

# 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):

**D**e-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. The sides then alternate verses. At the Gloria Patri, all stand and bow, and remain standing after its conclusion.

III. A

**D**um esset rex

1. Di-xit Dómi-nus Dómi-no me- o: \* Se-de a dextris me- is:

2. Donec ponam i-nimí-cos tu- os \* sca-bé-llem pedum tu- ó-

rum. 3. Virgam virtú-tis tu-æ emít-tet Dómi-nus ex Si- on: \*

domi- á-re in mé-di- o i-nimi-có-rum tu- ó-rum. 4. Te-cum prin-

cí-pi- um in di- e virtú-tis tu-æ in splendó-ri-bus sanctó- rum: \*

ex ú-te-ro ante lu-cí-fe-rum génu- i te. 5. Ju-rá-vit Dómi-nus, et

non poeni-té-bit e- um: \* Tu es sa-cérdos in æ-térnum se-cún-

dum ór-di-nem Melchí-se-dech. 6. Dómi-nus a dextris tu- is, \*

confré-git in di- e ir-æ su-æ re-ges. 7. Ju-di-cá-bit in na-ti- ó-ni-

While the king...

1. The Lord said to my Lord: Sit thou at my right hand:

2. Until I make thine enemies: thy footstool.

3. The Lord shall send forth the rod of thy power from out of Sion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

4. Thine shall be the dominion in the day of thy power; amid the brightness of the saints: from the womb, before the day-star; have I begotten thee.

5. The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent: Thou art a priest for ever according to the order of Melchisedech.

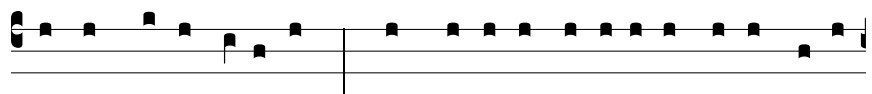
6. The Lord upon thy right hand: hath overthrown kings in the day of his wrath.

7. He shall judge among the nations, he shall fulfill destructions: he shall smit in sunder the heads in the land of many.

8. He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift of up his head.

9. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

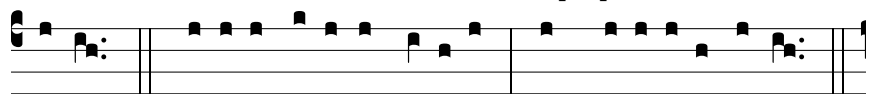
10. As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.



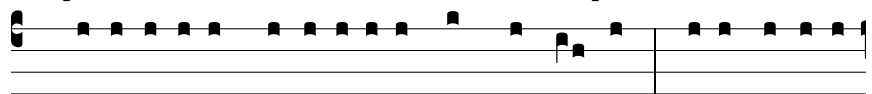
bus, implé-bit ru- í-nas: \* conquassá-bit cá-pi-ta in terra *multó-*



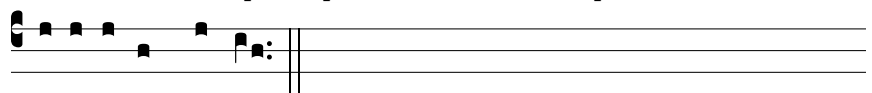
rum. 8. De torrén-te in vi- a bi- bet: \* propté-re- a ex-altá-bit



ca-put. 9. Gló-ri- a Patri, et Fí-li- o, \* et Spi-ri-tu- i Santo.



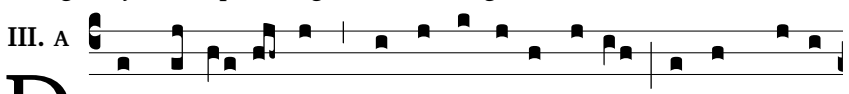
10. Si-cut e-rat in princí-pi- o, et **nunc**, et **semper**, \* et in sæcu-la



sæcu-ló-rum. Amen.

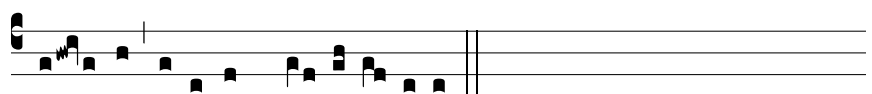
*The same postures are to be observed at the end of every psalm.*

*All sing the full antiphon together, standing:*



**D**

um esset rex \* in accú-bi-tu su- o nardus me- a



de dit odó-rem su- a-vi- tá-tis.

*The remaining antiphons and psalms are sung in the same manner as the first.*

*While the King was reposing, my  
spikenard yielded the odour of sweet-  
ness.*

## CONCLUDING PRAYERS

*All kneel and pray silently.*

Sacrosánc̃tæ et indivíduæ Trinitáti, Crucifíxi Dómini nostri Jesu Christi humanitáti, beatíssimæ et gloriosíssimæ sempérque Vírginis Maríæ fecúndæ integritáti, et ómnium Sanctórum universitáti sit sempitérna laus, honor, virtus et glória ab omni creatúra, nobisque remissio ómnium peccatórum, per infiníta sǽcula sǽculórum. Amen.

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

℞. Et beáta úbera quæ lactavérunt Christum Dóminum.

Pater Noster, qui es in cǽlis, sanctificétur nomen tuum. Advéniat regnum tuum. Fiat volúntas tua, sicut in cǽlo et in terra. Panem nostrum quotidíánum da nobis hódie, et dimítte nobis débíta nostra, sicut et nos dimíttimus debitóribus nostris. Et ne nos indúcas in tentatiónem: sed líbera nos a malo. Amen.

Ave María, grátia plena, Dóminus tecum. Benedícta tu in muliéribus, et benedíctus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. Sancta María, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatóribus, nunc et in hora mortis nostræ. Amen.

*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.*

*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.*