

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

February 15, 2025

{ 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

O Mary, Virgin Mother blest,
O holy daughter of your Son,
most humble and yet most sublime,
above the whole created world:

You are the summit fixed of old,
predestined by divine decree,
to be our nature's perfect crown,
the height of beauty and of grace.

In you our nature shone so fair
that its Creator, God most high,
with art so wondrous to behold,
was made a creature formed through you.

Within the Virgin's purest womb
the flame of love is born anew,
and by its warmth, upon the earth
celestial flowers come to bloom.

To Father and to Paraclete
and to your Son all glory be,
who have, all three, invested you
with such a wondrous robe of grace. Amen.

Metrical hymn, melody: Hereford, 8 8 8 8; Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-1876

Plainsong, mode VIII, melody 109; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: O virgo mater, filia, Anselmo Lentini, O.S.B., 1901-1989*

*The English translation of Hymns and chants from The Liturgy of the Hours © 2023
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Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

Whoever humbles himself, like a little child, will be greater in the kingdom of heaven.

Psalm 131

Childlike trust in God

Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart (Matthew 11:29).

O Lórd, my héart is not próud *
nor háughty my éyes.
I have not góne after things too gréat *
nor márvels beyónd me.
Trúly I have sét my sóul *
in sílence and péace.
As a chéild has rést in its mother's árms, *
even só is my sóul.
O Ísrael, hópe in the Lórd *
both nów and for éver.
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

Whoever humbles himself, like a little child, will be greater in the kingdom of heaven.

Antiphon 2

With simplicity of heart, I have joyfully offered everything to you, my God.

Psalm 132

God's promises to the house of David

The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David (Luke 1:32).

I

O Lórd, reméber Dávid *
and áll the many hárdships he endúred,
the óath he swóre to the Lórd, *
his wów to the Stróng One of Jácob.

“I will not énter the hóuse where I líve *
nor gó to the béd where I rést.
I will gíve no sléep to my éyes, *
to my éyelids I will gíve no slumber
till I find a pláce for the Lórd, *
a dwélling for the Stróng One of Jácob.”

At Éphrathah we héard of the árk; *
we fóund it in the pláins of Yearím.
“Let us gó to the pláce of his dwélling; *
let us gó to knéel at his fóotstool.”

Go up, Lórd, to the pláce of your rést, *
yóu and the árk of your stréngth.
Your priests shall be clóthed with hóliness: *
your fáithful shall ríng out their jój.
For the sáke of Dávid your sérvant *
dó not rejéct your anóinted.

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

With simplicity of heart, I have joyfully offered everything to you,
my God.

Antiphon 3

The Lord has sworn an oath to David; his kingdom will stand for

ever.

II

The Lórd swore an óath to Dávid; *
he wíll not go báck on his wórd;
“A són, the frúit of your bódý, *
will I sét upón your thróne.

If they kéeep my cóvenant in trúth *
and my láws that Í have táught them,
their sóns álsó shall rúle *
on your thróne from áge to áge.”

For the Lórd has chósen Zíon; *
he has desíred it fór his dwélling:
“Thís is my résting-place for éver, *
hére have I chósen to líve.

I will gréatly bléss her próduce, *
I will fíll her póor with bréad.
I will clóthe her píests with salvátion *
and her fáithful shall ríng out their jóy.

Thére David’s stóck will flówer: *
I will prépare a lámp for my anóinted.
I will cóver his énemies with sháme *
but on hím my crówn shall shíne.”

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 has sworn an oath to David; his kingdom will stand for ever.

VERSE

Come, consider the works of the Lord.

— The marvels he has created on this earth.

READINGS

First reading

From the letter to the Galatians

5:25—6:18

Admonitions concerning charity and perseverance

Since we live by the spirit, let us follow the spirit's lead. Let us never be boastful, or challenging, or jealous toward one another.

My brothers, if someone is detected in sin, you who live by the spirit should gently set him right, each of you trying to avoid falling into temptation himself. Help carry one another's burdens; in that way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks he amounts to something, when in fact he is nothing, he is only deceiving himself. Each man should look to his conduct; if he has reason to boast of anything, it will be because the achievement is his and not another's. Everyone should bear his own responsibility.

The man instructed in the word should share all he has with his instructor.

Make no mistake about it, no one makes a fool of God! A man will reap only what he sows. If he sows in the field of the flesh, he will reap a harvest of corruption; but if his seed-ground is the spirit, he will reap everlasting life.

Let us not grow weary of doing good; if we do not relax our efforts, in due time we shall reap our harvest. While we have the opportunity, let us do good to all men—but especially those of the household of the faith.

See, I write to you in my own large handwriting!

Those who are trying to force you to be circumcised are making a play for human approval—with an eye to escaping persecution for the cross of Christ. The very ones who accept circumcision do not follow the law themselves. They want you to be circumcised only that they may boast about your bodily observance.

May I never boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus

Christ! Through it, the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. It means nothing whether one is circumcised or not. All that matters is that one is created anew. Peace and mercy on all who follow this rule of life, and on the Israel of God.

Henceforth, let no man trouble me, for I bear the brand marks of Jesus in my body.

Brothers, may the favor of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Responsory

Galatians 6:8; John 6:63

A man can only reap what he has sown. If you sow in the field of selfishness, it will bring you a harvest of death and decay;

- if you sow in the field of the Spirit, you will reap a harvest of life everlasting.

It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh is of no avail.

- If you sow in the field of the Spirit, you will reap a harvest of life everlasting.

Second reading

From a sermon by Saint Lawrence Justinian, bishop

(Sermo 8, in festo Purificationis B.M.V.: Opera, 2, Venetiis 1751, 38–39)

Mary stored up all these things in her heart

While Mary contemplated all she had come to know through reading, listening and observing, she grew in faith, increased in merits, and was more illuminated by wisdom and more consumed by the fire of charity. The heavenly mysteries were opened to her, and she was filled with joy; she became fruitful by the Spirit, was being directed toward God, and watched over protectively while on earth. So remarkable are the divine graces that they elevate one from the lowest depths to the highest summit, and transform one to a greater holiness. How entirely blessed was the mind of the Virgin which, through the indwelling and guidance of the Spirit, was always and in every way open to the power of the Word of God. She was not led by her own senses, nor by her own will; thus she accomplished

outwardly through her body what wisdom from within gave to her faith. It was fitting for divine Wisdom, which created itself a home in the Church, to use the intervention of the most blessed Mary in guarding the law, purifying the mind, giving an example of humility and providing a spiritual sacrifice.

Imitate her, O faithful soul. Enter into the deep recesses of your heart so that you may be purified spiritually and cleansed from your sins. God places more value on good will in all we do than on the works themselves. Therefore, whether we give ourselves to God in the work of contemplation or whether we serve the needs of our neighbor by good works, we accomplish these things because the love of Christ urges us on. The acceptable offering of the spiritual purification is accomplished not in a man-made temple but in the recesses of the heart where the Lord Jesus freely enters.

Responsory

O pure and holy virgin, how can I find words to praise your beauty?

— The highest heavens cannot contain God whom you carried in your womb.

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

— The highest heavens cannot contain God whom you carried in your womb.

Stand

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

All-powerful God,
we rejoice in the protection of the holy Virgin Mary.
May her prayers help to free us from all evils here on earth
and lead us to eternal joy in heaven.

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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