Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

July 27, 2024

{ Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday }



Stand and make sign of cross

God, come to my assistance.

— Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

HYMN

Ye who own the faith of Jesus, Sing the wonders that were done, When the love of God the Father O'er our sin the victory won, When he made the Virgin Mary Mother of his only Son. Hail, Mary, full of grace.

Blessed were the chosen people Out of whom the Lord did come, Blessed was the land of promise Fashioned for his earthly home; But more blessed far the mother, She who bore him in her womb. Hail, Mary, full of grace.

Wherefore let all faithful people
Tell the honor of her name,
Let the Church in her foreshadowed
Part in her thanksgiving claim;
What Christ's mother sang in gladness
Let Christ's people sing the same.
Hail, Mary, full of grace.

Praise, O Mary, praise the Father, Praise thy Savior and thy Son, Praise the everlasting Spirit, Who hath made thee ark and throne. O'er all creatures high exalted,

Lowly praise the three in one. Hail, Mary, full of grace.

Melody: Den das Vaters Sinn geboren 87.87.876; Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739; Text: V. S. S. Coles, 1845–1929

Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

The Lord summons heaven and earth to witness his judgment on his people.

Psalm 50

Genuine love of God

I have come not to abolish the law but to bring it to perfection (see Matthew 5:17).

Ι

The Gód of góds, the Lórd, †
has spóken and súmmoned the éarth, *
from the rísing of the sún to its sétting.
Out of Zíon's perfect béauty he shínes. *
Our God cómes, he keeps sílence no lónger.

Befóre him fíre devóurs,* aróund him témpest ráges. He cálls on the héavens and the éarth * to wítness his júdgment of his péople.

"Súmmon befóre me my péople * who made cóvenant with mé by sácrifice." The héavens procláim his jústice, * for Gód himsélf is the júdge.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, * and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

The Lord summons heaven and earth to witness his judgment on his people.

Antiphon 2

Come to me in your distress, and I will save you.

II

"Lísten, my péople, I will spéak; * Ísrael, I will téstify agáinst you, for Í am Gód your Gód. * I accúse you, láy the charge befóre you.

I find no fáult with your sácrifices, * your ófferings are álways befóre me. I do not ásk more búllocks from your fárms, * nor góats from amóng your hérds.

For I ówn all the béasts of the fórest,* béasts in their thóusands on my hílls. I knów all the bírds in the ský,* all that móves in the field belongs to mé.

Were I húngry, Í would not téll you, * for I ówn the wórld and all it hólds. Do you thínk I eat the flésh of búlls, * or drínk the blóod of góats?

Pay your sácrifice of thánksgiving to Gód * and rénder him your vótive ófferings.
Call on mé in the dáy of distréss. *
I will frée you and you shall honor me."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,* and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now,* and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

Come to me in your distress, and I will save you.

Antiphon 3

A sacrifice of praise will give me glory.

But Gód sáys to the wícked: †
"But hów can you recíte my commándments *
and táke my cóvenant on your líps,
yóu who despíse my láw *
and thrów my wórds to the wínds,

you who sée a thíef and go with him; * who thrów in your lót with adúlterers, who unbrídle your mouth for évil * and whose tongue is plótting críme,

you who sít and malígn your bróther * and slánder your ówn mother's són. You do thís, and should Í keep sílence? * Do you thínk that Í am like yóu?

Mark thís, you who néver think of Gód, * lest I séize you and you cánnot escápe; a sácrifice of thanksgíving hónors me * and I will shów God's salvátion to the úpright."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, * and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

A sacrifice of praise will give me glory.

VERSE

We are always praying earnestly for you.

— That you may have a deep knowledge of God's will.

Sit

READINGS

First reading

From the second letter of the apostle Paul to the Corinthians

6:1-7:1

Paul's sufferings and his exhortation to holiness

As your fellow workers we beg you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says, "In an acceptable time I have heard you; on a day of salvation I have helped you." Now is the acceptable time! Now is the day of salvation!

We avoid giving anyone offense, so that our ministry may not be blamed. On the contrary, in all that we do we strive to present ourselves as ministers of God, acting with patient endurance amid trials, difficulties, distresses, beatings, imprisonments, and riots; as men familiar with hard work, sleepless nights, and fastings; conducting ourselves with innocence, knowledge, and patience, in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love as men with the message of truth and the power of God; wielding the weapons of righteousness with right hand and left, whether honored or dishonored, spoken of well or ill. We are called imposters, yet we are truthful; nobodies who in fact are well known; dead, yet here we are alive; punished, but not put to death; sorrowful, though we are always rejoicing; poor, yet we enrich many. We seem to have nothing, yet everything is ours!

Men of Corinth, we have spoken to you frankly, opening our hearts wide to you. There is no lack of room for you in us; the narrowness is in you. In fair exchange, then (I speak as a father to his children), open wide your hearts!

Do not yoke yourselves in a mismatch with unbelievers. After all, what do righteousness and lawlessness have in common, or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What accord is there between Christ and Belial, what common lot between believer and unbeliever? Tell me what agreement there is between the temple of God and idols. You are the temple of the living God, just as God has said:

"I will dwell with them and walk among them. I will be their God and they shall be my people.

Therefore, 'Come out from among them and separate yourselves from them,'

says the Lord;
'and touch nothing unclean.
I will welcome you and be a father to you and you will be my sons and daughters,' says the Lord Almighty."

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us purify ourselves from every defilement of flesh and spirit, and in the fear of God strive to fulfill our consecration perfectly.

Responsory

2 Corinthians 6:14, 16

What do righteousness and iniquity have in common? Is there a common ground between the temple of God and idols?

— You are the temple of the living God.

Are you not aware that you are God's temple, and that his Spirit lives within you?

— You are the temple of the living God.

Second reading

From a homily by Saint Amadeus of Lausanne, bishop

(Hom. 7: SC 72, 188. 190. 192. 200)

Queen of the world and of peace

Observe how fitting it was that even before her assumption the name of Mary shone forth wondrously throughout the world. Her fame spread everywhere even before she was raised above the heavens in her magnificence. Because of the honor due her Son, it was indeed fitting for the Virgin Mother to have first ruled upon earth and then be raised up to heaven in glory. It was fitting that her fame be spread in this world below, so that she might enter the heights of heaven in overwhelming blessedness. Just as she was borne from virtue to virtue by the Spirit of the Lord, she was transported from earthly renown to heavenly brightness.

So it was that she began to taste the fruits of her future reign while still in the flesh. At one moment she withdrew to God in ecstasy; at the next she would bend down to her neighbors with indescribable love. In heaven angels served her, while here on earth she was venerated by the service of men. Gabriel and the angels waited upon her in heaven. The virgin John, rejoicing that the Virgin Mother was entrusted to him at the cross, cared for her with the other apostles here below. The angels rejoiced to see their queen; the apostles rejoiced to see their lady, and both obeyed her with loving devotion.

Dwelling in the loftiest citadel of virtue, like a sea of divine grace or an unfathomable source of love that has everywhere overflowed its banks, she poured forth her bountiful waters on trusting and thirsting souls. Able to preserve both flesh and spirit from death she bestowed health-giving salve on bodies and souls. Has anyone ever come away from her troubled or saddened or ignorant of the heavenly mysteries? Who has not returned to everyday life gladdened and joyful because his request had been granted by the Mother of God?

She is a bride, so gentle and affectionate, and the mother of the only true bridegroom. In her abundant goodness she has channeled the spring of reason's garden, the well of living and life-giving waters that pour forth in a rushing stream from divine Lebanon and flow down from Mount Zion until they surround the shores of every farflung nation. With divine assistance she has redirected these waters and made them into streams of peace and pools of grace. Therefore, when the Virgin of virgins was led forth by God and her Son, the King of kings, amid the company of exulting angels and rejoicing archangels, with the heavens ringing with praise, the prophecy of the psalmist was fulfilled, in which he said to the Lord: *At your right hand stands the queen, clothed in gold of Ophir*.

Responsory

A great sign appeared in the heavens: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet,

— and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.

The queen clothed in cloth of gold, stood on your right hand.

— And upon her head a crown of twelve stars.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of mercy, give us strength.

May we who honor the memory of the Mother of God rise above our sins and failings with the help of her prayers.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

— Amen.

Acclamation

Let us praise the Lord.

— And give him thanks.

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English translation of *Gloria Patri*, *Te Deum Laudamus*, *Benedictus*, *Magnificat*, and *Nunc Dimittis* by the International Consultation on English Texts.

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