

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

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July 5, 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*

Whoever humbles himself, like a little child, will be greater in the kingdom of heaven.

### *Psalm 131*

#### *Childlike trust in God*

*Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart (Matthew 11:29).*

O Lórd, my héart is not próud \*  
nor háughty my éyes.  
I have not góne after thínghs too gréat \*  
nor márvels beyónd me.  
Trúly I have sét my sóul \*  
in sílence and péace.  
As a chéild has rést in its mother's árms, \*  
even só is my sóul.  
O Ísrael, hópe in the Lórd \*  
both nów and 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*

Whoever humbles himself, like a little child, will be greater in the kingdom of heaven.

### *Antiphon 2*

With simplicity of heart, I have joyfully offered everything to you, my God.

*Psalm 132*

*God's promises to the house of David*

*The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David (Luke 1:32).*

*I*

O Lórd, remémber Dávid \*  
and áll the many hárdships he endúred,  
the óath he swóre to the Lórd, \*  
his vów to the Stróng One of Jácob.

“I will not énter the hóuse where I líve \*  
nor gó to the béd where I rést.  
I will gíve no sléep to my éyes, \*  
to my éyelids I will gíve no slúmber  
till I find a pláce for the Lórd, \*  
a dwélling for the Stróng One of Jácob.”

At Éphrathah we héard of the árkh; \*  
we fóund it in the pláins of Yearím.  
“Let us gó to the pláce of his dwélling; \*  
let us gó to knéel at his fóotstool.”

Go up, Lórd, to the pláce of your rést, \*  
yóu and the árkh of your stréngth.  
Your priests shall be clóthed with hóliness: \*  
your fáithful shall ríng out their jóy.  
For the sáke of Dávid your sérvant \*  
dó not rejéct your anóinted.

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*

With simplicity of heart, I have joyfully offered everything to you,  
my God.

*Antiphon 3*

The Lord has sworn an oath to David; his kingdom will stand for

ever.

## II

The Lórd swore an óath to Dávid; \*  
he wíll not go báck on his wórd;  
“A són, the frúit of your bódý, \*  
will I sét upón your thróne.

If they kéepe my cóvenant in trúth \*  
and my láws that Í have táught them,  
their sóns álsó shall rúle \*  
on your thróne from áge to áge.”

For the Lórd has chósen Zíon; \*  
he has desíred it fór his dwélling:  
“Thís is my résting-place for éver, \*  
hére have I chósen to líve.

I will gréatly bléss her próduce, \*  
I will fíll her póor with bréad.  
I will clóthe her priests with salvátion \*  
and her fáithful shall ríng out their jóy.

Thére David’s stóck will flówer: \*  
I will prépare a lámp for my anóinted.  
I will cóver his énemies with sháme \*  
but on hím my crówn shall shíne.”

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 has sworn an oath to David; his kingdom will stand for ever.

## VERSE

Come, consider the works of the Lord.

— The marvels he has created on this earth.

## READINGS

### *First reading*

From the second book of Samuel

*11:1-17, 26-27*

### *The sin of David*

At the turn of the year, when kings go out on campaign, David sent out Joab along with his officers and the army of Israel, and they ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. David, however, remained in Jerusalem.

One evening David rose from his siesta and strolled about on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing, who was very beautiful. David had inquiries made about the woman and was told, "She is Bathsheba, daughter of Eliam, and wife of (Joab's armor-bearer) Uriah the Hittite." Then David sent messengers and took her. When she came to him, he had relations with her, at a time when she was just purified after her monthly period. She then returned to her house. But the woman had conceived, and sent the information to David, "I am with child."

David therefore sent a message to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." So Joab sent Uriah to David. When he came, David questioned him about Joab, the soldiers, and how the war was going, and Uriah answered that all was well. David then said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and bathe your feet." Uriah left the palace, and a portion was sent out after him from the king's table. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the royal palace with the other officers of his lord, and did not go down to his own house.

David was told that Uriah had not gone home. So he said to Uriah, "Have you not come from a journey? Why, then, did you not go down to your house?" Uriah answered David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are lodged in tents, and my Lord Joab and your majesty's servants are encamped in the open field. Can I go home to eat and to drink and to sleep with my wife? As the Lord lives and as you live, I will do no such thing." Then David said to Uriah, "Stay here today

also, I shall dismiss you tomorrow.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the day following, David summoned him, and he ate and drank with David, who made him drunk. But in the evening he went out to sleep on his bed among his lord’s servants, and did not go down to his home.

The next morning David wrote a letter to Joab which he sent by Uriah. In it he directed: “Place Uriah up front, where the fighting is fierce. Then pull back and leave him to be struck down dead.” So while Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to a place where he knew the defenders were strong. When the men of the city made a sortie against Joab, some officers of David’s army fell, and among them Uriah the Hittite died.

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband had died, she mourned her lord. But once the mourning was over, David sent for her and brought her into his house. She became his wife and bore him a son. But the Lord was displeased with what David had done.

*Responsory*

*See 2 Samuel 12:9; Exodus 20:2, 13, 14*

You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife as your own.

- Why then have you shown contempt for the Lord by doing what is evil in his sight?

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt. You shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery.

- Why then have you shown contempt for the Lord by doing what is evil in his sight?

*Second reading*

From a sermon by Saint Lawrence Justinian, bishop

*(Sermo 8, in festo Purificationis B.M.V.: Opera, 2, Venetiis 1751, 38–39)*

*Mary stored up all these things in her heart*

While Mary contemplated all she had come to know through reading, listening and observing, she grew in faith, increased in merits, and was more illuminated by wisdom and more consumed

by the fire of charity. The heavenly mysteries were opened to her, and she was filled with joy; she became fruitful by the Spirit, was being directed toward God, and watched over protectively while on earth. So remarkable are the divine graces that they elevate one from the lowest depths to the highest summit, and transform one to a greater holiness. How entirely blessed was the mind of the Virgin which, through the indwelling and guidance of the Spirit, was always and in every way open to the power of the Word of God. She was not led by her own senses, nor by her own will; thus she accomplished outwardly through her body what wisdom from within gave to her faith. It was fitting for divine Wisdom, which created itself a home in the Church, to use the intervention of the most blessed Mary in guarding the law, purifying the mind, giving an example of humility and providing a spiritual sacrifice.

Imitate her, O faithful soul. Enter into the deep recesses of your heart so that you may be purified spiritually and cleansed from your sins. God places more value on good will in all we do than on the works themselves. Therefore, whether we give ourselves to God in the work of contemplation or whether we serve the needs of our neighbor by good works, we accomplish these things because the love of Christ urges us on. The acceptable offering of the spiritual purification is accomplished not in a man-made temple but in the recesses of the heart where the Lord Jesus freely enters.

### *Responsory*

O pure and holy virgin, how can I find words to praise your beauty?

— The highest heavens cannot contain God whom you carried in your womb.

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

— The highest heavens cannot contain God whom you carried in your womb.

### *Stand*

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.



All-powerful God,  
we rejoice in the protection of the holy Virgin Mary.  
May her prayers help to free us from all evils here on earth  
and lead us to eternal joy in heaven.

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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