergo, advocáta nostra,
illos tuos misericórdes óculos
ad nos convérte.
Et Iesum, benedíctum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exsílium osténde.
O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo María.

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Wednesday 3 June 2020

Saint Kevin, Abbot

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Wednesday 3 June 2020

Saint Kevin, Abbot

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 Mark.

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.

Mark 12:18-27

The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob is the God of the living

Some Sadducees – who deny that there is a resurrection – came to him and they put this question to him, ‘Master, we have it from Moses in writing, if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no child, the man must marry the widow to raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers. The first married a wife and then died leaving no children. The second married the widow, and he too died leaving no children; with the third it was the same, and none of the seven left any children. Last of all the woman herself died. Now at the resurrection, when they rise again, whose wife will she be, since she had been married to all seven?’

Jesus said to them, ‘Is not the reason why you go wrong, that you understand neither the scriptures nor the power of God? For when they rise

from the dead, men and women do not marry; no, they are like the angels in heaven. Now about the dead rising again, have you never read in the Book of Moses, in the passage about the Bush, how God spoke to him and said: I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob? He is God, not of the dead, but of the living. You are very much mistaken.’

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 3 June 2020

Saint Kevin, Abbot

Spiritual Reading

Your Second Reading from the Office of Readings:

Saint Kevin, Abbot

The Moral Reflections on Job by Pope St Gregory the Great

Sound teaching avoids pride

Now, Job, listen to my words, and attend to all I have to say. It is characteristic of the way that arrogant people teach, that they do not know how to convey their knowledge humbly and cannot express straightforward truths straightforwardly. When they teach, it is clear from their words that they are placing themselves on a pinnacle and looking down on their pupils somewhere in the depths – pupils unworthy to be informed and scarcely even worth the bother of dominating.

The Lord rightly admonished such people through the mouth of the prophet Ezekiel, saying *You have ruled your flock cruelly and with violence.* For they rule with cruelty and violence when they do not try to correct those under them with rational arguments but try to dominate them and crush them.

On the other hand, sound teaching is eager to avoid this sin of pride manifested in thought: just as eager as it is to attack with words the teacher of pride himself. Sound teaching does not promote him by imitating his arrogance but uses pious words to attack him in its hearers' hearts. Instead it promotes humility, the mother and teacher of all virtues. It preaches humility in words and manifests humility in its actions. It commends humility to its pupils more by conduct than by speech.

This is why Paul seems to have forgotten his exalted status as an apostle when writing to the Thessalonians: *We were babes among you*. So also Peter: *Always have your answer ready for people who ask the reason for the hope you all have*, adding, to emphasize that the teaching must be presented in the proper way, *But give it with respect and with a clear conscience*.

When Paul says to Timothy *Command these things and teach them with all authority*, he is not calling for a domination born of power but an authority that comes from a way of life. “Teaching with authority” here means living something first before preaching it; for when speech is impeded by conscience, the hearer will find it harder to trust what is being taught. So Paul is not commending the power of proud and exalted words, but the trustworthiness that comes from good behaviour. This, indeed, is why it is said of the Lord, *Unlike the scribes and pharisees, he taught them with authority*. He alone spoke with unique authority because he had never, through weakness, done evil. What he had from the power of his divinity, he taught to us through the innocence of his humanity.

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Wednesday 3 June 2020

Saint Kevin, Abbot

Liturgical Colour: White.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

cf. Ps61:1-2

For God alone my soul waits in silence;
he alone is my rock and my salvation.

Collect

In the solitude of Glendalough, O Lord,
you spoke to the heart of Saint Kevin
and taught him to find through prayer
the life that he desired;
by his intercession,
turn our hearts from all that would betray us,
for you alone are our goal and our reward.
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

2 Timothy 1:1-3,6-12

God's gift is the Spirit of power, love and self-control

From Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus in his design to promise life in Christ Jesus; to Timothy, dear child of mine, wishing you grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Christ Jesus our Lord.

Night and day I thank God, keeping my conscience clear and remembering my duty to him as my ancestors did, and always I remember you in my prayers. That is why I am reminding you now to fan into a flame the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you. God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control. So you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News; and I have been named its herald, its apostle and its teacher.

It is only on account of this that I am experiencing fresh hardships here now; but I have not lost confidence, because I know who it is that I have put my trust in, and I have no doubt at all that he is able to take care of all that I have entrusted to him until that Day.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 122(123):1-2

To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.

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.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.

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.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn17:17

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord:
consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

Or:

Jn11:25, 26

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will never die.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:18-27

The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob is the God of the living

Some Sadducees – who deny that there is a resurrection – came to him and they put this question to him, ‘Master, we have it from Moses in writing, if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no child, the man must marry the widow to raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers. The first married a wife and then died leaving no children. The second married the widow, and he too died leaving no children; with the third it was the same, and none of the seven left any children. Last of all the woman herself died. Now at the resurrection, when they rise again, whose wife will she be, since she had been married to all seven?’

Jesus said to them, 'Is not the reason why you go wrong, that you understand neither the scriptures nor the power of God? For when they rise from the dead, men and women do not marry; no, they are like the angels in heaven. Now about the dead rising again, have you never read in the Book of Moses, in the passage about the Bush, how God spoke to him and said: I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob? He is God, not of the dead, but of the living. You are very much mistaken.'

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These are the readings for the memorial

[Genesis 12:1-4](#) All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you

[Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18](#) You must love your neighbour as yourself

[Deuteronomy 6:3-9](#) You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart

[Deuteronomy 10:8-9](#) The Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to do him service

[1 Kings 19:4-9,11-15](#) The Lord was not in the wind, or the earthquake, or the fire

[1 Kings 19:16,19-21](#) Elisha leaves the plough to follow Elijah

[Tobit 8:4-8](#) A prayer on the wedding night

[Tobit 12:6-13](#) Bless God and utter his praise before all the living

[Judith 8:2-8](#) The widow Judith was devout and feared God

[Esther 4:17](#) 'I will not bow down to any but you, Lord'

[Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31](#) A perfect wife - who can find her?

[Ecclesiasticus 2:7-13](#) You who fear the Lord, trust the Lord

[Ecclesiasticus 3:19-25](#) Behave humbly, and you will find favour with the Lord

[Ecclesiasticus 26:1-4,13-16](#) A perfect wife is the joy of her husband

[Isaiah 58:6-11](#) Then will your light shine like the dawn

[Jeremiah 20:7-9](#) The word of the Lord has meant insult for me

[Micah 6:6-8](#) The Lord asks only this: to act justly, to love tenderly, to walk humbly

[Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13](#) In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people

First reading

Genesis 12:1-4

All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you

The Lord said to Abram, ‘Leave your country, your family and your father’s house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

‘I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.’

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18

You must love your neighbour as yourself

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: ‘Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them:

“Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

“You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.”’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Deuteronomy 6:3-9

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart

Moses said to the people:

‘Listen, Israel, keep and observe these commandments, which will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord the God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

‘Listen, Israel: the Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart. You shall repeat them to your children and say them over to them whether at rest in your house or walking abroad, at your lying down or at your rising; you shall fasten them on your hand as a sign and on your forehead as a circlet; you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Deuteronomy 10:8-9

The Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to do him service

Moses said to the people: ‘The Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the Lord’s covenant, to stand in the presence of the Lord, to do him service and in his name to pronounce blessing as they still do today. Levi therefore has no share or inheritance with his brothers: the Lord is his inheritance, as the Lord your God told him.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

1 Kings 19:4-9,11-15

The Lord was not in the wind, or the earthquake, or the fire

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day’s journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. ‘O Lord,’ he said ‘I have had enough. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.’ Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, ‘Get up and eat.’ He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, ‘Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.’ So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

There he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, ‘Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.’

Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then a voice came to him, which said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He replied, 'I am filled with jealous zeal for the Lord of Hosts, because the sons of Israel have deserted you, broken down your altars and put your prophets to the sword. I am the only one left and they want to kill me.'

'Go,' the Lord said, 'go back by the same way to the wilderness of Damascus.'

[Continue](#)

First reading

1 Kings 19:16,19-21

Elisha leaves the plough to follow Elijah

The Lord said to Elijah, 'Go, you are to anoint Elisha son of Shaphat, of Abel Meholah, as prophet to succeed you.'

Leaving there, Elijah came on Elisha son of Shaphat as he was ploughing behind twelve yoke of oxen, he himself being with the twelfth. Elijah passed near to him and threw his cloak over him. Elisha left his oxen and ran after Elijah. 'Let me kiss my father and mother, then I will follow you' he said. Elijah answered, 'Go, go back; for have I done anything to you?' Elisha turned away, took the pair of oxen and slaughtered them. He used the plough for cooking the oxen, then gave to his men, who ate. He then rose, and followed Elijah and became his servant.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Tobit 8:4-8

A prayer on the wedding night

On their wedding night Tobias rose from the bed, and said to his wife Sarah, ‘Get up, my sister! You and I must pray and petition our Lord to win his grace and his protection.’ She stood up, and they began praying for protection, and this was how he began:

‘You are blessed, O God of our fathers;
blessed, too, is your name
for ever and ever.
Let the heavens bless you
and all things you have made
for evermore.
It was you who created Adam,
you who created Eve his wife
to be his help and support;
and from these two the human race was born.
It was you who said,
“It is not good that the man should be alone;
let us make him a helpmate like himself.”
And so I do not take my sister
for any lustful motive;
I do it in singleness of heart.
Be kind enough to have pity on her and on me
and bring us to old age together.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Tobit 12:6-13

Bless God and utter his praise before all the living

Raphael took Tobit and his son Tobias aside and said, ‘Bless God, utter his praise before all the living for all the favours he has given you. Bless and extol his name. Proclaim before all men the deeds of God as they deserve, and never tire of giving him thanks. It is right to keep the secret of a king, yet right to reveal and publish the works of God. Thank him worthily. Do what is good, and no evil can befall you.

‘Prayer with fasting and alms with right conduct are better than riches with iniquity. Better to practise almsgiving than to hoard up gold. Almsgiving saves from death and purges every kind of sin. Those who give alms have their fill of days; those who commit sin and do evil, bring harm on themselves.

‘I am going to tell you the whole truth, hiding nothing from you. I have already told you that it is right to keep the secret of a king, yet right too to reveal in worthy fashion the works of God. So you must know that when you and Sarah were at prayer, it was I who offered your supplications before the glory of the Lord and who read them; so too when you were burying the dead. When you did not hesitate to get up and leave the table to go and bury a dead man, I was sent to test your faith, and at the same time God sent me to heal you and your daughter-in-law Sarah.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Judith 8:2-8

The widow Judith was devout and feared God

Judith’s husband Manasseh, of her own tribe and family, had died at the time of barley harvest. He was supervising the men as they bound up the sheaves in the field, when he caught sunstroke and had to take to his bed. He died in Bethulia, his home town, and was buried with his ancestors in the field that lies between Dothan and Balamon. As a widow, Judith stayed inside her home for three years and four months. She had had an upper room built for herself on the roof. She wore sackcloth round her waist and

dressed in widow's weeds. She fasted every day of her widowhood except for the sabbath eve, the sabbath itself, the eve of New Moon, the feast of New Moon and the festival days of the House of Israel. Now, she was very beautiful, charming to see. Her husband Manasseh had left her gold and silver, menservants and maidservants, cattle and lands; and she lived among all her possessions without anyone finding a word to say against her, so devoutly did she fear God.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Esther 4:17

'I will not bow down to any but you, Lord'

Calling to mind all the wonderful works of the Lord, Mordecai offered this prayer:

'Lord, Lord, King and Master of all things,
everything is subject to your power,
and there is no-one who can withstand you
in your will to save Israel.

'Yes, you have made heaven and earth,
and all the marvels that are under heaven.
You are the Lord of all,
and there is none who can resist you, Lord.

'You know all things:
you know, Lord, you know,
that no insolence, arrogance, vainglory
prompted me to this,
to this refusal to bow down
before proud Haman.
I would readily have kissed his feet
for the safety of Israel.

‘But what I did,
I did rather than place the glory of a man
above the glory of God;
and I will not bow down to any
but to you, Lord:
in so refusing I will not act in pride.

‘Hear my supplication,
have mercy on your heritage,
and turn our grief into rejoicing,
that we may live to hymn your name, Lord.
Do not suffer the mouths
of those who praise you to perish.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

A perfect wife - who can find her?

A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband’s heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,

and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Ecclesiasticus 2:7-13

You who fear the Lord, trust the Lord

You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy;
do not turn aside in case you fall.
You who fear the Lord, trust him,
and you will not be balked of your reward.
You who fear the Lord hope for good things,
for everlasting happiness and mercy.
Look at the generations of old and see:
who ever trusted in the Lord and was put to shame?
Or who ever feared him steadfastly and was left forsaken?
Or who ever called out to him, and was ignored?
For the Lord is compassionate and merciful,
he forgives sins, and saves in days of distress.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Ecclesiasticus 3:19-25

Behave humbly, and you will find favour with the Lord

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.
The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,
and then you will find favour with the Lord;
for great though the power of the Lord is,

he accepts the homage of the humble.
Do not try to understand things that are too difficult for you,
or try to discover what is beyond your powers.
Concentrate on what has been assigned you:
you have no need to worry over mysteries.
Do not meddle with matters that are beyond you:
what you have been taught already exceeds the scope of the
human mind.
For many have been misled by their own presumption,
and wrong-headed opinions have warped their ideas.
For lack of eyes you want for light;
if you are without knowledge, do not attempt to convince.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Ecclesiasticus 26:1-4,13-16

A perfect wife is the joy of her husband

Happy the husband of a really good wife;
the number of her days will be doubled.
A perfect wife is the joy of her husband,
he will live out his years in peace.
A good wife is the best of portions,
reserved for those who fear the Lord:
rich or poor, they will be glad of heart,
cheerful of face, whatever the season.
The grace of a wife will charm her husband,
her accomplishments will make him the stronger.
A silent wife is a gift from the Lord,
no price can be put on a well-trained character.
A modest wife is a boon twice over,
a chaste character cannot be weighed on scales.
Like the sun rising over the mountains of the Lord

is the beauty of a good wife in a well-kept house.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Isaiah 58:6-11

Then will your light shine like the dawn

Is not this the sort of fast that pleases me
– it is the Lord who speaks –
to break unjust fetters and
undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,
and break every yoke,
to share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,

to clothe the man you see to be naked
and not turn from your own kin?
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, ‘I am here.’

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,

your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.
The Lord will always guide you,
giving you relief in desert places.

He will give strength to your bones
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never run dry.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Jeremiah 20:7-9

The word of the Lord has meant insult for me

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, 'I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.'
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Micah 6:6-8

**The Lord asks only this: to act justly, to love tenderly, to walk
humbly**

'With what gift shall I come into the Lord's presence

and bow down before God on high?
Shall I come with holocausts,
with calves one year old?
Will he be pleased with rams by the thousand,
with libations of oil in torrents?
Must I give my first-born for what I have done wrong,
the fruit of my body for my own sin?

– What is good has been explained to you, man;
this is what the Lord asks of you:
only this, to act justly,
to love tenderly
and to walk humbly with your God.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13

In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people

Seek the Lord,
all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.
Seek integrity,
seek humility:
you may perhaps find shelter
on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave
a humble and lowly people,
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of
the Lord.
They will do no wrong,
will tell no lies;
and the perjured tongue will no longer

be found in their mouths.
But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

[Continue](#)

[Psalm 1:1-4,6](#) Happy indeed is the man

[Psalm 14\(15\):2-5](#) Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain

[Psalm 15\(16\):1-2,5,7-8,11](#) Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you

[Psalm 22\(23\)](#), The Lord is my shepherd

[Psalm 33\(34\):2-11](#) I will bless the Lord at all times

[Psalm 102\(103\):1-4,8-9,13-14,17-18](#) My soul, give thanks to the Lord

[Psalm 111\(112\):1-9](#) Happy the man who fears the Lord

[Psalm 127\(128\):1-5](#) O blessed are those who fear the Lord

[Psalm 130\(131\)](#), O Lord, my heart is not proud

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 1:1-4,6

His delight is the law of the Lord.

or

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

or

The just will flourish like the palm-tree in the courts of our God.

Happy indeed is the man
who follows not the counsel of the wicked;
nor lingers in the way of sinners
nor sits in the company of scorners,

but whose delight is the law of the Lord
and who ponders his law day and night.

His delight is the law of the Lord.

or

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

or

The just will flourish like the palm-tree in the courts of our God.

He is like a tree that is planted
beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper.

His delight is the law of the Lord.

or

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

or

The just will flourish like the palm-tree in the courts of our God.

Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they like winnowed chaff
shall be driven away by the wind:
for the Lord guards the way of the just
but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

His delight is the law of the Lord.

or

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

or

The just will flourish like the palm-tree in the courts of our God.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 14(15):2-5

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart;
he who does not slander with his tongue.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 15(16):1-2,5,7-8,11

You are my inheritance, O Lord.

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.

You are my inheritance, O Lord.

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.

You are my inheritance, O Lord.

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

You are my inheritance, O Lord.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 22(23)

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

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.

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.

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.

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.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 33(34):2-11

I will bless the Lord at all times.

or

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

or

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

or

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called, the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

or

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The angel of the Lord is encamped
around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

or

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Revere the Lord, you his saints.
They lack nothing, those who revere him.
Strong lions suffer want and go hungry
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

or

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

[Continue](#)

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.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 111(112):1-9

Happy the man who fears the Lord.

or

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.

Happy the man who fears the Lord.

or

Alleluia!

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.

Happy the man who fears the Lord.

or

Alleluia!

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.

Happy the man who fears the Lord.

or

Alleluia!

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.

Happy the man who fears the Lord.

or

Alleluia!

Open-handed, he gives to the poor;
 his justice stands firm for ever.

His head will be raised in glory.

Happy the man who fears the Lord.

or

Alleluia!

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 127(128):1-5

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
all the days of your life!

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 130(131)

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

O Lord, my heart is not proud
nor haughty my eyes.
I have not gone after things too great
nor marvels beyond me.

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

Truly I have set my soul
in silence and peace.
A weaned child on its mother's breast,
even so is my soul.

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

O Israel, hope in the Lord
both now and forever.

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

[Continue](#)

Gospel Acclamation

Mt5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!
How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Alleluia!

Or:

Mt5:6

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Alleluia!

Or:

Mt5:8

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Alleluia!

Or:

Mt11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
to mere children.
Alleluia!

Or:

Mt23:11,12

Alleluia, alleluia!
The greatest among you must be your servant, says the Lord:
the man who humbles himself will be exalted.
Alleluia!

Or:

Mt11:28

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.
Alleluia!

Or:

Lk21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!
Stay awake, praying at all times
for the strength to stand with confidence
before the Son of Man.
Alleluia!

Or:

Jn8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;

anyone who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

Or:

Jn8:31-32

Alleluia, alleluia!
If you make my word your home
you will indeed be my disciples,
and you will learn the truth, says the Lord.
Alleluia!

Or:

Jn13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment:
love one another just as I have loved you,
says the Lord.
Alleluia!

Or:

Jn14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him.
Alleluia!

Or:

Jn15:4,5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you,
says the Lord;
whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.
Alleluia!

Or:

Jn15:9,5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Remain in my love, says the Lord;
whoever remains in me, with me in him,

bears fruit in plenty.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12a

How happy are the poor in spirit

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’

[Continue](#)

Prayer over the Offerings

On your altar, Lord, we lay these gifts,
signs of life and fruitfulness;
grant, we pray, that, like Saint Kevin,
we may dedicate the whole of our lives to your service.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 42:8

By day the Lord commands his steadfast love
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

Prayer after Communion

Our delight, Lord God of hosts,
is to sing your praise in this Eucharist:
give us, we pray, your strength on our earthly journey
that we may find a home at your altar in heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

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Wednesday 3 June 2020

Saint Kevin, Abbot

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).*

How wonderful is God among his saints: come, let us adore him.

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.

How wonderful is God among his saints: come, let us adore him.

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Wednesday 3 June 2020

Saint Kevin, Abbot

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 enthral,
Lift high the universal song,
And crown him Lord of all.

Psalm 35 (36)
The sinner's wickedness; God's goodness

“The man who follows me will not walk in darkness, but he will have the light of life for his guide” (Jn 8:12).

In your light, God, we see light.

Sin speaks to the sinner
in the depths of his heart.
There is no fear of God
before his eyes.

He so flatters himself in his mind
that he knows not his guilt.
In his mouth are mischief and deceit.
All wisdom is gone.

He plots the defeat of goodness
as he lies on his bed.
He has set his foot on evil ways,
he clings to what is evil.

Your love, Lord, reaches to heaven;
your truth to the skies.
Your justice is like God's mountain,
your judgements like the deep.

To both man and beast you give protection.
O Lord, how precious is your love.
My God, the sons of men

find refuge in the shelter of your wings.

They feast on the riches of your house;
they drink from the stream of your delight.
In you is the source of life
and in your light we see light.

Keep on loving those who know you,
doing justice for upright hearts.
Let the foot of the proud not crush me
nor the hand of the wicked cast me out.

See how the evil-doers fall!
Flung down, they shall never arise.

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 light, God, we see light.

Psalm-prayer

Lord, you are the source of unfailing light. Give us true knowledge of your mercy so that we may renounce our pride and be filled with the riches of your house.

Or:

Lord God, source of light and life, you make the sun rise and the rain fall on good and bad men alike. By the light of your truth may the virtuous know your goodness and sinners feel your mercy, so that together they may drink from your stream of delight.

The Lord, creator of the world, protects his people

“They began to sing a new song” (Rev 5:9).

Lord, you are great, you are glorious, you are wonderfully strong.

Begin a song to my God with tambourines,
sing to my Lord with cymbals.

Raise to him a new psalm;
exalt him and call upon his name.
For God is the Lord who crushes wars.

I will sing to my God a new song:
O Lord, you are great and glorious,
wonderful in strength, invincible.

Let all your creatures serve you,
for you spoke, and they were made.
You sent forth your Spirit, and it formed them;
there is none that can resist your voice.

For the mountains shall be shaken to their foundations with the waters;
at your presence the rocks shall melt like wax,
but to those who fear you
you will continue to show mercy.

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 are great, you are glorious, you are wonderfully strong.

Psalm 46 (47)
The Lord is King

“He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and his kingdom will have no end.”

Cry to God with shouts of joy.

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth.

He subdues peoples under us
and nations under our feet.
Our inheritance, our glory, is from him,
given to Jacob out of love.

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth,
sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne.

The princes of the peoples are assembled
with the people of Abraham's God.
The rulers of the earth belong to God,
to God who reigns over all.

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.

Cry to God with shouts of joy.

Psalm-prayer

God, King of all peoples and all ages, it is your victory we celebrate as we sing with all the skill at our command. Help us always to overcome evil by good, that we may rejoice in your triumph for ever.

Or:

Lord Jesus, to you belongs the dominion of heaven, earth, and all things under the earth, for you have ascended on high and are seated on the throne prepared for you by the Father. May all peoples be gathered into your Church to form a holy nation, a kingly priesthood, your own chosen heritage, to praise and adore your divine majesty, now and for ever.

Short Reading

Romans 12:1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Short Responsory

The just shall rejoice in the sight of God.

– *The just shall rejoice in the sight of God.*

They shall be filled with gladness.

– *The just shall rejoice in the sight of God.*

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

– *The just shall rejoice in the sight of God.*

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

Whoever does the will of my Father, says the Lord, is my brother, and sister, and mother.

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.

*Whoever does the will of my Father, says the Lord, is my brother, and sister,
and mother.*

Prayers and intercessions

Let us praise Christ, the holy God, and ask that we may serve him in justice
and holiness all the days of our life.

– *Lord, you alone are holy.*

You were tempted in every way that we are, but you did not sin;
Lord Jesus, have mercy on us.

– *Lord, you alone are holy.*

You have called us to grow in love until there is no longer fear;
Lord Jesus, make us holy.

– *Lord, you alone are holy.*

You have told us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world;
Lord Jesus, enlighten our minds and hearts.

– *Lord, you alone are holy.*

In a world of human need it was your will to serve and not to be served;
let us become like you, Lord Jesus, in the humble service of our
brothers.

– *Lord, you alone are holy.*

You are the radiant brightness of God's glory, the perfect likeness of his
nature;

Lord Jesus, let us see the splendour of your face.

– *Lord, you alone are holy.*

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.

In the solitude of Glendalough, O Lord who spoke to the heart of Saint
Kevin

and taught him to find through prayer the life that he desired,
by his intercession, turn our hearts from all that would betray us,
for you alone are our goal and our reward.

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 3 June 2020

Saint Kevin, Abbot

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

For all the saints who from their labours rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou in the darkness drear their one true Light.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

O blest communion! fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Psalm 26 (27)
Keeping faith in time of peril

“Behold, the place where God dwells among men” (Rev 21:3).

The Lord is my light and my help: whom shall I fear?

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink?

When evil-doers draw near
to devour my flesh,
it is they, my enemies and foes,
who stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me
my heart would not fear.
Though war break out against me
even then would I trust.

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple.

For there he keeps me safe in his tent
in the day of evil.
He hides me in the shelter of his tent,
on a rock he sets me safe.

And now my head shall be raised
above my foes who surround me
and I shall offer within his tent
a sacrifice of joy.
I will sing and make music for 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.

The Lord is my light and my help: whom shall I fear?

Psalm 26 (27)

“Some stood up and submitted false evidence against Jesus.”

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek: hide not your face.

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
‘Seek his face.’

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help.

Do not abandon or forsake me,
O God my help!
Though father and mother forsake me,
the Lord will receive me.

Instruct me, Lord, in your way;
on an even path lead me.

When they lie in ambush protect me
from my enemy's greed.
False witnesses rise against me,
breathing out fury.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in 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.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek: hide not your face.

Psalm-prayer

Father, you protect and strengthen those who hope in you; you heard the cry of your Son and kept him safe in your tent in the day of evil. Grant that your servants who seek your face in times of trouble may see your goodness in the land of the living.

Canticle

(Colossians 1)

Christ, firstborn of all creatures and firstborn from the dead

He is the first-born of all creation, he is supreme over all creatures.

Let us give thanks to the Father,
who has qualified us to share
in the inheritance of the saints in light.

He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption,

the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation,
for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth,
visible and invisible.

All things were created
through him and for him.
He is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.

He is the head of the body, the Church;
he is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead,
that in everything he might be pre-eminent.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
making peace by the blood of his cross.

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 is the first-born of all creation, he is supreme over all creatures.

Short Reading

Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Short Responsory

The Lord is good; he loves good deeds.

– *The Lord is good; he loves good deeds.*

His face is turned towards the upright man.

– *The Lord is good; he loves good deeds.*

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

– *The Lord is good; he loves good deeds.*

Canticle

Magnificat

My soul rejoices in the Lord

You have left all things and have followed me; you will be repaid a hundred times over, and gain eternal life.

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.

You have left all things and have followed me; you will be repaid a hundred times over, and gain eternal life.

Prayers and intercessions

Let us ask the Father to lead us to holiness through the intercession and example of the saints.

– *Make us holy as you are holy.*

Father, it was your will that we be called your children, and that is what we are;

may your Church all over the world bear witness to your goodness.

– *Make us holy as you are holy.*

Father, you have called us to walk in your light and do always the things that please you;

may our lives be rich in every kind of good work.

– *Make us holy as you are holy.*

Father, through Christ you have reconciled us to yourself;

keep us in your name that we may all be one.

– *Make us holy as you are holy.*

Father, you have invited us to the festival of eternal life;

make us perfect in your love through the bread that comes from heaven.

– *Make us holy as you are holy.*

Father, grant all sinners peace and forgiveness;

let the dead live in the light of your presence.

– *Make us holy as you are holy.*

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.

In the solitude of Glendalough, O Lord who spoke to the heart of Saint
Kevin

and taught him to find through prayer the life that he desired,
by his intercession, turn our hearts from all that would betray us,
for you alone are our goal and our reward.

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 3 June 2020

Saint Kevin, Abbot

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

Now that the daylight dies away,
By all thy grace and love,
Thee, Maker of the world, we pray
To watch our bed above.

Let dreams depart and phantoms fly,
The offspring of the night,
Keep us, like shrines, beneath thine eye,
Pure in our foe's despite.

This grace on thy redeemed confer,
Father, co-equal Son,
And Holy Ghost, the Comforter,
Eternal Three in One.

Psalm 30 (31)
Trustful prayer in time of adversity

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit” (Lk 23:46).

O God, be my protector and my refuge.

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.

O God, be my protector and my refuge.

Psalm-prayer

Full of trust we run to you, Lord, and put our lives into your hands. You are our strength in times of trouble and our refuge along the way. May you be our joy at the turning points of life and our reward at its end.

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.

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.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

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.

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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.

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.*

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.

Marian Anthem

Salve Regina

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.

Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
your eyes of mercy towards us;
and after this exile
show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Salve, Regína, mater misericórdiæ;
vita, dulcédo et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamámus, éxsules, filii Evæ.
Ad te suspirámus, geméntes et flentes
in hac lacrimárum valle.

Eia ergo, advocáta nostra,
illos tuos misericórdes óculos
ad nos convérte.
Et Iesum, benedíctum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exsílium osténde.
O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo María.

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Thursday 4 June 2020

Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs

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Thursday 4 June 2020

Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs

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 Mark.

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.

Mark 12:28-34

'You are not far from the kingdom of God'

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how

wisely he had spoken, said, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’
And after that no one dared to question him any more.

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 4 June 2020

Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs

Spiritual Reading

Your Second Reading from the Office of Readings:

Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs

A sermon by Pope Paul VI

The glory of the martyrs - a sign of rebirth

The African martyrs add another page to the martyrology – the Church’s roll of honour – an occasion both of mourning and of joy. This is a page worthy in every way to be added to the annals of that Africa of earlier times which we, living in this era and being men of little faith, never expected to be repeated.

In earlier times there occurred those famous deeds, so moving to the spirit, of the martyrs of Scilli, of Carthage, and of that “white robed army” of Utica commemorated by Saint Augustine and Prudentius; of the martyrs of Egypt so highly praised by Saint John Chrysostom, and of the martyrs of the Vandal persecution. Who would have thought that in our days we should have witnessed events as heroic and glorious?

Who could have predicted that to the famous African confessors and martyrs such as Cyprian, Felicity, Perpetua and – the greatest of all – Augustine, we would one day add names so dear to us as Charles Lwanga and Matthias Mulumba Kalemba and their 20 companions? Nor must we forget those members of the Anglican Church who also died for the name of Christ.

These African martyrs herald the dawn of a new age. If only the mind of man might be directed not towards persecutions and religious conflicts but

towards a rebirth of Christianity and civilisation!

Africa has been washed by the blood of these latest martyrs, the first of this new age (and, God willing, let them be the last, although such a holocaust is precious indeed). Africa is reborn free and independent.

The infamous crime by which these young men were put to death was so unspeakable and so expressive of the times. It shows us clearly that a new people needs a moral foundation, needs new spiritual customs firmly planted, to be handed down to posterity. Symbolically, this crime also reveals that a simple and rough way of life – enriched by many fine human qualities yet enslaved by its own weakness and corruption – must give way to a more civilised life wherein the higher expressions of the mind and better social conditions prevail.

The ferial reading for today:

Thursday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

The Moral Reflections on Job by Pope St Gregory the Great

The Church rises like the dawn

Since the dawn goes from darkness into light, it is right that the Church of the elect should be called “dawn” or “first light.” As it is led from the night of disbelief into the light of faith, it is opened up to the splendour of heavenly brightness just as the dawn bursts into day after darkness. How right are the words of the Song of Songs: *Who is she who is coming up like the dawn?* The holy Church seeks the rewards of heavenly life and is rightly called the dawn because it deserts the shadows of sin and sparkles in the light of righteousness.

There is something subtler to learn from this, on considering the nature of the dawn. Dawn, or first light, proclaims that the night is over but does not yet manifest the full brightness of the day. It dispels night, it gives a beginning to the day, but still it is a mixture of light and darkness. All of us who follow the truth in this life, are we not exactly like the dawn? Some of the things we do are truly works of the light, but others are not entirely free

of the remnants of darkness. *No man is virtuous before you*, says the psalmist, and again Scripture says *we have all done wrong in many ways*.

This is why Paul does not say “the night has passed and day has come,” but *night has passed and day is approaching*, showing beyond doubt that he is still in the dawn, after the end of darkness but still before rising of the sun.

The Church of the elect will be fully day only when the darkness of sin is no longer mixed in with it. It will be fully day only when it shines with the perfect warmth of a light that comes from within. God shows that we are still going through this dawn when he says to Job, *Have you ever sent the dawn to its post?* Something that is being sent somewhere is being sent from one place or state to another. What is the destined place of the dawn if not the perfect brightness of the eternal vision? And when it has reached its place, will it still have any of the darkness of the night that has passed? The dawn was intent on reaching its destined place when the psalmist said *My soul thirsts for the living God; when shall I appear before the face of God?* The dawn was hurrying to the place it knew to be its destiny when Paul said that he wanted to die and to be with Christ, and when he said *For me to live is Christ and to die is gain*.

In other parts of the world and other calendars:

Our Lord Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest

The Encyclical "Mediator Dei" of Pope Pius XII

Christ, Priest and Victim

Christ is a Priest indeed; however, he is a Priest not for himself but for us, since, in the name of the whole human race, he brings our prayers and religious dispositions to the eternal Father; he is also a victim, but a victim for us, since he substitutes himself for sinners.

Now the exhortation of the Apostle, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,” demands that all Christians should possess, as far as is humanly possible, the same dispositions as those which the divine Redeemer had when he offered himself in sacrifice: that is to say, they

should with a humble attitude of mind, offer adoration, honour, praise and thanksgiving to the supreme majesty of God.

Moreover, it demands that they must assume in some way the condition of a victim, that they deny themselves as the Gospel commands, that freely and of their own accord they do penance and that each detests and makes satisfaction for his sins.

It demands, in a word, that we must all undergo with Christ a mystical death on the Cross so that we can apply to ourselves the words of St Paul, “I have been crucified with Christ” (Galatians 2:19).

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Thursday 4 June 2020

Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs

Liturgical Colour: Red.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Wis 3: 6-7, 9

As gold in the furnace, the Lord put his chosen to the test;
as sacrificial offerings, he took them to himself;
and in due time they will be honoured,
and grace and peace will be with the elect of God.

Collect

O God, who have made the blood of Martyrs
the seed of Christians,
mercifully grant that the field which is your Church,
watered by the blood
shed by Saints Charles Lwanga and his companions,
may be fertile and always yield you an abundant harvest.
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

2 Timothy 2:8-15

If we have died with Christ then we shall live with Christ

Remember the Good News that I carry, ‘Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David’; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal – but they cannot chain up God’s news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it.

Here is a saying that you can rely on:

If we have died with him, then we shall live with him.

If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.

If we disown him, then he will disown us.

We may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful,
for he cannot disown his own self.

Remind them of this; and tell them in the name of God that there is to be no wrangling about words: all that this ever achieves is the destruction of those who are listening. Do all you can to present yourself in front of God as a man who has come through his trials, and a man who has no cause to be ashamed of his life’s work and has kept a straight course with the message of the truth.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 24(25):4-5,8-10,14

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

Lord, make me know your ways.

In you I hope all day long
The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
He guides the humble in the right path,
He teaches his way to the poor.

Lord, make me know your ways.

His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and law.
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Jn6:63,68

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Or:

cf.2Tim1:10

Alleluia, alleluia!
Our Saviour Jesus Christ abolished death
and he has proclaimed life through the Good News.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:28-34

'You are not far from the kingdom of God'

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the

Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.’ The scribe said to him, ‘Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.’ Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’ And after that no one dared to question him any more.

[Continue](#)

These are the readings for the memorial

First reading

2 Maccabees 7:1-2,9-14

'The King of the world will raise us up to live for ever'

There were seven brothers who were arrested with their mother. The king tried to force them to taste pig's flesh, which the Law forbids, by torturing them with whips and scourges. One of them, acting as spokesman for the others, said, ‘What are you trying to find out from us? We are prepared to die rather than break the laws of our ancestors.’

With his last breath the second brother exclaimed, ‘Inhuman fiend, you may discharge us from this present life, but the King of the world will raise us up, since it is for his laws that we die, to live again for ever.’

After him, they amused themselves with the third, who on being asked for his tongue promptly thrust it out and boldly held out his hands, with these honourable words, ‘It was heaven that gave me these limbs; for the sake of his laws I disdain them; from him I hope to receive them again.’ The king and his attendants were astounded at the young man's courage and his utter indifference to suffering.

When this one was dead they subjected the fourth to the same savage torture. When he neared his end he cried, 'Ours is the better choice, to meet death at men's hands, yet relying on God's promise that we shall be raised up by him; whereas for you there can be no resurrection, no new life.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 123(124):2-5,7-8

Our life, like a bird, has escaped from the snare of the fowler.

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.

Our life, like a bird, has escaped from the snare of the fowler.

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

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.

Our life, like a bird, has escaped from the snare of the fowler.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!
How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Alleluia!

How happy are the poor in spirit

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven: this is how they persecuted the prophets before you.’

[Continue](#)

Prayer over the Offerings

We offer you sacrifice, O Lord, humbly praying
that, as you granted the blessed Martyrs

grace to die rather than sin,
so you may bring us to minister at your altar
in dedication to you alone.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 115: 15

How precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his holy ones..

Prayer after Communion

We have received this divine Sacrament, O Lord,
as we celebrate the victory of your holy Martyrs;
may what helped them to endure torment, we pray,
make us, in the face of trials,
steadfast in faith and in charity.
Through Christ our Lord.

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Thursday 4 June 2020

Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs

Invitatory Psalm

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 martyrs: come, let us adore him.

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 martyrs: come, let us adore him.

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Thursday 4 June 2020

Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs

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 56 (57)
Morning prayer in time of affliction

“This psalm celebrates the passion of Christ” (St Augustine).

Awake, lyre and harp: I will awaken the dawn.

Have mercy on me, God, have mercy
for in you my soul has taken refuge.
In the shadow of your wings I take refuge
till the storms of destruction pass by.

I call to God the Most High,
to God who has always been my help.
May he send from heaven and save me
and shame those who assail me.
May God send his truth and his love.

My soul lies down among lions,
who would devour the sons of men.
Their teeth are spears and arrows,
their tongue a sharpened sword.

O God, arise above the heavens;
may your glory shine on earth!

They laid a snare for my steps,
my soul was bowed down.
They dug a pit in my path
but fell in it themselves.

My heart is ready, O God,
my heart is ready.
I will sing, I will sing your praise.
Awake, my soul,
awake, lyre and harp,
I will awake the dawn.

I will thank you, Lord, among the peoples,
among the nations I will praise you
for your love reaches to the heavens
and your truth to the skies.

O God, arise above the heavens;
may your glory shine 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.

Awake, lyre and harp: I will awaken the dawn.

Psalm-prayer

Lord, send your mercy and your truth to rescue us from the snares of the devil, and we will praise you among the peoples and proclaim you to the nations, happy to be known as companions of your Son.

Canticle

Jeremiah 31

The joy of those whom God sets free

“Jesus had to die to reunite the children of God who had been scattered” (Jn 11:51,52).

Thus says the Lord: my people shall be filled with my good things.

O nations, hear the word of the Lord,
proclaim it to the far-off coasts.
Say: 'He who scattered Israel will gather him
and guard him as a shepherd guards his flock.'
For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,
has saved him from an overpowering hand.

They will come and shout for joy on Mount Sion,
they will stream to the blessings of the Lord,
to the corn, the new wine and the oil,
to the flocks of sheep and the herds.
Their life will be like a watered garden.
They will never be weary again.

Then the young girls will rejoice and will dance,
the men, young and old, will be glad.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will console them, give gladness for grief.
The priests I will again feed with plenty,
and my people shall be filled with my blessings.

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.

Thus says the Lord: my people shall be filled with my good things.

Psalm 47 (48)
Thanksgiving for the safety of the people

“He took me to the top of a great mountain, and showed me the holy city of Jerusalem” (Rev 21:10).

The Lord is great and worthy to be praised in the city of our God.

The Lord is great and worthy to be praised
in the city of our God.
His holy mountain rises in beauty,
the joy of all the earth.

Mount Sion, true pole of the earth,
the Great King's city!
God, in the midst of its citadels,
has shown himself its stronghold.

For the kings assembled together,
together they advanced.
They saw; at once they were astounded;
dismayed, they fled in fear.

A trembling seized them there,
like the pangs of birth.
By the east wind you have destroyed
the ships of Tarshish.

As we have heard, so we have seen
in the city of our God,
in the city of the Lord of hosts
which God upholds for ever.

O God, we ponder your love
within your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name
reaches the ends of the earth.

With justice your right hand is filled.
Mount Sion rejoices;
the people of Judah rejoice
at the sight of your judgements.

Walk through Sion, walk all round it;
count the number of its towers.
Review all its ramparts,
examine its castles,

that you may tell the next generation
that such is our God,
our God for ever and always.
It is he who leads 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.

The Lord is great and worthy to be praised in the city of our God.

Psalm-prayer

Father, the body of your risen Son is the temple not made by human hands and the defending wall of the new Jerusalem. May this holy city, built of living stones, shine with spiritual radiance and witness to your greatness in the sight of all nations.

Short Reading

2 Corinthians 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, a gentle Father and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows, so that we can offer others, in their sorrows, the consolation that we have received from God ourselves. Indeed, as the sufferings of Christ overflow to us, so, through Christ, does our consolation overflow.

Short Responsory

These were holy men: they will live for ever!
– *These were holy men: they will live for ever!*
The Lord himself is their reward.
– *These were holy men: they will live for ever!*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *These were holy men: they will live for ever!*

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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.

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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 have made the blood of martyrs
become the seed of Christians.
In your love, grant that your Church,
the field that was moistened by the blood of Saint Charles and his
companions,
may always yield a fertile harvest for 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.

Amen.

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

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Thursday 4 June 2020

Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs

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

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 29 (30)
Thanksgiving for rescue from death

*“Christ gives thanks to his Father after his glorious resurrection”
(Cassian).*

Lord, I cried to you for help and you have healed me: I will thank you for ever.

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.

O Lord, I cried to you for help
and you, my God, have healed me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

I said to myself in my good fortune:
‘Nothing will ever disturb me.’
Your favour had set me on a mountain fastness,
then you hid your face and I was put to confusion.

To you, Lord, I cried,
to my God I made appeal:
‘What profit would my death be, my going to the grave?
Can dust give you praise or proclaim your truth?’

The Lord listened and had pity.

The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing,
you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.
So my soul sings psalms to you unceasingly.
O Lord my God, I will thank you 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.

Lord, I cried to you for help and you have healed me: I will thank you for ever.

Psalm-prayer

Lord, hear our cry and save us. We weep in the evening as if our Lord were asleep, but let us rejoice in the morning as he is raised up among us. Rescued from sadness and clothed in rejoicing, may we gloriously sing your praises for ever.

Or:

God our Father, glorious in giving life, and even more glorious in restoring it, when his last night on earth came, your Son shed tears of blood, but dawn brought incomparable gladness. Do not turn away from us, or we shall fall back into dust, but rather turn our mourning into joy by raising us up with Christ.

Psalm 31 (32) The joy of the forgiven

“David says that a man is blessed if God considers him righteous, irrespective of good deeds” (Rom 4:6).

Happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt.

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.

O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile.

I kept it secret and my frame was wasted.
I groaned all day long,
for night and day your hand
was heavy upon me.
Indeed my strength was dried up
as by the summer's heat.

But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'
And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin.

So let every good man pray to you
in the time of need.
The floods of water may reach high
but him they shall not reach.
You are my hiding place, O Lord;
you save me from distress.
You surround me with cries of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you
the way you should go;
I will give you counsel
with my eye upon you.

Be not like horse and mule, unintelligent,
needing bridle and bit,
else they will not approach you.
Many sorrows has the wicked
but he who trusts in the Lord,
loving mercy surrounds him.

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart.

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.

Happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt.

Psalm-prayer

You desired, Lord, to keep from us your indignation and so did not spare Jesus Christ, who was wounded for our sins. We are your prodigal children but confessing our sins we come back to you. Embrace us that we may rejoice in your mercy together with Christ your beloved Son.

Canticle

Apocalypse 11

The Judgement

The Lord has given him power and honour and empire, and all peoples will serve him.

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.

*The Lord has given him power and honour and empire, and all peoples will
serve him.*

Short Reading

1 Peter 4:13-14

Beloved, if you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad,
because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed.
It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ,
because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting
on you.

Short Responsory

Rejoice in the Lord. Let the just shout for joy.
– *Rejoice in the Lord. Let the just shout for joy.*
Let the upright sing praise.

– *Rejoice in the Lord. Let the just shout for joy.*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *Rejoice in the Lord. Let the just shout for joy.*

Canticle

Magnificat

My soul rejoices in the Lord

The saints, who followed in the footsteps of Christ, rejoice in heaven. They gave their life for love of Christ: therefore, they will reign with him for ever.

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 saints, who followed in the footsteps of Christ, rejoice in heaven. They gave their life for love of Christ: therefore, they will reign with him for ever.

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 have made the blood of martyrs
become the seed of Christians.

In your love, grant that your Church,
the field that was moistened by the blood of Saint Charles and his
companions,
may always yield a fertile harvest for 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.

Amen.

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

Amen.

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Thursday 4 June 2020

Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs

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

Now that the daylight dies away,
By all thy grace and love,
Thee, Maker of the world, we pray
To watch our bed above.

Let dreams depart and phantoms fly,
The offspring of the night,
Keep us, like shrines, beneath thine eye,
Pure in our foe's despite.

This grace on thy redeemed confer,
Father, co-equal Son,
And Holy Ghost, the Comforter,
Eternal Three in One.

Psalm 15 (16)
The Lord, my inheritance

“God raised up Jesus, freeing him from the pains of death”
(Acts 2:24).

My body shall rest in safety.

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.

My body shall rest in safety.

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.
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*
You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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.*

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.*

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.

Marian Anthem

Salve Regina

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.

Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
your eyes of mercy towards us;
and after this exile
show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Salve, Regina, mater misericordiæ;
vita, dulcèdo et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamámus, éxsules, filii Evæ.
Ad te suspirámus, geméntes et flentes
in hac lacrimárum valle.

Eia ergo, advocáta nostra,
illos tuos misericórdes óculos
ad nos convérte.
Et Iesum, benedíctum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exsílium osténde.
O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo María.

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Friday 5 June 2020

Saint Boniface, Bishop, Martyr

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Friday 5 June 2020

Saint Boniface, Bishop, Martyr

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 Mark.

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.

Mark 12:35-37

'David himself calls him Lord'

At that time while teaching in the Temple, Jesus said, 'How can the scribes maintain that the Christ is the son of David? David himself, moved by the Holy Spirit, said:

The Lord said to my Lord:
Sit at my right hand
and I will put your enemies
under your feet.

David himself calls him Lord, in what way then can he be his son?' And the great majority of the people heard this with delight.

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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Friday 5 June 2020

Saint Boniface, Bishop, Martyr

Spiritual Reading

Your Second Reading from the Office of Readings:

Saint Boniface, Bishop, Martyr

A letter by St Boniface

The careful shepherd watches over Christ's flock

In her voyage across the ocean of this world, the Church is like a great ship being pounded by the waves of life's different stresses. Our duty is not to abandon ship but to keep her on her course.

The ancient fathers showed us how we should carry out this duty: Clement, Cornelius and many others in the city of Rome, Cyprian at Carthage, Athanasius at Alexandria. They all lived under emperors who were pagans; they all steered Christ's ship – or rather his most dear spouse, the Church. This they did by teaching and defending her, by their labours and sufferings, even to the shedding of blood.

I am terrified when I think of all this. *Fear and trembling came upon me and the darkness of my sins almost covered me.* I would gladly give up the task of guiding the Church which I have accepted if I could find such an action warranted by the example of the fathers or by holy Scripture.

Since this is the case, and since the truth can be assaulted but never defeated or falsified, with our tired mind let us turn to the words of Solomon: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own prudence. Think on him in all your ways, and he will guide your steps.* In another place he says: *The name of the Lord is an impregnable tower. The just man seeks refuge in it and he will be saved.*

Let us stand fast in what is right and prepare our souls for trial. Let us wait upon God's strengthening aid and say to him: *O Lord, you have been our refuge in all generations.*

Let us trust in him who has placed this burden upon us. What we ourselves cannot bear let us bear with the help of Christ. For he is all-powerful and he tells us: *My yoke is easy and my burden is light.*

Let us continue the fight on the day of the Lord. *The days of anguish and of tribulation* have overtaken us; if God so wills, let us die *for the holy laws of our fathers*, so that we may deserve to obtain an eternal inheritance with them.

Let us be neither dogs that do not bark nor silent onlookers nor paid servants who run away before the wolf. Instead let us be careful shepherds watching over Christ's flock. Let us preach the whole of God's plan to the powerful and to the humble, to rich and to poor, to men of every rank and age, as far as God gives us the strength, in season and out of season, as Saint Gregory writes in his book of Pastoral Instruction.

The ferial reading for today:

Friday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

Bishop Baldwin of Canterbury: treatise 6

The Lord sees our thoughts and the intentions of our hearts

The Lord knows the thoughts and intentions of our hearts. Without a doubt, every one of them is known to him, while we know only those which he lets us read by the grace of discernment. The spirit of man does not know all that is in man, nor all of the thoughts which he has, willingly or unwillingly. Man does not always perceive his thoughts as they really are. Having clouded vision, he does not discern them clearly with his mind's eye.

Often under the guise of devotion a suggestion occurs to our mind – coming from our own thoughts or from another person or from the tempter – and in God's eyes we do not deserve any reward for our virtue. For there are certain imitations of true virtues as also of vices which play tricks with the heart and bedazzle the mind's vision. As a result, the

appearance of goodness often seems to be in something which is evil, and equally the appearance of evil seems to be in something good. This is part of our wretchedness and ignorance, causing us anguish and anxiety.

It has been written: *There are paths which seem to man to be right, but which in the end lead him to hell.* To avoid this peril, Saint John gives us these words of advice: *Test the spirits to see if they are from God.* Now no one can test the spirits to see if they are from God unless God has given him discernment of spirits to enable him to investigate spiritual thoughts, inclinations and intentions with honest and true judgement. Discernment is the mother of all the virtues; everyone needs it either to guide the lives of others or to direct and reform his own life.

In the sphere of action, a right thought is one ruled by the will of God, and intentions are holy when directed single-mindedly towards him. In a word, we could see clearly through any action of ours, or into our entire lives, if we had a simple eye. A simple eye is an eye, and it is simple. This means that we see by right thinking what is to be done, and by our good intention we carry it out with simple honesty, because deceitful action is wrong. Right thinking does not permit mistakes; a good intention rules out pretence. This then is true discernment, a combination of right thinking and good intention.

Therefore, we must do all our actions in the light of discernment as if in God and in his presence.

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Friday 5 June 2020

Saint Boniface, Bishop, Martyr

Liturgical Colour: Red.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Phil 2: 30

This Saint went as far as death,
handing over his life to destruction
for the work of Christ.

Collect

May the Martyr Saint Boniface be our advocate, O Lord,
that we may firmly hold the faith
he taught with his lips and sealed in his blood
and confidently profess it by our deeds.
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

2 Timothy 3:10-17

Anyone who tries to live in devotion to Christ will be attacked

You know what I have taught, how I have lived, what I have aimed at; you know my faith, my patience and my love; my constancy and the persecutions and hardships that came to me in places like Antioch, Iconium and Lystra – all the persecutions I have endured; and the Lord has rescued me from every one of them. You are well aware, then, that anybody who tries to live in devotion to Christ is certain to be attacked; while these wicked impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others and deceived themselves.

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118(119):157,160-161,165-166,168

The lovers of your law have great peace.

Though my foes and oppressors are countless
I have not swerved from your will.
Your word is founded on truth,
your decrees are eternal.

The lovers of your law have great peace.

Though princes oppress me without cause
I stand in awe of your word.
The lovers of your law have great peace;
they never stumble.

The lovers of your law have great peace.

I await your saving help, O Lord,
I fulfil your commands.
I obey your precepts and your will;
all that I do is before you.

The lovers of your law have great peace.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Ps18:9

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words gladden the heart, O Lord,
they give light to the eyes.
Alleluia!

Or:

Jn14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:35-37

'David himself calls him Lord'

At that time while teaching in the Temple, Jesus said, 'How can the scribes maintain that the Christ is the son of David? David himself, moved by the Holy Spirit, said:

The Lord said to my Lord:
Sit at my right hand
and I will put your enemies
under your feet.

David himself calls him Lord, in what way then can he be his son?
And the great majority of the people heard this with delight.

[Continue](#)

These are the readings for the memorial

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.’

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

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 10:11-16

The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep

Jesus said:

‘I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd
and the sheep do not belong to him,
abandons the sheep and runs away
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;
this is because he is only a hired man
and has no concern for the sheep.

‘I am the good shepherd;
I know my own
and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me
and I know the Father;
and I lay down my life for my sheep.
And there are other sheep I have
that are not of this fold,
and these I have to lead as well.
They too will listen to my voice,

and there will be only one flock,
and one shepherd.’

[Continue](#)

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.

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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Friday 5 June 2020

Saint Boniface, Bishop, Martyr

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 is the king of martyrs: come, let us adore him.

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 is the king of martyrs: come, let us adore him.

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Friday 5 June 2020

Saint Boniface, Bishop, Martyr

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 enthral,
Lift high the universal song,
And crown him Lord of all.

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).

Lord, you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice offered on your altar.

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.

Lord, you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice offered on your altar.

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

Isaiah 45

All peoples, turn to the Lord

“Every knee must bow at the name of Jesus” (Phil 2:10).

All the descendants of Israel shall glory in victory through the Lord.

Truly, God of Israel, the Saviour,
you are a God who lies hidden.
They will be put to shame and disgraced,
all who resist you.
They will take themselves off in dismay,
the makers of idols.

But Israel is saved by the Lord,
saved for evermore.
You will never be ashamed or disgraced
through endless ages.

For this is the word of the Lord,
the creator of heaven,
the God who made earth and shaped it,
he who made it firm.
He did not create it in vain,
he made it to be lived in.

‘I am the Lord, there is no other.
I have not spoken in secret, in some dark place,
I have not said to Jacob’s sons
“Search for me in vain.”

I am the Lord, I speak the truth,
I proclaim what is right.
Assemble, all of you, draw near

you who have escaped from the nations.

They know nothing, who carry around
their idols made of wood
and keep on praying to a god
that cannot save them.

State your case and bring your proofs,
consult among yourselves.
Who proclaimed this beforehand,
who foretold it long ago?

Was it not I, the Lord?
There is no god but me,
a God of justice, a saviour.
There is none but me.

Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!
For I am God, there is no other;
by myself I swear it.

It is truth that goes forth from my mouth,
a word beyond recall.
To me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall swear.

They will say: "In the Lord alone
are victory and power.
And to him will come in dismay
all who have resisted.
Through the Lord will come victory and glory
for all Israel's sons."

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.

All the descendants of Israel shall glory in victory through the Lord.

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.

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.

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 Corinthians 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, a gentle Father and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows, so that we can offer others, in their sorrows, the consolation that we have received from God ourselves. Indeed, as the sufferings of Christ overflow to us, so, through Christ, does our consolation overflow.

Short Responsory

The Lord is my strength. I will sing praise to him.

– *The Lord is my strength. I will sing praise to him.*

He is my salvation.

– *The Lord is my strength. I will sing praise to him.*

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.*

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

Anyone who hates his soul in this world will save it for the eternal life.

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.

Anyone who hates his soul in this world will save it for the eternal life.

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.

Almighty God, the martyr Saint Boniface
sealed with his blood the faith he preached.

Let him pray

that we may hold fast to the faith

and profess it courageously in our lives.

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 5 June 2020

Saint Boniface, Bishop, 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

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 enthral,
Lift high the universal song,
And crown him Lord of all.

Psalm 40 (41)
Prayer in time of sickness

“One of you will betray me – one who is eating with me” (Mk 14:18).

Lord, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.

Happy the man who considers the poor and the weak.
The Lord will save him in the day of evil,
will guard him, give him life, make him happy in the land
and will not give him up to the will of his foes.
The Lord will help him on his bed of pain,
he will bring him back from sickness to health.

As for me, I said: ‘Lord, have mercy on me,
heal my soul for I have sinned against you.’
My foes are speaking evil against me.
‘How long before he dies and his name is forgotten?’
They come to visit me and speak empty words,
their hearts full of malice, they spread it abroad.

My enemies whisper together against me.
They all weigh up the evil which is on me.
‘Some deadly thing has fastened upon him,
he will not rise again from where he lies.’
Thus even my friend, in whom I trusted,
who ate my bread, has turned against me.

But you, O Lord, have mercy on me.
Let me rise once more and I will repay them.
By this I shall know that you are my friend,
if my foes do not shout in triumph over me.

If you uphold me I shall be unharmed
and set in your presence for ever more.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel
from age to age. Amen. Amen.

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, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.

Psalm-prayer

Lord Jesus, healer of soul and body, you said: Blessed are the merciful, they will obtain mercy. Teach us to come to the aid of the needy in a spirit of brotherly love, that we in turn may be received and strengthened by you.

Psalm 45 (46)

God, our refuge and our strength

“They will call his name ‘Immanuel’, which means ‘God with us’”
(Mt 1:23).

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

God is for us a refuge and strength,
a helper close at hand, in time of distress,
so we shall not fear though the earth should rock,
though the mountains fall into the depths of the sea;
even though its waters rage and foam,
even though the mountains be shaken by its waves.

The Lord of hosts is with us:
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

The waters of a river give joy to God's city,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
God is within, it cannot be shaken;
God will help it at the dawning of the day.
Nations are in tumult, kingdoms are shaken:
he lifts his voice, the earth shrinks away.

The Lord of hosts is with us:
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come, consider the works of the Lord,
the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth.
He puts an end to wars over all the earth;
the bow he breaks, the spear he snaps.
He burns the shields with fire.
'Be still and know that I am God,
supreme among the nations, supreme on the earth!'

The Lord of hosts is with us:
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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 of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Psalm-prayer

All-powerful Father, the refuge and strength of your people, you protect in adversity and defend in prosperity those who put their trust in you. May they persevere in seeking your will and find their way to you through obedience.

Or:

Lord God, when the restless powers of this world and the waters of hell rise up against your holy city, the new Jerusalem, you keep watch over it and it is safe, founded on solid rock. May the river that flows from the throne of the Lamb so purify this city as to make it shine out before men as your chosen dwelling, the unfailing sign of your greatness.

Canticle

Apocalypse 15

A hymn of adoration

All the peoples will come and adore you, Lord.

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.

All the peoples will come and adore you, Lord.

Short Reading

1 Peter 4:13-14

Beloved, if you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you.

Short Responsory

You have tested us, God, and you have brought us out into freedom again.
– *You have tested us, God, and you have brought us out into freedom again.*
You have refined us like silver.
– *You have tested us, God, and you have brought us out into freedom again.*
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.*

Canticle

Magnificat

My soul rejoices in the Lord

The saints will dwell in the kingdom of heaven; their peace will last for ever.

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 saints will dwell in the kingdom of heaven; their peace will last for ever.

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.

Almighty God, the martyr Saint Boniface
sealed with his blood the faith he preached.
Let him pray
that we may hold fast to the faith
and profess it courageously in our lives.
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 5 June 2020

Saint Boniface, Bishop, Martyr

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

Now that the daylight dies away,
By all thy grace and love,
Thee, Maker of the world, we pray
To watch our bed above.

Let dreams depart and phantoms fly,
The offspring of the night,
Keep us, like shrines, beneath thine eye,
Pure in our foe's despite.

This grace on thy redeemed confer,
Father, co-equal Son,
And Holy Ghost, the Comforter,
Eternal Three in One.

Psalm 87 (88)
The prayer of one gravely ill

“This is your hour; this is the reign of darkness” (Lk 22:53).

Lord my God, I call for help by day, I cry at night before you.

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.

Lord my God, I call for help by day, I cry at night before you.

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.

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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.

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.*

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.

Marian Anthem

Salve Regina

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.

Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
your eyes of mercy towards us;
and after this exile

show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Salve, Regína, mater misericórdiæ;
vita, dulcédo et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamámus, éxsules, filii Evæ.
Ad te suspirámus, geméntes et flentes
in hac lacrimárum valle.

Eia ergo, advocáta nostra,
illos tuos misericórdes óculos
ad nos convérte.
Et Iesum, benedíctum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exsílium osténde.
O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo María.

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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saturday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

or **Saint Norbert, Bishop**

or **Saint Jarlath, Bishop**

or **Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

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 Mark.

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.

Mark 12:38-44

This poor widow has put in more than all

In his teaching Jesus said, ‘Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.’

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.’

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 6 June 2020

Saturday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

or **Saint Norbert, Bishop**

or **Saint Jarlath, Bishop**

or **Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Spiritual Reading

Your Second Reading from the Office of Readings:

Saturday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

A commentary on John by St Thomas Aquinas

The way to come to true life

Christ himself is the way, and therefore he says: *I am the way*. This certainly is eminently right for *through him we have access to the Father*.

Since this way is not separate from its end, but joined to it, he adds *the truth and the life*; thus he is himself at once both the way and the goal. In his human nature he is the way, and in his divine nature he is the goal. Therefore, speaking as man he says: *I am the way*; and speaking as God he adds: *the truth and the life*. These two words are an apt description of this goal.

For this goal is the object of human desire, and a man desires two things above all. In the first place he wants to know the truth, which is peculiar to him; and secondly he wants to continue to exist, which is common to all things. Christ is the way by which we come to know truth, though he is also that truth: *Lead me, O Lord, in truth, and I shall enter into your way*. Christ is also the way to come to life, though he is also that life: *You have made known the ways of life*.

Therefore, he designated the end of this way by truth and life, about which we have spoken above with reference to Christ. First, he himself is life, for *life was in him*; then, he is truth, because *he was the light of men*, and light is truth.

If, then, you are looking for the way by which you should go, take Christ, because he himself is the way: *This is the way; walk in it*. And Augustine says: *Make man your way and you shall arrive at God*. It is better to limp along the way than stride along off the way. For a man who limps along the way, even if he only makes slow progress, comes to the end of the way; but one who is off the way, the more quickly he runs, the further away is he from his goal.

If you are looking for a goal, hold fast to Christ, because he himself is the truth, where we desire to be. *My mouth shall reflect on the truth*. If you are looking for a resting place, hold fast to Christ, because he himself is the life. *Whoever finds me finds life, and receives salvation from the Lord*.

Therefore hold fast to Christ if you wish to be safe. You will not be able to go astray, because he is the way. He who remains with him does not wander in trackless places; he is on the right way. Moreover he cannot be deceived, because he is the truth, and he teaches every truth. And he says: *For this I was born and for this I have come, to bear witness to the truth*. Nor can he be disturbed, because he is both life and the giver of life. For he says: *I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly*.

Other choices for today:

Saint Norbert, Bishop

From the life of Saint Norbert, bishop

At ease in the company of the humble and great

(The words in quotation marks have been taken from the biography of Saint Norbert, written by a Premonstratensian canon who was a contemporary of the saint. Pope Innocent's Apostolic Letter was issued under leaden seal to Saint Norbert on June 5, 1133).

Norbert is deservedly numbered by historians among those who made an effective contribution to the reform movement under Pope Gregory VII. He established a clergy dedicated to the ideals of the Gospel and the apostolic Church. They were chaste and poor. They wore “the clothing and the symbols of the new man; that is to say, they wore the religious habit and exhibited the dignity proper to the priesthood.” Norbert asked them “to live according to the norms of the Scriptures with Christ as their model.” They were “to be clean in all matters pertaining to the altar and divine worship, to correct their faults and failings in their chapter meeting, and to care for and give shelter to the poor.”

The priests lived in community, where they continued the work of the apostles. Inspired by the practice of the early Church, Norbert exhorted the faithful to join the monastic life in some capacity. So many men and women responded to the invitation that many asserted that no man since the apostles themselves had inspired so many to embrace the monastic life.

When Norbert was appointed an archbishop, he urged his brothers to carry the faith to the lands of the Wends. In his own diocese he tried unsuccessfully to convince the clergy of the need for reform and was confronted with noisy protests both in the street and in the church.

One of the principal goals of Norbert’s life was to foster harmony between the Apostolic See and the German empire. At the same time he wanted to maintain Rome’s freedom in the matter of ecclesiastical appointments. Apparently his efforts were so successful that Pope Innocent II thanked him profusely in a letter in which he called him a “devoted son,” and Lothair made him chancellor of the realm.

Norbert did all these things with a steadfast faith: “Faith was the outstanding virtue of Norbert’s life, as charity had been the hallmark of Bernard of Clairvaux’s.” Affable and charming, amiable to one and all, “he was at ease in the company of the humble and the great alike.” Finally, he was a most eloquent preacher; after long meditation “he would preach the word of God, and with his fiery eloquence purged vices, refined virtues and filled souls of good will with the warmth of wisdom.” He spent many hours in contemplation of the divine mysteries and fearlessly spread the spiritual insights which were the fruit of his meditation.

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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saturday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

see also [St Norbert](#)

see also [St Jarlath](#)

see also [Saturday memorial BVM](#)

Liturgical Colour: Green.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 24: 16, 18

Turn to me and have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I am alone and poor.
See my lowliness and suffering
and take away all my sins, my God.

Collect

O God, whose providence never fails in its design,
keep from us, we humbly beseech you,
all that might harm us
and grant all that works for our good.
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

2 Timothy 4:1-8

**I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; it is time for me
to be gone**

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching. The time is sure to come when, far from being content with sound teaching, people will be avid for the latest novelty and collect themselves a whole series of teachers according to their own tastes; and then, instead of listening to the truth, they will turn to myths. Be careful always to choose the right course; be brave under trials; make the preaching of the Good News your life's work, in thoroughgoing service.

As for me, my life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 70(71):8-9,14-17,22

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

My lips are filled with your praise,
with your glory all the day long.
Do not reject me now that I am old;
when my strength fails do not forsake me.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

But as for me, I will always hope
and praise you more and more.
My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help
(though I can never tell it all).

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

I will declare the Lord's mighty deeds

proclaiming your justice, yours alone.
O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

So I will give you thanks on the lyre
for your faithful love, my God.
To you will I sing with the harp,
to you, the Holy One of Israel.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are those who,
with a noble and generous heart,
take the word of God to themselves
and yield a harvest through their perseverance.
Alleluia!

Or:

Mt5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!
How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

This poor widow has put in more than all

In his teaching Jesus said, ‘Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.’

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.’

Prayer over the Offerings

Trusting in your compassion, O Lord,
we come eagerly with our offerings to your sacred altar,
that, through the purifying action of your grace,
we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 16: 6

To you I call, for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.

Or:

Mk 11: 23, 24

Amen, I say to you: Whatever you ask for in prayer,
believe you will receive it,
and it will be yours, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Govern by your Spirit, we pray, O Lord,
those you feed with the Body and Blood of your Son,
that, professing you not just in word or in speech,
but also in works and in truth,
we may merit to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saint Norbert, Bishop

see also [Sat 9 Year](#)

see also [St Jarlath](#)

see also [Saturday memorial BVM](#)

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.

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.

Collect

O God, who made the Bishop Saint Norbert
a servant of your Church
outstanding in his prayer and pastoral zeal,
grant, we ask, that by the help of his intercession,
the flock of the faithful
may always find shepherds after your own heart
and be fed in the pastures of salvation.
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

2 Timothy 4:1-8

**I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; it is time for
me to be gone**

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching. The time is sure to come when, far from being content with sound teaching, people will be avid for the latest novelty and collect themselves a whole series of teachers according to their own tastes; and then, instead of listening to the truth, they will turn to myths. Be careful always to choose the right course; be brave under trials; make the preaching of the Good News your life's work, in thoroughgoing service.

As for me, my life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 70(71):8-9,14-17,22

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

My lips are filled with your praise,
with your glory all the day long.
Do not reject me now that I am old;
when my strength fails do not forsake me.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

But as for me, I will always hope
and praise you more and more.
My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help
(though I can never tell it all).

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

I will declare the Lord's mighty deeds
proclaiming your justice, yours alone.
O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

So I will give you thanks on the lyre
for your faithful love, my God.
To you will I sing with the harp,
to you, the Holy One of Israel.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are those who,
with a noble and generous heart,
take the word of God to themselves
and yield a harvest through their perseverance.
Alleluia!

Or:

Mt5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!
How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

This poor widow has put in more than all

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

[Continue](#)

These are the readings for the memorial

First reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16

I will look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view

The Lord God says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I shall bring them out of the countries where they are; I shall gather them together from foreign countries and bring them back to their own land. I shall pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in every inhabited place in the land. I shall feed them in good pasturage; the high mountains of Israel will be their grazing ground. There they will rest in good grazing ground; they will browse in rich pastures on the mountains of Israel. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 22(23):1-3a,4-6

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!
How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

**Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my
disciple**

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another

king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

[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.

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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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saint Jarlath, Bishop

see also [Sat 9 Year](#)

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see also [Saturday memorial BVM](#)

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.

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.

Collect

Lord God, in commemorating your bishop Saint Jarlath
we acclaim the victory of Jesus Christ,
the radiant sun that knows no setting.
Guide our steps, we pray, by your providence,
so that walking as children of the light
we may reach the end of all our ways,
Jesus Christ our Lord, risen and glorious,
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

First reading

2 Timothy 4:1-8

I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; it is time for me to be gone

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Psalm 70(71):8-9,14-17,22

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My lips are filled with your praise,
with your glory all the day long.
Do not reject me now that I am old;
when my strength fails do not forsake me.

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But as for me, I will always hope
and praise you more and more.
My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help
(though I can never tell it all).

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

I will declare the Lord's mighty deeds
proclaiming your justice, yours alone.
O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

So I will give you thanks on the lyre
for your faithful love, my God.
To you will I sing with the harp,
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Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are those who,
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These are the readings for the memorial

[Exodus 32:7-14](#) Moses pleads with the Lord his God to spare Israel

[Deuteronomy 10:8-9](#) The Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to do him service

[1 Samuel 16:1,6-13](#) David is anointed by Samuel

[Isaiah 6:1-2,3-8](#) 'Here I am: send me'

[Isaiah 52:7-10](#) Rejoice, for the Lord is consoling his people

[Isaiah 61:1-3](#) He has sent me to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord

[Jeremiah 1:4-9](#) Go and say whatever I command you and do not fear

[Ezekiel 3:17-21](#) Warn the wicked man, and you will live

[Ezekiel 34:11-16](#) I will look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view

First reading

Exodus 32:7-14

Moses pleads with the Lord his God to spare Israel

The Lord spoke to Moses, 'Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostatised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. "Here is your God, Israel," they have cried "who brought you up from the land of Egypt!"' the Lord said to Moses, 'I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation.'

But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said 'why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Why let the Egyptians say, "Ah, it was in treachery that he brought them out, to do them to death in the mountains and wipe them off the face of the earth"? Leave your burning wrath; relent and do not bring this disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: I will

make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever.’

So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Deuteronomy 10:8-9

The Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to do him service

Moses said to the people: ‘The Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the Lord’s covenant, to stand in the presence of the Lord, to do him service and in his name to pronounce blessing as they still do today. Levi therefore has no share or inheritance with his brothers: the Lord is his inheritance, as the Lord your God told him.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

1 Samuel 16:1,6-13

David is anointed by Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, ‘Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.’

Samuel purified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed one stands there before him’, but the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Take no notice of his

appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.’ Jesse then called Abinadab and presented him to Samuel, who said, ‘The Lord has not chosen this one either.’ Jesse then presented Shammah, but Samuel said, ‘The Lord has not chosen this one either.’ Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, ‘The Lord has not chosen these.’ He then asked Jesse, ‘Are these all the sons you have?’ He answered, ‘There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.’ Then Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.’ Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, ‘Come, anoint him, for this is the one.’ At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Isaiah 6:1-2,3-8

'Here I am: send me'

In the year of King Uzziah’s death I saw the Lord of Hosts seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings.

And they cried out to one another in this way,

‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts.
His glory fills the whole earth.’

The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said:

‘What a wretched state I am in! I am lost,

for I am a man of unclean lips
and I live among a people of unclean lips,
and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of Hosts.’

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live
coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With
this he touched my mouth and said:

‘See now, this has touched your lips,
your sin is taken away,
your iniquity is purged.’

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying:

‘Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?’

I answered, ‘Here I am, send me.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

Rejoice, for the Lord is consoling his people

How beautiful on the mountains,
are the feet of one who brings good news,
who heralds peace, brings happiness,
proclaims salvation,
and tells Zion,
‘Your God is king!’

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,
they shout for joy together,
for they see the Lord face to face,
as he returns to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together,
you ruins of Jerusalem;

for the Lord is consoling his people,
redeeming Jerusalem.

The Lord bares his holy arm
in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Isaiah 61:1-3

He has sent me to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord,
a day of vengeance for our God,

to comfort all those who mourn and to give them
for ashes a garland;
for mourning robe the oil of gladness,
for despondency, praise.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Jeremiah 1:4-9

Go and say whatever I command you and do not fear

The word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,

‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;
before you came to birth I consecrated you;
I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.’

I said, ‘Ah, Lord; look, I do not know how to speak: I am a child!’

But the Lord replied,
‘Do not say, “I am a child.”
Go now to those to whom I send you
and, say whatever I command you.
Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to protect you –
it is the Lord who speaks!’

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me:

‘There! I am putting my words into your mouth.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Ezekiel 3:17-21

Warn the wicked man, and you will live

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, ‘Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from me, warn them in my Name. If I say to a wicked man, “You are to die,” and you do not warn him; if you do not speak and warn him to renounce his evil ways and so live, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man and he does not renounce his wickedness and his evil ways, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.

When the upright man renounces his integrity to do evil and I set a trap for him, he too shall die; since you failed to warn him, he shall die for his sin and the integrity he practised will no longer be remembered; but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you warn the upright man not to sin and he abstains from sinning, he shall live, thanks to your warning, and you too will have saved your life.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16

I will look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view

The Lord God says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I shall bring them out of the countries where they are; I shall gather them together from foreign countries and bring them back to their own land. I shall pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in every inhabited place in the land. I shall feed them in good pasturage; the high mountains of Israel will be their grazing ground. There they will rest in good grazing ground; they will browse in rich pastures on the mountains of Israel. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

[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](#)

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.

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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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

see also [Sat 9 Year](#)

see also [St Norbert](#)

see also [St Jarlath](#)

Liturgical Colour: White.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King
who rules heaven and earth for ever.

Collect

Grant, Lord God, that we, your servants,
may rejoice in unfailling health of mind and body,
and, through the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
may we be set free from present sorrow
and come to enjoy eternal happiness.
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

2 Timothy 4:1-8

I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; it is time for me to be gone

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching. The time is sure to come when, far from being content with sound teaching, people will be avid for the latest novelty and collect themselves a whole series of teachers according to their own tastes; and then, instead of listening to the truth, they will turn to myths. Be careful always to choose the right course; be brave under trials; make the preaching of the Good News your life's work, in thoroughgoing service.

As for me, my life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 70(71):8-9,14-17,22

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

My lips are filled with your praise,
with your glory all the day long.
Do not reject me now that I am old;
when my strength fails do not forsake me.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

But as for me, I will always hope
and praise you more and more.

My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help
(though I can never tell it all).

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

I will declare the Lord's mighty deeds
proclaiming your justice, yours alone.
O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

So I will give you thanks on the lyre
for your faithful love, my God.
To you will I sing with the harp,
to you, the Holy One of Israel.

My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are those who,
with a noble and generous heart,
take the word of God to themselves
and yield a harvest through their perseverance.
Alleluia!

Or:

Mt5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!
How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

This poor widow has put in more than all

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

[Continue](#)

These are the readings for the memorial

[Genesis 3:9-15,20](#) 'The offspring of the woman will crush your head'

[Genesis 12:1-7](#) All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you

[2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-11,16](#) The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House

[1 Chronicles 15:3-4,15-16,16:1-2](#) They brought in the ark of God and put it inside the tent that David had pitched for it

[Proverbs 8:22-31](#) Before the earth came into being, Wisdom was born

[Ecclesiasticus 24:1-4,8-12,18-21](#) From eternity, in the beginning, God created wisdom

[Isaiah 7:10-14,8:10](#) The maiden is with child

[Isaiah 9:1-6](#) A Son is given to us

[Isaiah 61:9-11](#) I exult for joy in the Lord

[Micah 5:1-4](#) He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord

[Zechariah 2:14-17](#) 'I am coming', says the Lord

First reading

Genesis 3:9-15,20

'The offspring of the woman will crush your head'

After Adam had eaten of the tree the Lord God called to him. 'Where are you?' he asked. 'I heard the sound of you in the garden;' he replied 'I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.' 'Who told you that you were naked?' he asked 'Have you been eating of the tree I forbade you to eat?' The man replied, 'It was the woman you put with me; she gave me the fruit, and I ate it.' Then the Lord God asked the woman, 'What is this you have done?' The woman replied, 'The serpent tempted me and I ate.'

Then the Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this,

'Be accursed beyond all cattle,
all wild beasts.

You shall crawl on your belly and eat dust
every day of your life.

I will make you enemies of each other:

you and the woman,

your offspring and her offspring.

It will crush your head

and you will strike its heel.'

The man named his wife 'Eve' because she was the mother of all those who live.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Genesis 12:1-7

All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you

The Lord said to Abram, ‘Leave your country, your family and your father’s house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

‘I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.’

So Abram went as the Lord told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had amassed and the people they had acquired in Haran. They set off for the land of Canaan, and arrived there.

Abram passed through the land as far as Shechem’s holy place, the Oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. The Lord appeared to Abram and said, ‘It is to your descendants that I will give this land.’ So Abram built there an altar for the Lord who had appeared to him.

[Continue](#)

First reading

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-11,16

**The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a
House**

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, ‘Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.’ Nathan said to the king, ‘Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.’

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

‘Go and tell my servant David, “Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.”’

[Continue](#)

First reading

1 Chronicles 15:3-4,15-16,16:1-2

They brought in the ark of God and put it inside the tent that David had pitched for it

David gathered all Israel together to bring the ark of God up to the place he had prepared for it. David called together the sons of Aaron and the sons of Levi. And the Levites carried the ark of God with the shafts on their shoulders, as Moses had ordered in accordance with the word of the Lord.

David then told the heads of the Levites to assign duties for their kinsmen as cantors, with their various instruments of music,

harps and lyres and cymbals, to play joyful tunes.

They brought the ark of God in and put it inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and they offered holocausts before God, and communion sacrifices. And when David had finished offering holocausts and communion sacrifices, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Proverbs 8:22-31

Before the earth came into being, Wisdom was born

The Wisdom of God cries aloud:

The Lord created me when his purpose first unfolded,
before the oldest of his works.

From everlasting I was firmly set,
from the beginning, before earth came into being.

The deep was not, when I was born,
there were no springs to gush with water.

Before the mountains were settled,
before the hills, I came to birth;
before he made the earth, the countryside,
or the first grains of the world's dust.

When he fixed the heavens firm, I was there,
when he drew a ring on the surface of the deep,
when he thickened the clouds above,

when he fixed fast the springs of the deep,
when he assigned the sea its boundaries
– and the waters will not invade the shore –
when he laid down the foundations of the earth,

I was by his side, a master craftsman,
delighting him day after day,
ever at play in his presence,

at play everywhere in his world,
delighting to be with the sons of men.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Ecclesiasticus 24:1-4,8-12,18-21

From eternity, in the beginning, God created wisdom

Wisdom speaks her own praises,
in the midst of her people she glories in herself.
She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High,
she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One:
‘I came forth from the mouth of the Most High,
and I covered the earth like a mist.
I had my tent in the heights,
and my throne in a pillar of cloud.
Then the creator of all things instructed me,
and he who created me fixed a place for my tent.
He said, “Pitch your tent in Jacob,
make Israel your inheritance.”
From eternity, in the beginning, he created me,
and for eternity I shall remain.
I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle,
and thus was I established on Zion.
In the beloved city he has given me rest,
and in Jerusalem I wield my authority.
I have taken root in a privileged people,
in the Lord’s property, in his inheritance.
Approach me, you who desire me,
and take your fill of my fruits,
for memories of me are sweeter than honey,
inheriting me is sweeter than the honeycomb.
They who eat me will hunger for more,

they who drink me will thirst for more.
Whoever listens to me will never have to blush,
whoever acts as I dictate will never sin.'

[Continue](#)

First reading

Isaiah 7:10-14,8:10

The maiden is with child

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us."'

[Continue](#)

First reading

Isaiah 9:1-6

A Son is given to us

The people that walked in darkness

has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor,
these you break as on the day of Midian.

For all the footgear of battle,
every cloak rolled in blood,
is burnt,
and consumed by fire.

For there is a child born for us,
a son given to us
and dominion is laid on his shoulders;
and this is the name they give him:
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Isaiah 61:9-11

I exult for joy in the Lord

Their race will be famous throughout the nations,
their descendants throughout the peoples.
All who see them will admit
that they are a race whom the Lord has blessed.

‘I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.

‘For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise
spring up in the sight of the nations.’

[Continue](#)

First reading

Micah 5:1-4

He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord

The Lord says this:

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
the least of the clans of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past,
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them
till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will come back
to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock
with the power of the Lord,
with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power
to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

[Continue](#)

First reading

Zechariah 2:14-17

'I am coming', says the Lord

Sing, rejoice,
daughter of Zion;
for I am coming
to dwell in the middle of you
– it is the Lord who speaks.
Many nations will join the Lord,
on that day;
they will become his people.
But he will remain among you,
and you will know that the Lord of Hosts has sent me to you.
But the Lord will hold Judah
as his portion in the Holy Land,
and again make Jerusalem his very own.
Let all mankind be silent before the Lord!
For he is awaking and is coming from his holy dwelling.

[Continue](#)

[1 Samuel 2:1,4-8](#) My heart exults in the Lord

[Judith 13:18a-19](#) May you be blessed, my daughter, by God Most High

[Psalm 44\(45\):11-12,14-17](#) Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words

[Psalm 112\(113\):1-7](#) Praise, O servants of the Lord

[Luke 1:46-55](#) My soul glorifies the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

1 Samuel 2:1,4-8

My heart exults in the Lord my Saviour.

My heart exults in the Lord.
I find my strength in my God;
my mouth laughs at my enemies
as I rejoice in your saving help.

My heart exults in the Lord my Saviour.

The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the weak are clothed with strength.
Those with plenty must labour for bread,
but the hungry need work no more.
The childless wife has children now
but the fruitful wife bears no more.

My heart exults in the Lord my Saviour.

It is the Lord who gives life and death,
he brings men to the grave and back;
it is the Lord who gives poverty and riches.
He brings men low and raises them on high.

My heart exults in the Lord my Saviour.

He lifts up the lowly from the dust,
from the dungheap he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes
to give him a glorious throne.
For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
on them he has set the world.

My heart exults in the Lord my Saviour.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Judith 13:18a-19

You are the highest honour of our race!

May you be blessed, my daughter, by God Most High,
beyond all women on earth;
and may the Lord God be blessed,
the Creator of heaven and earth.

You are the highest honour of our race!

The trust you have shown
shall not pass from the memories of men,
but shall ever remind them
of the power of God.

You are the highest honour of our race!

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 44(45):11-12,14-17

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words.

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words:
forget your own people and your father's house.
So will the king desire your beauty:
He is your lord, pay homage to him.

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words.

The daughter of the king is clothed with splendour,
her robes embroidered with pearls set in gold.

She is led to the king with her maiden companions.

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words.

They are escorted amid gladness and joy;
they pass within the palace of the king.
Sons shall be yours in place of your fathers:
you will make them princes over all the earth.

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words.

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 112(113):1-7

May the name of the Lord be blessed for evermore!

or

Alleluia!

Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore!

May the name of the Lord be blessed for evermore!

or

Alleluia!

From the rising of the sun to its setting
praised be the name of the Lord!
High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.

May the name of the Lord be blessed for evermore!

or

Alleluia!

Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth?
From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the dungheap he raises the poor

May the name of the Lord be blessed for evermore!

or

Alleluia!

[Continue](#)

Responsorial Psalm

Luke 1:46-55

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy is his name!

or

*Blessed is the Virgin Mary, who bore the Son of the eternal
Father.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy is his name!

or

*Blessed is the Virgin Mary, who bore the Son of the eternal
Father.*

He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.

Holy his name!

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy is his name!

or

*Blessed is the Virgin Mary, who bore the Son of the eternal
Father.*

His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.
He puts forth his arm in strength
and scatters the proud-hearted.

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy is his name!

or

*Blessed is the Virgin Mary, who bore the Son of the eternal
Father.*

He casts the mighty from their thrones
and raises the lowly.
He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy is his name!

or

*Blessed is the Virgin Mary, who bore the Son of the eternal
Father.*

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

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy is his name!

or

*Blessed is the Virgin Mary, who bore the Son of the eternal
Father.*

[Continue](#)

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk1:28

Alleluia, alleluia!
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee!
Blessed art thou among women.

Alleluia!

Or:

cf.Lk1:45

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is the Virgin Mary, who believed
that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.

Alleluia!

Or:

cf.Lk2:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is the Virgin Mary,
who treasured the word of God
and pondered it in her heart.

Alleluia!

Or:

Lk11:28

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy are those
who hear the word of God
and keep it.

Alleluia!

Or:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, holy Virgin Mary,
and most worthy of all praise,
for the sun of justice, Christ our God,
was born of you.

Alleluia!

Or:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy is the Virgin Mary,
who, without dying,
won the palm of martyrdom

beneath the cross of the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 1:1-16,18-23

The ancestry and conception of Jesus Christ

A genealogy of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham:

Abraham was the father of Isaac,
Isaac the father of Jacob,
Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,
Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah, Tamar being their mother,
Perez was the father of Hezron,
Hezron the father of Ram,
Ram was the father of Amminadab,
Amminadab the father of Nahshon,
Nahshon the father of Salmon,
Salmon was the father of Boaz, Rahab being his mother,
Boaz was the father of Obed, Ruth being his mother,
Obed was the father of Jesse;
and Jesse was the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's
wife,

Solomon was the father of Rehoboam,
Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa,
Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat,
Jehoshaphat the father of Joram,
Joram the father of Azariah,
Azariah was the father of Jotham,
Jotham the father of Ahaz,
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,
Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh,
Manasseh the father of Amon,
Amon the father of Josiah;

and Josiah was the father of Jechoniah and his brothers.
Then the deportation to Babylon took place.

After the deportation to Babylon:
Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel,
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,
Zerubbabel was the father of Abiud,
Abiud the father of Eliakim,
Eliakim the father of Azor,
Azor was the father of Zadok,
Zadok the father of Achim,
Achim the father of Eliud,
Eliud was the father of Eleazar,
Eleazar the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob;
and Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary;
of her was born Jesus who is called Christ.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us.'

[Continue](#)

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, O Lord, we ask, the prayers of your people
with the sacrificial offerings,
that, through the intercession of Blessed Mary,
the Mother of your Son,
no petition may go unanswered,
no request be made in vain.
Through Christ our Lord.

Or:

May the humanity of your Only Begotten Son
come, O Lord, to our aid,
and may he, who at his birth from the Blessed Virgin
did not diminish but consecrated her integrity,
by taking from us now our wicked deeds,
make our oblation acceptable to you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Lk 11: 27

Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary,
which bore the Son of the eternal Father.

Prayer after Communion

As we receive this heavenly Sacrament,
we beseech, O Lord, your mercy,
that we, who rejoice in commemorating the Blessed Virgin Mary,
may by imitating her
serve worthily the mystery of our redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saturday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

see also [St Norbert](#)

see also [St Jarlath](#)

see also [Saturday memorial BVM](#)

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's is the earth and its fullness: come, let us adore him.

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's is the earth and its fullness: come, let us adore him.

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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saint Norbert, Bishop

or Saint Jarlath, Bishop

see also [Sat 9 Year](#)

see also [Saturday memorial BVM](#)

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).

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

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.

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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

see also [Sat 9 Year](#)

see also [St Norbert](#)

see also [St Jarlath](#)

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).

Christ is the Son of Mary: come, let us adore him.

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 Son of Mary: come, let us adore him.

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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saturday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

see also [St Norbert](#)

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see also [Saturday memorial BVM](#)

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

It were my soul's desire

To see the face of God;

It were my soul's desire

To rest in his abode.

Grant, Lord, my soul's desire,

Deep waves of cleansing sighs,

Grant, Lord, my soul's desire,

From earthly cares to rise.

It were my soul's desire
To imitate my King,
It were my soul's desire
His endless praise to sing.

It were my soul's desire,
When heaven's gate is won,
To find my soul's desire,
Clear shining like the sun.

This still my soul's desire,
Whatever life afford,
To gain my soul's desire
And see thy face, O Lord.

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)

My eyes watch for you before dawn.

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.

My eyes watch for you before dawn.

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

Exodus 15

Hymn of victory after crossing the Red Sea

“Those who overcame the beast sang the hymn of Moses, the Servant of God” (cf. Rev 15:2-3).

The Lord is my strength, I will sing his praise: he is my salvation.

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!
Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!

The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.
This is my God and I extol him,
my father's God and I give him praise.

The Lord is a warrior!
'The Lord' is his name.

The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea.

At the breath of your anger the waters piled high;
the moving waters stood up like a dam.
The deeps turned solid in the midst of the sea.

The enemy said: ‘I will pursue and overtake them,
I will divide the plunder, I shall have my will.
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.’

You blew with your breath, the sea closed over them.
They went down like lead into the mighty waters.
Who is like you among the gods, O Lord,
who is like you, so glorious in holiness,
spreading fear through your deeds, you who do marvels?

You stretched forth your hand,
the earth engulfed them;
your love has guided the people you redeemed,
your power has led them to your holy dwelling-place.

You will lead them and plant them on your mountain,
the place, O Lord, where you have made your home,
the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made.
The Lord will reign
for ever and 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 is my strength, I will sing his praise: he is my salvation.

Psalm 116 (117)
Praise of the merciful Lord

“I ask the nations to give praise to God for his mercy” (Rom 15:8,9).

O praise the Lord, all you nations.

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.

O praise the Lord, all you nations.

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

2 Peter 1:10-11

Brothers, you have been called and chosen: work all the harder to justify it. If you do all these things there is no danger that you will ever fall away. In this way you will be granted admittance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ.

Short Responsory

I called to you, Lord; you are my refuge.

– *I called to you, Lord; you are my refuge.*
You are all I have in the land of the living.
– *I called to you, Lord; you are my refuge.*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *I called to you, Lord; you are my refuge.*

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

Give your light, Lord, to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

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.

Give your light, Lord, to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Prayers and intercessions

Christ became man to make us sons of God and he intercedes for us before
God our Father. Let us thank him for his loving mercy, and pray:

– *Open to us the treasures of your love.*

You have enlightened us in baptism:

we consecrate our day to you.

– *Open to us the treasures of your love.*

Fill us with praise of you today:

may we take your word with us wherever we may go.

– *Open to us the treasures of your love.*

Teach us to respond to your word like Mary our Mother:

may your word be fruitful in us.

– *Open to us the treasures of your love.*

Give us courage when things go wrong:

strengthen us with faith in you, with hope in your promises and with
love of your will.

– *Open to us the treasures of your love.*

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.

Let the splendour of the Resurrection
light up our hearts and minds, Lord,
scattering the shadow of death
and bringing us to the radiance of eternity.

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 6 June 2020

Saint Norbert, Bishop

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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)**

My eyes watch for you before dawn.

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.

My eyes watch for you before dawn.

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

Exodus 15

Hymn of victory after crossing the Red Sea

“Those who overcame the beast sang the hymn of Moses, the Servant of God” (cf. Rev 15:2-3).

The Lord is my strength, I will sing his praise: he is my salvation.

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!
Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!

The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.
This is my God and I extol him,
my father's God and I give him praise.
The Lord is a warrior!
'The Lord' is his name.

The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea.
At the breath of your anger the waters piled high;
the moving waters stood up like a dam.
The deeps turned solid in the midst of the sea.

The enemy said: 'I will pursue and overtake them,
I will divide the plunder, I shall have my will.
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.'

You blew with your breath, the sea closed over them.
They went down like lead into the mighty waters.
Who is like you among the gods, O Lord,
who is like you, so glorious in holiness,
spreading fear through your deeds, you who do marvels?

You stretched forth your hand,
the earth engulfed them;
your love has guided the people you redeemed,
your power has led them to your holy dwelling-place.

You will lead them and plant them on your mountain,
the place, O Lord, where you have made your home,
the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made.
The Lord will reign
for ever and 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 is my strength, I will sing his praise: he is my salvation.

Psalm 116 (117)
Praise of the merciful Lord

“I ask the nations to give praise to God for his mercy” (Rom 15:8,9).

O praise the Lord, all you nations.

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,
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Amen.

O praise the Lord, all you nations.

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

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.

– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem.*

They will never cease to tell of the name of the Lord, by day and by night.

– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem.*

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

– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem.*

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.

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.

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 God,

you made Saint Norbert to be an outstanding minister of your Church,
through his practice of prayer and pastoral zeal.

Grant, at his intercession,
that your faithful flock may find shepherds to lead them,
according to your will,
to pastures of holiness.

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 6 June 2020

Saint Jarlath, Bishop

see also [Sat 9 Year](#)

see also [St Norbert](#)

see also [Saturday memorial BVM](#)

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)**

My eyes watch for you before dawn.

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.

My eyes watch for you before dawn.

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

Exodus 15

Hymn of victory after crossing the Red Sea

“Those who overcame the beast sang the hymn of Moses, the Servant of God” (cf. Rev 15:2-3).

The Lord is my strength, I will sing his praise: he is my salvation.

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!
Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!

The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.
This is my God and I extol him,
my father's God and I give him praise.
The Lord is a warrior!
'The Lord' is his name.

The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea.
At the breath of your anger the waters piled high;
the moving waters stood up like a dam.
The deeps turned solid in the midst of the sea.

The enemy said: 'I will pursue and overtake them,
I will divide the plunder, I shall have my will.
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.'

You blew with your breath, the sea closed over them.
They went down like lead into the mighty waters.
Who is like you among the gods, O Lord,
who is like you, so glorious in holiness,
spreading fear through your deeds, you who do marvels?

You stretched forth your hand,
the earth engulfed them;
your love has guided the people you redeemed,
your power has led them to your holy dwelling-place.

You will lead them and plant them on your mountain,
the place, O Lord, where you have made your home,
the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made.
The Lord will reign
for ever and 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 is my strength, I will sing his praise: he is my salvation.

Psalm 116 (117)
Praise of the merciful Lord

“I ask the nations to give praise to God for his mercy” (Rom 15:8,9).

O praise the Lord, all you nations.

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.

O praise the Lord, all you nations.

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

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.

– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem.*

They will never cease to tell of the name of the Lord, by day and by night.

– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem.*

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

– *I placed watchmen on your towers, Jerusalem.*

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.

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
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Amen.

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

Prayers and intercessions

Christ, the good shepherd, laid down his life for his sheep. Let us praise him
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– *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 commemorating your bishop Saint Jarlath
we acclaim the victory of Jesus Christ,
the radiant sun that knows no setting.

Guide our steps, we pray, by your providence,
so that walking as children of the light

we may reach the end of all our ways,

Jesus Christ our Lord, risen and glorious,

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 6 June 2020

Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

see also [Sat 9 Year](#)

see also [St Norbert](#)

see also [St Jarlath](#)

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

Mary Immaculate, star of the morning,

Chosen before the creation began,

Chosen to bring in the light of thy dawning,

Woe to the serpent and rescue to man.

Here, in this world of both shadow and sadness

Veiling thy splendour, thy course hast thou run:

Now thou art throned in all glory and gladness,

Crowned by the hand of thy Saviour and Son.

Sinners, we worship thy sinless perfection;
Fallen and weak, for thy pity we plead:
Grant us the shield of thy sov'reign protection,
Measure thine aid by the depth of our need.

Bend from thy throne at the voice of our crying,
Bend to this earth which thy footsteps have trod:
Stretch out thine arms to us, living and dying,
Mary Immaculate, Mother of God.

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)

My eyes watch for you before dawn.

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

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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

Exodus 15

Hymn of victory after crossing the Red Sea

“Those who overcame the beast sang the hymn of Moses, the Servant of God” (cf. Rev 15:2-3).

The Lord is my strength, I will sing his praise: he is my salvation.

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!
Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!

The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.
This is my God and I extol him,
my father’s God and I give him praise.

The Lord is a warrior!
‘The Lord’ is his name.

The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea.
At the breath of your anger the waters piled high;
the moving waters stood up like a dam.
The deeps turned solid in the midst of the sea.

The enemy said: ‘I will pursue and overtake them,

I will divide the plunder, I shall have my will.
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.’

You blew with your breath, the sea closed over them.
They went down like lead into the mighty waters.
Who is like you among the gods, O Lord,
who is like you, so glorious in holiness,
spreading fear through your deeds, you who do marvels?

You stretched forth your hand,
the earth engulfed them;
your love has guided the people you redeemed,
your power has led them to your holy dwelling-place.

You will lead them and plant them on your mountain,
the place, O Lord, where you have made your home,
the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made.
The Lord will reign
for ever and 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 is my strength, I will sing his praise: he is my salvation.

Psalm 116 (117)
Praise of the merciful Lord

“I ask the nations to give praise to God for his mercy” (Rom 15:8,9).

O praise the Lord, all you nations.

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.

O praise the Lord, all you nations.

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.

[Apocalypse 12:1](#) Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing...

[Galatians 4:4-5](#) When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born...

[\(Isaiah 61:10\)](#) I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed...

Short Reading

Apocalypse 12:1

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a

crown.

[Continue](#)

Short Reading

Galatians 4:4-5

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons.

[Continue](#)

Short Reading

(Isaiah 61:10)

I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.

[Continue](#)

- [1. Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.](#)
- [2. After the birth of your child you remained a virgin.](#)
- [3. The Lord chose her. He chose her before she was born.](#)

Short Responsory

Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.
– *Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.*

You are most blessed of all women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

– *Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.*

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

– *Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.*

[Continue](#)

Short Responsory

After the birth of your child you remained a virgin.

– *After the birth of your child you remained a virgin.*

Mother of God, intercede for us.

– *After the birth of your child you remained a virgin.*

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

– *After the birth of your child you remained a virgin.*

[Continue](#)

Short Responsory

The Lord chose her. He chose her before she was born.

– *The Lord chose her. He chose her before she was born.*

He made her live in his own dwelling-place.

– *The Lord chose her. He chose her before she was born.*

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

– *The Lord chose her. He chose her before she was born.*

[Continue](#)

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

Let us celebrate the commemoration of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that she may intercede for us with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Or:

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, above all women on earth. The Lord God himself has chosen you.

Or:

Through you, immaculate Virgin, the life we had lost was returned to us. You received a child from heaven, and brought forth to the world a Saviour.

Or:

Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you. You are the most blessed of all women, alleluia.

Or:

How shall I fittingly praise you, holy and immaculate virginity of Mary? Through you we received our Redeemer, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Or:

You are the glory of Jerusalem! You are the joy of Israel! You are the highest honour of our race.

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.

*Let us celebrate the commemoration of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that she
may intercede for us with the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Or:

*Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, above all women on earth. The Lord God
himself has chosen you.*

Or:

*Through you, immaculate Virgin, the life we had lost was returned to us.
You received a child from heaven, and brought forth to the world a
Saviour.*

Or:

*Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you. You are the most blessed of
all women, alleluia.*

Or:

*How shall I fittingly praise you, holy and immaculate virginity of Mary?
Through you we received our Redeemer, our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Or:

*You are the glory of Jerusalem! You are the joy of Israel! You are the
highest honour of our race.*

1. Mary, the mother

2. Mary, the holy

Prayers and intercessions

Let us proclaim the greatness of our Saviour who chose to be born of
the Virgin Mary. Confident that he will hear us, we ask:

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Sun of justice, you showed your day was dawning in the immaculate
Virgin Mary;

help us to walk in the daylight of your presence.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Eternal Word, in the living flesh of Mary you found a dwelling place
on earth;

remain with us for ever in hearts free from sin.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Christ, our Saviour, you willed that your mother should be there when
you died;

through her intercession may we rejoice to share your suffering.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Loving Saviour, while hanging on the cross, you gave your mother
Mary to be the mother of John;

let us be known as her children by our way of living.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Continue

Prayers and intercessions

Let us proclaim the greatness of our Saviour who chose to be born of
the Virgin Mary. Confident that he will hear us, we ask:

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Saviour of the world, by your redemptive power you preserved your
mother Mary from every stain of sin;
deliver us from the evil that lies hidden in our hearts.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Christ, our Redeemer, you made the Virgin Mary the sanctuary of your
presence and the temple of the Spirit;
make us bearers of your Spirit, in mind, heart and body.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

Eternal Word, you taught your mother Mary to choose the part that
was best;
let us follow her example and hunger for the food of everlasting
life.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

King of kings, you assumed Mary into heaven to be with you
completely in body and soul;
may we seek the things that are above and keep our lives fixed on
you.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

King of heaven and earth, you placed Mary at your side to reign as
queen for ever;
grant us the joy of sharing in your glory.

– *Lord, may your mother pray for us.*

[Continue](#)

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.

1. Grant us, Lord, we pray, the joy of continued health of mind and body:...

2. Forgive the sins of your people, Lord, and as nothing we can do is worthy...

3. Come to help us in our weakness, God of mercy, and as we celebrate the...

4. Let the gracious intercession of Blessed Mary ever-virgin help us, Lord: ...

5. Lord God, as we venerate the memory of the Virgin Mary, now in glory, ...

6. Almighty God, grant that your faithful who rejoice in the protection...

Grant us, Lord, we pray,
the joy of continued health of mind and body:
and through the intercession of Blessed Mary ever-virgin,
free us of this present sadness
and fill us with eternal joy.
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.

[Continue](#)

Forgive the sins of your people, Lord,
and as nothing we can do is worthy in your sight,
save us through the intercession of the Mother of our Lord Jesus
Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

[Continue](#)

Come to help us in our weakness, God of mercy,
and as we celebrate the memory of the Mother of God,
may we rise from our sins by the help of her prayer.

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.

[Continue](#)

Let the gracious intercession of Blessed Mary ever-virgin help us,
Lord:

may she protect us in all dangers
and make us rejoice in your peace.

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.

[Continue](#)

Lord God,

as we venerate the memory of the Virgin Mary, now in glory,
grant that by her intercession

we ourselves may share in the fullness of your grace.

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.

[Continue](#)

Almighty God,
grant that your faithful who rejoice in the protection of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
may be delivered from every evil here on earth through her prayer
and come to the enduring joys of heaven.

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.

[Continue](#)

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

Amen.

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Saturday 6 June 2020

Saturday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

or Saint Norbert, Bishop

or Saint Jarlath, Bishop

or Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(First Vespers of tomorrow, The Most Holy Trinity)

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 Trinity of blessed light,

O Unity of princely might,

The fiery sun now goes his way;

Shed thou within our hearts thy ray.

To thee our morning song of praise,

To thee our evening prayer we raise;

Thy glory humbly we adore

For ever and for evermore.

All laud to God the Father be;
All praise, eternal Son, to thee;
All glory, as is ever meet,
To God the Holy Paraclete.

Psalm 112 (113)
Praise of the Lord's name

“He put down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly” (Lk 1:52).

All glory belongs to you, Holy Trinity, one God, before all ages, now and for ever.

Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore!
From the rising of the sun to its setting
praised be the name of the Lord!

High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from his misery he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people.
To the childless wife he gives a home
and gladdens her heart with children.

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.

*All glory belongs to you, Holy Trinity, one God, before all ages, now and
for ever.*

Psalm-prayer

Almighty Father, we praise and bless your name and ask you to join us
together through your enduring love in the bosom of Mother Church.

Or:

Lord Jesus, Word of God, surrendering the brightness of your glory you
became man so that we might be raised from the dust to share your very
being. May there be innumerable children of the Church to offer homage to
your name from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Psalm 147 (147B) God, the foundation of Jerusalem

*“Come, and I will show you the bride that the Lamb has chosen” (Rev
21:9).*

*Blessed be the holy Trinity and undivided Unity. Let us give praise to him,
for he has shown mercy to us.*

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Sion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates
he has blessed the children within you.
He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command.

He showers down snow white as wool,
he scatters hoar-frost like ashes.

He hurls down hailstones like crumbs.
The waters are frozen at his touch;
he sends forth his word and it melts them:
at the breath of his mouth the waters flow.

He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees.

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 the holy Trinity and undivided Unity. Let us give praise to him,
for he has shown mercy to us.*

Psalm-prayer

Lord, you established peace within the borders of Jerusalem. Give the fullness of peace now to your faithful people. May peace rule us in this life and possess us in eternal life. You are about to fill us with the best of wheat; grant that what we see dimly now as in a mirror, we may come to perceive clearly in the brightness of your truth.

Or:

All-powerful God, it is through your Church, generously endowed with gifts of grace and fortified by the Holy Spirit, that you send out your word to all nations. Strengthen your Church with the best of all food and make her dauntless in faith. Multiply her children to celebrate with one accord the mysteries of your love at the altar on high.

God the Saviour

Glory and honour be to God in the unity of the Trinity, to the Father and to the Son with the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

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.

Glory and honour be to God in the unity of the Trinity, to the Father and to the Son with the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

Short Reading

Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Short Responsory

Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.
– *Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.*
To God alone be all honour and glory.
– *Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.*

Canticle

Magnificat

My soul rejoices in the Lord

We give you thanks, O God; we give thanks to you the one and true Trinity, the one and highest God, the one and all-holy Unity.

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.

*We give you thanks, O God; we give thanks to you the one and true Trinity,
the one and highest God, the one and all-holy Unity.*

Prayers and intercessions

Father, through your Holy Spirit you gave Christ your Son to us in the flesh,
so that we might have life through him. Filled now with that life, we
raise our hearts in praise of the Holy Trinity, saying:
– *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.*

Father almighty, eternal God, in the name of your Son send your Holy Spirit upon the Church:

may the Comforter preserve us in unity, harmony and the fullness of truth.

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

Lord, send your labourers into the harvest to teach all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit:

strengthen them all in the faith.

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

Lord, support all those who suffer persecution on account of their faith in your Son:

give them the Spirit of truth who will, according to his promise, speak through them.

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

Father almighty, all acknowledge that you, the Word and the Spirit are one: as we believe in one God, so may we hope in you and love you.

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

Father of the living, bring those who have died to share your glory:

with your Son and the Holy Spirit may they reign eternally with you in heaven.

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

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 revealed the great mystery of your godhead to men
when you sent into the world
the Word who is Truth
and the Spirit who makes us holy.

Help us to believe in you and worship you,
as the true faith teaches:

three Persons, eternal in glory,
one God, infinite in majesty.

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 6 June 2020

Saturday of week 9 in Ordinary Time

or Saint Norbert, Bishop

or Saint Jarlath, Bishop

or Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Now that the daylight dies away,
By all thy grace and love,
Thee, Maker of the world, we pray
To watch our bed above.

Let dreams depart and phantoms fly,
The offspring of the night,

Keep us, like shrines, beneath thine eye,
Pure in our foe's despite.

This grace on thy redeemed confer,
Father, co-equal Son,
And Holy Ghost, the Comforter,
Eternal Three in One.

Psalm 4
Thanksgiving

Lord, have mercy and hear me.

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.

Lord, have mercy and hear me.

Psalm-prayer

Give us hope, Lord, to steady our steps, for we walk by faith and not by earthly sight. May hope deepen our longing, perfect our love and lead us to our promised rest.

Or:

You consoled your Son in his anguish and released him from the darkness of the grave. Lord, turn your face toward us that we may sleep in your peace and rise in your light.

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).

Bless the Lord through the night.

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.

Bless the Lord through the night.

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

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.

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.

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.

Marian Anthem

Salve Regina

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.

Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
your eyes of mercy towards us;
and after this exile
show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Salve, Regína, mater misericórdiæ;
vita, dulcédo et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamámus, éxsules, filii Evæ.
Ad te suspirámus, geméntes et flentes
in hac lacrimárum valle.

Eia ergo, advocáta nostra,
illos tuos misericórdes óculos
ad nos convérte.
Et Iesum, benedíctum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exsílium osténde.
O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo María.

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Sunday 7 June 2020

The Most Holy Trinity – *Solemnity*

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Sunday 7 June 2020

The Most Holy Trinity – *Solemnity*

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 3:16-18

God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.
No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,
because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son.’

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 7 June 2020

The Most Holy Trinity – *Solemnity*

Spiritual Reading

Your Second Reading from the Office of Readings:

The Most Holy Trinity

A letter of St Athanasius

Light, radiance and grace are in the Trinity and from the Trinity

It will not be out of place to consider the ancient tradition, teaching and faith of the Catholic Church, which was revealed by the Lord, proclaimed by the apostles and guarded by the fathers. For upon this faith the Church is built, and if anyone were to lapse from it, he would no longer be a Christian either in fact or in name.

We acknowledge the Trinity, holy and perfect, to consist of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. In this Trinity there is no intrusion of any alien element or of anything from outside, nor is the Trinity a blend of creative and created being. It is a wholly creative and energising reality, self-consistent and undivided in its active power, for the Father makes all things through the Word and in the Holy Spirit, and in this way the unity of the holy Trinity is preserved. Accordingly, in the Church, one God is preached, one God who is *above all things and through all things and in all things*. God is *above all things* as Father, for he is principle and source; he is *through all things* through the Word; and he is *in all things* in the Holy Spirit.

Writing to the Corinthians about spiritual matters, Paul traces all reality back to one God, the Father, saying: *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service but the same Lord; and there*

are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in everyone.

Even the gifts that the Spirit dispenses to individuals are given by the Father through the Word. For all that belongs to the Father belongs also to the Son, and so the graces given by the Son in the Spirit are true gifts of the Father. Similarly, when the Spirit dwells in us, the Word who bestows the Spirit is in us too, and the Father is present in the Word. This is the meaning of the text: *My Father and I will come to him and make our home with him.* For where the light is, there also is the radiance; and where the radiance is, there too are its power and its resplendent grace.

This is also Paul's teaching in his second letter to the Corinthians: *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.* For grace and the gift of the Trinity are given by the Father through the Son in the Holy Spirit. Just as grace is given from the Father through the Son, so there could be no communication of the gift to us except in the Holy Spirit. But when we share in the Spirit, we possess the love of the Father, the grace of the Son and the fellowship of the Spirit himself.

The ferial reading for today:

10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

From St Ignatius of Antioch's letter to the Romans

I do not try to please men, but God

From Ignatius, who is also called Theophorus, to the Church which has obtained mercy through the majesty of the Most High Father and of Jesus Christ, his only Son; to the Church which is beloved and enlightened by the will of him who wills all things that are, according to the love of Jesus Christ our God; to the Church which has precedence in the lands of the Romans; to the Church which is worthy of God, worthy of honour, worthy of the blessing, worthy of praise, worthy of success, worthy in its holiness, pre-eminent in love, named after Christ, named after the Father. I greet that Church in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father. To those who are

united in flesh and spirit to every one of his commandments, filled with the grace of God without wavering and filtered clear from every foreign stain, abundant greeting in Jesus Christ, our God, in blamelessness.

I have prayed to the Lord to see your godly faces and I have persevered in prayer until I have been granted this — for I hope to greet you, as a prisoner in Christ Jesus, if only I am found worthy to reach the end of my journey. Things have begun well and all now depends on my receiving the grace to reach my goal and receive my inheritance unhindered. But I fear your love for me and I fear the harm it can do me: it is so easy for you to do what you want and so hard for me to reach God if you do not spare me your help.

You habitually do what pleases God: do what pleases him now and not what pleases men. I shall never have a better opportunity of reaching God, and you will never have the opportunity of performing a better act than now, by keeping silence. If you remain silent, I shall become the word of God; but if your love of my physical life makes you speak, I shall be nothing but a meaningless cry.

Grant me nothing more than this: that I should be poured out to God, while an altar is still ready for me. Form yourselves into a chorus of love and sing praise to the Father in Christ Jesus for permitting this bishop of Syria to be summoned from the place of the sun's rising to the sunset lands. Just as the sun sets only to rise again, how good it is to set to this world, to set and then to rise in God.

In other parts of the world and other calendars:

Blessed Anne of Saint Bartholomew, Virgin

**From 'Meditations on the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ' by
Blessed Anne of St Bartholomew**

Learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart

According to Saint Bernard, it is the person who keeps silent and says nothing when things go wrong who is really humble. It is very virtuous, he says, to keep silent when people are talking about our true faults, but more

perfect when we are slighted or accused without having committed any fault or sin. And though it is virtuous indeed to bear this in silence, it is more perfect still to want to be despised and thought mad and good-for-nothing, and to go on, as our Lord Jesus Christ did, wholeheartedly loving those who despise us.

If Jesus kept silent, it was not because he hated anyone. He was simply saying to his eternal Father what he said on the cross: Lord, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. What infinite love burned in that sacred heart of yours, Lord Jesus! Without uttering a single word you spoke to us; without a word you worked the mysteries you came to accomplish, teaching virtue to the ignorant and blind. What our Lord did was no small thing. Where should we get patience and humility and poverty and the other virtues, and how could we carry each other's burdens and cross, if Christ had not taught us all this first, and given himself as a living model of all perfection?

Blessed silence! In it you cry out and preach to the whole world by your example. Volumes could be written about your silence, Lord! There is more wisdom to be learned from it by those who love you than from books or study.

Our Lord became a spring of Living water for us, so that we should not die of thirst among all the miseries that surround us. How truly he said in the Gospel that he came to serve and not to be served! What tremendous goodness! Can we fail to be shamed by your words and deeds, and the patience you show with us every day? How truly, again Lord, did you say: Learn from me for I am meek and humble of heart. Where can we obtain this patience and humbleness of heart? Is there any way to achieve it except by taking it from Christ as he taught it to us with those other virtues we need—faith, hope and charity? Without faith we cannot follow that royal road of the divine mysteries. It is faith that opens our eyes and makes us see the truth; and where faith is wanting there is no light, and no way leading to goodness.

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Sunday 7 June 2020

The Most Holy Trinity – Solemnity

Liturgical Colour: White.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

Blest be God the Father,
and the Only Begotten Son of God,
and also the Holy Spirit,
for he has shown us his merciful love.

Collect

God our Father, who by sending into the world
the Word of truth and the Spirit of sanctification
made known to the human race your wondrous mystery,
grant us, we pray, that in professing the true faith,
we may acknowledge the Trinity of eternal glory
and adore your Unity, powerful in majesty.
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

Exodus 34:4-6,8-9

'Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion'

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'The Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger rich in kindness and faithfulness.' And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. 'If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,' he said 'let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.'

Responsorial Psalm

Daniel 3:52-56

To you glory and praise for evermore.

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 on the throne of your kingdom.

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.

Second reading

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Rv1:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
the God who is, who was, and who is to come.

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 3:16-18

God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world

not to condemn the world,

but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned;

but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,

because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son.’

Prayer over the Offerings

Sanctify by the invocation of your name,
we pray, O Lord our God,
this oblation of our service,

and by it make of us an eternal offering to you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Gal 4: 6

Since you are children of God,
God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son,
the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.

Prayer after Communion

May receiving this Sacrament, O Lord our God,
bring us health of body and soul,
as we confess your eternal holy Trinity and undivided Unity.
Through Christ our Lord.

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Sunday 7 June 2020

The Most Holy Trinity – *Solemnity*

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 true God is one in Trinity and a Trinity in One: come, let us adore him.

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 true God is one in Trinity and a Trinity in One: come, let us adore him.

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Sunday 7 June 2020

The Most Holy Trinity – *Solemnity*

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

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,

perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Psalm 62 (63)
Thirsting for God

“Let the man who has put away the deeds of the night watch for God.”

*All majesty and power, glory and honour, praise and adoration belongs to
you, O blessed Trinity, for ever and ever.*

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.

*All majesty and power, glory and honour, praise and adoration belongs to
you, O blessed Trinity, for ever and ever.*

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).

*All your creatures rightly give you praise, worship and honour, O blessed
Trinity.*

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.

*All your creatures rightly give you praise, worship and honour, O blessed
Trinity.*

Psalm 149
The saints rejoice

*“The members of the Church, God’s new people, will rejoice in their
king, who is Christ” (Hesychius).*

From him, through him and in him are all things: to him be glory for ever.

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.

From him, through him and in him are all things: to him be glory for ever.

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

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them.

Short Responsory

To you be praise and glory, O blessed Trinity.
– *To you be praise and glory, O blessed Trinity.*
To you be thanksgiving for ever and ever.
– *To you be praise and glory, O blessed Trinity.*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *To you be praise and glory, O blessed Trinity.*

Canticle

Benedictus

The Messiah and the one who was sent before him

*Blessed be the creator and ruler of all things, the holy and undivided
Trinity, both now and for ever and for ages unending.*

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.

*Blessed be the creator and ruler of all things, the holy and undivided
Trinity, both now and for ever and for ages unending.*

Prayers and intercessions

Full of joy on this morning, we adore and glorify the Father, Son and Holy
Spirit, saying:

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

Holy Father, of ourselves we are nothing. We beg you to give us the Holy
Spirit:

may he strengthen us in our weakness and intercede for us before your
face.

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

Son of God, you asked the Father to send the Comforter to your Church:
may he, the Spirit of truth, remain with us always.

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

Come, Holy Spirit, and give us an abundance of your fruits. Make us
loving, joyful, peaceful, patient and kind:

give us integrity, forbearance, gentleness, faith, modesty, temperance
and chastity.

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

Father almighty, you sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts:
fill us with your Spirit, that we may be your heirs and co-heirs with
Christ.

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

Lord Jesus Christ, you sent the Paraclete from the Father's side to be your
witness:

make us also your witnesses before men.

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

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 revealed the great mystery of your godhead to men

when you sent into the world

the Word who is Truth

and the Spirit who makes us holy.

Help us to believe in you and worship you,

as the true faith teaches:

three Persons, eternal in glory,

one God, infinite in majesty.

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 7 June 2020

The Most Holy Trinity – *Solemnity*

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 Trinity of blessed light,

O Unity of princely might,

The fiery sun now goes his way;

Shed thou within our hearts thy ray.

To thee our morning song of praise,

To thee our evening prayer we raise;

Thy glory humbly we adore

For ever and for evermore.

All laud to God the Father be;

All praise, eternal Son, to thee;

All glory, as is ever meet,

To God the Holy 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).

O true, highest and everlasting Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

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.

O true, highest and everlasting Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

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 113A (114)
Israel set free from Egypt

“You, who have renounced this world, have also been led forth from Egypt” (St Augustine).

Give us freedom, salvation and life, O blessed Trinity.

When Israel came forth from Egypt,
Jacob’s sons from an alien people,
Judah became the Lord’s temple,
Israel became his kingdom.

The sea fled at the sight:
the Jordan turned back on its course,
the mountains leapt like rams
and the hills like yearling sheep.

Why was it, sea, that you fled,
that you turned back, Jordan, on your course?
Mountains, that you leapt like rams;
hills, like yearling sheep?

Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,
in the presence of the God of Jacob,
who turns the rock into a pool
and flint into a spring of water.

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.

Give us freedom, salvation and life, O blessed Trinity.

Psalm-prayer

Almighty God, ever-living mystery of unity and Trinity, you gave life to the new Israel by birth from water and the Spirit, and made it a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a people set apart as your eternal possession. May all those you have called to walk in the splendour of the new light render you fitting service and adoration.

Canticle

(Apocalypse 19)

The wedding of the Lamb

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, who is, and who is to come.

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.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, who is, and who is to come.

Short Reading

Ephesians 4:3-6

Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Short Responsory

Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.

– *Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.*

To God alone be all honour and glory.

– *Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.*

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

– *Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.*

Canticle

Magnificat

My soul rejoices in the Lord

*With our heart and lips we praise you, we worship you and we bless you,
God the Father unbegotten, only-begotten Son, and Holy Spirit
Paraclete: all glory is yours for ever.*

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.

*With our heart and lips we praise you, we worship you and we bless you,
God the Father unbegotten, only-begotten Son, and Holy Spirit
Paraclete: all glory is yours for ever.*

Prayers and intercessions

Father, through your Holy Spirit you gave Christ your Son to us in the flesh,
so that we might have life through him. Filled now with that life, we
raise our hearts in praise of the Holy Trinity, saying:

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

Father almighty, eternal God, in the name of your Son send your Holy Spirit
upon the Church:

may the Comforter preserve us in unity, harmony and the fullness of
truth.

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

Lord, send your labourers into the harvest to teach all nations and baptize
them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy
Spirit:

strengthen them all in the faith.

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

Lord, support all those who suffer persecution on account of their faith in
your Son:

give them the Spirit of truth who will, according to his promise, speak
through them.

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

Father almighty, all acknowledge that you, the Word and the Spirit are one:
as we believe in one God, so may we hope in you and love you.

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

Father of the living, bring those who have died to share your glory:

with your Son and the Holy Spirit may they reign eternally with you in
heaven.

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

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 revealed the great mystery of your godhead to men
when you sent into the world
the Word who is Truth
and the Spirit who makes us holy.
Help us to believe in you and worship you,
as the true faith teaches:
three Persons, eternal in glory,
one God, infinite in majesty.
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 7 June 2020

The Most Holy Trinity – *Solemnity*

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

Now that the daylight dies away,
By all thy grace and love,
Thee, Maker of the world, we pray
To watch our bed above.

Let dreams depart and phantoms fly,
The offspring of the night,
Keep us, like shrines, beneath thine eye,
Pure in our foe's despite.

This grace on thy redeemed confer,
Father, co-equal Son,
And Holy Ghost, the Comforter,
Eternal Three in One.

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).

He will conceal you with his wings; you will not fear the terror of the night.

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.

He will conceal you with his wings; you will not fear the terror of the night.

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.

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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

– *Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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.

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.

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.

Marian Anthem

Salve Regina

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.

To you do we cry,

poor banished children of Eve.

To you do we send up our sighs

mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.

Turn, then, most gracious Advocate,
your eyes of mercy towards us;

and after this exile

show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Salve, Regina, mater misericordiæ;

vita, dulcedo et spes nostra, salve.

Ad te clamamus, éxsules, filii Evæ.

Ad te suspiramus, geméntes et flentes

in hac lacrimárum valle.

Eia ergo, advocáta nostra,
illos tuos misericórdes óculos
ad nos convérte.

Et Iesum, benedíctum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exsílium osténde.

O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo María.

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