

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

November 23, 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 eyelids I will gíve no slumber
till I find a pláce for the Lórd,*
a dwelling 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 dwelling; *
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 priests 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 chósened Zíon; *
he has desired it fór his dwelling:
“Thís is my résting-place for éver, *
hére have I chósened to líve.

I will gréatly bléss her próduce, *
I will fill 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 Zechariah

14:1-21

The suffering and glory of Jerusalem on the last day

Thus says the Lord: Lo, a day shall come for the Lord when the spoils shall be divided in your midst. And I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem for battle: the city shall be taken, houses plundered, women ravished; half of the city shall go into exile, but

the rest of the people shall not be removed from the city.

Then the Lord shall go forth and fight against those nations, fighting as on a day of battle. That day his feet shall rest upon the Mount of Olives, which is opposite Jerusalem to the east. The Mount of Olives shall be cleft in two from east to west by a very deep valley, and half of the mountain shall move to the north and half of it to the south. And the valley of the Lord's mountain shall be filled up when the valley of those two mountains reaches its edge; it shall be filled up as it was filled up by the earthquake in the days of King Uzziah of Judah. Then the Lord, my God, shall come, and all his holy ones with him.

On that day there shall no longer be cold or frost. There shall be one continuous day, known to the Lord, not day and night, for in the evening time there shall be light.

On that day, living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, half to the eastern sea, and half to the western sea, and it shall be so in summer and in winter. The Lord shall become king over the whole earth; on that day the Lord shall be the only one, and his name the only one.

And from Geba to Rimmon in the Negeb, all the land shall turn into a plain; but Jerusalem shall remain exalted in its place. From the Gate of Benjamin to the place of the First Gate, to the Corner Gate; and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's wine presses, they shall occupy her. Never again shall she be doomed; Jerusalem shall abide in security.

And this shall be the plague with which the Lord shall strike all the nations that have fought against Jerusalem: their flesh shall rot while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall rot in their sockets, and their tongues shall rot in their mouths.

On that day there shall be among them a great tumult from the Lord: every man shall seize the hand of his neighbor, and the hand of each shall be raised against that of his neighbor. Judah also shall fight against Jerusalem. The riches of all the surrounding nations shall be gathered together, gold, silver, and garments, in great abundance.

Similar to this plague shall be the plague upon the horses, mules, camels, asses, and upon all the beasts that are in those camps.

All who are left of all the nations that came against Jerusalem shall come up year after year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to celebrate the feast of Booths.

If any of the families of the earth does not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, no rain shall fall upon them. And if the family of Egypt does not come up, or enter, upon them shall fall the plague which the Lord will inflict upon all the nations that do not come up to celebrate the feast of Booths. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to celebrate the feast of Booths.

On that day there shall be upon the bells of the horses, “Holy to the Lord.” The pots in the house of the Lord shall be as the libation bowls before the altar. And every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holy to the Lord of hosts; and all who come to sacrifice shall take them and cook in them. On that day there shall no longer be any merchant in the house of the Lord of hosts.

Responsory

Zechariah 13:1; 14:8; John 19:34

On that day living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, and a fountain shall be opened for the house of David

— to wash away our sins.

One of the soldiers pierced the side of Jesus with a lance, and immediately blood and water flowed out.

— To wash away our sins.

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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