Liturgy of the Hours

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Evening Prayer II

December 27, 2026

{ Feast – Holy Family }



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 blessed Light of saints above
and highest Hope of mortal flesh,
O Jesus, at your birth is seen
the loving smile of fam'ly life.

O Mary, Mother rich in grace,
your purest heart alone can love
and fondle Jesus on your breast
with sweet caresses, nursing him.

O Heir to Patriarchs of old,
the Virgin's chosen guardian blest,
with sweetest name, the child divine
called you his father here on earth.

From Jesse's noble lineage sprung
to save the nations lost in sin,
with kindness hear the humble prayers
our hearts pour forth with deep desire.

Your home was like a garden fair,
with ev'ry virtue blest by grace.
O grant that we may imitate
such grace in fam'ly life at home.

Lord Jesus, humbly you became
obedient to your parents' will;
to you eternal glory be
with Father and with Spirit blest. Amen.

Metrical hymn, melody: Puer nobis nascitur, 8 8 8 8; adapted by Michael Praetorius,

1571-1621, in Musae Sionae, VI, 1809

Plainsong, mode II, melody 40; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: O lux beata cælitum, Pope Leo XIII, 1810-1903*

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Sit or stand

Psalmody

Antiphon 1

After three days, Jesus was found in the temple, seated in the midst of the doctors, listening to them and asking them questions.

Psalm 122

Holy city Jerusalem

You have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, heavenly Jerusalem (Hebrews 12:22).

I rejóiced when I héard them sáy: *
"Let us gó to God's hóuse."
And nów our féet are stánding *
within your gátes, O Jerúsalem.

Jerúsalem is buílt as a cíty *
stróngly compáct.
It is thére that the tríbes go úp, *
the tríbes of the Lórd.

For Ísrael's láw it ís, *
there to práise the Lord's náme.
Thére were set the thrónes of júdgment *
of the hóuse of Dávid.

For the péace of Jerúsalem práy: *
"Péace be to your hómes!
May péace réign in your wálls, *

in your pálaces, péace!"

For lóve of my bréthren and fríends *
I say: "Péace upon yóu!"
For lóve of the hóuse of the Lórd *
I will ásk for your góod.

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

After three days, Jesus was found in the temple, seated in the midst of the doctors, listening to them and asking them questions.

Antiphon 2

Jesus returned with Mary and Joseph to Nazareth; there he lived and was obedient to them.

Psalm 127

Apart from God our labors are worthless

You are God's building (1 Corinthians 3:9).

If the Lórd does not buíld the hóuse, *
in váin do its buílders lábor;
if the Lórd does not wátch over the cíty, *
in váin does the wátchman keep vígil.

In váin is your éarlier rísing, *
your góing láter to rést,
you who tóil for the bréad you éat: *
when he pours gífts on his belóved while they slúmber.

Truly sóns are a gíft from the Lórd, *
a bléssing, the frúit of the wómb.
Indéed the sóns of yóuth *
are like árrows in the hánd of a wárrior.

Ó the háppiness of the mán *
who has fílled his quíver with these árrows!
Hé will have no cáuse for sháme *

when he dispútes with his fóes in the gáteways.

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

Jesus returned with Mary and Joseph to Nazareth; there he lived and was obedient to them.

Antiphon 3

Jesus grew in wisdom with the years and was pleasing to God and men.

Canticle – Ephesians 1:3-10

God our Savior

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

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

Jesus grew in wisdom with the years and was pleasing to God and men.

Sit

Reading

Philippians 2:6-7

Though he was in the form of God, Christ Jesus did not deem equality with God something to be grasped at. Rather he emptied himself and took the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of men. He was known to be of human estate.

Responsory

He had to become like his brothers in every way to show the fullness of his mercy.

— He had to become like his brothers in every way to show the fullness of his mercy.

He was seen on earth and lived among men and women,

— to show the fullness of his mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

— He had to become like his brothers in every way to show the fullness of his mercy.

Stand

Gospel Canticle

Antiphon

Son, why have you done this to us? Think what anguish your father and I have endured looking for you. But why did you look for me? Did you not know that I had to be in my Father's house?

Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

Make sign of cross

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.

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

Son, why have you done this to us? Think what anguish your father and I have endured looking for you. But why did you look for me? Did you not know that I had to be in my Father's house?

Intercessions

Let us adore the Son of the living God who humbled himself to become a son of a human family, and let us proclaim:

— Lord, you are the model and Savior of all.

Christ, by the mystery of your subjection to Mary and Joseph, teach all people reverence and obedience to lawful authority.

— Lord, you are the model and Savior of all.

You loved your parents and were loved by them,
establish our families in mutual love and peace.

— Lord, you are the model and Savior of all.

You were eager to be about your Father's business,
may he be honored in every home.

— Lord, you are the model and Savior of all.

Christ, after three days your anxious parents found you in your Father's house,
teach all to seek first the kingdom of God.

— Lord, you are the model and Savior of all.

Christ, you have made Mary and Joseph sharers in heavenly glory, admit the dead into the family of the blessed.

— Lord, you are the model and Savior of all.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Concluding Prayer

Father,
help us to live as the holy family,
united in respect and love.
Bring us to the joy and peace of your eternal home.

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.

Dismissal

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

— Amen.

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