

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

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June 14, 2025

{ Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday }



*Stand and make sign of cross*

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 for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## HYMN

O Mary, Virgin Mother blest,  
O holy daughter of your Son,  
most humble and yet most sublime,  
above the whole created world:

You are the summit fixed of old,  
predestined by divine decree,  
to be our nature's perfect crown,  
the height of beauty and of grace.

In you our nature shone so fair  
that its Creator, God most high,  
with art so wondrous to behold,  
was made a creature formed through you.

Within the Virgin's purest womb  
the flame of love is born anew,  
and by its warmth, upon the earth  
celestial flowers come to bloom.

To Father and to Paraclete  
and to your Son all glory be,  
who have, all three, invested you  
with such a wondrous robe of grace. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: Hereford, 8 8 8 8; Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-1876*

*Plainsong, mode VIII, melody 109; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983\*, Text: O virgo mater, filia, Anselmo Lentini, O.S.B., 1901-1989*

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*Sit or stand*

## PSALMODY

### *Antiphon 1*

None but the Lord has done such marvels; his love endures for ever.

*Psalm 136*

*Easter Hymn*

*We praise God by recalling his marvelous deeds (Cassiodorus).*

### *I*

O give thanks to the Lórd for he is góod,\*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

Give thánks to the Gód of góds,\*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

Give thánks to the Lórd of lórds,\*  
for his lóve endúres for éver;

who alóne has wrought márvellous wórks,\*  
for his lóve endúres for éver;

whose wísdom it wás made the skíes,\*  
for his lóve endúres for éver;  
who fixed the earth firmly on the séas,\*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

It was hé who máde the great líghts,\*  
for his lóve endúres for éver,  
the sún to rúle in the dáy,\*  
for his lóve endúres for éver,  
the móon and stárs in the níght,\*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,\*  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,\*

and will be for ever. Amen.

*Antiphon*

None but the Lord has done such marvels; his love endures for ever.

*Antiphon 2*

He brought Israel out of Egypt with powerful hand and arm  
outstretched.

*II*

The first-bórn of the Egýptians he smóte, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.  
He brought Ísrael óut from their mídst, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver;  
arm outstrétched, with pówer in his hánd, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

He divíded the Réd Sea in twó, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver;  
he made Ísrael páss through the mídst, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver;  
he flung Pháraoh and his fórcé in the séa, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

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

*Antiphon*

He brought Israel out of Egypt with powerful hand and arm  
outstretched.

*Antiphon 3*

Give praise to the God of heaven; he has ransomed us from our  
enemies.

*III*

Through the désert his péople he léd, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.  
Nátions in their gréatness he strúck, \*

for his lóve endúres for éver.  
Kíngs in their spléndor he sléw, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

Síhon, kíng of the Ámorites, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver;  
and Óg, the kíng of Báshan, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

He let Ísrael inhérit their lánd, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.  
On his sérvant their lánd he bestówed, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.  
He remémbred ús in our distréss, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

And he snátched us awáy from our fóes, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.  
He gives fód to áll living thínks, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.  
To the Gód of héaven give thánks, \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.

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

### *Antiphon*

Give praise to the God of heaven; he has ransomed us from our enemies.

### VERSE

Lord, show me your ways.

— Teach me to walk in your footsteps.

## READINGS

### *First reading*

From the book of Joshua

*24:1-7, 13-28*

### *The renewal of the covenant in the Promised Land*

Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, summoning their elders, their leaders, their judges and their officers. When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people: “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: In times past your fathers, down to Terah, father of Abraham and Nahor, dwelt beyond the River and served other gods. But I brought your father Abraham from the region beyond the River and led him through the entire land of Canaan. I made his descendants numerous, and gave him Isaac. To Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. To Esau I assigned the mountain region of Seir in which to settle, while Jacob and his children went down to Egypt.

“Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and smote Egypt with the prodigies which I wrought in her midst. Afterward I led you out of Egypt, and when you reached the sea, the Egyptians pursued your fathers to the Red Sea with chariots and horsemen. Because they cried out to the Lord, he put darkness between your people and the Egyptians, upon whom he brought the sea so that it engulfed them. You witnessed what I did to Egypt, and dwelt a long time in the desert.

“I gave you a land which you had not tilled and cities which you had not built, to dwell in; you have eaten of vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant.

“Now, therefore, fear the Lord and serve him completely and sincerely. Cast out the gods your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

But the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the Lord

for the service of other gods. For it was the Lord, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. He performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among all the peoples through whom we passed. At our approach the Lord drove out [all the peoples, including] the Amorites who dwelt in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

Joshua in turn said to the people, “You may not be able to serve the Lord, for he is a holy God; he is a jealous God who will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If, after the good he has done for you, you forsake the Lord and serve strange gods, he will do evil to you and destroy you.”

But the people answered Joshua, “We will still serve the Lord.” Joshua therefore said to the people, “You are your own witnesses that you have chosen to serve the Lord.” They replied, “We are, indeed!” “Now, therefore, put away the strange gods that are among you and turn your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” Then the people promised Joshua, “We will serve the Lord, our God, and obey his voice.”

So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem, which he recorded in the book of the law of God. Then he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak that was in the sanctuary of the Lord. And Joshua said to all the people, “This stone shall be our witness, for it has heard all the words which the Lord spoke to us. It shall be a witness against you, should you wish to deny your God.” Then Joshua dismissed the people, each to his own heritage.

### *Responsory*

*Joshua 24:16, 24; 1 Corinthians 8:5-6*

Far be it from us to turn from the Lord to serve other gods.

— We shall serve the Lord our God and shall obey his voice.

Even though there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth, for us there is one God.

— We shall serve the Lord our God and shall obey his voice.

*Second reading*

From a sermon by Saint Bernard, abbot

*(Sermo de Aquaeductu: Opera omnia, Edit. Cisterc. 5 [1968], 282-283)*

*We should meditate on the mysteries of salvation*

The child to be born of you will be called holy, the Son of God, the fountain of wisdom, the Word of the Father on high. Through you, blessed Virgin, this Word will become flesh, so that even though, as he says: *I am in the Father and the Father is in me*, it is still true for him to say: “I came forth from God and am here.”

*In the beginning was the Word.* The spring was gushing forth, yet still within himself. Indeed, *the Word was with God*, truly dwelling in inaccessible light. And the Lord said from the beginning: *I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.* Yet your thought was locked within you, and whatever you thought, we did not know; for who knew the mind of the Lord, or who was his counselor?

And so the idea of peace came down to do the work of peace: *The Word was made flesh and even now dwells among us.* It is by faith that he dwells in our hearts, in our memory, our intellect and penetrates even into our imagination. What concept could man have of God if he did not first fashion an image of him in his heart? By nature incomprehensible and inaccessible, he was invisible and unthinkable, but now he wished to be understood, to be seen and thought of.

But how, you ask, was this done? He lay in a manger and rested on a virgin's breast, preached on a mountain, and spent the night in prayer. He hung on a cross, grew pale in death, and roamed free among the dead and ruled over those in hell. He rose again on the third day, and showed the apostles the wounds of the nails, the signs of victory; and finally in their presence he ascended to the sanctuary of heaven.

How can we not contemplate this story in truth, piety and holiness? Whatever of all this I consider, it is God I am considering; in all this he is my God. I have said it is wise to meditate on these truths, and I have thought it right to recall the abundant sweetness, given by the fruits of this priestly root; and Mary, drawing abundantly from



heaven, has caused this sweetness to overflow for us.

*Responsory*

O Virgin Mary, no other daughter of Jerusalem is your equal, for you are the mother of the King of kings, you are the Queen of heaven and of angels.

— Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Hail, full of grace; the Lord is with you.

— Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

*Stand*

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord God,  
give to your people the joy  
of continual health in mind and body.  
With the prayers of the Virgin Mary to help us,  
guide us through the sorrows of this life  
to eternal happiness in the life to come.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

— Amen.

*Acclamation*

Let us praise the Lord.

— And give him thanks.

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