

Vespers of the Blessed Virgin Mary

According to the Washtenaw Use



“At *Evensong* time, Our Lord Jesus Christ on Maundy Thursday supped with His Apostles, and ordained the Holy Sacrament of His Body and Blood. The same hour on Good Friday, He was taken down from The Cross. And on Easter Day, the same hour, He met with two of His disciples going towards Emmaus, and made Himself known to them in the breaking of bread.” (Paraphrased from the *Mirror of Our Lady*.) O most blessed Virgin, you grieved bitterly as your divine son’s body was lowered from The Cross, having wrought for us our redemption; pray that we may ever be mindful that the same glorious body is given to us in the Holy Eucharist and always treat this Sacrament with due reverence. Amen.

BEFORE VESPERS

Preparatory Prayers

All kneel and pray silently. As you say the prayer Aperi, Domine, make the sign of the cross with your thumb first over your lips, and then over your heart.

Áperi, ✠ Dómine, os meum ad benedicendum nomen sanctum tuum: ✠ munda quoque cor meum ab ómnibus vanis, perversis et aliénis cogitationibus; intelléctum illúmina, afféctum inflámma, ut digne, attén-te ac devóte hoc Offícium beátæ Vírginis Maríæ recitáre váleam, et exaudíri mérear ante conspéc-tum divínæ Majestátis tuæ. Per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

Domine, in unióne illús divínæ intentiónis, qua ipse in terris laudes Deo persolvísti, has tibi Horas persólvo.

Pater Noster, qui es in cælis, sanctificétur nomen tuum. Advéniat regnum tuum. Fiat volúntas tua, sicut in cælo et in terra. Panem nostrum quoti-diánum da nobis hódie, et dimítte nobis débíta nos-tra, sicut et nos dimíttimus debitóribus nostris. Et ne nos indúcas in tentatióem: sed líbera nos a malo. Amen.

Ave María, grátia plena, Dóminus tecum. Benedíc-ta tu in muliéribus, et benedíctus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. Sancta María, Mater Dei, ora pro no-bis peccatóribus, nunc et in hora mortis nostræ. Amen.

Open, ✠ O Lord, my mouth to bless Thy holy Name; ✠ cleanse also my heart from all vain, evil, and wan-dering thoughts; enlighten my understanding and kindle my affections; that I may worthily, attentively, and devoutly say this Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and so merit to be heard before the presence of Thy divine Majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, in union with that divine intention where-with thou, whilst here on earth, didst render praises unto God, I desire to offer this my Office of prayer unto thee.

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 for-give us our trespasses, as we forgive those who tres-pass against us. And lead us not into temptation: but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

VESPERS

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Officiant says (All continue together with the entire "Gloria Patri" after the response):

De-us, ✠ in adju-tó-ri- um me- um inténde. R̃. Dómi-ne,
ad adju-vándum me festí-na. (bow) Gló-ri- a Patri, et Fí-li- o
et Spi-rí-tu- i Sancto. (rise) Si-cut e-rat in princí-pi- o, et nunc,
et semper et in sǣcu-la sǣcu-ló-rum. Amen. Alle-lú-ia.

From Septuagesima until Easter, Alleluia is replaced with:

Laus ti-bi Dómi-ne, Rex æ-térné gló-ri- æ- .

O God, come to my assistance.

O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

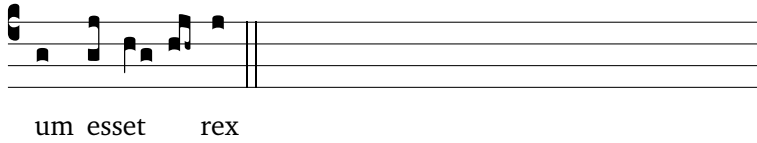
Praise to thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.

Psalm 109

The Cantor intones the antiphon, bows, and all sit. The officiant's side then chants the first Psalm verse, with the Cantor's side responding with the second verse. Either side will alternate, and both sides bow (while seated) during the Gloria Patri.

III. A

D



While the king...

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

All kneel and pray silently.

Sacrosánctæ et indivíduæ Trinitāti, Crucifíxi Dómini nostri Jesu Christi humanitāti, beatíssimæ et gloriosíssimæ sempérque Vírginis Maríæ fecúndæ integritāti, et ómnium Sanctórum universitāti sit sempitérna laus, honor, virtus et glória ab omni creatúra, nobisque remíssio ómnium peccatórum, per infiníta sǽcula sǽculórum. Amen.

Ÿ. Beáta víscera Maríæ Vírginis, quæ portavérunt ætéрни Patris Fílium.

℞. Et beáta úbera quæ lactavérunt Christum Dóminum.

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Everlasting praise, honor, power, and glory be given by all creatures to the most holy and undivided Trinity, to the Humanity of our crucified Lord Jesus Christ, to the fruitful purity of the most blessed and most glorious Mary ever Virgin, and to the company of all the Saints; and may we obtain the remission of all our sins through all eternity. Amen.

Ÿ. Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, that bore the Son of the eternal Father.

℞. And blessed are the paps that gave suck to Christ our Lord.

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. Amen.

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