

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

EVENING PRAYER

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December 9, 2024

{ Solemnity – Immaculate Conception }



*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 Virgin Mother of our God,  
and glorious shield of virgin souls,  
O Gate that opens heaven's court,  
our hope on earth and heav'nly joy:

O Lily, fair among the thorns,  
most lovely and all-perfect dove:  
a shoot has sprung from Jesse's stock,  
the healing balm for all our wounds.

A tow'r the dragon cannot scale,  
a star that guides those lost at sea,  
protect us from deceit and guile,  
direct us by your holy light.

Disperse the clouds of doubt and sin,  
remove the shoals of shifting sand,  
prepare a safe and sheltered path  
for those who stray mid stormy seas.

You shine in splendor, you alone,  
untouched by Adam's deadly sin;  
O Mary, be our great defense,  
fend off the jealous serpent's wiles.

To Father and to Paraclete  
and to your Son all glory be,  
who have bestowed on you alone  
the grace of perfect holiness. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: EISENACH, 8 8 8 8; Johann Hermann Schein, 1586-1630*

*Plainsong, mode II, melody 30; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983\*, Text: Præclara custos virginum, 17th c.*

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*Sit or stand*

## PSALMODY

### *Antiphon 1*

You are all beautiful, O Mary; in you there is no trace of original sin.

*Psalm 122*

*Holy city Jerusalem*

*You have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, heavenly Jerusalem (Hebrews 12:22).*

I rejoiced when I heard them say: \*

“Let us go to God’s house.”

And now our feet are standing \*  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
strongly compact.

It is there that the tribes go up, \*  
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel’s law it is, \*  
there to praise the Lord’s name.  
There were set the thrones of judgment \*  
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: \*  
“Peace be to your homes!  
May peace reign in your walls, \*  
in your palaces, peace!”

For love of my brethren and friends \*

I say: "Péace upon yóu!"  
For lóve of the hóuse of the Lórd \*  
I will ásk for your góod.

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*

You are all beautiful, O Mary; in you there is no trace of original sin.

*Antiphon 2*

You are the glory of Jerusalem, the joy of Israel; you are the fairest honor of our race.

*Psalm 127*

*Apart from God our labors are worthless*

*You are God's building (1 Corinthians 3:9).*

If the Lórd does not build the hóuse, \*  
in váin do its builders lábor;  
if the Lórd does not wáttch over the cíty, \*  
in váin does the wáttchman keep vígil.

In váin is your éarlier rísing, \*  
your góing láter to rést,  
you who tóil for the bréad you éat: \*  
when he pours gífts on his belóved while they slumber.

Truly sóns are a gíft from the Lórd, \*  
a bléssing, the frúit of the wómb.  
Indéed the sóns of yóuth \*  
are like árróws in the hánd of a wárríor.

Ó the háppíness of the mán \*  
who has fílléd his quíver with these árróws!  
Hé will have no cáuse for sháme \*  
when he dispútes with his fóes in the gátteways.

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*

You are the glory of Jerusalem, the joy of Israel; you are the fairest honor of our race.

*Antiphon 3*

The robe you wear is white as spotless snow; your face is radiant like the sun.

*Canticle – Ephesians 1:3-10*

*God our Savior*

Praised be the God and Father \*  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has bestowed on us in Christ \*  
every spiritual blessing in the heavens.

God chose us in him \*  
before the world began  
to be holy \*  
and blameless in his sight.

He predestined us \*  
to be his adopted sons through Jesus Christ,  
such was his will and pleasure, †  
that all might praise the glorious favor \*  
he has bestowed on us in his beloved.

In him and through his blood, we have been redeemed, \*  
and our sins forgiven,  
so immeasurably generous \*  
is God's favor to us.

God has given us the wisdom \*  
to understand fully the mystery,  
the plan he was pleased \*  
to decree in Christ.

A plan to be carried out \*  
in Christ, in the fullness of time,

to bring all things into one in him, \*  
in the heavens and on earth.

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 robe you wear is white as spotless snow; your face is radiant like  
the sun.

*Sit*

### READING

*Romans 5:20-21*

Despite the increase of sin, grace has far surpassed it, so that, as sin  
reigned through death, grace may reign by way of justice leading to  
eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### RESPONSORY

By this I know you have chosen me.

— By this I know you have chosen me.

You have not let my enemy triumph over me.

— You have chosen me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

— By this I know you have chosen me.

*Stand*

### GOSPEL CANTICLE

*Antiphon*

Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you; blessed are you among  
women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, alleluia.

*Luke 1:46-55*

*The soul rejoices in the Lord*

*Make sign of cross*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, \*  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. \*

From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me, \*  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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*

Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, alleluia.

#### INTERCESSIONS

Let us praise God our almighty Father, who wished that Mary, his Son's mother, be celebrated by each generation. Now in need we ask:

— Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

O God, worker of miracles, you made the immaculate Virgin Mary share, body and soul, in your Son's glory in heaven, direct the hearts of your children to that same glory.

— Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

You made Mary our mother. Through her intercession grant strength to the weak, comfort to the sorrowing, pardon to sinners, salvation and peace to all.

— Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

You made Mary the mother of mercy, may all who are faced with trials feel her motherly love.

— Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

You wished Mary to be the mother of the family in the home of Jesus and Joseph, may all mothers of families foster love and holiness through her intercession.

— Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

You crowned Mary queen of heaven, may all the dead rejoice in your kingdom with the saints for ever.

— Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

### *The Lord's 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.

### *Concluding Prayer*

Father,  
you prepared the Virgin Mary



to be the worthy mother of your Son.  
You let her share beforehand  
in the salvation Christ would bring by his death,  
and kept her sinless from the first moment of her conception.  
Help us by her prayers  
to live in your presence without sin.

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

— Amen.

*Dismissal*

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

— Amen.

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