

VESPERE PRO DOMINICA

VESPERS OR EVENING PRAYERS

Vespers form part of the priest's daily office which is recited in the afternoon or evening. In ancient times they were chanted by the faithful every day, and this venerable custom is still retained by certain Religious Orders. After the prayers of praise which accompany the

Prayer before the Divine Office

APERI, Dómine, os meum ad benedicéndum nomen sanctum tuum: munda quoque cor meum ab ómnibus vanis, perversis et aliénis cogitatiónibus; intelléctum illúmina, afféctum inflámma, ut digne, attén-te ac devóte hoc officium recitáre váleam, et exaudiri mérear ante conspéctum divínæ majestátis tuæ. Per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

℞. Amen.

Dómine, in unióne illius divínæ intentiónis, qua ipse in terris laudes Deo persolvisti, has tibi horas persólvo.

The celebrant and his attendants then proceed to the bench, on the Epistle side of the sanctuary; and after saying in silence the Our Father and the Hail Mary, the celebrant intones:

DEUS ✠ in adiutórium meum inténde.

℞. Dómine, ad adiuvándum me festína.

℣. Glória Patri, et Filio, et Spirítui Sancto.

℞. Sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen.

Allelúia.

(From Septuagesima to Palm Sunday inclusive, instead of Alleluia is said:)

Laus tibi, Dómine, Rex æternæ glóriæ.

ANT: Dixit Dóminus.

PSALMUS CIX

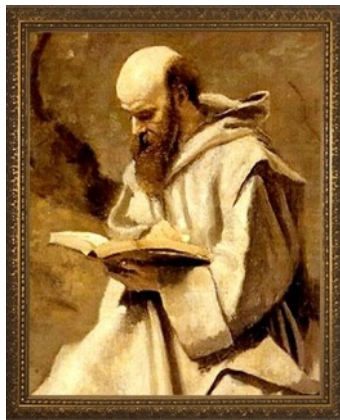
Dixit Dominus.

DIXIT Dóminus Dómino meo: Sede a dextris meis: Donec ponam inimicos tuos, scabéllum pedum tuórum. Virgam virtútis tuæ emittet Dóminus ex Sion: domináre in médio inimicórum tuórum. Tecum princípium in die virtútis tuæ in splendóribus sanctórum: ex útero ante lucíferum génui te. Iurávit Dóminus, et non pœnitébit eum: Tu es sacérdos in ætérnum secúndum ór-dinem Melchisedech. Dóminus a dextris tuis, confrégit in die iræ suæ reges.

Iudicábit in natió-nibus, implébit ruínas: conquassábit cápita in terra multórum. De torrén-te in via bibet: proptérea exaltábit caput.

Glória Patri ...

ANT: Dixit Dóminus Dómino meo: Sede a dextris meis.



VESPERS FOR SUNDAY

RECITED AT DUSK (c. 6PM)

Sacrifice of the Mass there are no others so solemn as the vesper prayers. Coming into the sanctuary with his assistants the celebrant first kneels before the altar and recites the following prayer:

Prayer before the Divine Office

O LORD, open Thou my mouth that I may bless Thy Holy Name; cleanse my heart from all vain, evil, and wandering thoughts; enlighten my understanding; kindle my affections, that I may worthily, attentively, and devoutly recite this office, and may deserve to be heard before the presence of Thy divine Majesty. Through Christ our Lord.

℞. Amen.

Lord, in union with that divine intention wherewith Thou didst Thyself praise God while on earth, I offer these hours unto Thee.

N.B. The 'Glory be' Minor Doxology is recited at the conclusion of every psalm; during Eastertide (i.e. from Easter Sunday until Trinity Sunday) 'Alleluia' is added as an antiphon at its conclusion.

O GOD, ✠ come come to my assistance;

℞. O Lord, make haste to help me.

℣. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

℞. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Allelúia.

(From Septuagesima to Palm Sunday inclusive, instead of Alleluia is said:)

Praise to Thee, O Lord, King of etenal glory.

ANT: The Lord said.

PSALM 109

Christ's exaltation and everlasting priesthood.

THE Lord said to my Lord: Sit thou at my right hand: 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 ...

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

ANT: Magna ópera Dómini.

PSALMUS CX

Confitebor tibi, Domine. Alleluia.

CONFITÉBOR tibi, Dómine, in toto corde meo: in consilio iustórum, et congregatióne. Magna ópera Dómini: exquisíta in omnes voluntátes eius. Conféssio et magnificéntia opus eius: et iustítia eius manet in sæculum sæculi. Memóriam fecit mirábiliū suórum, miséricors et miserátor Dóminus: escam dedit timéntibus se. Memor erit in sæculum testaménti sui.

Virtútem óperum suórum annuntiábit pópulo suo: Ut det illis hereditátem géntium: ópera mánuum eius véritas, et iudiciū. Fidélia ómnia mandáta eius: confirmáta in sæculum sæculi, facta in veritáte et æquitáte. Redemptiόνem misit pópulo suo: mandávit in ætérnum testaméntum suum. *(fit reverentia)* Sanctum, et terribile nomen eius: inítium sapiéntiæ timor Dómini. Intelléctus bonus ómnibus faciéntibus eum: laudátio eius manet in sæculum sæculi.

Glória Patri ...

ANT: Magna ópera Dómini: exquisíta in omnes voluntátes eius.

ANT: Qui timet Dóminum.

PSALMUS CXI

Beatus vir. Alleluia.

BEÁTUS vir, qui timet Dóminum: in mandátis eius volet nimis. Potens in terra erit semen eius: generátio rectórum benedicétur. Glória, et divítiae in domo eius: et iustítia eius manet in sæculum sæculi. Exórtum est in ténebris lumen rectis: miséricors, et miserátor, et iustus. Iucúndus homo qui miserétur et cōmodat, dispónet sermónes suos in iudicio.

Quia in ætérnum non commovébitur. In memória ætérna erit iustus: ab auditióne mala non timébit. Parátum cor eius speráre in Dómino, confirmátum est cor eius: non commovébitur donec despiciat inimícos suos. Dispérsit, dedit paupéribus: iustítia eius manet in sæculum sæculi, cornu eius exaltábitur in glória. Peccátor vidébit, et irascétur, déntibus suis fremet et tabéscet: desidérium peccatórum peribit. Amen.

Glória Patri ...

ANT: Qui timet Dóminum, in mandátis eius cupit nimis.

ANT: Sit nomen Dómini.

PSALMUS CXII

Laudate, pueri. Alleluia.

LAUDÁTE, púeri, Dóminum: laudáte nomen Dómini. *(fit reverentia)* Sit nomen Dóm-ini benedictum, ex hoc nunc, et usque in sæculum. A solis ortu usque ad occásu, laudábile

ANT: Great are the works of the Lord.

PSALM 110

God is to be praised for his graces, and benefits to his church. Alleluia.

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 judgment. 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 ...

ANT: Great are the works of the Lord, sought out according to all His wills.

ANT: He that feareth the Lord.

PSALM 111

The good man is happy. Alleluia, of the returning of Aggeus and Zacharias.

BLESSED is the man that feareth the Lord: he shall delight exceedingly in his commandments. 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 judgment:

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. Amen.

Glory be ...

ANT: Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord;
he shall delight exceedingly in His commandments.

ANT: Blessed be the Name of the Lord.

PSALM 112

God is to be praised for his regard to the poor and humble. Alleluia.

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 is high ...

nomen Dómini. Excelsus super omnes gentes Dóminus, et super cælos glória eius. Quis sicut Dóminus, Deus noster, qui in altis hábitat, et humilia réspicit in cælo et in terra? Súscitans a terra inopem, et de stercore érigens páuperem: Ut cólloce eum cum princípibus, cum princípibus pópuli sui. Qui habitáre facit stérilem in domo, matrem filiórum lætántem.

Glória Patri ...

ANT: Sit nomen Dómini benedictum in sæcula.

~~~~~

**ANT:** Deus autem noster.

**PSALMUS CXIII**

*In exitu Israel. Alleluia.*

IN éxitu Israë́l de Ægypto, domus Iacob de pópulo bárbaro: Facta est Iudæa sanctificatio eius, Israë́l potestas eius. Mare vidit, et fugit: Iordánis convérsus est retrórsum. Montes exsultavérunt ut arietes, et colles sicut agni óvium. Quid est tibi, mare, quod fugísti: et tu, Iordánis, quia convérsus es retrórsum?

Montes, exsultástis sicut arietes, et colles, sicut agni óvium. A fácie Dómini mota est terra, a fácie Dei Iacob. Qui convértit petram in stagna aquárum, et rupem in fontes aquárum. Non nobis, Dómine, non nobis: sed nómini tuo da glóriam. Super misericórdia tua, et veritáte tua: nequándo dicant gentes: Ubi est Deus eórum?

Deus autem noster in cælo: ómnia quæcúmque vóluit, fecit. Simulácrá géntium argéntum, et aurum, ópera mánuum hóminum. Os habent, et non loquéntur: óculos habent, et non vidébunt. Aures habent, et non áudient: nares habent, et non odorábunt.

Manus habent, et non palpábunt: pedes habent, et non ambulábunt: non clamábunt in gútture suo. Símites illis fiant qui faciunt ea: et omnes qui confidunt in eis. Domus Israë́l sperávit in Dómino: adiútor eórum et protéctor eórum est, Domus Aaron sperávit in Dómino: adiútor eórum et protéctor eórum est, Qui timent Dóminum, speravérunt in Dómino: adiútor eórum et protéctor eórum est. Dóminus memor fuit nostri: et benedixit nobis: Benedixit dómui Israë́l: benedixit dómui Aaron.

Benedixit ómnibus, qui timent Dóminum, pusillis cum maióribus. Adiciat Dóminus super vos: super vos, et super filios vestros. Benedícti vos a Dómino, qui fecit cælum, et terram. Cælum cæli Dómino: terram autem dedit filiis hóminum. Non mórtui laudábunt te, Dómine: neque omnes, qui descéndunt in inférnum.

Sed nos qui vivimus, benedícimus Dómino, ex hoc nunc et usque in sæculum.

**Glória Patri ...**

**ANT:** Deus autem noster in cælo: ómnia quæcúmque vóluit, fecit.

~~~~~

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 ...

ANT: Blessed be the Name of the Lord from henceforth now and for ever.

~~~~~

**ANT:** But our God.

**PSALM 113**

*God hath shewn his power in delivering his people: idols are vain. Alleluia.*

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 hath 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 ...**

**ANT:** But our God is in heaven: He hath done all things whatsoever He would.

~~~~~

CAPITULUM

BENEDÍCTUS Deus, et Pater Dómini nostri Iesu Christi, Pater misericordiárum, et Deus totius consolatiónis, qui consolátur nos in omni tribulatióne nostra.

℞. Deo grátias.

HYMNUS

In this sublime poem we have a commemoration of the work of the first day of Creation, when light was made.

LUCIS Creátor óptime,
Lucem diérum próferens,
Primórdiis lucis novæ,
Mundi parans originem:

Qui mane iunctum vésperi
Diem vocári præcipis:
Illábitur tetrum chaos,
Audi preces cum flétibus.

Ne mens graváta crimine,
Vitæ sit exsul múnere,
Dum nil perénne cógitat,
Seséque culpis illigat.

Cæléste pulset óstium:
Vitále tollat præmium:
Vitémus omne nóxiū:
Purgémus omne péssimum.

Præsta, Pater piíssime,
Patrique compar Únice,
Cum Spíritu Paráclito
Regnans per omne sæculum. Amen.

℣. Dirigátur, Dómine, orátio mea.

℞. Sicut incénsum in conspéctu tuo.

MAGNIFICAT

This magnificently sublime canticle was uttered by the Blessed Virgin Mary upon her visit to her cousin Elizabeth, shortly after her conception of Christ when saluted

MAGNÍFICAT ✠ ánima mea Dóminum. Et exsultávit spíritus meus: in Deo, salutári meo. Quia respéxit humilitátem ancillæ suæ: ecce enim ex hoc beátam me dicent omnes generatiónes. Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est: et sanctum nomen eius. Et misericórdia eius, a progénie in progénies: timéntibus eum.

Fecit poténtiam in bráccchio suo: dispérsit supérbos mente cordis sui. Depósuit poténtes de sede: et exaltávit húmiles. Esuriéntes implévit bonis: et dívites dimísit ...

LITTLE CHAPTER

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.

HYMN

The translation is by Cdl. Newman. Certain seasons have specific hymns whicg are used in place of this present one.

FATHER of Lights, by whom each day
Is kindled out of night,
Who, when the heavens were made, didst lay
Their rudiments in light;

Thou, Who didst bind and blend in one
The glistening morn and evening pale,
Hear Thou our plaint, when light is gone,
And lawlessness and strife prevail.

Hear, lest the whelming weight of crime
Wreck us with life in view;
Lest thoughts and schemes of sense and time
Earn us a sinner's due.

So may we knock at Heaven's door,
And strive the immortal prize to win,
Continually and evermore
Guarded without and pure within.

Grant this, O Father, only Son,
And Spirit, God of grace,
To Whom all worship shall be done
In every time and place. Amen.

℣. Let my prayer, O Lord, be directed

℞. As incense in Thy sight.

THE MAGNIFICAT

by Elizabeth as Mother of the Lord. It is a song of thanksgiving for the graces and privileges she had received from God (cf. St. Luke 1:46-55).

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 ...

inānes. Suscépit Israēl púerum suum: recordátus misericórdiæ suæ. Sicut locútus est ad patres nostros: Ábraham, et sémini eius in sæcula.

Glória Patri ...

Ÿ. Dóminus vobiscum.
R̃. Et cum spíritu tuo.

ORATIO

Refer to the daily Missal, or search for 'TLM Propers' on the inter-connected net-work (or, 'internet')
OMNÍPOTENS sempitérne Deus, qui dedisti fámulis tuis in confessióne veræ fidei, ætérnæ Trinitátis glóriam agnóscere, et in poténtia majestátis adoráre unitátem: quæsumus, ut, ejúsdem fidei firmitáte, ab ómnibus semper muniámur advérsis. Per Christum Dóminum nostrum.

Ÿ. Dóminus vobiscum.
R̃. Et cum spíritu tuo.

Ÿ. Benedicámus Dómino.
R̃. Deo grátias.

Ÿ. Fidélium animæ per misericórdiam Dei requiéscant in pace.
R̃. Amen.

Pater noster ...

(in silentio)

... Et ne nos indúcas in tentatiónem:
sed libera nos a málo.
Amen.



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 ...

Ÿ. The Lord be with you.
R̃. And with thy spirit.

COLLECT PRAYER

Below is shown Collect Prayer for Trinity Sunday, which can be used as a 'default':

O ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, Who hast granted Thy servants in the confession of the true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the Eternal Trinity, and in the power of majesty to adore the Unity; we beseech Thee, that by the strength of this faith we may be defended from all adversity. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Ÿ. The Lord be with you.
R̃. And with thy spirit.

Ÿ. Let us bless the Lord.
R̃. Thanks be to God.

Ÿ. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
R̃. Amen.

Our Father ...

(Vespers terminate with the Our Father, essentially said in silence)

... And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

NOTES:

Formula and commentary essentially taken from *Blessed Be God: A Complete Catholic Prayerbook*, pp. 174-190, Very Rev. Charles J. Callam, O.P., S.T.M, Very Rev. John A. McHugh, O.P., S.T.M, Preserving Christian Publications, N.Y., 2019 (Re-print of original 1960 ed., P.J. Kennedy & Sona, N.Y.):
Nihil Obstat: V.F. O'Daniel, O.P., S.T.M., M.A. Waldron, O.P., S.T.M.; Imprimi Potest: J.R. Meagher, O.P., S.T.LR (Prior Provincialis); Nihil Obstat: John A. Goodwine, J.C.D. (Censor Librorum); Imprimatur: + Francis Cardinal Spellman, ABp. New York, September 11, 1959.

With additional reference to drbo.org and DivinumoOfficium.com.

