

February 8  
SOLEMNITY OF  
SAINT JEROME EMILIANI

Evening Prayer I

**HYMN**

For all the saints who from their labor rest,  
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name, O Jesus, be for ever blest:  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;  
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
Thou in the darkness drear their one true light:  
Alleluia, alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine:  
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine:  
Alleluia, alleluia!

But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day;  
The Saints triumphant rise in bright array:  
The King of glory passes on his way:  
Alleluia, alleluia!

**PSALMODY**

**Ant. 1** Let the children come to me, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.

**Psalm 113**

Praise, O servants of the Lord,  
praise the name of the Lord!  
May the name of the Lord be blessed  
both now and for evermore!  
From the rising of the sun to its setting  
praised be the name of the Lord!

High above all nations is the Lord,  
above the heavens his glory.  
Who is like the Lord, our God,  
who has risen on high to his throne  
yet stoops from the heights to look down,  
to look down upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,  
from his misery he raises the poor  
to set him in the company of princes,  
yes, with the princes of his people.  
To the childless wife he gives a home  
and gladdens her heart with children.

**Ant.** Let the children come to me, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.

**Ant. 2** Come, children, and listen to me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

**Psalm 146**

My soul, give praise to the Lord;  
I will praise the Lord all my days,  
make music to my God while I live

Put no trust in princes,  
in mortal men in whom there is no help.  
Take their breath, they return to clay  
and their plans that day come to nothing.

He is happy who is helped by Jacob's God,  
whose hope is in the Lord his God,  
who alone made heaven and earth,  
the seas and all they contain.

It is he who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free,

the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widows and the orphan.

It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age.

**Ant.** Come, children, and listen to me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

**Ant. 3** Blessed be God! He has chosen us so that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ be glorified in us.

### Canticle Eph 1:3-10

Praised be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who 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 the earth.

**Ant.** Blessed be God! He has chosen us so that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ be glorified in us.

#### READING

1 Thes 2:7-8.10-12

We were gentle among you, as a nursing mother cares for her children. With such affection for you, we were determined to share with you not only the gospel of God, but our very selves as well, so dearly beloved had you become to us. You are witnesses, and so is God, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers. As you know, we treated each one of you as a father treats his children, exhorting and encouraging you and insisting that you conduct yourselves as worthy of the God who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

#### RESPONSORY

See 1Cor 9:22

He has become all things to all, to save all.  
— He has become all things to all, to save all.

He did all this for the sake of the gospel,  
— to save all.

Glory to the Father ...  
— He has become ...

#### CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did it for me. Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

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 for ever.

**Ant.** Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did it for me. Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

#### INTERCESSIONS

With confidence let us raise our prayer to God, our merciful Father, who has glorified himself in Jerome, his servant. Let us say together:  
*For your benign mercy, Lord, hear us.*

Holy Father, you have established your Church without spot or wrinkle,  
— lead her to the sanctity of the apostolic times.

Holy Father, you have reconciled us with you through your Son Jesus Christ,  
— enkindle in us the fire of your love, so that we may be perfect in unity.

Holy Father, you have done great things in your servant Jerome,  
— help us to bear fruit in every good deed, and to welcome the little ones with the tenderness that was Jesus Christ's.

Holy Father, you are compassionate to the poor,  
— free the prisoners, welcome the orphans and the widows, shelter the homeless, and give everybody what is needed for a dignified and safe life.

Holy Father, you show the greatness of your bounty and tenderness to the poor and the sinners,  
— welcome our departed brothers and sisters into the joy of your kingdom.

Our Father.

### Prayer

God of mercy,  
you chose Jerome Emiliani  
to be a father and friend of orphans.  
May his prayers keep us faithful  
to the Spirit we have received,  
who makes us your children.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Invitatory

**Ant.** Let us praise the Lord on the feast of St. Jerome.

**Or:** Come, let us worship the Lord, Father of orphans.

### Psalm 95

Come, let us sing to the Lord  
and shout with joy to the Rock who saves us.  
Let us approach him with praise and thanksgiving  
and sing joyful songs to the Lord. **Ant.**

The Lord is God, the mighty God,  
the great king over all the gods.  
He holds in his hands the depths of the earth  
and the highest mountains as well.  
He made the sea; it belongs to him,  
the dry land, too, for it was formed by his hands. **Ant.**

Come, then, let us bow down and worship,  
bending the knee before the Lord, our maker.  
For he is our God and we are his people,  
the flock he shepherds. **Ant.**

Today, listen to the voice of the Lord:  
Do not grow stubborn, as your fathers did in the wilderness,  
when at Meriba and Massah  
they challenged me and provoked me,  
although they had seen all of my works. **Ant.**

Forty years I endured that generation.  
I said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray  
and they do not know my ways."  
So I swore in my anger,  
"They shall not enter into my rest." **Ant.**

Glory to the Father... **Ant.**

## Office of Readings

### HYMN

To you, Saint Jerome,  
our song rises,  
because you show  
the glory of the Lord.

The Virgin frees you  
from prison and evil,  
she leads you, tender Mother,  
toward the Savior.

On his altar, meek,  
you lay the chains  
and, humble, you present yourself  
as an offering.

You give all yourself to the poor,  
the orphans and the afflicted:  
to all you want to bring  
the peace of the Lord.

Your fervent zeal  
shines as light  
that shows to every person  
the paths of love.

Cities and towns  
see repeating the prodigies  
that since the Pentecost  
have been glorifying the Church.

Today the whole world  
celebrates the glory and might  
revealed by God  
in your whole life.

In the Son and the Holy Spirit  
may our praise rise  
to the Father of every grace  
forever and ever. Amen

**Or:**

This is the feast day of the Lord's true witness,  
whom thru the ages all have held in honor;  
now let us praise him and his deeds of glory  
with exultation.

So now in chorus, giving God the glory,  
we sing his praises and his mighty triumph,  
that in his glory we may all be sharers  
here and hereafter.

Praise to the Father and the Son most holy,  
praise to the Spirit, with them coeternal,  
who give examples in the lives of all saints,  
that we may follow.

**Ant. 1** I afflicted myself with fasting, and my prayer resounded in my heart.

**Psalm 21:2-8,14**

O Lord, Your strength gives joy to the king;  
how your saving help makes him glad!  
You have granted him his heart's desire;  
you have not refused the prayer of his lips.

You came to meet him  
with the blessings of success,  
you have set on his head a crown of pure gold.  
He asked you for life and this you have given,  
days that will last from age to age.

Your saving help has given him glory.  
You have laid upon him majesty and splendor,  
you have granted your blessing to him for ever.  
You have made him rejoice  
with the joy of your presence.

The king has put his trust in the Lord:  
through the mercy of the Most High  
he shall stand firm.  
O Lord, arise in your strength;  
we shall sing and praise your power.

**Ant.** I afflicted myself with fasting, and my prayer resounded in my heart.

**Ant. 2** Mercy has brought me up since my infancy; it has guided me since I was in my mother's womb.

**Psalm 92**  
**I**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night,  
of the ten-stringed lyre and the lute,  
with the murmuring sound of the harp.

Your deeds, O Lord, have made me glad;  
for the work of your hands I shout with joy.  
O Lord, how great are your works!  
How deep are your designs!  
The foolish man cannot know this  
and the fool cannot understand.

Though the wicked spring up like grass  
and all who do evil thrive:  
they are doomed to be eternally destroyed.  
But you, O Lord, are eternally on high.

**Ant.** Mercy has brought me up since my infancy; it has guided me since I was in my mother's womb.

**Ant. 3** I took from my house what was consecrated and gave it to the orphan and the widow.

## II

See how your enemies perish;  
all doers of evil are scattered.

To me you give the wild-ox's strength;  
you anoint me with the purest oil.  
My eyes looked in triumph on my foes;  
my ears heard gladly of their fall.  
The just will flourish like the palm-tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just.  
In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

**Ant.** I took from my house what was consecrated and gave it to the orphan and the widow.

The poor entrust themselves to you.  
— You are the support of the orphans.

### FIRST READING

From the first letter of the apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

1:18-2:5

*I came to you proclaiming the mystery of God*

Brothers, the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the learning of the learned I will set aside."

Where is the wise one? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made the wisdom of the world foolish? For since in the wisdom of God the world did not come to know God through wisdom, it was the will of God through the foolishness of the proclamation to save those who have faith. For Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own calling, brothers. Not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong, and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something, so that no human being might boast before God. It is due to him that you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, as well as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord."

When I came to you, brothers, proclaiming the mystery of God, I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. I came to you in weakness and fear and much trembling, and my message and my proclamation were not with persuasive words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of spirit and power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

RESPONSORY

Col 1: 12 -13: 2:3; Eph 2: 5

Let us give thanks to the Father, who has brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,  
— in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Even when we were dead in our transgressions, he brought us to life with Christ,  
— in whom ...

SECOND READING

From a letter to his brothers  
by Saint Jerome Emiliani.

(Venice, June 21, 1535)  
*Place your trust in God alone*

Sons of the Society of the Servants of the Poor, and dearly beloved brothers in Christ: Greetings from your poor father. I urge you to persevere in your love for Christ and your faithful observance of the law of Christ. In words and work I set an example for you when I was with you. And so the Lord is glorified in you through me.

Our goal is God, the source of all good. As we say in our prayer, we are to place our trust in God and in no one else. In his kindness, our Lord wished to strengthen your faith, for without it, as the evangelist points out, Christ could not have performed many of his miracles. He also wished to listen to your prayer, and so he ordained that you experience poverty, distress, abandonment, weariness and universal scorn. It was also his desire to deprive you of my physical presence, even though I am with you in spirit as your poor, dear, beloved father.

God alone knows the reasons for all this, yet we can recognize three causes. In the first place, our blessed Lord is telling you that he desires to include you among his beloved sons, provided that you remain steadfast in his ways, for this is the way he treats his friends and makes them holy.

The second reason is that he is asking you to grow continually in your confidence in him alone and not in others. For God, as I said before, does not work in those who refuse to place their confidence and hope in him alone. But he does impart the fullness of his love upon those who possess a deep faith and hope; for them he does great things. So if you have been endowed with faith and hope, he will do great things for you; he will raise up the lowly. In depriving you of myself and everyone else you have loved, he will offer you an opportunity to choose one of these alternatives: either you will forsake your faith and return to the ways of the world, or you will remain steadfast in your faith and pass the test.

Now there is a third reason. God wishes to test you like gold in the furnace. The dross is consumed by the fire, but the pure gold remains and its value increases. It is in this manner that God acts with his good servant, who puts his hope in him and remains unshaken in times of distress. God raises him up and, in return for the things he has left out of love for God, he repays him a hundredfold in this life and with eternal life hereafter.

This is the way God has dealt with all his saints. So it was with his people Israel after their period of trial in Egypt. He not only led them out of Egypt with many miracles and fed them with manna in the desert, he also gave them the promised land. If then you remain constant in faith in the face of trial, the Lord will give you peace and rest for a time in this world, and for ever in the next.

RESPONSORY

1 Peter 3:8-9; Rom 12:10-11

You should be like-minded, sympathetic, loving toward one another, kindly disposed, and humble.

— This you have been called to do, that you may receive a blessing as your inheritance.

Love one another with the affection of brother. Anticipate each other in showing respect. Do not grow slack but be fervent in spirit; he whom you serve is the Lord.

— This you have been called...

HYMN, Te Deum.

You are God: we praise you;  
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;  
You are the eternal Father:  
All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you: Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free  
you did not spurn the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death,  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come, and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

V. Save your people, Lord,  
and bless your inheritance.  
R. Govern and uphold them now and always.  
V. Day by day we bless you.  
R. We praise your name for ever.  
V. Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.  
R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.  
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
R. for we put our trust in you.  
V. In you, Lord, is our hope:  
R. and we shall never hope in vain.

### Prayer

God of mercy,  
you chose Jerome Emiliani  
to be a father and friend of orphans.  
May his prayers keep us faithful  
to the Spirit we have received,  
who makes us your children.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Morning Prayer

#### HYMN

Our songs exalt  
the ineffable compassion  
that the Father wanted to infuse

in you, O Saint Jerome.

One day, he who frees everybody  
seemed to dishearten you,  
but with provident love  
he made you strong and brave.

Like a wise disciple  
you leave the fleeting goods,  
and submissive to the Spirit  
you follow Jesus.

You serve him in any poor,  
you see him in your orphans,  
humbly, you bring to him  
every man's heart.

The Church, even more splendid  
for this victory,  
looks, with the suffering,  
at you, o father of the orphans.

Be praise to the Most High Father  
and to his only Son  
together with the Holy Spirit  
for ever and ever. Amen.

**Or:**

Rise up, O men of God!  
Have done with lesser things,  
give heart, and soul, and mind, and strength  
to serve the King of kings.

Rise up, O men of God!  
His kingdom tarries long:  
bring in the day of brotherhood  
and end the night of wrong.

Rise up, O men of God!  
The Church for you does wait:  
sent forth to serve the needs of men,  
in Christ our strength is great!

Lift high the cross of Christ!  
Tread where his feet have trod.  
As brothers of the Son of man,  
rise up, O men of God!

**Ant. 1** I sought the Lord and he gave me answer; he has freed me from every fear.

**Psalm 63:2-9**  
**A soul thirsting for God**

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.  
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life;  
my lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

**Ant.** I sought the Lord and he gave me answer; he has freed me from every fear.

**Ant. 2** The Lord is my strength and my shield; I put my trust in him and he helped me.

**Canticle Daniel 3:57-88, 56**  
**Let all creatures praise the Lord**

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
You heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Sun and moon, bless the Lord.  
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord.  
All you winds, bless the Lord.  
Fire and heat, bless the Lord.  
Cold and chill, bless the Lord.  
Dew and rain, bless the Lord.  
Frost and chill, bless the Lord.  
Ice and snow, bless the lord.  
Nights and days, bless the Lord.  
Light and darkness, bless the Lord.  
Lightning and clouds, bless the Lord.

Let the earth bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord.  
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.  
You springs, bless the Lord.  
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.  
You dolphins and all water creatures,  
bless the Lord.  
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.  
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord.  
You sons of men, bless the Lord.

O Israel, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord.  
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.  
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, with the Holy Spirit.  
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven.  
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever.

At the end of the canticle the Glory to the Father is not said.

**Ant.** The Lord is my strength and my shield; I put my trust in him and he helped me.

**Ant. 3** I will exalt him in the great assembly because he stood at the side of the poor.

**Psalm 149**  
**The joy of God's holy people**

Sing a new song to the Lord,  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel rejoice in its maker,  
let Zion's sons exult in their king.

Let them praise his name with dancing  
and make music with timbrel and harp.  
For the Lord takes delight in his people.  
He crowns the poor with salvation.

Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,  
shout for joy and take their rest.  
Let the praise of God be on their lips  
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations  
and punishment on all the peoples;  
to bind their kings in chains  
and their nobles in fetters of iron;  
to carry out the sentence pre-ordained;  
this honor is for all his faithful.

**Ant.** I will exalt him in the great assembly because he stood at the side of the poor.

**READING**

**Eph 5:8-10,18-21**

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father. Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ.

**RESPONSORY**

**See Psalm 69:17; Luke 1:79**

Answer us, o Lord, for bounteous is your kindness; in your great mercy turn toward us.

— Answer us, o Lord, for bounteous is your kindness; in your great mercy turn toward us.

Guide our feet into the way of peace, love and prosperity;

— in your great mercy turn toward us.

Glory to the Father ...

— Answer us, o Lord, ...

**CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH**

**Ant.** When you prayed in tears, and buried the dead, and left your meal, and hid the dead in your house during the day and buried them at night, I would offer your prayer to the Lord.

**Luke 1:68-79**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;  
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,  
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old  
that he would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

to give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Ant.** When you prayed in tears, and buried the dead, and left your meal, and hid the dead in your house during the day and buried them at night, I would offer your prayer to the Lord.

#### INTERCESSIONS

Let us joyfully celebrate our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who has filled Saint Jerome with His gifts. Let us humbly ask Him:  
*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us.*

Dear Jesus, you loved us and gave yourself up for us  
— grant us your mercy.

Dear Jesus, you poured out your love in Saint Jerome,  
— make us united to you with all our heart.

Dear Jesus, you called us with the power of the Holy Spirit,  
— help us to be faithful to your love and remain with you forever.

Dear Jesus, you came to serve, not to be served,  
— help us to dedicate our life to the service of our brothers and sisters.

Dear Jesus, you experienced persecution and exile in your infancy,  
— protect the least of your brothers who suffer because of poverty, war, and misfortune.

Our Father

#### Prayer

God of mercy,  
you chose Jerome Emiliani  
to be a father and friend of orphans.  
May his prayers keep us faithful  
to the Spirit we have received,  
who makes us your children.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Daytime Prayer

### HYMN

#### Midmorning

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love the things you love,  
and do the things you do.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
until with you I have one will,  
to live and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
my soul with grace refine,  
until this earthly part of me  
glows with your fire divine.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
so I shall never die,  
but live with you the perfect life  
in your eternity.

**Ant.** He satisfied the desire of the thirsty and filled the hungry with good things.

#### Midday

Help us, O Lord, to learn  
the truths thy Word imparts:  
to study that thy laws may be  
inscribed upon our hearts.

Help us, O Lord, to live  
the faith which we proclaim,  
that all our thoughts and words and deeds  
may glorify your name.

Help us, O Lord, to teach  
the beauty of your ways,  
that yearning souls may find the Christ,  
and sing aloud his praise.

**Ant.** He is compassionate and lends to the poor: his offspring will be blessed.

#### Mid-afternoon

Lord God and Maker of all things,  
creation is upheld by you.  
While all must change and know decay,  
you are unchanging, always new.

You are man's solace and his shield,  
his rock secure on which to build;  
you are the spirit's tranquil home;

in you alone is hope fulfilled.

To God the Father and the Son  
and Holy Spirit render praise,  
blest Trinity, from age to age  
the strength of all our living days.

**Ant.** Blessed the man who takes care of the poor and the weak. In the day of his misfortune the Lord will free him.

Psalm 118  
Song of joy for salvation  
I

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love endures for ever.

Let the sons of Israel say:  
"His love endures for ever."  
Let the sons of Aaron say:  
"His love endures for ever."  
Let those who fear the Lord say:  
"His love endures for ever."

I called to the Lord in in my distress;  
he answered and freed me.  
The Lord is at my side; I do not fear.  
What can man do against me?  
The Lord is at my side as my helper:  
I shall look down on my foes.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in men:  
it is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in princes.

II

The nations all encompassed me,  
in the Lord's name I crushed them.

They compassed me, compassed me about;  
in the Lord's name I crushed them.  
They compassed me about like bees;  
they blazed like fire among thorns.  
In the Lord's name I crushed them.

I was hard-pressed and was falling  
but the Lord came to help me.  
The Lord is my strength and my song;  
he is my savior.  
There are shout of joy and victory  
in the tents of the just.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me.  
The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.  
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,  
but not doomed to die.

III

Open to me the gates of holiness:  
I will enter and give thanks.

This is the Lord's own gate  
where the just may enter.  
I will thank you for you have answered  
and you are my savior.

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.  
This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.

Lord, grant us salvation;  
Lord, grant success.  
Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord,  
the Lord God is our light.

Go forward in procession with branches  
even to the altar.  
You are my God, I thank you.  
My God, I praise you.  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
for his love endures for ever.

### **Midmorning**

**Ant.** He satisfied the desire of the thirsty and filled the hungry with good things.

#### **READING**

**Isaiah 58:7**

Sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own.

To you the poor entrust themselves:  
— you are the delight of the orphans.

### **Midday**

**Ant.** He is compassionate and lends to the poor: his offspring will be blessed.

#### **READING**

**Sirach 4:1-2.4.10**

My son, rob not the poor man of his livelihood; force not the eyes of the needy to turn away. A hungry man grieve not, a needy man anger not. A beggar in distress do not reject; avert not your face from the poor. Thus you will be like a son to the Most High, and he will be more tender to you than a mother.

Avert not your face from the poor;  
— thus the face of the Lord will be always toward you.

### **Mid-afternoon**

**Ant.** Blessed be the man who takes care of the poor and the weak. In the day of his misfortune the Lord will free him.

#### **READING**

**Job 29:11-16**

Whoever heard of me blessed me; those who saw me commended me. For I rescued the poor who cried out for help, the orphans, the unassisted; the blessing of those in extremity came upon me, and the heart of the widow I made joyful. I wore my honesty like a garment; justice was my robe and my turban. I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame was I; I was a father to the needy.

Blessed are those who have compassion for the poor;  
— Those who believe in the Lord are merciful.

### Prayer

God of mercy,  
you chose Jerome Emiliani  
to be a father and friend of orphans.  
May his prayers keep us faithful  
to the Spirit we have received,  
who makes us your children.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Evening Prayer II

HYMN, as in Evening Prayer I.

#### PSALMODY

**Ant. 1** I became the servant of all to attain all.

#### Psalm 15

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent  
and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with tongue;

he who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbor,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honors those who fear the Lord;

he who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribe against an innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

**Ant. 1** I became the servant of all to attain all.

**Ant. 2** I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame; I was father to the needy.

#### Psalm 112

Happy the man who fears the Lord,  
who takes delight in all his commands.  
His sons will be powerful on earth;  
the children of the upright are blessed.

Riches and wealth are in his house;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
He is a light in the darkness for the upright:  
he is generous, merciful and just.

The good man takes pity and lends,  
he conducts his affairs with honor.  
The just man will never waver:  
he will be remembered for ever.

He has no fear of evil news;  
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.  
With a steadfast heart he will not fear;  
he will see the downfall of his foes.

Open-handed, he gives to the poor;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
His head will be raised in glory.

The wicked man sees and is angry,  
grinds his teeth and fades away;  
the desire of the wicked leads to doom.

**Ant.** I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame; I was father to the needy.

**Ant. 3** He will win a blessing from the Lord and justice from God his salvation.

#### Canticle Revelation 15:3-4

Mighty and wonderful are your works,  
Lord God Almighty!  
Righteous and true are your ways,  
O King of the nations!

Who would dare refuse you honor,  
or the glory due your name, O Lord?

Since you alone are holy,  
all nations shall come  
and worship in your presence.  
Your mighty deeds are clearly seen.

**Ant.** He will win a blessing from the Lord and justice from God his salvation.

#### READING

**James 2: 14-17**

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

#### RESPONSORY

**See Eph 5:1-2; 4:32**

Be imitators of God and live in love, as Christ loved us.  
— Be imitators of God and live in love, as Christ loved us.

Be kind to one another;  
— as Christ loved us.

Glory to the Father ...  
— Be imitators ...

#### CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** Come, you who are blessed by my Father, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, ill and you cared for me.

**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 for ever.

**Ant.** Come, you who are blessed by my Father, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, ill and you cared for me.

#### INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to our Savior Jesus Christ, who manifested himself to Saint Jerome so that he might bear much fruit in love. Let us say:  
*Stay with us, Lord.*

Lord Jesus, you gave yourself up for the Church and you now care for her and nourish her,  
— lead your disciples in the way of peace, love and prosperity.

Lord Jesus, through the intercession of the glorious Virgin Mary, you renewed Saint Jerome,  
— strengthen us in our inner self, through the same intercession.

Lord Jesus, you grant us to approach you in full confidence,  
— live in our hearts so that, filled with hope and the virtue of the Holy Spirit, we may accomplish your works.

Lord Jesus, you revealed to mankind your Father's mercy and gentleness,  
— welcome and keep in your love the orphan and neglected youth.

Lord Jesus, you wanted to gather all people in your kingdom,  
— grant to our deceased brothers and sisters, relatives and benefactors the joy and the Light of your face.

Our Father

#### Prayer

God of mercy,  
you chose Jerome Emiliani  
to be a father and friend of orphans.  
May his prayers keep us faithful  
to the Spirit we have received,  
who makes us your children.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## APPENDIX

### Latin Hymn

Orphanis Patrem pia quem superni  
cura rectoris dedit, atque egenis  
voce poscentum facilem rogari,  
rite canamus.

Ferrea solvit manica revinctum  
ipsa caelesti rutilans decore  
numinis mater, mediosque duxit  
virgo per hostes.

Hinc stygis victor titulos, opesque  
sprevit antiquas, inopes parente  
colligens orbos pueros, parentis  
munia complens.

Nec pium, letho properante, munus  
desiit; certos pietatis almae  
liquit haeredes, operis magister  
factus et auctor.

Signa, quae vivens numerosa fecit,  
jam fruens caelo renovat, salutem  
conferens, miram bibat aut quis undam,  
seu prece poscat.

Te, Deus, Trinum celebrant et Unum  
omnium linguae: veniam benignus  
supplicum culpis prece da rogatus  
Aemiliani. Amen.

### Hymn

To You, O Lord, omnipotent,  
Creator, full of grace,

Most loving Father, Holy God  
O Lord, we give you praise.

In tender and graceful Providence  
You choose your Holy Saints;  
You call them to reflect in us  
Forgiveness, peace and love.

We pray to you, O Saint Jerome,  
With blessings fill our hearts;  
In Spirit guide us in our life,  
Example for our time.

O Father of the Orphans,  
Be close to us in need;  
Assist your servants with your help,  
Your poor transform with love.

Jerome exhorts to follow you,  
O Christ, the Son of God;  
The wooden cross to embrace with faith  
Trust Him, life-giving love.

O Trinity, Most Holy God,  
The Father and the Son,  
The Holy Spirit, three in one,  
All glory be to you.

**September 27**

**SOLEMNITY OF**

**MARY, THE MOTHER  
OF THE ORPHANS**

**Evening Prayer I**

**Hymn, as in Evening Prayer II**

**PSALMODY**

**Ant. 1** Great waters cannot quench love, nor the rivers sweep it away.

**Psalm 113**

Praise, O servants of the Lord,  
praise the name of the Lord!  
May the name of the Lord be blessed  
both now and for evermore!  
From the rising of the sun to its setting  
praised be the name of the Lord!

High above all nations is the Lord,  
above the heavens his glory.  
Who is like the Lord, our God,

who has risen on high to his throne  
yet stoops from the heights to look down,  
to look down upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,  
from his misery he raises the poor  
to set him in the company of princes,  
yes, with the princes of his people.  
To the childless wife he gives a home  
and gladdens her heart with children.

**Ant.** Great waters cannot quench love, nor the rivers sweep it away.

**Ant. 2** I will be for them as he who lifts a child to his cheek and bends down to give him food.

**Psalm 147:12-20**

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!  
Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates,  
he has blessed the children within you.  
He established peace on your borders,  
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word on the earth  
and swiftly runs his command.  
He showers down snow white as wool,  
he scatters hoar-frost like ashes.

He hurls down hailstones like crumbs.  
The waters are frozen at his touch;  
he sends forth his word and it melts them:  
at the breath of his mouth the waters flow.

He makes his word known to Jacob,  
to Israel his laws and decrees.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his decrees.

**Ant.** I will be for them as he who lifts a child to his cheek and bends down to give him food.

**Ant. 3** Rejoice, O Immaculate, bride and mother of the world which waits for its salvation; rejoice because in your womb you have destroyed the death of mother Eve.

**Canticle Eph 1:3-10**

Praised be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
who 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 the earth.

**Ant.** Rejoice, O Immaculate, bride and mother of the world which waits for its salvation; rejoice because in your womb you have destroyed the death of mother Eve.

#### READING

1Jn 4:9-10

God's love was revealed in our midst in this way: he sent his only Son to the world that we might have life through him. Love, then, consists in this: not that we have loved God but that he has loved us and has sent his Son as an offering for our sins.

#### RESPONSORY

Rejoice full of grace, shining light of God's love.  
— Rejoice full of grace, shining light of God's love.

Comfort of the world, refuge for the orphans and salvation for all,  
— shining light of God's love.

Glory to the Father, ...  
— Rejoice full of grace...

#### CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** Because of you, O Immaculate Virgin, we have found life: you have conceived by the Holy Spirit and have given the Savior to the world.

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 for ever.

**Ant.** Because of you, O Immaculate Virgin, we have found life: you have conceived by the Holy Spirit and have given the Savior to the world.

#### INTERCESSIONS

United in prayer and praise, we glorify God, the Almighty Father, who has made Mary the Mother of his Son and Mother of us all. With confidence let us pray:  
*Mary, full of grace, pray for us.*

You gather your Church from all people in order to become one heart and one soul in love,  
— grant your faithful perseverance in prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

You have made Mary the mother of mercy,  
— allow that those who live in danger may experience your maternal goodness.

You have poured in the heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary the love that makes her the support for the orphans,  
— help us to welcome the orphans and the needy in the name of your Son.

You have given to the orphans St. Jerome as a father, after having renewed him with the maternal aid of the Blessed Virgin,  
— provide that through the intercession of Mary, the orphans and neglected may find in us the light of your love.

You have raised the Blessed Virgin Mary to the glory of heaven,  
— welcome our departed brothers, relatives and benefactors, into your kingdom to enjoy the glory of your presence forever.

Our Father...

#### Prayer

O God, you have poured your love  
for the poor and the orphans  
in the heart of the Virgin Mary.  
Through her motherly intercession,  
help us to grow more and more  
in witnessing your love.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reign with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

#### Invitatory

**Ant.** In the feast of Mary, Mother of orphans, let us praise Christ the Lord.

#### Psalm 95

Come, let us sing to the Lord  
and shout with joy to the Rock who saves us.  
Let us approach him with praise and thanksgiving  
and sing joyful songs to the Lord. **Ant.**

The Lord is God, the mighty God,  
the great king over all the gods.  
He holds in his hands the depths of the earth  
and the highest mountains as well.  
He made the sea; it belongs to him,  
the dry land, too, for it was formed by his hands. **Ant.**

Come, let us bow down and worship,  
bending the knee before the Lord, our maker.  
For he is our God and we are his people,  
the flock he shepherds. **Ant.**

Today, listen to the voice of the Lord:  
Do not grow stubborn, as your fathers did  
in the wilderness,  
when at Meriba and Massah  
they challenged me and provoked me,  
although they had seen all my works. **Ant.**

Forty years I endured that generation.  
I said, 'They are a people whose hearts go astray  
and they do not know my ways.'  
So I swore in my anger,  
'They shall not enter into my rest.' **Ant.**

Glory to the Father... **Ant.**

## Office of Readings

### HYMN

Blessed are they who turn to you  
and trustfully their life consign  
into your hands, o Blessed Mother  
of our Lord.

Shining light in the dark night,  
you lead the steps and give courage to the heart,  
lift up the fallen and always, for everybody,  
you are life and salvation.

Refreshing support you are for the destitute,  
joy and consolation for those who suffer and hope:  
with imploring heart of Mother,  
you plead the Lord.

Holy Virgin, the stars will burn down  
and the world will fall apart in the space,  
before you deny your saving gifts  
to us, you children.

To the sky, more joyously our song  
be raised: the orphan thanks you, o Mary,  
and for ever proclaims your help,  
Virgin Mother.

Praise and honor be to the Triune God  
who gloriously reigns in the skies  
and provident in the world governs  
any event. Amen.

### Or:

The God whom earth and sea and sky  
adore and laud and magnify,  
whose might they own, whose praise they tell,

in Mary's body deigned to dwell.

O Mother blest! The chosen shrine  
wherein the Architect divine,  
whose hand contains the earth and sky,  
vouchsafed in hidden guise to lie.

Blest in the message Gabriel brought;  
blest in the work the Spirit wrought;  
most blest, to bring to human birth  
the long desired of all the earth.

O Lord, the Virgin born, to thee  
eternal praise and glory be,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Ghost forever more.

#### PSALMODY

**Ant. 1** Rejoice, Virgin Mother, because from you the Sun of justice, our Judge and Redeemer, was born.

#### Psalm 24

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things,  
who has not sworn so as to deceive his neighbor.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient door.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory?  
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient door.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory?  
He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory.

**Ant.** Rejoice, Virgin Mother, because from you the Sun of justice, our Judge and Redeemer, was born.

**Ant. 2** Blessed are you among women. O glorious Virgin, refuge of the orphans, ransom of the prisoners, salvation of all.

Psalm 46

God is for us refuge and strength,  
a helper close at hand, in time of distress:  
so we shall not fear though the earth should rock,  
though the mountain fall into the depths of the sea,  
even though its waters rage and foam,  
even though the mountain be shaken by its waves.

The Lord of host is with us:  
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

The waters of a river give joy to God's city,  
the holy place where the Most High dwells.  
God is within, it cannot be shaken;  
God will help it at the dawning of the day.  
Nations are in tumult, kingdoms are shaken:  
he lifts his voice, the earth shrinks away.

The Lord of host is with us:  
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come, consider the works of the Lord,  
the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth.  
He puts an end to wars over all the earth;  
the bow he breaks, the spear he snaps.  
He burns the shields with fire.  
Be still and know that I am God,  
supreme among the nations, supreme on the earth!

The Lord of host is with us:  
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**Ant.** Blessed are you among women. O glorious Virgin, refuge of the orphans, ransom of the prisoners, salvation of all.

**Ant. 3** The Lord has blessed you with his might; through you, He has destroyed our enemies.

Psalm 87

On the holy mountain is his city  
cherished by the Lord.  
The Lord prefers the gates of Zion  
to all Jacob's dwellings.  
Of you are told glorious things,  
O city of God!

Babylon and Egypt I will count  
among those who know me;  
Philistia, Tyre, Ethiopia,  
these will be her children  
and Zion shall be called 'Mother'  
for all shall be her children.

It is he, the Lord Most High,  
who gives each his place.  
In his register of people, he writes:  
'These are children,'  
and while they dance they will sing:  
'In you all find their home.'

**Ant.** The Lord has blessed you with his might; through you, He has destroyed our enemies.

Blessed are those who listen to the Word of God.  
— And keep it in their heart.

**FIRST READING**

From the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah.

3:11-20  
*God promises salvation to the poor of Israel*

On that day  
You need not be ashamed  
of all your deeds,  
your rebellious actions against me;  
for then will I remove from your midst  
the proud braggarts,  
and you shall no longer exalt yourself  
on my holy mountain.  
But I will leave as a remnant in your midst  
a people humble and lowly,  
who shall take refuge in the name of the Lord:  
the remnant of Israel.  
They shall do no wrong  
and speak no lies;  
nor shall there be found in their mouths  
a deceitful tongue;  
they shall pasture and couch their flocks  
with none to disturb them.

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!  
sing joyfully, O Israel!  
be glad and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!  
The Lord has removed the judgment against you,  
he has turned away your enemies;  
the King of Israel, the Lord is in your midst,  
you have no further misfortune to fear.  
On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged!  
The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
a mighty savior,  
he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
and renew you in his love,  
he will wing joyfully because of you,  
as one sings at festivals.

I will remove disaster from among you,  
so that none may recount your disgrace.  
Yes, at that time I will deal  
with all who oppress you:  
I will save the lame,  
and assemble the outcasts;  
I will give them praise and renown  
in all the earth, when I bring about their restoration.  
At that time I will bring you home,  
and at that time I will gather you;  
for I will give you renown and praise,  
among all the people of the earth,  
when I bring about your restoration  
before your very eyes, says the Lord.

**RESPONSORY**

Blessed among women, Virgin Mother, you have changed the curse of Eve into a blessing :  
— Thanks to you, the Father's blessing has shone upon humanity.

The Lord's glory shines on you:  
— Thanks to you...

## SECOND READING

From the "Discourses" of Saint Ephrem, Deacon.

*(Bourassé, Summa aurea de laudibus B.V. Mariae, 5:647-652)  
Mary, Virgin and Mother of God,  
Refuge of Orphans and salvation for all.*

Inviolable, intact, all pure and chaste, O Virgin Mother of God, Mary, queen of all, hope of those who despair, our Most Glorious lady. Through you, we have been reconciled to Christ, our God and your Son. You are the only help and advocate for the sinner and the helpless. You are the safe haven to the shipwrecked, consolation to the world, refuge to the orphan, ransom and liberation for the prisoners; you are the exultation for the sick, consolation for the afflicted, and salvation for all.

Under your protection we seek refuge, holy Mother of God; accept and keep us under the wings of your mercy and love. We only trust in you, unblemished Virgin. From our mother's arms we have been entrusted to you, O Lady, and called your devotees: therefore, do not allow the devil to drag us to the doors of hell. You are our harbor, O spotless Virgin, and you assist us as a sweet helper.

Under your protection and shield we are safe; thus, we seek refuge only in you and we implore you with tears. Before you, we bow down and we beg your Son, our Savior and giver of life, not to condemn us because of our numerous faults, not to fell us like the sterile fig tree. We beseech you that we may safely attain Christ and enter the dwelling of the Saints, where there are no tears nor mourning, no torment nor affliction, but only endless joy, the greatest elation, infinite delight, exultation and triumph, glory and splendor.

Fill my mouth with the grace of your sweetness, O Lady, enlighten my mind, O full of grace. Make your servant humble and worthy to praise you, O Holy Virgin, so that he can say: hail, wonderful and chosen Vessel of God; hail, O Lady, O Mary, O full of grace; hail, O most blessed Virgin among women; hail, resplendent star from whom Christ was born; hail, splendid light, Mother and Virgin; hail, from you the King of the world was born; hail, through you the blazing Sun of Justice has shone upon us; hail, peace, joy, consolation and salvation of the world.

## RESPONSORY

Blessed are you, Holy Mary, worthy of every praise:  
— from you the Sun of justice, Christ Savior, was born.  
We joyfully celebrate your feast, O Mother of mercy:  
— from you ...

## HYMN: Te Deum.

You are God: we praise you;  
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;  
You are the eternal Father:  
All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim you:  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free  
you did not spurn the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death,  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come, and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.  
R. Govern and uphold them now and always.  
V. Day by day we bless you.  
R. We praise your name forever.  
V. Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.  
R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.  
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
R. for we put our trust in you.  
V. In you, Lord, is our hope:  
R. and we shall never hope in vain.

### Prayer

O God, you have poured your love  
for the poor and the orphans  
in the heart of the Virgin Mary.  
Through her motherly intercession,  
help us to grow more and more  
in witnessing your love.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reign with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

### Morning Prayer

#### HYMN

O Mother of the Lord,  
who gives Christ to the world,  
receive today your children's praise.

You are in our hearts spring of hope,  
you who welcomed in you womb  
your Son, the redeemer.

You are the Mother who leads us to Christ,  
so that we may live united  
in the joy of love.

The poor and the afflicted

find peace in you,  
the orphans and the oppressed are freed by you.

The Church from you draws light,  
hope and strength  
to proclaim to the world the liberty of Christ.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
God, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Or:

O Mary, of all women  
Thou art the chosen one,  
Who ancient prophets promised  
Would bear God's only Son;  
All Hebrew generations  
Prepared the way to thee,  
That in your womb the God-man  
Might come to set man free.

O Mary, you embody  
All God taught to our race,  
For you are first and foremost  
In fullness of his grace;  
We praise this wondrous honor  
That you gave birth to him  
Who from you took his manhood  
And saved us from our sin.

Ant. 1 All your children will be taught by the Lord and will receive his peace.

Psalm 63:2-9  
A soul thirsting for God

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.  
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life;  
my lips will speak your praise.  
So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

Ant. All your children will be taught by the Lord and receive his peace.

Ant. 2 Lift up your eyes and look: your sons come from afar and your daughters are carried to you.

Canticle Daniel 3:57-88, 56  
Let all creatures praise the Lord

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
You heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Sun and moon, bless the Lord.  
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord.  
All you winds, bless the Lord.  
Fire and heat, bless the Lord.  
Cold and chill, bless the Lord.  
Dew and rain, bless the Lord.  
Frost and chill, bless the Lord.  
Ice and snow, bless the lord.  
Nights and days, bless the Lord.  
Light and darkness, bless the Lord. -  
Lightning and clouds, bless the Lord.

Let the earth bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord.  
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.  
You springs, bless the Lord.  
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.  
You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord.  
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.  
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord.  
You sons of men, bless the Lord.

O Israel, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord.  
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.  
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, with the Holy Spirit.  
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven.  
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever.  
**At the end of the canticle the Glory to the Father is not said.**

**Ant.** Lift up your eyes and look: your sons come from afar and your daughters are carried to you.

**Ant. 3** Every people will proclaim your name and glorify the God of Israel.

**Psalm 149**  
**The joy of God's holy people**

Sing a new song to the Lord,  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel rejoice in its maker,  
let Zion's sons exult in their king.  
Let them praise his name with dancing  
and make music with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.  
He crowns the poor with salvation.  
Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,

shout for joy and take their rest.  
Let the praise of God be on their lips  
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations  
and punishment on all the peoples;  
to bind their kings in chains  
and their nobles in fetters of iron;  
to carry out the sentence preordained;  
this honor is for all his faithful.

**Ant.** Every people will proclaim your name and glorify the God of Israel.

#### READING

**Bar. 4:36-37.5:2-3**

Look to the east, Jerusalem! Behold the joy that come to you from God. Here come your sons whom you once let go, gathered in from the east and from the west by the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God. Wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the miter that displays the glory of the eternal name. For God will show all the earth your splendor.

#### RESPONSORY

Blessed are you, Mary, because you have believed: in you the Word of God will be accomplished.  
— Blessed are you, Mary, because you have believed: in you the Word of God will be accomplished.  
Christ, dying on the cross, gave you to his disciple as his Mother:  
— in you the Word of God will be accomplished.

Glory to the Father...  
— Blessed are you, Mary...

#### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

**Ant.** Hail, spring of grace and consolation; Hail, Mother of the orphans: you soothe our sorrows and free us from oppression.

**Luke 1:68-79**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;  
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,  
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old  
that he would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

to give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

to shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Ant.** Hail, spring of grace and consolation; Hail, Mother of the orphans: you soothe our sorrows  
and free us from oppression.

### INTERCESSIONS

Let us confidently raise our supplication and praise to God the Almighty Father, who exalted  
Mary, the Mother of Christ, above all creatures in heaven and earth, and say:  
*Through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of your Son, hear our prayers.*

Merciful Father, you have made Mary mindful of your word, and have made her your servant,  
— may the Church, by keeping your word, produce fruits of justice and love for the salvation of  
the world.

Merciful Father, by accomplishing great things in Mary, you have shown the outstanding riches  
of your grace,  
— make everybody conform to the image of your Son.

Merciful Father, you gave us Mary as Mother and model of Christian life,  
— through her intercession, fill our hearts with your love.

Merciful Father, you have made Mary the ark of the covenant,  
— teach us to recognize the presence of your Son in every person and to meet him in the  
suffering and the poor.

Merciful Father, you cast down the mighty and lifted up the lowly,  
— through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, may the orphans and the abandoned know you as  
their Father and defender.

Our Father

### Prayer

O God, you have poured your love  
for the poor and the orphans  
in the heart of the Virgin Mary.  
Through her motherly intercession,  
help us to grow more and more  
in witnessing your love.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reign with you and the Holy  
Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

### Daytime Prayer

#### HYMN

##### Midmorning

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew,  
That I may love the things you love,  
And do the things you do.

Breath on me, breath of God,  
Until my heart is pure,  
Until with you I have one will,  
To live and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
My soul with grace refine,  
Until this earthly part of me  
Glows with your fire divine.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
So I shall never die,  
But live with you the perfect life  
In your eternity.

**Ant.** United in prayer, the disciple were together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

### **Midday**

Help us, O Lord, to learn  
The truths thy Word imparts:  
To study that thy laws may be  
Inscribed upon our hearts.

Help us, O Lord, to live  
The faith which we proclaim,  
That all our thoughts and words and deeds  
May glorify your name.

Help us, O Lord, to teach  
The beauty of your ways,  
That yearning souls may find the Christ,  
And sing aloud his praise.

**Ant.** Says Jesus' Mother: 'Do whatever he tells you.'

### **Mid-afternoon**

Lord God and Maker of all things,  
Creation is upheld by you.  
While all must change and know decay,  
You are unchanging, always new.

You are man's solace and his shield,  
His rock secure on which to build;  
You are the spirit's tranquil home;  
In you alone is hope fulfilled.

To God the Father and the Son  
And Holy Spirit render praise,  
Blest Trinity, from age to age  
The strength of all our living days.

**Ant.** Says Jesus to his Mother: 'Woman, behold, your son.'

### **Psalm 118** **Song of joy for salvation** **I**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love endures for ever.

Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love endures for ever.'  
Let the sons of Aaron say:  
'His love endures for ever.'  
Let those who fear the Lord say:

'His love endures for ever.'

I called to the Lord in my distress;  
he answered and freed me.  
The Lord is at my side; I do not fear.  
What can man do against me?  
The Lord is at my side as my helper:  
I shall look down on my foes.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in men:  
it is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in princes.

## II

The nations all encompassed me,  
in the Lord's name I crushed them.

They compassed me, compassed me about;  
in the Lord's name I crushed them.  
They compassed me about like bees;  
they blazed like fire among thorns.  
In the Lord's name I crushed them.

I was hard-pressed and was falling  
but the Lord came to help me.  
The Lord is my strength and my song;  
he is my savior.  
There is shout of joy and victory  
in the tents of the just.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me.  
The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.  
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,  
but not doomed to die.

## III

Open to me the gates of holiness:  
I will enter and give thanks.  
This is the Lord's own gate  
where the just may enter.  
I will thank you for you have answered  
and you are my savior.

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.  
This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.

Lord, grant us salvation;  
Lord, grant success.  
Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord,  
the Lord God is our light.

Go forward in procession with branches  
even to the altar.

You are my God, I thank you.  
My God, I praise you.  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
for his love endures for ever.

### Midmorning

**Ant.** United in prayer, the disciple were together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

#### READING

**Rom 12:11c-13.15-16a.17b**

Serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same regard for one another; be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all.

Mary kept all these things in her heart.  
— the marvelous things of her Son

### Midday

**Ant.** Says Jesus' Mother: 'Do whatever he tells you.'

#### READING

**Jm 1:27**

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for the orphans and the widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.  
— May it be done to me according to your word.

### Mid-afternoon

**Ant.** Says Jesus to his Mother: 'Woman, behold, your son.'

#### READING

**I Thess 2:7-8**

We were gentle among you as a nursing mother cares for her children. With such an affection for you, we were determined to share with you not only the gospel of God, but our very selves as well, so dearly beloved had you become to us.

Blessed are you, o Virgin Mary,  
— you have carried in your womb the Son of the eternal Father.

#### Prayer

O God, you have poured your love  
for the poor and the orphans  
in the heart of the Virgin Mary.  
Through her motherly intercession,  
help us to grow more and more  
in witnessing your love.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reign with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

## Evening Prayer II

#### HYMN

Hail, Virgin Mary,  
in you, Mother of the Lord,

great things has done  
your savior God.

Receiving in your heart  
the Word made flesh,  
you gave the whole world  
the Shepherd of life.

Lifted up on the cross,  
your redeemer Son,  
called you the new Eve,  
sweet Mother of the living.

You, full of grace,  
always plea on your children  
the fullness of joy  
in faith and love.

For the orphans and the suffering  
you intercede the Father  
that he may show his might  
that lifts up the humble.

You are Mother for the orphans  
and strength for the poor,  
you, Mary, for all  
are support and hope.

Praise to the Almighty Father  
and to the Redeemer Son  
with the Spirit of love  
for ever and ever. Amen.

Or:

Ave Maria, gratia plena, dominus tecum,  
benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui Jesu.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

**Ant. 1** Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

### Psalm 122

I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
'Let us go to God's house.'  
And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.  
It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,  
there to praise the Lord's name.  
There were set the thrones of judgment  
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:  
'Peace be to your homes!

May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peace!

For love of my brethren and friends  
I say: 'Peace upon you!'  
For love of the house of the Lord  
I will ask for your love.

**Ant.** Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

**Ant. 2** Rejoice and exult and you will be satiated with her consolation.

### Psalm 127

If the Lord does not build the house,  
in vain do its builders labor;  
if the Lord does not watch over the city,  
in vain does the watchman keep vigil.

In vain is your earlier rising,  
your going later to rest,  
you who toil for the bread you eat:  
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.

Truly sons are a gift from the Lord,  
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.  
Indeed the sons of youth  
are like arrows in the hand of the warrior.

O happiness of the man  
who has filled his quiver with these arrows!  
He will have no cause for shame  
when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.

**Ant.** Rejoice and exult and you will be satiated with her consolation.

**Ant. 3** The Most High has blessed you, O daughter of our people: you have given us the fruit of life.

### Canticle Eph 1:3-10

Praised be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who 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 the earth.

**Ant.** The Most High has blessed you, O daughter of our people: you have given us the fruit of life.

#### READING

Rev 21:2-4

I saw the Holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying: 'Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them [as their God]. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, [for] the old order has passed away.'

#### RESPONSORY

Under your protection we seek refuge, holy Mother of God.  
— Under your protection we seek refuge, holy Mother of God.

Welcome and keep us under the wings of your compassion and mercy,  
— holy Mother of God.

Glory to the Father...  
— Under your protection...

#### CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** Hail, spotless gem. Because of you, the Son of justice shines on the world. Hail, Mother of the Christians, Virgin, consolation of the sorrowful, hope and tender mother of the orphans. Hail.

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 for ever.

**Ant.** Hail, spotless gem. Because of you, the Son of justice shines on the world. Hail, Mother of

the Christians, Virgin, consolation of the sorrowful, hope and tender mother of the orphans. Hail.

### INTERCESSIONS

United in prayer and praise, we thank God, merciful Father, who has filled Mary with his blessing. Confidently we ask:  
*Mary full of grace, intercede for us.*

God of every consolation, redeemer of the poor and father of the orphans,  
– through Mary's intercession, help the Church may shine with the witness of your love.

You loved the world so much that you gave, through Mary, your only begotten Son,  
– sustained by her motherly help, may we stay close to our Savior.

You strengthened Mary at the foot of the cross and filled her with joy at your Son's Resurrection,  
– sustain those who suffer the hardship of life and strengthen them with hope.

You grant us to celebrate the solemnity of Mary Mother of the orphans,  
– bestow your Spirit on us so that we may fervently serve you in our neighbor.

You exalted the Virgin Mary to the glory of heaven,  
– grant our deceased brothers and sisters to receive the eternal life of your kingdom with her.

Our Father...

### Prayer

O God, you have poured your love  
for the poor and the orphans  
in the heart of the Virgin Mary.  
Through her motherly intercession,  
help us to grow more and more  
in witnessing your love.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reign with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

## Appendix

### Latin Hymns

1

Fide coniuncti gaudioque pleni  
Orphani Matrem celebremus  
omnes, Filiis detur teneros amoris  
Pandere sensus.

Naraque cum Christus moriturus esset,

In Matrem nobis dedit adfuturam,  
Quando iam dixit iuveni Ioanni:  
En tua Mater.

Inde persolvit Genitrix benigna  
Munia in cunctos homines dolentes,  
Supplicum semper miserata poenas  
Atque labores.

Sed magis gaudet pia Mater orbam  
Prosequi curis puerum catervam,  
Qui suos deflent miseri parentes  
Morte peremptos.

Nunc Deo Patri Genitoque demus  
Et Paracleto decus et honorem,  
Gloria qui te replevere summa,  
Sancta Maria. AMEN

2

O nimis prudens, nimiumque felix  
Rebus in duris prece qui fatigat  
Te, Dei Mater, benedicta Virgo,  
Prodiga in omnes.

Lux per horrendas tenebras refulgens  
Tu regis gressus, reficisque nostrum  
Languidum pectus, relevas iacentes,  
Vita salusque.

Dulce tu praebes miseris iuvamen,  
Gaudio complex animas dolentes,  
Perlubens Natus tibi supplicanti  
Singula tradet.

Ignis absumet prius astra, tellus  
Vulsa mutabit subitis ruinis,  
Quam neges natis, pia virgo, fidis,  
Dona salutis.

Laetior cantus resonet per orbem:  
Virgini grates meritas rependant  
Orphani, Matris benefacta narrent  
omne per aevum.

Sit salus illi, decus atque virtus,  
Qui super caeli solio coruscans,  
Totius mundi seriem gubernat  
Trinus et unus. AMEN.

Quae nunc fideli pectore  
Tuas ad aras promimus  
Permixa vota laudibus,  
O Virgo, praesens accipe.

Tu spes, voluptas cordium,  
Et mentium lux fulgida,  
Fac, ut quod orbis porrigit  
Prae te sit usque sordidum.

Per te rebellis dominis  
Detur dolos avertere,  
Ut aequa nos remunerent  
Aeterna caeli praemia.

Benigna Mater, orphanis  
adesto supplicantibus,  
Hos a reatu libera,  
Et a periculis eripe.

Quae mente tota poscimus,  
Haec ipsa Mater flagitas,  
Inter beatos caelites,  
Videre nos desiderans.

Jesu, tibi sit gloria,  
Qui natus es de Virgine,  
Cum Patre et almo Spiritu,  
In sempiterna saecula.  
AMEN.