Liturgy of the Hours

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Evening Prayer I

December 26, 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

Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary; Mary gave birth to Jesus who is called the Christ.

Psalm 113

Praise the name of the Lord

He has cast down the mighty and has lifted up the lowly (Luke 1:52).

Práise, O sérvants of the Lórd, *
práise the náme of the Lórd!
May the náme of the Lórd be bléssed *
both nów and for évermóre!
From the rísing of the sún to its sétting *
práised be the náme of the Lórd!

Hígh above all nátions is the Lórd, *
abóve the héavens his glóry.
Whó is like the Lórd, our Gód, *
who has rísen on hígh to his thróne
yet stóops from the héights to look dówn, *
to look dówn upon héaven and éarth?

From the dúst he lífts up the lówly, *
from his mísery he ráises the póor
to sét him in the cómpany of prínces, *
yés, with the prínces of his péople.

To the chíldless wífe he gives a hóme *
and gláddens her héart with chíldren.

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

Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary; Mary gave birth to Jesus who is called the Christ.

Antiphon 2

Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; the child in her womb is conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 147:12-20

The restoration of Jerusalem

Come, I will show you the bride of the Lamb (Revelation 21:9).

O práise the Lórd, Jerúsalem! *
Zíon, práise your Gód!

He has stréngthened the bárs of your gátes, *
he has bléssed the chíldren withín you.
He estáblished péace on your bórders, *
he féeds you with fínest whéat.

He sénds out his wórd to the éarth *
and swíftly rúns his commánd.
He shówers down snów white as wóol, *
he scátters hóar-frost like áshes.

He húrls down háilstones like crúmbs. *
The wáters are frózen at his tóuch;
he sénds forth his wórd and it mélts them: *
at the bréath of his móuth the waters flów.

He mákes his wórd known to Jácob, *
to Ísrael his láws and decrées.
He has not déalt thus with óther nátions; *
he has not táught them hís decrées.

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

Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife;
the child in her womb is conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Antiphon 3

The shepherds went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, with the child cradled in a manger.

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

The shepherds went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, with the child cradled in a manger.

Sit

Reading

2 Corinthians 8:9

You are well acquainted with the favor shown you by our Lord Jesus Christ: how for your sake he made himself poor though he was rich, so that you might become rich by his poverty.

Responsory

The Word was made man; he lived among us.

— The Word was made man; he lived among us.

From his fullness we have all received.

— He lived among us.

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

— The Word was made man; he lived among us.

Stand

Gospel canticle

Antiphon

The child Jesus remained in Jerusalem, and his parents did not know it. They thought he was in the group of travelers and looked for him among their relatives and friends.

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

The child Jesus remained in Jerusalem, and his parents did not know it. They thought he was in the group of travelers and looked for him among their relatives and friends.

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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