

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

EVENING PRAYER I

March 18, 2026

{ Solemnity – Joseph, Husband of Mary }



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.

HYMN

Let high hosts honor you,
Joseph, the Virgin's spouse;
choirs throughout Christendom
echo the heav'nly song;
through your chaste nuptial bond
with Mary ever blest,
you are worthy of great renown.

As you gaze at your bride,
great with a tender child,
anxious doubt seizes you,
till to your wond'ring heart
the angel brings joyful news:
This child has been conceived
by the Spirit that breathes on high.

You hold gently the child
born to be Lord of all,
follow him in his flight,
reaching Egyptian lands,
seek and find him at last,
lost in Jerusalem,
mingling joys with your anxious tears.

Pious, God-fearing death
sanctifies other saints,
glorious splendor awaits
those who deserve the palm;
you lived like those on high,

finding all joy in God,
blest more richly by wondrous lot.

Three in One, highest God,
spare us who pray to you,
and, through Joseph the just,
let us all scale the stars,
that at length we may sing
always and evermore
grateful hymns of high praise to you. Amen.

Metrical hymn, melody: CHORLAMBUS, 12 12 12 8; ICEL, 2021

*Plainsong, mode I, melody 13; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Te, Ioseph,
celebrent agmina celitum, Girolamo Casante, 1620-1700*

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Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

Jacob became the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. She gave
birth to Jesus who is called Christ.

Psalm 113

Praise the name of the Lord

He has cast down the mighty and has lifted up the lowly (Luke 1:52).

Práise, O sérvants of the Lórd,*
práise the náme of the Lórd!
May the náme of the Lórd be blésed*
both nów and for évermóre!
From the rísing of the sún to its sétting*
práised be the náme of the Lórd!
Hígh above all nátions is the Lórd,*

abóve the héavens his glóry.
Whó is like the Lórd, our Gód, *
who has risen on hígh to his thróne
yet stóops from the héights to look dówn, *
to look dówn upon héaven and éarth?

From the dúst he lifts up the lówly, *
from his mísery he ráises the póor
to sét him in the cómpany of prínces, *
yés, with the prínces of his péople.
To the childless wífe he gives a hóme *
and gláddens her héart with children.

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

Jacob became the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. She gave birth to Jesus who is called Christ.

Antiphon 2

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph.

Psalms 146

Those who trust in God know what it is to be happy

To praise God in our lives means all we do must be for his glory (Arnobius).

My sóul, give práise to the Lórd; †
I will práise the Lórd all my dáy, *
make músic to my Gód while I líve.

Pút no trúst in prínces, *
in mortal mén in whóm there is no hélp.
Take their bréath, they retúrnto cláy, *
and their pláns that dáy come to nóthing.

He is háppy who is hélped by Jacob's Gód, *
whose hópe is in the Lórd his Gód,

who alóne made héaven and éarth, *
the séas and áll they contém.

It is hé who keeps fáith for éver, *
who is júst to thóse who are opprésed.
It is hé who gives bréad to the húngry, *
the Lórd, who sets prísoners frée,

the Lórd who gives síght to the blínd, *
who ráises up thóse who are bowed dówn,
the Lórd, who protécts the stránger *
and uphólds the wídow and órphan.

It is the Lórd who lóves the júst *
but thwárt the páth of the wícked.
The Lórd will réign for éver, *
Zíon's Gód, from áge to áge.

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

Antiphon

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph.

Antiphon 3

Mary the mother of Jesus was betrothed to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Mary the mother of Jesus was betrothed to Joseph, but before they
came together, she was found to be with child through the power
of the Holy Spirit.

Sit

READING

Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work at it with your whole being. Do it for the
Lord rather than for men, since you know full well that you will
receive an inheritance from him as your reward. Be slaves of Christ

the Lord.

Responsory

The just man shall blossom like the lily.

— The just man shall blossom like the lily.

He shall flourish for ever in the courts of our God,

— like the lily.

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

— The just man shall blossom like the lily.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon

This is the faithful and prudent steward whom the Lord has set over his household.

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

This is the faithful and prudent steward whom the Lord has set
over his household.

INTERCESSIONS

All fatherhood in heaven and on earth has its origin in God. Let us
turn to him and pray:

— Our Father in heaven, hear our prayer.

All-holy Father, you revealed to Saint Joseph your eternal plan of
salvation in Christ,
deepen our understanding of your Son, true God and true man.

— Our Father in heaven, hear our prayer.

Father in heaven, you feed the birds of the air, and clothe the fields
with the fruit of the earth,
give all your children their daily bread, to sustain soul and body.

— Our Father in heaven, hear our prayer.

Maker of the universe, you have entrusted your creation to our
safekeeping,
may all who work receive a just reward for their labors.

— Our Father in heaven, hear our prayer.

God of all righteousness, you want us all to be like you,
may Saint Joseph inspire us to walk always in your way of holiness.

— Our Father in heaven, hear our prayer.

Look kindly on the dying and the dead, and grant them your

mercy,
through the intercession of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

— Our Father in heaven, hear our prayer.

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 entrusted our Savior to the care of Saint Joseph.
By the help of his prayers
may your Church continue to serve its Lord, Jesus Christ,
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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