

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

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June 27, 2026

{ 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*

The Lord summons heaven and earth to witness his judgment on his people.

*Psalm 50*

*Genuine love of God*

*I have come not to abolish the law but to bring it to perfection (see Matthew 5:17).*

*I*

The Gód of góds, the Lórd, †  
has spóken and súmmoned the éarth,\*  
from the rísing of the sún to its sétting.  
Out of Zíon's perfect béauty he shínes.\*  
Our God cómes, he keeps sílence no lónger.

Befóre him fire devóurs,\*  
aróund him témpest ráges.  
He cálls on the héavens and the éarth\*  
to wítness his júdgment of his péople.

“Súmmon befóre me my péople\*  
who made cóvenant with mé by sácricé.”  
The héavens procláim his jústice,\*  
for Gód himsélf is the júdge.

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 summons heaven and earth to witness his judgment on

his people.

*Antiphon 2*

Come to me in your distress, and I will save you.

*II*

“Listen, my people, I will speak; \*  
Israel, I will testify against you,  
for I am God your God. \*  
I accuse you, lay the charge before you.  
I find no fault with your sacrifices, \*  
your offerings are always before me.  
I do not ask more bullocks from your farms, \*  
nor goats from among your herds.  
For I own all the beasts of the forest, \*  
beasts in their thousands on my hills.  
I know all the birds in the sky, \*  
all that moves in the field belongs to me.  
Were I hungry, I would not tell you, \*  
for I own the world and all it holds.  
Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls, \*  
or drink the blood of goats?  
Pay your sacrifice of thanksgiving to God \*  
and render him your votive offerings.  
Call on me in the day of distress. \*  
I will free you and you shall honor 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.

*Antiphon*

Come to me in your distress, and I will save you.

*Antiphon 3*

A sacrifice of praise will give me glory.

### III

But Gód sáys to the wícked: †  
“But hów can you recíte my commándments \*  
and táke my cóvenant on your líps,  
yóu who despíse my láu \*  
and thrów my wórds to the wínds,  
you who sée a thíef and go wíth him; \*  
who thrów in your lót with adúlterers,  
who unbrídle your móuth for évil \*  
and whose tóngue is plótting críme,  
you who sít and malín your bróther \*  
and slándér your ówn mother’s són.  
You do thís, and should Í keep sílence? \*  
Do you thínk that Í am like yóu?  
Mark thís, you who néver think of Gód, \*  
lest I séize you and you cánnót escápe;  
a sácrafice of thanksgíving hónors me \*  
and I will shów God’s salvátion to the úpríght.”  
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*

A sacrifice of praise will give me glory.

#### VERSE

We are always praying earnestly for you.

— That you may have a deep knowledge of God’s will.

#### *Sit*

#### READINGS

#### *First reading*

From the first book of Samuel

*David shows his generosity in forgiving Saul*

David himself went to the place where Saul was encamped and examined the spot where Saul and Abner, son of Ner, the general, had their sleeping quarters. Saul's were within the barricade, and all his soldiers were camped around him. David asked Ahimelech the Hittite, and Abishai, son of Zeruiah and brother of Joab, "Who will go down into the camp with me to Saul?" Abishai replied, "I will." So David and Abishai went among Saul's soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade, with his spear thrust into the ground at his head and Abner and his men sleeping around him.

Abishai whispered to David: "God has delivered your enemy into your grasp this day. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need a second thrust!" But David said to Abishai, "Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the Lord's anointed and remain unpunished?"

"As the Lord lives," David continued, "it must be the Lord himself who will strike him, whether the time comes for him to die, or he goes out and perishes in battle. But the Lord forbid that I touch his anointed! Now take the spear which is at his head and the water jug, and let us be on our way." So David took the spear and the water jug from their place at Saul's head, and they got away without anyone's seeing or knowing or awakening. All remained asleep, because the Lord had put them into a deep slumber.

Going across to an opposite slope, David stood on a remote hill-top at a great distance from Abner, son of Ner, and the troops. He then shouted, "Will you not answer, Abner?" And Abner answered, "Who is it that calls me?" David said to Abner: "Are you not a man whose like does not exist in Israel? Why, then, have you not guarded your Lord the king when one of his subjects went to kill the king, your lord? This is no creditable service you have performed. As the Lord lives, you people deserve death because you have not guarded your lord, the Lord's anointed. Go, look: where are the king's spear and the water jug that was at his head?"

Saul recognized David's voice and asked, "Is that your voice, my son David?" David answered, "Yes, my Lord the king." He continued: "Why does my Lord pursue his servant? What have I done? What evil do I plan? Please, now, let my Lord the king listen to the words of his servant. If the Lord has incited you against me, let an offering appease him; but if men, may they be cursed before the Lord, because they have exiled me so that this day I have no share in the Lord's inheritance, but am told: 'Go serve other gods!' Do not let my blood flow to the ground far from the presence of the Lord. For the king of Israel has come out to seek a single flea as if he were hunting partridge in the mountains." Then Saul said: "I have done wrong. Come back, my son David, I will not harm you again, because you have held my life precious today. Indeed, I have been a fool and have made a serious mistake." But David answered: "Here is the king's spear. Let an attendant come over to get it. The Lord will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness. Today, though the Lord delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the Lord's anointed. As I valued your life highly today, so may the Lord value my life highly and deliver me from all difficulties."

Then Saul said to David: "Blessed are you, my son David! You shall certainly succeed in whatever you undertake." David went his way, and Saul returned to his home.

*Responsory*

*Psalm 54:5, 3, 8, 4*

Arrogant men have risen up against me, and brutal men seek my life. Save me, O God, by your name,

— and with your strength defend my cause.

Willingly I shall offer sacrifice to you; O God, hear my prayer.

— And with your strength defend my cause.

*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 far-flung 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.

God of mercy,  
give us strength.

May we who honor the memory of the Mother of God  
rise above our sins and failings with the help of her prayers.

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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