



THE CANONICAL OFFICE OF VESPERS OF SUNDAY

PRAYER BEFORE DIVINE OFFICE

O Lord, open our mouths that we may bless Your Holy Name. Cleanse us; enlighten our understanding, kindle our affections, that we may praise You with attention and devotion; and worthily be heard before the presence of Your Divine Majesty. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, in union with that Divine Intention where You praised God here on earth, we offer these Hours for the intentions of *those who seek our prayers.*

OPENING VERSICLES

O God, ✠ come to our aid.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia!**

Ant. The Lord said to my Lord: \* Sit thou at my right hand...

PSALM 109 (110)

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

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

The Lord hath sworn, and he will not repent: \* Thou art a priest for ever according to the order of Melchisedech. **The Lord at thy right hand \* hath broken kings in the day of his wrath.**

He shall judge among nations, he shall fill ruins: \* he shall crush the heads in the land of many. **He shall drink of the torrent in the way: \* therefore shall he lift up the head.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia!**

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

*Ant.* Great are the works of the Lord, \* sought out according to all his wills.

PSALM 110 (111)

I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; \* in the council of the just, and in the congregation. **Great are the works of the Lord: \* sought out according to all his wills.**

His work is praise and magnificence: \* and his justice continueth for ever and ever. **He hath made a remembrance of his wonderful works, being a merciful and gracious Lord: \* he hath given food to them that fear him.**

He will be mindful for ever of his covenant: \* he will shew forth to his people the power of his works. **That he may give them the inheritance of the Gentiles: \* the works of his hands are truth and judgement.**

All his commandments are faithful: confirmed for ever and ever, \* made in truth and equity. **He hath sent redemption to his people: \* he hath commanded his covenant for ever.**

*(bow head)* Holy and terrible is his name: \* the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. **A good understanding to all that do it: \* his praise continueth for ever and ever.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia!**

*Ant.* **Great are the works of the Lord, sought out according to all his wills.**

*Ant.* Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord; \* he shall delight exceedingly in his commandments.

PSALM 111 (112)

**His seed shall be mighty upon earth: \* the generation of the righteous shall be blessed.**

Glory and wealth shall be in his house: \* and his justice remaineth for ever and ever. **To the righteous a light is risen up in darkness: \* he is merciful, and compassionate and just.**

Acceptable is the man that sheweth mercy and lendeth: he shall order his words with judgement: \* because he shall not be moved for ever. **The just shall be in everlasting remembrance: \* he shall not fear the evil hearing.**

His heart is ready to hope in the Lord: his heart is strengthened, \* he shall not be moved until he look over his enemies. **He hath distributed, he hath given to the poor: his justice remaineth for ever and ever: \* his horn shall be exalted in glory.**

The wicked shall see, and shall be angry, he shall gnash with his teeth and pine away: \* the desire of the wicked shall perish. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*Ant.* **Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord; he shall delight exceedingly in his commandments.**

*Ant.* Blessed be the name of the Lord \* from henceforth now and for ever.

PSALM 112 (113)

Praise the Lord, ye children: \* praise ye the name of the Lord. *(bow head)* **Blessed be the name of the Lord, \* from henceforth now and for ever.**

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, \* the name of the Lord is worthy of praise. **The Lord is high above all nations; \* and his glory above the heavens.**

Who is as the Lord our God, who dwelleth on high: \* and looketh down on the low things in heaven and in earth? **Raising up the needy from the earth, \* and lifting up the poor out of the dunghill:**

That he may place him with princes, \* with the princes of his people. **Who maketh a barren woman to dwell in a house, \* the joyful mother of children.**

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

*Ant.* **Blessed be the name of the Lord from henceforth now and for ever.**

*Ant.* But our God is in heaven, \* he hath done all things whatsoever he would.

PSALM 113 (114)

When Israel went out of Egypt, \* the house of Jacob from a barbarous people: **Judea was made his sanctuary, \* Israel his dominion.**

The sea saw and fled: \* Jordan was turned back. **The mountains skipped like rams, \* and the hills like the lambs of the flock.**

What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou didst flee: \* and thou, O Jordan, that thou wast turned back? **Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams, \* and ye hills, like lambs of the flock?**

At the presence of the Lord the earth was moved, \* at the presence of the God of Jacob: **Who turned the rock into pools of water, \* and the stony hill into fountains of waters.**

Not to us, O Lord, not to us; \* but to thy name give glory. **For thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake: \* lest the Gentiles should say: Where is their God?**

But our God is in heaven: \* he hath done all things whatsoever he would. **The idols of the Gentiles are silver and gold, \* the works of the hands of men.**

They have mouths and speak not: \* they have eyes and see not. **They have ears and hear not: \* they have noses and smell not.**

They have hands and feel not: they have feet and walk not: \* neither shall they cry out through their throat. **Let them that make them become like unto them: \* and all such as trust in them.**

The house of Israel hath hoped in the Lord: \* he is their helper and their protector. **The house of Aaron hath hoped in the Lord: \* he is their helper and their protector.**

They that fear the Lord have hoped in the Lord: \* he is their helper and their protector. **The Lord hath been mindful of us, \* and hath blessed us.**

He hath blessed the house of Israel: \* he hath blessed the house of Aaron. **He hath blessed all that fear the Lord, \* both little and great.**

May the Lord add blessings upon you: \* upon you, and upon your children. **Blessed be you of the Lord, \* who made heaven and earth.**

The heaven of heaven is the Lord's: \* but the earth he has given to the children of men. **The dead shall not praise thee, O Lord: \* nor any of them that go down to hell.**

But we that live bless the Lord: \* from this time now and for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*Ant.* **But our God is in heaven, he hath done all things whatsoever he would.**

#### II CORINTHIANS 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort, who comforteth us in all our tribulation. **℞. Thanks be to God.**



O blest Creator of the light,  
Who mak'st the day with radiance bright,  
And o'er the forming world didst call  
The light from chaos first of all;

**Whose wisdom joined in meet array  
The morn and eve, and named them day:  
Night comes with all its darkling fears;  
Regard thy people's prayers and tears.**

Lest, sunk in sin, and whelmed with strife,  
They lose the gift of endless life;  
While thinking but the thoughts of time,  
They weave new chains of woe and crime.

**But grant them grace that they may strain  
The heavenly gate and prize to gain:  
Each harmful lure aside to cast,  
And purge away each error past.**

O Father, that we ask be done,  
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son;  
Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,  
Doth live and reign eternally.  
Amen.

℣. O Lord, direct my prayer.

℞. **As incense in thy sight.**

*Ant.* Master, we have toiled all night, \* and have taken nothing; nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

My soul ☩ \* doth magnify the Lord. And my spirit hath rejoiced \* in God my Saviour. **Because he hath regarded the humility of his handmaid; \* for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.**

Because he that is mighty, hath done great things to me; \* and holy is his name. **And his mercy is from generation unto generations, \* to them that fear him.**

He hath shewed might in his arm: \* he hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart. **He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \* and hath exalted the humble.**

He hath filled the hungry with good things; \* and the rich he hath sent empty away. **He hath received Israel his servant, \* being mindful of his mercy:**

As he spoke to our fathers, \* to Abraham and to his seed for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*Ant.* **Master, we have toiled all night, and have taken nothing; nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.**

#### PRAYER

*V.* O Lord, hear our prayer.

*R.* **And let our cry come unto thee.**

Let us pray.

Grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by thy governance, that thy Church may joyfully serve thee in all godly quietness. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth in the unity of the Holy Ghost, One God, world without end. *R.* **Amen.**

#### CONCLUSION

*V.* O Lord, hear our prayer.

*R.* **And let our cry come unto thee.**



℣. Let us bless the Lord.

℟. **Thanks be to God.**

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

℟. **Amen.**

#### PRAYER AFTER DIVINE OFFICE

To the Most Holy and undivided Trinity, to the Manhood of our Lord Jesus Christ Crucified, to the fruitful Virginity of the most blessed and most glorious Mary and to the holiness of all the Saints be ascribed everlasting praise, honour, and glory, by all creatures, and to us be granted the forgiveness of all our sins, world without end. **Amen.**