SOLEMN VESPERS
FROM
THE LITTLE OFFICE
OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2011
5:30 PM
AT THE CARMELITE MONASTERY
IN ROCHESTER, NEW YORK
SOLEMN VESPERS FROM THE LITTLE OFFICE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

At Vespers time, Our Lord Jesus Christ on Holy Thursday supped with His Apostles and ordained the Holy Sacrament of His Body and Blood. The same hour on Good Friday He was taken down from the Cross. And on Easter Day the same hour, He met with two of His disciples going towards Emmaus, and made Himself known to them in the breaking of bread.
Prayer Before the Office

**Latin:**
Aperi, Dómine, os meum ad benedicéndum nomen sanctum tuum: munda quoque cor meum ab ómnibus vanis, pervérsis et aliénis cogitatióngibus; intelléctum illúmina, afféctum inflámma, ut digne, atténte ac devóte hoc Offícium recitáre váleam, et exaudíri mérear ante conspéctum divínæ Maistátis tuæ. Per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

Dómine, in unióne illíus divínæ intentioníonis, qua ipse in terrís laudes Deo persolvísti, hanc tibi Horam persólvo.

(Ave Maria, silently)

**English:**
O Lord, open Thou my mouth, that I may bless Thy holy name; cleanse my heart too from all vain, evil, or wandering thoughts. Enlighten mine understanding, kindle mine affections, that I may be able to say this Office meetly with attention and devotion, and may deserve to be heard before the presence of Thy divine Majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, in union with that divine intention wherewith Thou Thyself, while on earth, didst offer praises unto God, I offer this hour unto Thee.

(Hail Mary, silently)
AD VESPERAS

E-us, * in adiu-tó-ri- um me- um inténde.

Ré. Domine, ad adiuvandum me festina.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,

Antiphona 1

Psalms 109

Di-xit Domi-nus Domi-no me- o : Sede a dextris me- is.

Donec ponam inimicos tuos scabellum pedum tuorum.

Virgam virtu-tis tu-æ emit-tet Domi-nus ex Si- on : domi-
O God, ♠ come to my assistance.
R. Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Antiphon 1

While the king was reposing, my spikenard yielded the odor of sweetness.

Psalm 109

The Lord said to my Lord, sit thou at my right hand:
Until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

The Lord shall send forth the rod of thy power from out of Zion:
na-re in me-di- o i-nimi-co-rum tu-o-rum.

Tecum principium in die virtutis tuæ
in splendoribus sanctorum :
ex utero, ante luciferum, genui te.

Iura-vit Domi-nus, et non pæni-te-bit e- um : Tu es sa-
cerdos in æ-ternum se-cundum ordi-nem Melchi-se-dech.

Dominius a dextris tuis ;
confregit in die iræ suæ re ges.

Iudi-ca-bit in na-ti-o-ni-bus, imple-bit ru-inas : con-
quassa-bit ca-pi-ta in terra multo-rum.

De torrente in via bibet ;
propterea exaltabit caput.

rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

Thine shall be the dominion in the day of thy power, amid the brightness of the Saints: from the womb, before the daystar, have I begotten thee.

The Lord hath sworn and will not repent: Thou art a priest forever according to the order of Melchisidec.

The Lord at thy right hand hath overthrown kings in the day of His wrath.

He shall judge among the nations, he shall fulfill destructions: He shall strike the heads of many lands.

He shall drink of the brook in the way: Therefore shall He lift up His head.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,

D

UM esset rex * in accú-bi-tu su- o, nardus
me- a de- dit odó-rem su- a-vi- tá-tis.

Antiphona 2

L

Æva e-ius * sub cá-pi-te me- o, et déxte-ra il-
lí- us ample-xá-bi-tur me.

Psalmus 112

Lauda-te pu- e-ri Domi-num: lauda-te nomen Domi-ni.
Sit nomen Domi-ni be-ne-dictum, ex hoc nunc, et usque
in sæcu- lum.
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

While the king was reposing, my spikenard yielded the odor of sweetness.

Antiphon 2

His left hand under my head, and his right hand shall embrace me.

Psalm 112

Praise the Lord, ye children: praise the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth, for evermore.
A so-lis ortu usque ad occa-sum, lauda-bi-le nomen Do-
mi-ni.

Excelsus super omnes gentes Domi-nus, et super cæ-los
glo-ri- a e-ius.

Quis si-cut Domi-nus De-us noster, qui in al-tis ha-bi-tat,
et humi-li- a respi-cit in cæ-lo et in terra?

Susc-i-tans a terra in-opem, et de ste-co-re e-ri-gens pau-
pe-rem:

Ut colle-cet e- um cum princi-pi-bus, cum princi-pi-bus
From the sun’s rising to its going down,  
the name of the Lord is worthy to be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations,  
and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like unto God, who dwelleth on high  
and regardeth the things that are lowly in Heaven and on Earth?

Who raiseth up the needy from the earth,  
and lifteth the poor from off the dunghill:

That he may set him with the princes,
populi sui.

Qui habita re facit sterilem in domo, matrem filiorum lactantem.

Gloria Patri, et Fili o, et Spiritu Sancto.


Æva e ius * sub capite me o, et dextera illius amplexabitur me.
even with the princes of his own people.

Who maketh the barren woman to dwell in her house the joyful mother of children.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

His left hand under my head, and his right hand shall embrace me.
Antiphona 3

N

Igra sum sed formó-sa, * fí-li-æ Ierú-sa-lem:

Í-de-o di-lé-xit me rex, et introdú-xit me in cu-bí-

culum su-um.

Psalmus 121

Lætatus sum in his quæ dicta sunt mihi:
In domum Domini ibimus.

Stantes erant pedes nostri
in atriis tuis, Ierusalem.

Ierusalem, quæ ædificatur ut civitas,
cuius participatio eius in idipsum.

Illuc enim ascenderunt tribus, tribus Domini:
testimonium Israël, ad confitendum nomini Domini.

Quia illic sederunt sedes in iudicio,
sedes super domum David.

Rogate quæ ad pacem sunt Ierusalem,
et abundantia diligentibus te.

Fiat pax in virtute tua,
et abundantia in turribus tuis.

Propter fratres meos et proximos meos,
loquebar pacem de te.

Propter domum Domini Dei nostri,
quæsivi bona tibi.
I am black but beautiful, O daughters of Jerusalem. Therefore hath the king loved me, and brought me unto his chamber.

Psalm 121
I was glad at the things that were said unto me: We shall go unto the house of the Lord.
Our feet were wont to stand in thy courts, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem, which is built as a city that is at unity with itself.
For thither did the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the testimony of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.
For there are set the seats of judgment, the seats over the house of David.
Pray for the things that are for the peace of Jerusalem, and plenteousness be to them that love thee.
Let peace be in thy strength, and plenteousness in thy towers.
For my brethren and companions’ sakes I spoke peace concerning thee.
Because of the house of the Lord our God, I have sought good things for thee.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in sæcula sæculaorum. Amen.

Igra sum sed formó-sa, * fí-li-æ Ierú-sa-le:m:
i-de-o di-lé-xit me rex, et introdú-xit me in cu-bí-
culum su-um.

Antiphona 4

AM hi-em s transi-it, * imber áb-i-it et re-cés-
sit: surge amí-ca me-a, et ve-ni.

Psalmus 126

Ni-si Domi-nus ædi-fi-ca-ve-rit domum, in vanum labo-
ra-ve-runt qui ædi-fi-cant e-am.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

I am black but beautiful, O daughters of Jerusalem. Therefore hath the king loved me, and brought me unto his chamber.

Antiphon 4

Now is the winter past, the rain is over and gone. Arise, my beloved, and come.

Psalm 126

Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it.
Ni-si Domi-nus custo-di- e-rit ci-vi-ta-tem, frustra vi-gi-lat qui custo-dit e- am.

Vanum est vo-bis ante lu-cem surge-re: surgi-te post-

quam sede-ri-tis, qui manu-ca-ti panem do-lo-ris.


Sic-ut sa-gittæ in manu po-tentis: i-ta fi-li- i excusso-

rum.

Be-a-tus vir qui imple-vit de-si-de-ri- um su- um ex ip-
Unless the Lord keep the city, he watcheth in vain who keepeth it.

In vain do you rise before the light: rise not till you have rested, you who eat the bread of sorrow.

When he hath given sleep to His beloved: lo, children are a heritage from the Lord, and the fruit of the womb, a reward.

Like as arrows in the hand of the Mighty One, so too are the children of those who have been cast out.

Blessed is the man whose desire is satisfied with them:
Beatus vir qui implevit desideriwm suum ex ipsis: non confunde-tur cum loque-tur inimici-suis in porta.


AM hi-em-s transi-it, * imber ab-i-it et re-ces-

sit: surge ami-ca me-a, et ve-ni.

Antiphona 5

Peci-ó-sa facta es * et su-á-vis in de-lí-ci-is
He shall not be confounded when he speaketh with his enemies in the gate.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Now is the winter past, the rain is over and gone. Arise, my beloved, and come.

**Antiphon 5**

Thou art become beautiful and sweet in thy desires,
Psalmus 147

Lauda Ieru-sa-lem Domi-num:

lauda Deum tuum, Sion.

Qui posuit fines tuos pacem,
et adipe frumenti satiat te.

Qui dat nivem sicut lanam;
nebulam sicut cinerem spargit.

Mit-tit crystallum su-am sicut buccellas: ante fa-ci-em
O holy Mother of God.

Psalm 147

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem:
praise thy God O Zion.

For he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates:
he hath blessed thy children within thee.

He hath made peace within thy borders,
and filleth thee with the fatness of corn.

He sendeth forth his commandment on the Earth. His word runneth very swiftly.

He giveth snow like wool:
He scattereth the hoar-frost like ashes.

He sendeth His ice like morsels.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.


Pecúla facta est et suavis in deliciis tuis, sancta Dei Genitrix.
Who is able to abide His frost?
He shall send forth His word and melt them:
He shall blow with His wind and the waters shall flow.

He maketh known His word unto Jacob,
His statutes and ordinances unto Israel.

He hath not dealt so with any nation.
Neither hath He showed them His judgments.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Thou art become beautiful and sweet in thy desires,
O holy Mother of God.
Capitulum

Eccli 24, 14

A

B i-ní-ti-o et ante sǽcu-la cre-a-ta sum, et us-
que ad fu-tú-rum sǽcu-lum non dé-si-nam, et in ha-bi-
ta-ti-óne sancta co-ram ipso mi-nistrá-vi.

R: De-o grá-ti- as.

Hymnus

I

-A

-ve, ma-ris stella, De-i ma-ter alma, atque
semper virgo, fe-lix cæ-li porta. 2. Su-mens il-lud «A-
ve» Gabri-é-lis o-re, funda nos in pa-ce, mu-tans Evæ
nomen. 3. Sol-ve vincla re-is, pro-fer lumen cæ-cis, ma-
Little Chapter

From the beginning, and before the world, was I created, and unto the world to come I shall not cease to be, and in the holy dwelling-place I have ministered before Him.

R/. Thanks be to God.

Hymn

1. Gentle Star of the ocean!
   Portal of the sky!
   Ever Virgin Mother
   Of the Lord most high!

2. Oh! By Gabriel’s Ave,
   Uttered long ago,
   Eve’s name reversing,
   Establishing peace below.

3. Break the captives’ fetters,
   Light on blindness pour,
la nostra pel-le, bona cuncta posce. 4. Monstra te esse
matrem, sumat per te pre-cem qui pro no-bis na-tus
tu-lit esse tu-us. 5. Vir-go singu-lá-ris, inter omnes mi-
tis, nos culpis so-lú-tos mi-tes fac et castos. 6. Vi-tam
praestam pa-ram, i-ter para tu-tum, ut vi-déntes le-sum
semper collæ-temur. 7. Sit laus De-o Patri, summo Chri-
sto de-cus, Spi-rítu- i Sancto honor, tri-bus unus.

A- men.
All our ills expelling,
Every bliss implore.

4. Show thyself a Mother;
Offer Him our sighs,
Who for us Incarnate
Did not thee despise.

5. Virgin of all virgins!
To thy shelter take us;
Gentlest of the gentle!
Chaste and gentle make us.

6. Still, as on we journey,
Help our weak endeavor;
Till with thee and Jesus
We rejoice forever.

7. Through the highest heaven,
To the Almighty Three,
Father, Son, and Spirit,
One same glory be. Amen.
D
Ifu-sa est grá-ti-a in lá-bi-is tu-is.

Propté-re a be-ne-dí-xit te De-us in æ-térum.

Antiphona ad Magnificat

B
E-á-ta Ma-ter * et intácta Virgo, glo-ri-ó-sa Re-
gí-na mundi, intercéde pro no-bis ad Dómi-num.

Magnificat

Magní-fi-cat * ánima me-a Dómi-num.

Et exultavit spiritus meus
in Deo salutari meo.

Qui-a respé-xit humi-li-tá-tem ancillæ su-æ: ecce e-
nim ex hoc be-á-tam me di-cent omnes ge-ne-ra-ti-ó-
Grace was poured forth on thy lips.  
R. Therefore hath the Lord blessed thee forever.

Magnificat Antiphon

Blessed Mother and inviolate Virgin, glorious Queen of the world, intercede for us unto the Lord.

Magnificat

My soul * magnifies the Lord.  
And my spirit exalts
in God my Savior.

For He hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
Behold, from henceforth all generations shall call my blessed.
Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est, et sanctum nomen eius.

Et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies timientibus eum.

Fecit potentiam in bracchio suo, dispersit superbos mente cordis sui.

Deputit potentissimos de sede et exaltavit humiles.

Esurientes implevit bonis et divites dimisit inanes,

Suscipit Israe- lum suum recordatus misericordiae suae,
For He who is mighty hath done great things unto me, and holy is His name.

And His mercy is upon those who fear Him, from generation unto generation.

He hath shown strength with His arm. He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath cast down the mighty from their seats, and He hath exalted the humble.

He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He hath sent empty away.

He hath remembered Israel His servant, being mindful of His mercy.
Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semi eis in sæcula.


Oratio

Omi-nus vo-bíscum. Et cum spí-ri-tu tu-o.

O-rémus. Concéde nos fámu-los tu-os, quǽsumus, Dómi-

ne De-us, perpé-tu-a mentis et córpo-ris sa-ni-tá-te gáu-

de-re: et glo-ri- ó-sa be- á-tæ, Ma-rí- æ semper Virgi-nis
As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his progeny forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Blessed Mother and inviolate Virgin, glorious Queen of the world, intercede for us unto the Lord.

Prayer

The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord God, that we, thy servants, may enjoy perpetual health, both of mind and body; and by the glorious intercession of blessed Mary ever Virgin, may be delivered from present sorrow, and attain unto eternal joy. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.
intercessione, praesenti libera triae, et aeterna

na perfrui laetitia. Per Christum Domine nostro.

R. Amen.

In fine horarum

Ominus vos vobiscum. R. Et cum spiritu tuo.

Benedicamus Domino. R. Deo gratias.

Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace. R. Amen.
Conclusion

The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
R. Amen.
Ave, * Regina cælorum, Ave Domini
mi-na Ange-lor- rum, sal- ve, ra-dix, salve, por-ta, ex
qua mun-do lux est orta. Gaude Vir-go glo-
i-sa, super om-nes spe-ci-osa; va-le, o valde
de-có-ra, et pro no-bis * Christum ex-ora.
Hail, O Queen of Heaven enthroned,
Hail, by angels Mistress owned
Root of Jesse, Gate of morn,
Whence the world’s true light was born.

Glorious Virgin, joy to thee,
Loveliest whom in Heaven they see,
Fairest thou where all are fair!
Plead with Christ our sins to spare.
Prayer After the Office

*Latin:*
Sacrosanctae et individuae Trinitati, crucifixi Domini nostri Iesu Christi Humanitati, beatissimae et gloriosissimae, semperque Virginis Mariae foecundae integritati, et omnium Sanctorum tuorum universitati, sit sempiterna laus, honor, virtus, et gloria ab omni creatura, nobisque remissio omnium peccatorum, per infinita saecula saeculorum. Amen.

**R.** Beata viscera Mariae Virginis, quae portaverunt aeterni Patris Filium.
**R.** Et beata ubera quae lactaverunt Christum Dominum.

(Pater noster, Ave Maria, silently)

*English:*
Everlasting praise, honor, power, and glory be given by all creatures to the most holy and undivided Trinity, to the Humanity of our crucified Lord Christ Jesus, to the fruitful purity of the most blessed and most glorious Mary ever Virgin, and to the company of all the saints; may we obtain the remission of all our sins through all eternity. Amen.

**R.** Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, that bore the Son of the eternal Father.
**R.** And blessed the breasts which nourished Christ the Lord.

(Our Father, Hail Mary, silently)
Let us not imagine that we obscure the glory of the Son by the great praise we lavish on the Mother; for the more she is honored, the greater is the glory of her Son. There can be no doubt that whatever we say in praise of the Mother gives equal praise to the Son.

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux
Father and Doctor of the Church

With grateful appreciation to the Carmelite sisters for making this evening possible.

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