

FIRST VESPERS OF THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD

When the Officiant kneels, all **kneel** and pray silently. Then, when the Officiant stands, all **stand** and say silently one *Pater noster* (Our Father) and *Ave Maria* (Hail Mary). Then all make the sign of the cross with the Officiant as he intones:

D E-us in adju-tó-ri- um me- um in-tén-de. R. Dómi-ne ad
adju-vándum me fe-stí-na. (*bow*) Gló-ri- a Pa-tri, 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 sæcu-la sæ-cu-ló-rum. Amen. Al-le-lú-ia.

O God, come to my assistance. V. 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. Praise to Thee, O Lord, King of endless glory.

Psalm 109

Ant. 1. *O wondrous interchange! * the Creator of mankind, taking upon him a living body, vouchsafed to be born of a pure Virgin: and by his Humanity, which was begotten in no earthly wise, hath made us partakers of his Divinity.. Ps. The Lord said to my Lord: * Sit thou at my right hand.*

All remain standing throughout the first antiphon. After the psalm is intoned by the Cantor, all sit at the asterisk.

6F

O admi-rá-bi-le commér-ci- um! * Cre- á-tor gé-ne-
 ris hu-má-ni, a-ni-má- tum corpus sumens, de Vírgi-ne nasci
 digná- tus est: et pro-cé-dens homo si-ne sémi-ne, largí-tus
 est no-bis su- am de- i- tá- tem. ** 1. Di- xit Dómi-nus Dómi-no
 me- o: * Se-de a *dextris* me- is:
 Di- xit Dómi-nus Dómi-no me- o: * Se-de a *dextris* me- is: E u
 o u a e.

2. Donec ponam inimícos **tuos**, * scabéllum pedum **tuórum**.

3. Virgam virtútis tuæ emíttet Dóminus ex **Sion**: * domináre in médio inimicórum **tuórum**.

4. Tecum princípium in die virtútis tuæ in splendoribus **sanctórum**: * ex útero ante lucíferum **génui** te.

5. Jurávit Dóminus, et non poenitébit eum: * Tu es sacérdos in ætérnum secúndum órđinem **Melchisedech**.

6. Dóminus a dextris **tuis**, * confrégit in die iræ suæ **reges**.

7. Judicábit in natió nibus, implébit ruínas: * conquassábit cápita in terra **multórum**.

8. De torrén te in via **bibet**: * **(stand)** proptérea exaltábit **caput**.

(bow) Glória Patri, et **Fílio**, * et Spirítui **Sancto**.

(rise) Sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et **semper**, * et in sácula **sæculórum**. **Amen**.

2. *Until I make thy enemies thy footstool.*

3. *The Lord will send forth the sceptre of thy power out of Sion: rule thou in the midst of thy enemies.*

4. *With thee is the principality in the day of thy strength: in the brightness of the saints: from the womb before the day star I begot thee.*

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

6. *The Lord at thy right hand hath broken kings in the day of his wrath.*

7. *He shall judge among nations, he shall fill ruins: he shall crush the heads in the land of the many.*

8. *He shall drink of the torrent in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head.*

Glory be.

The antiphon is repeated: *O admirábile commércium...*

Psalm 112

Ant. 2. *When thou wast born * all ineffably of a Virgin, then were the Scriptures fulfilled; thou camest down like the dew upon the fleece of wool, to bring salvation unto all mankind; we praise thee, O our God. Ps. Praise the Lord, ye children: * praise ye the name of the Lord.*

All remain standing throughout the first antiphon. After the psalm is intoned by the Cantor, all sit at the asterisk.

3a2

Q Uando na-tus es * in-ef-fa-bí-li-ter ex Vírgi-ne, tunc im-
plé-tæ sunt Scriptú-ræ: sic-ut plú-vi-a in vel-lus descendí-sti,
ut sal-vum fá-ce-res ge-nus hu-má-num: te lau-dá-mus De-us
no-ster. ** 1. Laudá-te, pú-e-ri, Dó-mi-num: * laudá-te no-men
Dó-mi-ni.
Laudá-te, pú-e-ri, Dó-mi-num: * laudá-te no-men Dó-mi-ni. E u
o u a e.

2. Sit nomen Dómini benedíctum , * ex hoc nunc, et usque in sculum.	2. Blessed be the name of the Lord, from henceforth now and for ever.
3. A solis ortu usque ad occásum , * laudábile nomen Dómini .	3. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, the name of the Lord is worthy of praise.
4. Excélsus super omnes gentes Dóminus , * et super cælos glória ejus.	4. The Lord is high above all nations; and his glory above the heavens.
5. Quis sicut Dóminus, Deus noster, qui in altis hábitat , * et humília réspicit in cælo et in terra ?	5. Who is as the Lord our God, who dwelleth on high, and looketh down on the low things in heaven and in earth?
6. Súscitans a terra ínopem , * et de stércore érigens páuperem :	6. Raising up the needy from the earth, and lifting up the poor out of the dunghill:
7. Ut cóllocet eum cum príncípibus , * cum príncípibus pópuli sui .	7. That he may place him with princes, with the princes of his people.
8. Qui habitáre facit stérilem in domo , * (stand) matrem filiórum lætántem .	8. Who maketh a barren woman to dwell in a house, the joyful mother of children. Glory be.
9. (bow) Glória Patri , et Fílio , * et Spirítui Sancto .	
10. (rise) Sicut erat in princípío, et nunc , et semper , * et in scula sæculórum . Amen .	

The antiphon is repeated: *Quando natus es...*

Psalm 121

Ant. 3. *In the bush which Moses saw * unconsumed, we recognize the preservation of thy glorious virginity: holy Mother of God, intercede for us. Ps. I rejoiced at the things that were said to me: * We shall go into the house of the Lord.*

All remain standing throughout the first antiphon. After the psalm is intoned by the Cantor, all sit at the asterisk.

4E

R Ubum quem ví-de-rat * Mó- y-ses incombústum, con-

servá-tam agnó-vimus tu- am laudá-bi-lem virgi-ni tá-tem: De- i

Gé-ni-trix, intercé-de pro no-bis. ** 1. Læ-tá-tus sum in his, quæ

dicta sunt **mi**-hi: * In domum Dómi-ni í-bi-mus.

Læ-tá-tus sum in his, quæ dicta sunt **mi**-hi: * In domum Dómi-ni

í-bi-mus. E u o u a e.

2. Stantes erant *pedes nostri*, * in átriis tuis, **Jerúsalem**.

3. Jerúsalem, quæ ædificátur ut cívitas: * cujus participatio ejus in

2. Our feet were standing in thy courts, O Jerusalem.

3. Jerusalem, which is built as a city, which is compact together.

idípsum.

4. Illuc enim ascendérunt tribus, *tribus* **Dómini**: * testimónium **Israël** ad confiténdum *nómini* **Dómini**.

5. Quia illic sedérunt sedes *in* **judício**, * sedes *super domum* **David**.

6. Rogáte quæ ad pacem *sunt* **Jerúsalem**: * et abundántia *diligénti-*
bús te:

7. Fiat pax in virtúte **tua**: * et abundántia in *túrribus* **tuis**.

8. Propter fratres meos, et próximos **meos**, * loquébar *pacem* **de** te:

9. Propter domum **Dómini**, *Dei* **nostri**, * *(stand)* quæsívi *bona* **tibi**.

(bow) Glória **Patri**, *et* **Fílio**, * *et* **Spirítui Sancto**.

(rise) Sicut erat in princípío, *et* **nunc**, *et* **semper**, * *et* in **sæcula** **sæculórum**. **Amen**.

4. For thither did the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord: the testimony of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

5. Because their seats have sat in judgment, seats upon the house of David.

6. Pray ye for the things that are for the peace of Jerusalem: and abundance for them that love thee.

7. Let peace be in thy strength: and abundance in thy towers.

8. For the sake of my brethren, and of my neighbours, I spoke peace of thee.

9. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I have sought good things for thee.

Glory be.

The antiphon is repeated: *Rubum, quem víderat Móyses...*

Psalm 126

Ant. 4. *The Root of Jesse hath budded, * the Star hath come out of Jacob, the Virgin hath borne the Saviour: we praise thee, O our God. Ps. Unless the Lord build the house, * they labour in vain that build it.*

All remain standing throughout the first antiphon. After the psalm is intoned by the Cantor, all sit at the asterisk.

1f

G Ermi-ná-vit * ra-dix Jesse, orta est stel-la ex Ja-

cob: Virgo pé-pe-rit Salva-tó-rem: te lau-dá-mus, De-us no-

ster. ** 1. Ni-si Dómi-nus æ-di-fi-cá-ve-rit domum, * in va-num

la-bo-ra-vé-runt qui æ-dí-fi-cant e-am.

Ni-si Dómi-nus æ-di-fi-cá-ve-rit domum, * in va-num la-bo-ra-vé-

runt qui æ-dí-fi-cant e-am. E u o u a e.

2. Nisi Dóminus custodierit civitá-tem, * frustra vígilat qui custódit eam.

2. Unless the Lord keep the city, he watcheth in vain that keepeth it.

3. Vanum est vobis ante lucem súrgere: * súrgite postquam sedéritis,

3. It is vain for you to rise before light, rise ye after you have rested, you that eat the bread of sorrow.

qui manducátis panem *dolóris*.

4. Cum déderit diléctis **suis** **som-**
num: * ecce heréditas Dómini filii:
merces, *fructus ventris*.

5. Sicut sagíttæ in **manu** **poténtis**: *
ita filii **excussórum**.

6. Beátus vir qui implévit desidérium
suum ex **ipsis**: * (*stand*) non confundétur
cum loquétur inimícis suis in **porta**.

(*bow*) Glória Patri, et Fílio, * et
Spirítui Sancto.

(*rise*) Sicut erat in princípio, et
nunc, et **semper**, * et in **sæcula**
sæculórum. Amen.

4. When he shall give sleep to his beloved:
behold the inheritance of the Lord are
children: the reward, the fruit of the
womb.

5. As arrows in the hand of the mighty, so
the children of them that have been cast
out.

6. Blessed is the man that hath filled
his desire with them; he shall not be
confounded when he shall speak to his
enemies in the gate.

Glory be.

The antiphon is repeated: *Germinávit radix Jesse...*

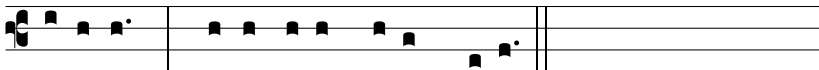
Psalm 147

Ant. 5. *Lo, Mary hath brought forth * the Saviour of whom when John saw him, he did proclaim: Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world, alleluia. Ps. Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem: * praise thy God, O Sion.*

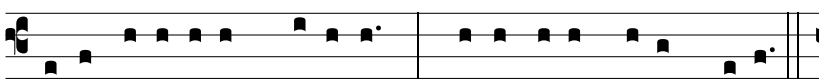
All remain standing throughout the first antiphon. After the psalm is intoned by the Cantor, all sit at the asterisk.

2D

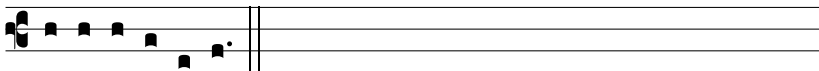
E C-ce Ma-rí- a * gé-nu- it no-bis Salva-tó-rem, quem Jo- án-
nes vi-dens excla-má- vit, di- cens: Ecce Agnus De- i, ec-ce
qui tol-lit peccá-ta † mundi, al-le-lú- ia. ** 1. Lauda, Je-rú-sa-lem,



Dómi-num: * lauda De- um tu- um, Si- on.



Lauda, Je-rú-sa-lem, Dómi-num: * lauda De- um tu- um, Si- on.



E u o u a e.

2. Quóniam confortávit seras portárum
tuárum: * benedíxit filiis tuis in te.

3. Qui pósuit fines tuos **pacem**: * et
ádipe fruménti sátiat te.

4. Qui emíttit elóquium suum
terræ: * velóciter currit sermo ejus.

5. Qui dat nivem sicut lanam: *
nébulam sicut cínerem spargit.

6. Mittit crystállum suam sicut
buccéllas: * ante fáciem frígoris ejus
quis sustinébit?

7. Emíttet verbum suum, et liquefáci-
et ea: * flabit spíritus ejus, et fluent
aquæ.

8. Qui annúntiat verbum suum
Jacob: * justítias, et judícia sua
Israël.

9. Non fecit táliter omni natióni: *
(stand) et judícia sua non manifestávit
eis.

(bow) Glória Patri, et Fílio, * et
Spíritui Sancto.

(rise) Sicut erat in princípío, et
nunc, et semper, * et in sácula
sæculórum. Amen.

2. Because he hath strengthened the bolts
of thy gates, he hath blessed thy children
within thee.

3. Who hath placed peace in thy borders:
and filleth thee with the fat of corn.

4. Who sendeth forth his speech to the
earth: his word runneth swiftly.

5. Who giveth snow like wool: scattereth
mists like ashes.

6. He sendeth his crystal like morsels:
who shall stand before the face of his
cold?

7. He shall send out his word, and shall
melt them: his wind shall blow, and the
waters shall run.

8. Who declareth his word to Jacob: his
justices and his judgments to Israel.

9. He hath not done in like manner to
every nation: and his judgments he hath
not made manifest to them.

Glory be.

The antiphon is repeated: *Ecce María genuit . . .*

Little Chapter (Titus 2:11-12)

The Officiant leads the Little Chapter:

Appáruit grátia Dei Salvatóris nostri
ómnibus homínibus,† erúdiens nos,
ut abnegántes impietátem, et
sæculária desidéria, * sóbrie, et
juste, et pie vivámus in hoc sæculo.
℞. Deo grátias.

*The grace of God that bringeth salvation
hath appeared to all men, teaching us
that, denying ungodliness and worldly
lusts, we should live soberly, righteously,
and godly in this present world. ℞. Thanks
be to God.*

Hymn

The Cantor leads the hymn:

IV

J e-su Red-émptor ómni- um Perpes co-ró- na Pr-su-lum

In hac di- e cle-ménti- us Nostris fa-vé- to pré- ci- bus

2. Tu- i sacri qua nómi- nis Conféssor al- mus clá- ru- it, Hu- jus

ce- le- brat ánnu- a De- vó- ta plebs so- lémni- a 3. Qui ri- te

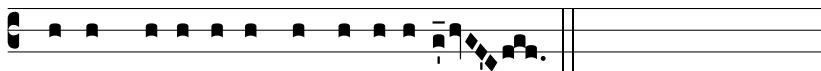
mundi gáudi- a Hu- jus ca- dú- ca réspu- ens, Cum Ange- lis cæ-



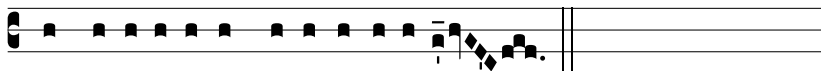
lés-ti-bus Læ-tus po-tí- tur pr-mi- is. 4. Hu-jus be-nígnus an-
 nu- e No-bis sequi ves-tí-gi- a: Hu-jus pre-cá- tu sérvu-lis
 Di-mít-te no- xam crí-mi- nis 5. Sit Chris- te rex pi- is-sime
 Ti- bi, pa-tri- que glo- ri- a Cum Spi- ri- tu Pa- ra- cli- to,
 Et nunc, et in perpé- tu- um. A- men

1. *Jesus, the Ransomer of man, Who, ere created light began, Didst from the sovereign Father spring, His power and glory equalling.*
2. *The Fathers Light and Splendor Thou, Their endless hope to Thee that bow; Accept the prayers and praise to-day That through the world Thy servants pay.*
3. *Salvations Author, call to mind How, taking form of humankind, Born of a Virgin undefiled, Thou in mans flesh becamst a Child.*
4. *Thus testifies the present day, Through every year in long array, That Thou, salvations source alone, Proceedest from the Fathers throne.*
5. *The heavens above, the rolling main And all that earths wide realms contain, With joyous voice now loudly sing The glory of their new-born King.*
6. *And we who, by Thy precious Blood From sin redeemed, are marked for God, On this the day that saw Thy birth, Sing the new song of ransomed earth.*
7. *O Lord, the Virgin-born, to Thee Eternal praise and glory be, Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.*

The Cantor says the following before all reply afterwards:



℣. Verbum ca-ro factum est, al-le-lú-ja.



℞. Et ha-bi-tá-vit in no-bis, al-le-lú-ja.

℣. *The Word was made flesh, alleluia.* ℞. *And dwelt among us, alleluia.*

Magnificat

Ant Magn. *Behold a faithful and prudent servant, whom the Lord has set over His household.* Cant. *My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.*

The Cantor leads by intoning the antiphon and the first verse.

VIII

P Ro- pter ní-mi- am * ca-ri-tá-tem su- am, qua di- léx- it

nos De- us, Fí- li- um su- um mi- sit in sí-mi- li- tú-di-nem

carnis peccá- ti, al-le-lú-ia.

All **stand** and make the sign of the cross with the Cantor.

Magní- fi-cat * á-ni-ma me- a Dómi-num. 2. Et exsul-tá-vit spí-ri-tus

me- us * in De- o sa-lu-tá-ri me- o.

3. Quia respéxit humilitátem ancíllæ suæ: * ecce enim ex hoc beátam me dicent omnes generatiónes.

4. Quia fecit mihi magna qui **potens** est: * et sanctum *nomen* ejus.

5. Et misericórdia ejus a progénie in progénies * *timéntibus* eum.

6. Fecit poténtiam in bráchio suo: * dispérsit supérbos mente cordis sui.

7. Depósuit poténtes de **sede**, * et exaltávit **húmiles**.

8. Esuriéntes implévit **bonis**: * et dívites dimísit *inánes*.

9. Suscépit Israël púerum **suum**, * recordátus misericórdiæ suæ.

10. Sicut locútus est ad patres **nostros**, * Abraham et sémini ejus in **sæcula**.

3. Because he hath regarded the humility of his handmaid; for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

4. Because he that is mighty, hath done great things to me; and holy is his name.

5. And his mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that fear him.

6. He hath shewed might in his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.

7. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble.

8. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.

9. He hath received Israel his servant, being mindful of his mercy:

10. As he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for ever.

Glory be.

(bow) Glória Patri, et Fílio, * et Spirítui **Sancto**.

(rise) Sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et **semper**, * et in **sæcula sæculórum**. Amen.

All sit and repeat the antiphon: *Propter nímiā . . .*, then **stand** for the prayer.

Collect

The Officiant leads the collect:

Ÿ. Dómine exáudi oratiónem meam.
R̃. Et clamor meus ad te véniat.

Orémus. Deus, qui salútis æternæ,
beátæ Maríæ virginitáte fecúnda,
humáno géneri præmia præstitisti:
tríbe, quæsumus; ut ipsam pro
nobis intercédere sentiámus, per
quam merúimus auctórem vitæ
suscípere, Dóminum nostrum Jesum
Christum Fílium tuum: Qui tecum
vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus
Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sǽcula
sǽculórum. R̃. Amen.

*Lord, hear my prayer. R̃. And let my cry
come unto Thee.*

*Let us pray. O God, Who, by the
fruitful virginity of the Blessed Mary,
hast given unto mankind the rewards of
everlasting life; grant, we beseech thee,
that we may continually feel the might of
her intercession, through whom we have
worthily received the Author of our life,
our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son: Who with
thee liveth and reigneth, in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, God, world without end.
R̃. Amen.*

Commemoration of Pope St. Sylvester, Confessor (December 31)

Ant. While he was supreme Pontiff, he feared not earthly powers, but gloriously went his way to the heavenly kingdom.

I
D UM es-set summus Pónti-fex, * ter-ré-na non mé- tu- it :
sed ad cæ-lé-sti- a regna glo-ri- ó-sus mi-grá-vit.

Ÿ. Amávit eum Dóminus, et ornávit eum.

℟. Stolum glóriæ índuit eum.

Orémus. Gregem tuum, Pastor æternæ placátus inténde: et per beátum Silvétrum, Summum Pontíficem tuum, perpétua protectione custódi; quem totius Ecclésiæ præstitísti esse pastórem. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum. ℟. Amen.

Ÿ. The Lord loved him and beautified him.
℟. He clothed him with a robe of glory.

Let us pray. Eternal Shepherd, direct gently Thy flock, and guard it with an everlasting protection, by the intercession of blessed Sylvester, Thy Sovereign Pontiff, whom Thou hast constituted Shepherd of the whole Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. ℟. Amen.

For commemorations, the Cantor intones the antiphon and says the responsorial prayer afterwards. The Officiant prays the associated collect.

The Officiant leads the following:

Ÿ. Dómine exáudi oratióne meam.
℟. Et clamor meus ad te véniat.

Ÿ. Lord, hear my prayer. ℟. And let my cry come unto Thee. Ÿ. Let us bless the Lord.
℟. Thanks be to God.

The Cantor leads the Benedicamus:

2.
B E- ne-di-cá-mus Dó- mi-
 no. R. De- o grá- ti- as.

The Officiant leads the following:

℣. Fidélium ánimæ, per misericórdiam
 Dei, requiáscant in pace.

R. Amen.

Pater noster (*silently*).

℣. Dóminus det nobis suam pacem.

R. Et vitam ætérnam. Amen.

*May the souls of the faithful departed,
 through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

R. Amen.

Our Father. . .

*May the Lord grant us his peace. R. And
 life eternal. Amen.*

Marian Anthem

*The Cantor leads the Marian anthem and responses afterwards; the Officiant
 leads the ending collect:*

v
A L- ma * Red-emptó-ris Ma- ter, quæ pér-vi-
 a c- li por- ta ma- nes, Et stel- la ma- ris, succúrre ca-
 dén- ti súrge-re qui cu- rat pó-pu-lo: Tu quæ ge-nu- ís- ti,
 na-tú- ra mi-rán- te, tu-um sanctum Ge- ni- tó-rem: Vir- go



A-ve, * pecca-tó-rum mi-se-ré-re.

Holy mother of our Redeemer, thou gate leading to heaven and star of the sea; help the falling people who seek to rise, thou who, all nature wondering, didst give birth to thy holy Creator. Virgin always, hearing the greeting from Gabriels lips, take pity on sinners.

℣. Post partum, Virgo, inviolata permansisti.

℟. Dei Genitrix, intercede pro nobis.

Orémus. Deus, qui salutis aeternae, beatae Mariae virginitate fecunda, humano generi praemia praestitisti: †tribue, quaesumus, ut ipsam pro nobis intercedere *sentiamus*, per quam meruimus auctorem vitae suscipere, * Dominum nostrum Iesum Christum, Filium tuum.

℟. Amen.

Vouchsafe that I may praise thee, O sacred Virgin. ℟. Give me strength against thine enemies.

Let us pray. O God, Who by the fruitful virginity of blessed Mary hast offered unto the human race the rewards of eternal salvation, grant, we beseech thee, that we may know the effects of her intercession, through whom we have deserved to receive the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son. ℟. Amen.

The Officiant says the following:

℣. Divinum auxilium máneat semper nobiscum.

℟. Amen.

May the divine assistance remain always with us. ℟. Amen.

After the Office, all **kneel** and pray in silence for a time.