

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

August 31, 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

The God whom earth and sea and sky
Adore and laud and magnify,
Whose might they own, whose praise they tell,
In Mary's body deigned to dwell.

O Mother blest! the chosen shrine
Wherein the Architect divine,
Whose hand contains the earth and sky,
Vouchsafed in hidden guise to lie:

Blest in the message Gabriel brought;
Blest in the work the Spirit wrought;
Most blest, to bring to human birth
The long desired of all the earth.

O Lord, the Virgin born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost for ever more.

*Melody: Eisenach L.M.; Music: Johann H. Schein, 1586-1630; Text: Venantius
Fortunatus, 530-609; Translator: J. M. Neale, 1818-1866*

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 chíld 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 árkh,*
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 árkh of your stréngth.
Your príests shall be clóthed with hóliness: *
your fáithful shall ríng out their jóy.
For the sáke of Dávid your sérvant *
dó not réjéct 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 will not go bák 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 álso shall rúle *
on your thróne from áge to áge.”

For the Lórd has chósen Zíon; *
he has desired it fór his dwelling:
“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 príests 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.

Sit

READINGS

First reading

From the book of the prophet Jeremiah

7:1–20

A prophesy about the empty trust that is placed in the temple

The following message came to Jeremiah from the Lord: Stand at the gate of the house of the Lord, and there proclaim this message: Hear the word of the Lord, all you of Judah who enter these gates to worship the Lord!

Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Reform your ways and your deeds, so that I may remain with you in this place. Put not your trust in the deceitful words: "This is the temple of the Lord! The temple of the Lord! The temple of the Lord!" Only if you thoroughly reform your ways and your deeds; if each of you deals justly with his neighbor; if you no longer oppress the resident alien, the orphan, and the widow; if you no longer shed innocent blood in this place, or follow strange gods to your own harm, will I remain with you in this place, in the land which I gave your fathers long ago and forever.

But here you are, putting your trust in deceitful words to your own loss! Are you to steal and murder, commit adultery and perjury, burn incense to Baal, go after strange gods that you know not, and yet come to stand before me in this house which bears my name, and say: "We are safe; we can commit all these abominations again"? Has this house which bears my name become in your eyes a den of thieves? I too see what is being done, says the Lord.

You may go to Shiloh, which I made the dwelling place of my name in the beginning. See what I did to it because of the wickedness of my people Israel. And now, because you have committed all these misdeeds, says the Lord, because you did not listen, though I spoke to you untiringly; because you did not answer, though I called you, I will do to this house named after me, in which you trust, and to this place which I gave to you and your fathers, just as I did to Shiloh. I will cast you away from me, as I cast away all your brethren, all the offspring of Ephraim.

You, now, do not intercede for this people; raise not in their behalf a pleading prayer! Do not urge me, for I will not listen to you. Do you not see what they are doing in the cities of Judah, in the streets of Jerusalem? The children gather wood, their fathers light the fire, and the women knead dough to make cakes for the queen of heaven, while libations are poured out to strange gods in order to hurt me. Is it I whom they hurt, says the Lord; is it not rather themselves, to their own confusion? See now, says the Lord God, my anger and my wrath will pour out upon this place, upon man and beast, upon the trees of the field and the fruits of the earth; it will burn without

being quenched.

Responsory

Jeremiah 7:11; Isaiah 56:7; John 2:16

Have you made this house which bears my name a den of thieves?

— My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations.

Do not turn my Father's house into a marketplace.

— My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations.

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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