

March 15, 2021

Evening Prayer for Monday of the 4th Week of Lent

God, come to my assistance.

Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PSALMODY

Ant. 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for his great love is without end.

Psalm 136

O give thanks to the Lord for he is good,

for his love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods

for his love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,

for his love endures forever;

who alone has wrought marvelous works,

for his love endures forever;

whose wisdom it was made the skies,

for his love endures forever;

who fixed the earth firmly on the seas,

for his love endures forever.

It was he who made the great lights,

for his love endures forever;

the sun to rule in the day,

for his love endures forever;

the moon and the stars in the night,

for his love endures forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Ant. Give thanks to the Lord, for his great love is without end.

Ant. 2 Great and wonderful are your deeds, Lord God the Almighty.

The first-born of the Egyptians he smote,

for his love endures forever.

He brought Israel out from their midst,
for his love endures forever;
arm outstretched, with power in his hand,
for his love endures forever.

**He divided the Red Sea in two,
for his love endures forever;
he made Israel pass through the midst,
for his love endures forever;
he flung Pharaoh and his force in the sea,
for his love endures forever.**

Through the desert his people he led,
for his love endures forever.
Nations in their greatness he struck,
for his love endures forever.
Kings in their splendor he slew,
for his love endures forever.

**Sihon, king of the Amorites,
for his love endures forever;
and Og, the king of Bashan,
for his love endures forever.**

He let Israel inherit their land,
for his love endures forever.
On his servant their land he bestowed,
for his love endures forever.
He remembered us in our distress,
for his love endures forever.

**And he snatched us away from our foes,
for his love endures forever.
He gives food to all living things,
for his love endures forever.
To the God of heaven give thanks,
for his love endures forever.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Ant. Great and wonderful are your deeds, Lord God the Almighty.

Ant. 3 God planned in the fullness of time to restore all things in Christ.

Ephesians 1:3-10

Praised be the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has bestowed on us in Christ
every spiritual blessing in the heavens.

**God chose us in him
before the world began
to be holy
and blameless in his sight.**

He predestined us
to be his adopted sons through Jesus Christ,
such was his will and pleasure,
that all might praise the glorious favor
he has bestowed on us in his beloved.

**In him and through his blood, we have been redeemed,
and our sins forgiven,
so immeasurably generous
is God's favor to us.**

God has given us the wisdom
to understand fully the mystery,
the plan he was pleased
to decree in Christ.

**A plan to be carried out
in Christ, in the fullness of time,
to bring all things into one in him,
in the heavens and on earth.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Ant. God planned in the fullness of time to restore all things in Christ.

BRIEF READING Romans 12:1-2

Brothers, I beg you through the mercy of God to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you may judge what is God's will, what is good, pleasing and perfect.

RESPONSORY

To you, O Lord, I make my prayer for mercy.

To you, O Lord, I make my prayer for mercy.

Heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.

I make my prayer for mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

To you, O Lord, I make my prayer for mercy.

CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. The father realized that it was at that very hour when Jesus had told him:
Your son will live; and he and all his household became believers.

Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

**He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.**

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children forever.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:**

as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.

Ant. The father realized that it was at that very hour when Jesus had told him:
Your son will live; and he and all his household became believers.

INTERCESSIONS

Glory to God the Father, who has promised through his Son to grant what is
asked by those who pray together. With confidence in this promise, let us pray:

Lord, look with favor on your people.

Lord, you gave the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai,
and brought it to perfection in your Anointed One,
may all recognize the Law written in their hearts,
and keep it faithfully as a covenant.

Lord, look with favor on your people.

Give those in authority a true concern
for their brothers and sisters entrusted to their care,
and inspire the hearts of the people to support their leaders.

Lord, look with favor on your people.

Strengthen with your Spirit the minds and hearts of missionaries,
and raise up a great company to help them from every nation.

Lord, look with favor on your people.

Give your grace to children, that they may grow in your favor,
and to young people, that they may reach their full stature
by loving you and keeping your commandments.

Lord, look with favor on your people.

Remember our brothers and sisters, who have fallen asleep in your peace,
bring them at last to eternal life.

Lord, look with favor on your people.

Our Father...

Concluding Prayer

O God, who renew the world
through mysteries beyond all telling,
grant, we pray,
that your Church may be guided by your eternal design
and not be deprived of your help in this present age.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Order of the Mass

1 Introductory Rites (IR)

- Sign of the Cross
- Greeting
- Penitential Rite
- Gloria
- Collect**

2 Liturgy of the Word (LoW)

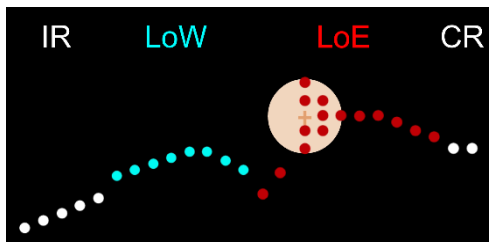
- 1- Reading
- Responsorial Psalm
- 2- Reading
- Gospel Acclamation
- Gospel and Homily
- Nicene Creed
- General Intercessions
(aka Petitions, aka Universal Prayer)

3 Liturgy of the Eucharist (LoE)

- Preparation of the Gifts
 - The people bring bread and wine to the altar
 - The priest presents the bread and wine to God
 - The priest may incense the gifts and the altar
 - Priest's penitential hand washing
- Prayer over the Offerings
- The Great Eucharistic Prayer
 - Thanksgiving (expressed in the Preface)
 - Holy, holy, holy
 - Epiclesis (calling down upon)
 - Institution Narrative and Consecration
 - Anamnesis (in memory)
 - Oblation (offering)
 - Intercessions
 - Doxology (glorifying) and Great Amen
- Communion Rite
 - The Lord's Prayer
 - The Rite of Peace
 - The Fraction of the Bread
 - Communion
 - Prayer after Communion

4 Concluding Rites (CR)

- Brief announcements, if necessary
- Greeting and Blessing
- Dismissal
- Priest and deacon kiss the altar
- All ministers make a profound bow to the altar



The Liturgy of the Hours

(aka The Divine Office)

(aka Christian Prayer)

(aka The Breviary)

Vatican II, Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*) paragraph 84:

“The Divine Office is truly the voice of the Bride herself addressed to her Bridegroom. It is the very prayer which Christ himself together with his Body addresses to the Father.”

The LOH extends the grace of the Eucharist through the day, sanctifying the whole day.

The **plotline** of the Mass continues as the plotline of your day.

The **conversation** established in the Eucharist continues and diversifies.

The **offering** we make in the Mass is kept fresh and continued through the day.

The **union** of the whole Church in prayer continues through the day.

The two-fold **sending** with which Mass concludes (our prayer is sent to God, God sends us into the world) continues.

There are five Hours, five parts in the LOH in a day:

The **Office of Readings** (which can be prayed at any time)

The first long reading is from Sacred Scripture.

The second long reading is from the writings of popes, Church councils, Doctors of the Church, a wide variety of witnesses to Sacred Tradition through the ages...

Morning Prayer (aka Lauds)

Daytime Prayer

Evening Prayer (aka Vespers)

Night Prayer (aka Compline)

Night Prayer includes an examination of conscience and a Penitential Rite.

Preparing to end the day well is tied to preparing well for death.

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are the “**hinges**” of the LOH. They are the most important Hours.

There is an ancient custom in the Church of praying the Lord’s Prayer three times a day (Mass, MP, EP).

For centuries, people would gather in their parish church or local monastery for the celebration of the LOH.

It was often sung (and often still is).

Through the LOH, Ordinary people were:

nourished with communal prayer and *beauty*.

formed in Sacred Scripture and catechized.

included and involved as members of the praying Church.