Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

August 22, 2025 { Memorial – Queenship of Mary }



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 Virgin Mary, heav'nly Queen, surpassing all created things, you reign in beauty rich and fair, adorned with ev'ry gracious gift.

You shine with light above the rest, among all creatures you are first; predestined Mother of the Son, you gave your Maker human birth.

As Christ was King on that high tree, his blood, a purpled royal robe, so you who shared his bitter Cross are Queen and Mother of us all.

Look down on us who honor you, O Mary, robed in wondrous praise; receive with joy our grateful hymn as we acclaim you heaven's Queen.

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: ST VENANTIUS, 8 8 8 8; Rouen church melody, 1728

Plainsong, mode VIII, melody 109; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983*, Text: Rerum supremo in vertice, Vittorio Genovesi, S.J., d. 1967

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Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

My God, do not reject my cry for help, assailed as I am by the wicked.

Psalm 55:2-15, 17-24

Against a friend proved traitor

Jesus was seized with fear and distress (Mark 14:33).

I

O Gód, lísten to my práyer, * do not híde from my pléading, atténd to mé and replý; * with my cáres, I cannot rést.

I trémble at the shouts of the foe, * at the cries of the wicked; for they bring down évil upon me. * They assail me with fury.

My héart is strícken withín me, * death's térror is ón me, trémbling and féar fall upón me * and hórror overwhélms me.

Ó that I had wings like a dóve * to fly awáy and be at rést. Só I would escápe far awáy * and take réfuge in the désert.

I would hásten to fínd a shélter * from the ráging wínd, from the destrúctive stórm, O Lórd, * and from their plótting tóngues.

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

My God, do not reject my cry for help, assailed as I am by the wicked.

Antiphon 2

The Lord himself will free us from hostile and treacherous hands.

II

For Í can see nóthing but víolence * and strífe in the cíty.

Níght and dáy they patról * hígh on the city wálls.

It is fúll of wíckedness and évil; * it is fúll of sín.
Its stréets are néver frée * from týranny and decéit.

If this had been done by an énemy * I could béar his táunts.
If a ríval had rísen agáinst me, * I could híde from hím.

But it is you, my own compánion, * my intimate friend!
How close was the friendship between us. † We walked togéther in harmony * in the house of God.

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

The Lord himself will free us from hostile and treacherous hands.

Antiphon 3

Entrust your cares to the Lord; he will sustain you.

III

As for mé, I will crý to Gód * and the Lórd will sáve me. Évening, mórning and at nóon * I will crý and lamént.

He will delíver my sóul in péace * in the attáck agáinst me: for thóse who fight me are mány, * but he héars my vóice.

Gód will héar and will húmble them, * the etérnal júdge: for they will not aménd their wáys. * They have no féar of Gód.

The tráitor has túrned against his fríends; * he has bróken his wórd.
His spéech is sófter than bútter, * but wár is in his héart.
His wórds are smóother than óil, * but they are náked swórds.

Entrúst your cáres to the Lórd * and hé will suppórt you. Hé will néver allów * the júst man to stúmble.

But you, O God, will bring them down * to the pit of déath.

Decéitful and bloodthirsty mén † shall not live half their dáys. *

O Lord, I will trúst in you.

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

Entrust your cares to the Lord; he will sustain you.

VERSE

Children, listen to my words of wisdom.

— Pay attention to my counsels.

Sit

READINGS

First reading

From the book of the prophet Isaiah

30:1-18

The futility of entering into pacts with foreign peoples

Woe to the rebellious children, says the Lord, Who carry out plans that are not mine,

who weave webs that are not inspired by me, adding sin upon sin.

They go down to Egypt, but my counsel they do not seek.

They find their strength in Pharaoh's protection and take refuge in Egypt's shadow;

Pharaoh's protection shall be your shame, and refuge in Egypt's shadow your disgrace.

When their princes are at Zoan and their messengers reach Hanes,

All shall be ashamed of a people that gain them nothing,

Neither help nor benefit, but only shame and reproach.

[Oracle on the Beasts of the Negeb]
Through the distressed and troubled land
of the lioness and roaring lion,
of the viper and flying saraph,
They carry their riches on the backs of asses

and their treasures on the humps of camels
To a people good for nothing,
to Egypt whose help is futile and vain.
Therefore I call her
"Rahab quelled."

Now come, write it on a tablet they can keep, inscribe it in a record;
That it may be in future days an eternal witness:
This is a rebellious people, deceitful children,
Children who refuse to obey the law of the Lord.

They say to the seers, "Have no visions"; to the prophets, "Do not descry for us what is right; speak flatteries to us, conjure up illusions.
Out of the way! Out of our path!
Let us hear no more

Let us hear no more of the Holy One of Israel."

Therefore, thus says the Holy One of Israel:
Because you reject this word,
And put your trust in what is crooked and devious,
and depend on it,
This guilt of yours shall be
like a descending rift
Bulging out in a high wall
whose crash comes suddenly, in an instant.
It crashes like a potter's jar
smashed beyond rescue,
And among its fragments cannot be found
a sherd to scoop fire from the hearth
or dip water from the cistern.

For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: By waiting and by calm you shall be saved, in quiet and in trust your strength lies. But this you did not wish.

"No," you said, "Upon horses we will flee."

—Very well, flee!

"Upon swift steeds we will ride."

—Not so swift as your pursuers.

A thousand shall tremble at the threat of one; if five threaten you, you shall flee,

Until you are left like a flagstaff on the mountaintop, like a flag on the hill.

Yet the Lord is waiting to show you favor, and he rises to pity you;
For the Lord is a God of justice:

blessed are all who wait for him!

Responsory

Isaiah 30:15, 18

Turn back, be at peace, and you shall be saved.

— Your strength shall lie in quiet and in trust.

The Lord is waiting to show you his favor. Happy are all who trust in him.

— Your strength shall lie in quiet and in trust.

Second reading

From a homily by Saint Amadeus of Lausanne, bishop

(Hom. 7: SC 72, 188. 190. 192. 200)

Queen of the world and of peace

Observe how fitting it was that even before her assumption the name of Mary shone forth wondrously throughout the world. Her fame spread everywhere even before she was raised above the heavens in her magnificence. Because of the honor due her Son, it was indeed fitting for the Virgin Mother to have first ruled upon earth and then be raised up to heaven in glory. It was fitting that her fame be spread in this world below, so that she might enter the heights of heaven in overwhelming blessedness. Just as she was borne from virtue to virtue by the Spirit of the Lord, she was transported from earthly renown to heavenly brightness.

So it was that she began to taste the fruits of her future reign while still in the flesh. At one moment she withdrew to God in ecstasy; at the next she would bend down to her neighbors with indescribable love. In heaven angels served her, while here on earth she was venerated by the service of men. Gabriel and the angels waited upon her in heaven. The virgin John, rejoicing that the Virgin Mother was entrusted to him at the cross, cared for her with the other apostles here below. The angels rejoiced to see their queen; the apostles rejoiced to see their lady, and both obeyed her with loving devotion.

Dwelling in the loftiest citadel of virtue, like a sea of divine grace or an unfathomable source of love that has everywhere overflowed its banks, she poured forth her bountiful waters on trusting and thirsting souls. Able to preserve both flesh and spirit from death she bestowed health-giving salve on bodies and souls. Has anyone ever come away from her troubled or saddened or ignorant of the heavenly mysteries? Who has not returned to everyday life gladdened and joyful because his request had been granted by the Mother of God?

She is a bride, so gentle and affectionate, and the mother of the only true bridegroom. In her abundant goodness she has channeled the spring of reason's garden, the well of living and life-giving waters that pour forth in a rushing stream from divine Lebanon and flow down from Mount Zion until they surround the shores of every farflung nation. With divine assistance she has redirected these waters and made them into streams of peace and pools of grace. Therefore, when the Virgin of virgins was led forth by God and her Son, the King of kings, amid the company of exulting angels and rejoicing archangels, with the heavens ringing with praise, the prophecy of the psalmist was fulfilled, in which he said to the Lord: *At your right hand stands the queen, clothed in gold of Ophir*.

Responsory

A great sign appeared in the heavens: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet,

and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.

The queen clothed in cloth of gold, stood on your right hand.

— And upon her head a crown of twelve stars.

Stand

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Father, you have given us the mother of your Son to be our queen and mother.
With the support of her prayers may we come to share the glory of your children in the kingdom of heaven.

We ask 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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The English translation of Antiphons, Invitatories, Responsories, Intercessions, Psalm 95, the Canticle of the Lamb, Psalm Prayers, Non-Biblical Readings, Hagiographical Introductions from *The Liturgy of the Hours* © 1973, 1974, 1975, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL); excerpts from the English translation of *The Roman Missal* © 2010, ICEL; the English translation of Hymns from *The Liturgy of the Hours* © 2023. All rights reserved.

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