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# Liturgy of the Hours Proper of the Order of the Most Holy Trinity and of Captives

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## JANUARY

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### January 7

ST. JOHN DE RIBERA, BISHOP

Member of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Trinity

#### Optional memorial

John de Ribera was born in Seville, Spain, about the year 1532. He studied theology in Salamanca and, shortly after ordination, because of his outstanding virtues, he was made a bishop, first of Badajoz, then of Valencia. He worked for a moral renewal through the establishment of a solid formation for his clergy. He died in Valencia on January 6, 1611.

From the common of pastors with antiphons, psalms, first reading and responsory taken from the current weekday.

#### SECOND READING

From the homily by Pope John XXIII at the canonization of John de Ribera.

(AAS LII 1960, pp. 500-502)

*A true shepherd of his flock*

After completing ecclesial studies at the University of Salamanca, John de Ribera was entrusted with the care of the Church at Badajoz, then that of Valence, governing both with great ability and prudence. He was most renowned in Valencia for his holiness and wisdom, perhaps because so many difficult situations were encountered there. In each assignment, he investigated all possible means to help his clergy and the faithful bring their lives, in all aspects, into closer conformity with the Christian faith they professed.

As a beginning, in order to reach the greatest possible number of his faithful, he would continually preach the fundamentals of our religion in a very simple and direct way. He provided for the education of youth in Christian doctrine in the schools and saw to it that good confessors were available to reconcile those who had strayed, and often carried the holy Body of Christ with his own hands as viaticum to the dying.

He worked very diligently and zealously to motivate his priests to holiness, urging them to live a life in common. He frequently gave them group conferences and wrote many pastoral letters in which, by advice, exhortation and logic, he recommended to them a strong daily prayer life, courage in hardships and the preservation of unity among themselves. To insure the continuation of these fervent undertakings, he founded a seminary, and firmly established it with his own legislation. He sought appropriate means to more effectively look after the religious needs of the clergy and people, establishing several commissions and convoking seven diocesan synods to handle major issues of doctrine, discipline and pastoral ministry.

Seeing the interest and zeal of such a sincere and holy bishop, it is easy to surmise how Catholicism experienced such a vital renewal in Badajoz and Valencia under the leadership and guidance of John.

He was prepared by nature for all of these wonderful deeds. Indeed, today the august Trinity seems to present him to us from highest heaven as one of its most perfect works. What an example of a virtuous leader! We urge all faithful Christians, as well as their pastors, to follow in his footsteps.

Indeed, in imitation of him, all those who have been sealed by the sacrament of baptism should value the gift of their Christian faith. They should not only keep it before their eyes, but should also let it reach the very depths of their souls, so that they would rather lose anything, even life itself, than give up the promised reward of eternal life.

## RESPONSORY

Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 4:2

Keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock the Holy Spirit has given you to guard.

- Shepherd in the Church of God, which he has acquired at the price of his own blood.

The first requirement of an administrator is that he proves trustworthy.

- Shepherd of the Church...

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## Morning Prayer

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. What you say of me does not come from yourselves; it is the Spirit of my Father speaking in you.

PRAYER

Lord God,  
you counted Saint John de Ribera among  
your holy pastors who,  
renowned for faith and love,  
conquered evil in this world.  
By the help of his prayers  
keep us strong in faith and love  
and let us come to share his glory.  
Grant this...

## Evening Prayer

### CANTICLE OF MARY.

Ant. This was a faithful and wise steward: the Lord entrusted the care of his household to him, so that he might give them their portion of food at the proper season.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer.

## January 22

ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI, PRIEST

Member of the Trinitarian Third Order

### Optional Memorial

St. Vincent Pallotti was born in 1795. He was an exemplary priest and taught theology in a Roman seminary. He founded the Society of the Catholic Apostolate with the objective that the faith of believers might be strengthened through its charitable works. He died in 1850.

From the common of pastors, or holy men: religious. The antiphons, psalms and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

### SECOND READING

From "God, the Infinite Love" by Saint Vincent Pallotti  
(Roma 1936, pp. 86-88)

*Heirs of God, Heirs with Christ*

Trusting in the light given by our holy faith, I address you as did Paul, who assured the Romans that our Lord Jesus Christ was given to us by the Father to be our first-born brother, the first-born of many brothers, the first-born especially among all believers.

Our faith reaches out to the infinite and merciful love of God which has brought countless benefits to us from all eternity in spite of our great and numberless sins. He has only created us all in his image and helped us to merit by the use of our free will, but he has also given us his eternal Son as a Redeemer and the first-born among brothers.

This was done by the Father against whom we had rebelled by sinning. He did it that we might inherit an even closer relationship to him, one in which we become sons of God and heirs, heirs with Jesus. Indeed, Paul says to the Romans, "All who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God... but if we are children, we are heirs as well: heirs of God, co-heirs with Christ."

Thus, by divine revelation we know that, if we live without grave sin, we are truly sons of God, truly heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ. We have become adopted sons of God, not just sons because we are created in his image; sons of the eternal God, the great, infinite and incomprehensible God.

Therefore, since we are legitimate sons and heirs, we will receive an immense and everlasting inheritance: we will attain to the possession of God himself. The entire Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, will be our inheritance.

Thus, let us try to be co-heirs with Christ in reality, since he is truly our first-born brother; let us try to be adopted sons of God in reality. In that way, we will claim that same eternal inheritance, as did our Redeemer and first-born brother, Jesus.

## RESPONSORY

Titus 3: 5-7; Ps 33:12

God saved us through the baptism of new birth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

- That we might be justified by his grace and become heirs, in hope, of eternal life.

Happy the nation whose God is the Lord: the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.

- That we might...

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer.

## Morning Prayer

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH.

Ant. Whoever does my Father's will, says the Lord, they are my brother, my sister and my mother.

PRAYER

Lord God,

you called the priest Vincent to serve in the Church

by upholding the faith and fostering charity.

May we follow his example

and show the light of truth and love to all people

in our thoughts and deeds.

We ask this...

### CANTICLE OF MARY.

Ant. You have left everything to follow me; you will have it all returned a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## **January 28**

ST. AGNES, VIRGIN AND MARTYR

A Patroness of the Order of the Most Holy Trinity

Feast

Saint Agnes died a martyr in Rome during either the second half of the third century or, more probably, at the beginning of the fourth century. Pope Damasus adorned her tomb with sacred poetry, and many of the Father of the Church, following Saint Ambrose, have honoured her in their writings. It was on this day that our holy father John de Matha was moved by a heavenly vision to found the Order of the Most Holy Trinity. In memory of this, St. Agnes is honoured as a principal patroness of the Order.

## **INVITATORY**

Ant. Come, let us worship the Lamb with the virgins who followed him.

Invitatory psalm

## **Office of Readings**

HYMN

Transformed by fire of love for God,  
Agnes bolsters her fearlessness.  
The seal of virgin purity  
transfigures her poor lowliness.

The hosts of heaven bear her up  
above the stars victoriously;  
within the Kingdom she is joined  
to her bridegroom in charity.

O virgin, look on us with love  
and for us make intercession  
that all on this, your festive day,  
find forgiveness and salvation.

Pray to the Lord of all the earth  
the Ruler of eternity,  
that in our lives of service here  
we truly find serenity.

With hymns we praise the Lamb of God  
who gently guides created things:  
for he has taken as His bride  
Agnes, who in his presence. Amen.

Melody: LM

Ant. 1 When Agnes entered the house of shame, she found an angel of the Lord ready to protect her.

Psalm 19A

The heavens proclaim the glory of the God  
and the firmament shows forth the work of his hands.  
Day unto day takes up the story  
and night unto night makes known the message.

No speech, no word, no voice is heard  
yet their span extends through all the earth,  
their words to the utmost bounds of the world.

There he has placed a tent for the sun;  
it comes forth like a bridegroom coming from his tent,  
rejoices like a champion to run its course.

At the end of the sky is the rising of the sun;  
to the furthest end of the sky is its course.  
There is nothing concealed from its burning heat.

Ant. 1 When Agnes entered the house of shame, she found an angel of the Lord ready to protect her.

Ant. 2 At my side I have an angel of the Lord who will guard and protect me.

Psalm 45

I

My heart overflows with noble words.  
To the king I must speak the song I have made;  
my tongue as nimble as the pen of a scribe.

You are the fairest of the children of men  
and graciousness is poured upon your lips:  
because God has blessed you for evermore.

O mighty one, gird your sword upon your thigh;  
in splendour and state ride on in triumph  
for the cause of truth and goodness and right.

Take aim with your bow in your dread right hand.  
Your arrows are sharp: peoples fall beneath you.  
The foes of the king fall down and lose heart.

Your throne, O God, shall endure forever.  
A sceptre of justice is the sceptre of your kingdom.  
Your love is for justice; your hatred for evil.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness above other kings:  
your robes are fragrant with aloes and myrrh.

From the ivory palace you are greeted with music.  
The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.  
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Ant. 2 At my side I have an angel of the Lord who will guard and protect me.  
Ant. 3 The Lord has marked me with his seal, and he is my love.

## II

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words:  
forget your own people and your father's house.  
So will the king desire your beauty:  
he is your lord, pay homage to him.

And the people of Tyre shall come with gifts,  
the richest of the people shall seek your favour.  
The daughter of the king is clothed with splendour,  
her robes embroidered with pearls set in gold.

She is led to the king her maiden companions.  
They are escorted amid gladness and joy;  
they pass within the palace of the king.

Sons shall be yours in place of your fathers:  
you will make them princes over all the earth.

May this song make your name forever remembered.

May the peoples praise you from age to age.

Ant. 3 The Lord has marked me with his seal, and he is my love.

You are beautiful, virgin of Christ.

- You were found worthy to receive a crown from the Lord.

## FIRST READING

51: 1-12

A reading from the Book of Sirach

*I will greatly praise your name*

I give you thanks, O God of my father; I praise you, O God my saviour! I will make known your name, refuge of my life; you have been my helper against my adversaries. You have saved me from death, and kept back my body from the pit, from the clutches of the nether world you have snatched my feet; you have delivered me, in your great mercy, from the scourge of a slanderous tongue, and from lips that went over to falsehood; from the snare of those who watched for my downfall, and from the snare of those who watched for my downfall, and from the power of those who watched for my downfall, and from the power of those who sought my life; from many a danger you have saved me, from flames that hemmed me in every side; from the midst of unremitting fire, from the deep belly of the nether world; from deceiving lips and painters of lies, from the arrows of dishonest tongues.

I was at the point of death, my soul was nearing the depths of the nether world; I turned every way, but there was no one to help me, I looked for one to sustain me, but could find no one.

But then I remembered the mercies of the Lord, his kindness through ages past; for he saves those who take refuge in him, and rescues them from every evil. So I raised my voice from very earth, from the gates of the nether world, my cry. I called out: O Lord, you are my father, you are my champion and my saviour; do not abandon me in time of trouble, in the midst of storms and dangers. I will ever praise your name and be constant in my prayers to you.

Thereupon the Lord heard my voice, he listened to my appeal; he saved me from evil of every kind and preserved me in time of trouble. For this reason I thank him and I praise him; I bless the name of the Lord.

## RESPONSORY

O Almighty One, who must be adored and worshipped, I praise you,

- because through your only Son, I have escaped the threats of impious men.

I bless you with my lips; I long for you with my heart and with all my being,

- because through your only Son, I have escaped the threats of impious men.



## SECOND READING

From a sermon by Saint Maximus of Turin

(Sermo in natali S. Agnetis, virg. Et mart.: PL 57, 643-648)

*She cast aside all earthly love for a heavenly love*

All over the world, the fragrant presence of Mary stirs up maidens to attain the imperishable crowns by conserving their "royal chamber" of chastity with a pure love and maintaining their integrity until they attain the palm of victory. In this way, young maidens win the prize of holiness, and, following in the footsteps of the Virgin Mother, arrive at the heavenly kingdom.

Thus it is that Agnes, adorned with a ring as a pledge of faithfulness, stands up and cries out that she is bound by love to her Spouse. O virgin, how the example of your love should attract others to imitate you! Oh, how the holy response of your life should stir up a like response in pure hearts: for you turned aside from earthly riches; you were indifferent to the desires of the flesh; you fell in love with the beauty of Christ.

Blessed Agnes has provided a great example of chastity, for she preferred virginity to life; she cast aside all earthly love; she has grasped the Cross of Christ as a trophy; she has struggled with both carnal pleasures and sufferings and has won, armed with faith rather than a sword.

She did not know how to love anything passing; and since she valued her virginity, she did not fear scorn, nor fire, nor torment, nor torturers; at the end, she was not terrified by the sword of her maddened executioner.

Come, then, virgin, to the chambers which you have been seeking; for love of your Spouse, suffer the sword of your executioner so that your unspotted virginity might confirm you as Bride of Christ and your witness under persecution might seal you as a martyr. There is a joyful band of virgins who will be eager to follow in the footsteps of your example. They will receive the crown with you in heaven, for, like you, they will overcome the enemy in the world. We believe that just as you, who followed in Mary's footsteps, share in the eternal reward, so they, imitating you, will not be denied eternal joy.

Therefore, O splendour of Christ, treasure of God the Son, joy of all angels and archangels, be mindful of us. We ask you to intercede for us. May He who granted you the palm of victory for all of your sufferings, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. He reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit. To Him be honour, praise, glory and might for the ages. Amen.

## RESPONSORY

Let us celebrate the feast of blessed Agnes, calling to mind how she suffered;

- she disdained death in her youth and found eternal life.

Because she only love the Author of life

- she disdained death in her youth and found eternal life.

HYMN Te Deum

## PRAYER

God our Father, you give us joy each year  
in celebrating the feast of St. Agnes.  
We venerate her today as our patroness.  
May her prayers be a source of help for us,  
and may her example of courage  
and chastity be our inspiration.  
Grant this...

## **Morning Prayer**

### HYMN

Let us raise our joyful voices,  
singings of the triumph won  
by the noble, gentle Agnes:  
for her battle now is done.  
Give her praises as a virgin  
and the palm of martyrdom.

Let us keep this day in honour  
for our God's great charity:  
in His love He formed our Order,  
named it for the Trinity;  
them He called it to His service  
for those in captivity.

On this day, victorious Agnes,  
we to you a tribute raise:  
incense, hymns and burning fervour,  
praise and songs of thanks we raise:  
for you are our loving patron.  
Keep us in your watchful gaze.

Lift our prayers to your Bridegroom;  
Agnes, hear us as we sing:  
make our Order grow and flourish  
serving the Redeemer King.  
With the help of your sure guidance,  
keep us all beneath your wing.

Melody 87, 87, 87

Ant. 1 With his ring my Lord Jesus Christ has betrothed me, and he has adorned me with the bridal.

Psalms and canticle from Sunday, Week I

Ant. 2 I am promised to Christ, whom the angels serve, whose beauty the sun and moon admire.

Ant. 3 Rejoice and be glad with me, because I have received a throne of light among all the saints.

## READING

2 Co 1: 3-5

Praised be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all consolation! He comforts us in all our afflictions and thus enables us to comfort those who are in trouble, with the same consolation we have received from him. As we have shared much in the suffering of Christ, so through Christ do we share abundantly in his consolation.

## RESPONSORY

I live a life of faith in the Son of God; he loved me.

- I live a life of faith in the Son of God; he loved me.

He gave himself up for me.

- He loved me.

Glory to the Father...

- I live a life...

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. Behold, what I yearned for, I already see; what I hoped for, I already possess; with Christ I am united in heaven, whom on earth I loved with all my heart.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us give thanks to God our Father for having given us his only Son. Let us ask him to purify our hearts and strengthen us in charity through the outpouring and workings of the Holy Spirit. We pray to him and say:

*Lord, give life to the people redeemed by Christ.*

Lord, give us a deeper insight into the mystery of the Church, may it be a more effective sacrament of salvation for us and for all people.

Lord, direct our hearts according to your will, may we sincerely seek the well-being of the Church and the Order.

Lord, through the intercession of St. Agnes, who always loved your Son with a whole and undivided heart, grant that nothing separates us from your love.

You have gathered us all into your family and have honoured us with the name of the Holy Trinity; make us one in mind and heart, grant that we may always rely on the power of the Holy Spirit.

You have given us joy as we celebrate the feast of St. Agnes, grant that we may always rejoice in her intercession and protection.

Through your servant Agnes, who washed her robe in the blood of the Lamb, grant peace to our families.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

God our Father,  
you give us joy each year  
in celebrating the feast of St. Agnes.  
We venerate her today as our patroness.  
May her prayers be a source of help for us,  
and may her example of courage  
and chastity be our inspiration.  
Grant this...

#### **Daytime Prayer**

Psalms from the weekday

#### **Midmorning**

Ant. I love Christ: when I love him, I remain chaste. When I embrace him, I remain pure. When I possess him, I remain a virgin.

**READING**

Romans 12:1

And now, brothers, I beg you through the mercy of God to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God, your spiritual worship.

I am betrothed to him whom the angels serve.

- Whose beauty the sun and moon admire.

**Midday**

Ant. Christ has bedecked me with precious and resplendent gems.

**READING**

Isaiah 61:10

I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation, and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels.

I will rejoice and be glad in you, Lord.

- I will sing to your name, Most High.

**Midafternoon**

Ant. From his fullness I have received milk and honey, and his blood has set me free.

**READING**

2 Cor 4:17

The present burden of our trial is light enough, and earns for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.

The Lord clothed her with the robe of joy,

- and placed the crown of beauty upon her head.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## Evening Prayer

### HYMN

Triumphant Agnes is led into heaven's bright and golden rest;  
and at the Lamb's pure bridal feast,  
she now is called to join as guest.

In the pure choirs of virgins blessed  
within the wedding chamber placed,  
she hails the Father and the Son  
with a new song of love most chaste.

She is now worthy to receive  
the promised bliss and great reward;  
for she renounced all passing things  
to pledge herself unto the Lord.

Withstanding torture, harsh and cruel,  
unmoved by all adversity,  
she stayed committed to the Lord,  
to Whom she pledged fidelity.

We give you thanks with heart and lips  
and bless you, Agnes, as is right:  
for safe beneath your patronage,  
our Order came forth into light.

O Jesus, glory be to you,  
who from the Virgin willed to come,  
and to your Father, ever blest,  
and to the Spirit, Three in One. Amen.

Melody: LM

Ant. 1 Christ's virgin could not be broken by any terror, nor won over by false allurements.

Psalm 116:1-9

I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him.

They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with the anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.

O Lord my God, deliver me!

How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me.

Turn back, my soul, to your rest  
for the Lord has been good;  
he has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.

Ant. 1 Christ's virgin could not be broken by any terror, nor won over by false allurements.

Ant. 2 To God alone I pledge my trust; to God alone I give my undivided love.

Psalm 116: 10-19

I trusted, even when I said:  
"I am sorely afflicted",  
and when I said in my alarm:  
"No man can be trusted".

How can I repay the Lord  
for his goodness to me?  
The cup of salvation I will raise;  
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people.  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord

is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Ant. 2 To God alone I pledge my trust; to God alone I give my undivided love.

Ant. 3 I give thanks to you, the Father of my Lord Jesus Christ, for through him you have made your servant victorious.

Canticle

Revelation 4:11; 5:9, 10, 12

O Lord our God, you are worthy  
to receive glory and honour and power.

For you have created all things;  
by your will they came to be and were made.

Worthy are you, O Lord,  
to receive the scroll and break open its seals.

For you were slain;  
with your blood you purchased for God  
men of every race and tongue,  
of every people and nation.

You made of them a kingdom,  
and priests to serve our God,  
and they shall reign on the earth.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain



to receive power and riches,  
wisdom and strength,  
honour and glory and praise.

Ant. 3 I give thanks to you, the Father of my Lord Jesus Christ, for through him you have made your servant victorious.

## READING

1 Peter 4:13-14

Rejoice instead, in the measure that you share Christ's sufferings. When his glory is revealed, you will rejoice exultantly. Happy are you when you are insulted for the sake of Christ, for then God's Spirit in its glory has come to rest on you.

## RESPONSORY

Through one sacrifice she obtained a double crown.  
- Through one sacrifice she obtained a double crown.

Virginité and martyrdom:  
- A double crown.

Glory to the Father...  
- Through one sacrifice...

## CANTICLE OF MARY, p. 325

Ant. Agnes raised her hands and prayed: Holy Father, I now come to you, receive me. You alone have I loved, you alone have I sought after, you alone have I always desired.

## INTERCESSIONS

As we honour St. Agnes, the patroness of our Order, let us earnestly pray to Christ her spouse and reward and say:

*Jesus, crown of virgins, hear us.*

Christ, you presented the Church to yourself as a chaste virgin to her spouse, keep her holy and inviolate.

Lord, your virgin Church has always kept its faith whole and untarnished, grant all Christians a whole and untarnished faith.

Heavenly Spouse, cleanse our community of its faults, through the intercession of St. Agnes, may it place its hope and trust in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lord Jesus, our brother, by our way of life we await your coming in faith, may we watch for you in hope and always in faith and love.

Christ Jesus, you promised to be present to those who gather in your name, grant that we may always pray with you to the Father in the Holy Spirit.

You accepted the virgin martyr Agnes into your wedding feast; in your mercy, admit our departed brothers and sisters to the heavenly banquet.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

God our Father,  
you give us joy each year  
in celebrating the feast of St. Agnes.  
We venerate her today as our patroness.  
May her prayers be a source of help for us,  
and may her example of courage  
and chastity be our inspiration.  
Grant this...

The Memorial of St. Thomas Aquinas is celebrated Jan. 29.

# February

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## February 14

ST. JOHN BAPTIST OF THE CONCEPTION, PRIEST

Reformer of the Order of the Most Holy Trinity

Feast

Born in 1561 in Almodovar del Campo, Spain, he entered the Order of the Most Holy Trinity in Toledo, and successfully carried out the apostolate of preaching. Moved by the Spirit, he undertook the reform of the Order, which was brought to completion with its approval by Pope Clement VIII in 1599. He died in Cordoba in 1613, and was canonized in 1975 by Pope Paul VI. His many spiritual writings are full of wisdom and piety.

## INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship Christ the Lord; through him we have access to the Father in the Holy Spirit.

Invitatory psalm

## Office of Readings

HYMN

Let us sing our father's praises,  
who from youth with purity  
seeking always holy wisdom  
served our God in charity,  
rapt in heavenly love most fervent  
for the Holy Trinity.

When he joined the chosen Order  
he was filled with ardent zeal  
and he sought the early spirit  
of our Founder's true ideal  
in the strict and careful lifestyle  
which the first Rule did reveal.

Satan rages, men oppose him,  
danger seem to overrun.  
All on land and sea conspire then  
his great hopes to keep undone;  
but from Spain with faith he sets forth  
to complete the work begun.

Bearing many, harsh sufferings,  
he fulfils the Lord's command.  
He arrives in Rome a suppliant  
to present his just demand.  
Then with praise the Pope receives him  
and approves his holy plan.

Praised be God, eternal Father,  
evermore His Name be sung!  
And the Spirit shares the praises  
with the sole begotten Son.  
May all people through the ages  
praise the Holy Three in One. Amen.

Melody

Ant. 1 I have been crucified with Christ; and the life I now live is not my own; Christ is living in me.

Psalm 21: 2-8, 14

O Lord, your strength gives joy to the king;  
how your saving help makes glad!  
You have granted him heart's desire;  
you have not refused the prayer of his lips.

You came to meet him the blessings of success,  
you have set on his head a crown of pure gold.  
He asked you for life and this you have given,  
days that will last from age to age.

Your saving help has given him glory.  
You have laid upon him majesty and splendour,  
you have granted to him your blessings for ever.  
You have made him rejoice with the joy of your presence.

The king has put his trust in the Lord:  
through the mercy of the Most High he shall stand firm.  
O Lord, arise in your strength;  
we shall sing and praise your power.

Ant. 1 I have been crucified with Christ; and the life. I now live is not my own; Christ is living in me.

Ant. 2 Let us strive wholeheartedly to follow the example of Christ the Redeemer and to conform ourselves entirely to Him.

## Psalm 92

### I

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night,  
on the ten-stringed lyre and the lute,  
with the murmuring sound of the harp.

Your deeds, O Lord, have made me glad;  
for the work of your hands I shout with joy.  
O Lord, how great are your works!  
How deep are your designs!  
The foolish man cannot know this  
and the fool cannot understand.

Though the wicked spring up like grass  
and all who do evil thrive:  
they are doomed to be eternally destroyed.  
But you, Lord, are eternally on high.

Ant. 2 Let us strive wholeheartedly to follow the example of Christ the Redeemer and to conform ourselves entirely to Him.

Ant. 3 Do not forget my law; let your heart cling to my teachings.

### II

See how your enemies perish;  
all doers of evil are scattered.

To me you give the wild-ox's strength;  
you anoint me with the purest oil.  
My eyes looked in triumph on my foes;

my ears gladly of their fall.  
The just will flourish like the palm-tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just;  
in him, my rock, there is no wrong.

Ant. 3 Do not forget my law; let your heart cling to my teachings.

Serve one another in the love of the Spirit. Be renewed in mind and spirit.

#### FIRST READING

From the second letter of Peter

1: 2-11

*Care for brothers should lead to love*

May grace be yours and peace in abundance through your knowledge of God and of Jesus, our Lord. That divine power of his freely bestowed on us everything necessary for a life of genuine piety, through knowledge of him called us by his own glory and power. By virtue of them he has bestowed on us the great and precious things he promised, so that through these you who have fled a world corrupted by lust might become sharers of the divine nature. This is reason enough for you to make every effort to undergird your virtue with faith, your discernment with virtue, and your self-control with discernment; this self-control, in turn, should lead to perseverance, and perseverance to piety, and piety to care for your brother, and care for your brother, to love.

Qualities like these, made increasingly your own, are by no means ineffectual; they bear fruit in true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Any man, who lacks these qualities is short-sighted to the point of blindness. He forgets the cleansing of his long-past sins. Be solicitous to make your call and election permanent, brothers; surely those who do so will never be lost. On the contrary, your entry into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will be richly provided for.

#### RESPONSORY

Cf. Romans 12:2; Eph 4: 1

Do not conform yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind so that you may judge what is God's will, what is good, pleasing and perfect.

I plead with you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received, so that you may judge what is God's will, what is good, pleasing and perfect.

## SECOND READING

From the writings of Jhon Baptist of the Conception  
(Obras, Roma 1830, Tom. 6 cap. 1, pp. 62-63)

*It is the Order's duty to work for the poor and captives*

Christ has said that we must leave our parents, deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow after him. I would like to add what was said by the bride in the Song of Songs: "Draw will follow you eagerly in your spreading fragrance". Lord draw me, make me belong to you, and belong to you so much that it can be called the Order of the Most Holy Trinity. Do not let it be content merely with renouncing and disdaining worldly things; but, rather, let it draw the poor and captives, who are constrained by chains or utter misery. But no matter how heavy the burden may seem, Lord, you will give the Order such strength and love that it will be able to follow eagerly after the spread of your fragrance, carrying along its poor and captives. I think those "fragrances" which Christ poured out symbolize the charitable works he exercised when he passed through this world, suffering, caring for the poor and redeeming captives. Our Order, then says: "Draw me after you, Lord, and I will give off the sweet fragrance of your works, springing from a burning love. I will take up care of the poor and captives, and I will eagerly follow after you".

Our holy Order can be compared to Rebekah. She was so full of charity that, when Eliezer asked her for only a little water, she went beyond what was asked. She gave him to drink and also drew water for his camels. Now the camels represent the charitable works our Order does and is bound to do. Furthermore, it would not be off the subject to recall what that faithful wife did for her son, Jacob. Loving her dear son with all her heart, she wanted to enrich him with the inheritance of his father's blessing: the wheat, the wine and the patrimony to be given to the first-born. She showed a great deal of initiative. She clothed her son with skins so that his hands would appear to be rough; she brought him an appetizing dish, which she had quickly prepared from goats of the flock, to take to his father. In this way he went to Isaac. Then the kind and venerable man, having felt the rough hands of his son and having received the pleasing food, very generously granted him his paternal blessing.

Our Order does the same thing as Rebekah, for it wishes the blessing of Christ –and of the whole Trinity – for its members. It skilfully prepares an offering pleasing to God: the poor and captives. At the same time, the Order enriches spiritually the lives and the work of its members through austerity, simplicity, penance and fasting. By presenting such offerings to the Most Holy Trinity the Order rightly obtains its place and its title of "Order of the Most Holy Trinity for the Redemption of Captives".

## RESPONSORY

Because of his great love, God has brought us to life in Christ and he has given us a new life in the Holy Spirit.

God predestined us to be his adopted sons in Christ Jesus and he has given us a new life in the Holy Spirit.

Or:

From the works of John Baptist of the Conception  
(Obras, Roma 1830, Tom. 6, cap. 1, pp. 3-4)

*The Holy Trinity moves us to the perfection of holiness*

The Lord commanded Moses to make an Ark of incorruptible wood; it was last forever and to be plated inside out outside with pure gold, because the Tablets of the Law, the Manna and the Staff of Aaron were to be enshrined within it. Now, should not the brothers of our Order, who are clothed in our holy habit, strive to be pure and holy, since God has enshrined in them the name of the Most Holy Trinity, more sacred by far than the Father wants our salvation. The Father himself testified to this at the Transfiguration when he pointed out his Son and said: "This is my beloved Son who will give you my law: listen to him".

And the Son: is he not symbolized by the Manna?

And the Holy Spirit: is not the Staff kept in the Ark a sign of him?

It was with the Staff that Moses worked miracles and exercised justice, using the same staff for both mercy and justice. It was used for mercy, for it freed the Hebrews, divided the Red Sea, satisfied thirst and worked many other miracles. It was used for justice, for it drowned sinners in the midst of the waves and brought avengers to the aid of the people of Israel, even though these avengers were only flies and frogs. Who does not see in all these things the power of the Holy Spirit, who provides a remedy for the needy, heals the sick, pour forth gifts and brings about justice? It is as Christ said: "When he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin, about justice and about condemnation". He will be also the avenger, punishing those who did not choose to believe in the Son of God.

Blessed are you, my God. You wanted an ark of such beautiful workmanship to enshrine stone tablets, a little manna rained down from the sky, and a staff which, although miraculous, was only wood. What should be the quality of a religious of our Order, since in him the whole Trinity will be enshrined? It will inhabit our religious – not just in the same way it does all religious, but with a very special presence, since God, in his mercy, has chosen us over other religious as his vessels to carry the name of the Most Holy Trinity throughout the world. This name contains in itself all Three Persons: the Father, who wrote with his finger on the stone, which is Christ; the Son, who is the Manna rained down not by clouds but by a pure young Virgin; and the Holy Spirit, who is the flowering Staff that makes the soul, into which he enters, flourish his seven gifts.

**RESPONSORY**

Ephesians 1:4; 1 John 4: 13b

God the Father chose us in Christ before the world began to be holy and blameless in his sight.

He has given us of his Spirit to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Or:

From the works of John Baptist of Conception  
(Obras, Roma 1830, Tom. 3, exhort. 1, pp. 4-5)

*A disciple should carry his own cross following Christ*

When Christ was teaching, he asked two things of his followers: that they deny themselves and that they take up the cross. If we consider the matter carefully, both seem to be the same thing. The heaviest cross which anyone can experience on earth is the denial of self, the absolute renunciation of one's own will and a



struggle within one's self against one's selfish desires, much as the two beams of the cross are in contraposition.

Now if the denial of oneself is essentially the same thing the cross, and Christian perfection consists in bearing this cross, why does Christ go on to say that we must take up our cross after having already stated that we must deny ourselves?

In trying to give a reply, I would first say that God usually gives to holy people – after they have completely denied themselves – some interior cross that is known to no one but Himself. Usually God tailors it to fit the person, so that it seems to be part of that person. In such cases, the cross is not seen without the person crucified on it, nor the crucified person without the cross.

In second place I would say that self-denial is an interior cross which persons must take up daily. In addition, God gives each person a special cross which one cannot carry unless he has totally and first denied himself. If one is to be nailed to his cross by his hands and feet – which is to say: if one wishes to be crossed in what he does or desires – he must want to live and suffer for the love of Jesus alone and be ready to accept whatever hardships God may choose to send him. If a person has not already learned to deny himself and instead insists on clinging to his own will, he cannot be nailed to the cross.

My third reply is that Christ speaks of two crosses: one is self-denial, the other is properly called a cross. Thus a person must realize that perfection does not consist only in the cross that he himself has made or has chosen to assume, but also in taking up those other crosses given him by God or imposed on him by other persons.

A fourth reason is that, if a person is already crucified within by perfect self-denial, it is a great sign of love on the part of God to be given an extra cross, which will help that person to bear the first cross, much as one nail can be used to pull out another nail.

Since ordinarily it is the interior cross that is most painful, it can be a special consolation for a person to have also an exterior cross which he can handle and thus distract his attention. Although both are crosses, the fact that they are different helps.

If a person lifts up his hands in the form of a cross, he usually cannot maintain that position for more than a quarter of an hour. However, if he has a cross behind him on which to rest his arms, he can hold the position for several hours. In much the same way, God is accustomed to give an exterior cross to one who is carrying an interior cross to help him in bearing the hardship. Thus, when Christ taught us to follow after him, he did not stop merely at demanding self-denial, an interior cross; he also advised us to take up some external cross, which would sustain us in our internal struggles and sufferings.

## RESPONSORY

Luke 9: 23; 14: 27

All who wish to be my followers must deny their very self. They must take up their cross each day and follow in my footsteps.

Anyone who does not take up the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. They must take up their cross each day and follow in my footsteps.

HYMN Te Deum

## PRAYER

Lord God,  
you chose John Baptist  
to awaken the original spirit of our Order.  
You strengthened him with unshakable courage  
in order to restore it to a holier way of life.  
May we be continually renewed in our hearts  
by following his teaching and example.  
We ask this...

Or:

Lord God,  
you filled John Baptist of the Conception  
with heavenly wisdom  
and a zeal for spreading the faith.  
By the help of his prayers,  
may we grow in knowledge of your Son,  
be eager to do good,  
and learn to walk before you  
by living the truth of the Gospel.  
We ask this...

## **Morning Prayer**

### HYMN

Let us sing on earth the praises  
of this servant of the Lord:  
for his life was true and faithful,  
worthy of the great reward.  
For on earth he sang the glory  
of the Trinity's renown;  
and by bearing holy witness,  
he received the promised crown.

He withstood all opposition  
and renounced the passing lure  
of the tempting wealth and fortune  
that the goods of earth procure.

He remained, though poor and needy,  
wealthy for eternity,  
for he had the love and blessing  
of the Holy Trinity.

Abstaining from worldly honors  
and renouncing passing things,  
he has placed his heart in heaven  
and his soul was granted wings.  
In the fullness of the Kingdom  
did he seek his pleasure new;  
and freed from all earthly longing,  
God became his treasure true.

Blessed man now hear our prayers,  
lend your ear in charity:  
for you are the true reformer  
of this whole community.  
Grant us peace of soul and comfort;  
keep us free from pain and strife,  
as we follow in your footsteps  
in the way that leads to life.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing  
to the Holy Trinity.  
May the praises of all ages  
come to You, O One in Three.  
May you grant the gift of heaven  
to all those who seek Your face:  
for to those who search sincerely,  
You become the saving grace. Amen.

Melody

Ant.1 The Lord has given us a sincere and learned man to show us the way to holiness.

Psalms and canticle from Sunday, Week I

Ant. 2 His sons will be as from the beginning, and his community will stand forever before the Lord.

Ant. 3 The Father has given us his Son, that we many be transformed into glorious image through the working of the Lord's Spirit.

## READING

Ephesians 1: 3-4

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.

## RESPONSORY

See what love the Father has bestowed on us in letting us be called children of God. Yet that is what we are.  
See what love the Father has bestowed on us in letting us be called children of God. Yet that is what we are.

God predestined us through Jesus Christ to be adopted children.  
Yet that is what we are.

Glory to the Father...  
See what love...

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. John Baptist called his sons to holiness and renewal, that they might radiate more clearly the image of the Trinity.

## INTERCESSIONS

May glory and honor be given to God, who redeems us by the blood of his only Son, and renews and enlightens us by the grace of his Holy Spirit. We pray:

*Lord, renew us in your Spirit.*

Lord, you promised a new haven and a new earth; continually renew us through your Spirit, may we daily increase in love.

Help us to keep ourselves pure, may we always be temples of the Holy Spirit.

Grant that we may always work with you to make your Spirit present in the world; may this earthy city attain its end more quickly in justice, charity, and peace.

Teach us to give ourselves to our neighbors, may we carry out your will in all things through the intercession of our holy reformer John Baptist.

We have left all things to follow Christ; increase the fire of charity in us, may we bear witness to the holiness of your Church to all people.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

Lord God,  
you chose John Baptist  
to awaken the original spirit of our Order.  
You strengthened him with unshakable courage  
in order to restore it to a holier way of life.  
May we be continually renewed in our hearts  
by following his teachings and example.

Or:

Lord God,  
you filled John Baptist of the Conception  
with heavenly wisdom  
and a zeal for spreading the faith.  
By the help of his prayers,  
may we grow in knowledge of your Son,  
be eager to do good,  
and learn to walk before you  
by living the truth of the Gospel.  
We ask this...

Psalms from the weekday

## Midmorning

Ant. Wisdom dwells in his heart, and knowledge in his words.

## READING

Sirach 51: 17-19

Since in this way I have profited, I will give my teacher grateful praise. I became resolutely devoted to wisdom – the good I persistently strove for. I burned with desire for her, never turning back. I became preoccupied with her, never weary of extolling her. My hand opened her gate and I came to know her secrets.

I sought wisdom in my prayer.  
My heart rejoiced in her.

## **Midday**

Ant. The word of God is the source of wisdom, and it is found in God's eternal commandments.

### **READING**

Cf. Wisdom 7: 13-14

Simply I learned about wisdom, and ungrudgingly do I share – her riches I do not hide away; for to men she is an unfailing treasure; those who gain this treasure win the friendship of God, to whom the gifts they have from discipline commend them.

He who acts in truth comes into the light, to make clear that his deeds are done in God.

## **Midafternoon**

Ant. Wisdom produces prophets and friends of God.

### **READING**

1 Tim. 4: 16

Watch yourself and watch your teaching. Persevere at both tasks. By doing so you will bring to salvation yourself and all who hear you.

Wisdom dwells in the heart of the just.

And instructs even the unlearned.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## **Evening Prayer**

### **HYMN**

John, accept our loving praises  
which each year our hymns renew.  
You now stand on high before God,  
sharing in the glory due.  
In reward for all your labours  
He bestows the crown on you.

As a sower of the good seed,  
to the Moors you brought the Word.  
Teaching them the gentle Saviour,  
in their hearts God's grace was stirred.  
They renounced the bitter harshness

as baptism was conferred.

You performed great works with courage,  
never-failing was your care:  
breaking bonds of cruel enslavement,  
you let captives freedom share;  
where the stricken suffered mis'ry,  
you bought healing comfort there.

Ardent was your prayer to Christ God,  
burning was your holy zeal  
for the teachings of our founders  
and the wisdom they reveal.  
All your deeds and words and writings  
bear the light of God's own seal.

Cordoba saw your departure  
as you left these earthly plains.  
You in heav'n above rejoice now,  
it your relics still retains;  
and it glories in this honor,  
singing out with loud refrains.

Loving Father, stay among us;  
be our guardian, guide and way:  
you reformed us, now transform us,  
lead us forth to endless day.  
Strengthen all our good endeavors  
till with you we come to stay.

Praised be God, eternal Father,  
evermore His name be sung!  
And the Spirit shares the praises  
with the sole begotten Son.  
May all people through the ages  
Praise the holy Three in One! Amen.

Melody

Ant. 1 John Baptist committed himself in faith to the Holy Trinity and gave it great glory.

Psalm 15

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent  
and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue;

he who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honors those who fear the Lord;

he who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

Ant. 1 John Baptist committed himself in faith to the Holy Trinity and gave it great glory.

Ant. 2 As a wise lawgiver, he reunited the brothers in love and renewed their lifestyle according to the example of the Founding Fathers.

Psalm 112

Happy the man who fears the Lord,  
who takes delight in all his commands.  
His sons will be powerful on earth;  
the children of the upright are blessed.

Riches and wealth are in his house;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
He is a light in the darkness for the upright:  
he is generous, merciful and just.

The good man takes and lends,  
he conducts himself with honor.  
The just man will never waver:  
he will be remembered forever.



He has no fear of evil news;  
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.  
With a steadfast heart he will not fear;  
he will see the downfall of his foes.

Open-handed, he gives to the poor;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
His head will be raised in glory.

The wicked man sees and is angry,  
grinds his teeth and fades away;  
the desire of the wicked leads to doom.

Ant. 2 As a wise lawgiver, he reunited the brothers in love and renewed their lifestyle according to the example of the Founding Fathers.

Ant. 3 Faithful and wise servant, you always sought the Lord, and he bestowed on you his blessing and salvation.

Canticle

Revelation 15: 3b-4

Mighty and wonderful are your works,  
Lord God Almighty!  
Righteous and true are your ways,  
O King of the nations!

Who would dare refuse you honor,  
or the glory due your name, O Lord?

Since you alone are holy,  
all nations shall come and worship in your presence.  
Your mighty deeds are clearly seen.

Ant. 3 Faithful and wise servant, you always sought the Lord, and he bestowed on you his blessing and salvation.

READING

2 Peter 1:10-11

Be solicitous to make your call and election permanent, brothers; surely those who do so will never be lost. On the contrary, your entry into the everlasting kingdom of your Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will be richly provided for.

## RESPONSORY

I plead with you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

I plead with you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

Do not conform yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

To live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

Glory to the Father...

I plead with you...

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. John Baptist, a living example of the rule of the founding father, received great glory and a name that will last forever.

## INTERCESSIONS

Praised be God the Father: he willed that his chosen people be reborn through his eternal Word and has renewed and sanctified them in his Spirit of love.

We pray to him:

*Lord, save those whom you have redeemed.*

God of power mercy, through the intercession of our reformer John Baptist, give us the spirit of prayer and penance, make us burn with love for you and for all people.

Give us insight into the beauty of all creation, that we may sing hymns of praise to your greatness.

Strip us of our old selves and imperfections, clothe us with the newness of life of the risen Christ.

Fill the life we share together with your love, may God's love bind us into a community which rejoices in the presence of the Lord in our midst.

May the dead praise you endlessly in heaven, enjoying your peace, one day may worship you with them for all eternity.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

Lord God,  
you chose John Baptist  
to awaken the original spirit of our Order.  
You strengthened him unshakable courage  
in order to restore it to a holier way of life.  
May we be continually renewed in our hearts  
by following his teachings and example.  
We ask this...

Or:

Lord God,  
you filled John Baptist of the Conception  
with heavenly wisdom  
and a zeal for spreading the faith.  
By the help of his prayers,  
may we grow in knowledge of your Son,  
be eager to good,  
and learn to walk before you  
by living the truth of the Gospel.  
We ask this...

The Memorial of SS. Cyril & Methodius is celebrated Feb. 15.

# MARCH

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## March 24

BL. DIDACUS JOSEPH OF CADIZ, priest

Member of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Trinity

### Commemoration

Born in Cadiz, Spain, in 1743, he joined the Capuchin Friars and became a well-known preacher, travelling throughout much of Spain. Through his fervent preaching of the Word of God and by the example of his holy life, he led men and women to lead holier lives. He was a zealous promoter of devotion to the Virgin Mary and the worship of the Most Holy Trinity. He died on March 24, 1801.

From the common of pastors, or holy men: religious.

The antiphons, psalms, verse and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

### Office of Readings

#### SECOND READING

From the brief of beatification of Didacus Joseph of Cadiz

(Leonis XIII Acta XIV, Romae 1895, pp. 106-108)

*Apostle of the mystery of the Trinity*

A vast field of activity was opened providentially to Didacus. Having been ordered to preach missions to people, he affirmed that he felt unqualified. Nevertheless, obedient as always to his superiors, he launched into this new apostolate with zeal and dedication.

As he began his travels throughout all of Spain, he spared himself no hardships in preaching the message of divine truth. He depended more on evangelical simplicity to suit those who heard him, rather than on rhetoric. In villages, army posts, cities, centres of learning, and even in meetings with university professors, he moved everyone and stirred them to a more devout life.

It can easily be seen how much God assisted Didacus with special favors in his fruitful ministry: he who had difficulties in speech and a limited education was now astounding everyone beyond all expectations by his eloquence and wisdom. But, in addition to these gifts, he brought an intensely holy life to his apostolate. Indeed, he was on fire with zeal for the glory of God and the good of souls, hurrying from the pulpit to the confessional to reconcile sinners, then spending the remainder of the day instructing children, convinced that he would be truly blessed if he could meet death while engaged in these labours.

He would pass the night in prayer and meditation; and when at last sleep would overcome him, he would be kneeling on the floor, his head resting on a hard bed, as he renewed his strength for a short while and so be able to enter anew into battle for the Lord. What can we say about this heroic man's love for the Virgin Mother of God, whom he always very tenderly honoured under the title of Queen of Peace and Mother of the Good Shepherd? What comment can we make on his extremely intense and outstanding devotion to the undivided Trinity, whose glories he preached in such profound the apostle of that great Mystery? Enough will have been said about the deep piety of Didacus if we add but one more detail: whenever he finished preaching a sermon on the love of God, he was so overtaken with emotion that he was unable to come down from the pulpit without assistance.

To this very day there are in Spain shrines to the August Trinity and pious charitable organizations in many places which were established by Didacus. And his published writings, full of wisdom and Christian simplicity, serve as a reminder to later generations of the religious fervour which he stirred up when social changes and upheavals were undermining faith.

## RESPONSORY

1 Cor. 4: 1-2; Proverbs 20: 6

All should regard us as servants of Christ and ministers of the mysteries of God.

The first requirement of a minister is that he prove trustworthy.

Many are declared to be men and women of virtue; but who can find one worthy of trust?

The first requirement...

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## Morning Prayer

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. Those who do the will of my Father, they are my brother, sister and mother, says the Lord.

Or:

Ant. The Lord is good and generous to those who trust in him.

PRAYER

God,

you have given us in Blessed Didacus

an example of love and devotion

to the mystery of the Holy Trinity.

Keep us true to the faith

He professed with untiring zeal,

and help us to bring this faith to perfection

by acting in love.

We ask this...

## Evening Prayer

### CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Whoever abandons all things for my sake, to him I will give eternal life.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

# APRIL

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## April 16

ST. BENEDICT JOSEPH LABRE

Member of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Trinity

### Optional Memorial

Benedict Joseph Labre was born of a poor family in France in 1748. He often sought admission to monasteries, but was refused each time. Then he set out on pilgrimages, visiting many shrines, especially in Italy, where he gave a beautiful example of prayer and a holy life to all he met. He spent his last years in Rome, where he died in 1783.

From the common of holy men.

The antiphons, psalms and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

### Office of Readings

#### SECOND READING

From the second letter of St. Gregory of Nyssa, bishop

(Pg 46, 1009-13)

*True pilgrimage of the Lord*

Once people make up their minds to live a more perfect life, it is most beneficial for them to pay attention to the words of the Gospel in everything they do. As a builder uses a rule to align and straighten up a more perfect life makes use of a rule of life which is unerring and appropriate. Such a rule for a more perfect life is the Gospel.

Thus, if someone has chosen a life of solitude and prayer, and the idea occurs to him, as a part of his devotion, to visit the holy places in Jerusalem where one can see where the Lord was, he should consider whether he is being led by the Gospel in this, so that his project may be undertaken according to the teachings of the Lord. If it is not so, I really do not know what could be driving and motivating him in it, for he will be making up a rule himself. Indeed, even though the project has some merits, it should not cause such excessive eagerness and enthusiasm. Truly, if under more attentive investigation, such a pilgrimage would seem to cause spiritual damage to one who is supposed to be living a life of perfection, it should be not only avoided but also not desired.

Thus, you who fear the Lord should praise him no matter where you are. It is not necessary to make a pilgrimage to some other place so as to be closer to God; wherever you are, God will come to you, if there is a lodging place in your soul wherein the Lord can come and dwell. However, if your interior is full of unholy thoughts, even though you might be on the Golgotha, or the Mount of Olives, or even in the Church you as he is from unbelievers.

Dearly beloved, advise any one that a truly beneficial pilgrimage is one that leads to God.

## RESPONSORY

Eph 5: 8-10; John 15: 14

You are light in the Lord; live as children of the light, for light produces every kind of good, justice and truth.

Be correct in your judgement of what is pleasing to the Lord. (P.T. Alleluia)

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

Be correct in...

## PRAYER

Lord God,

you made St. Benedict Joseph cling to you

by means of his zeal for humility and love of poverty.

Through his intercession,

help us to rightly evaluate the things of earth

and seek the goods of heaven.

Grant this...

# MAY

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## May 7

TRANSFER OF THE RELICS OF ST. JOHN DE MATHA

### Optional Memorial

The body of St. John De Matha was buried with honors at Rome in the Church of St. Thomas on December 21, 1213. In 1655, it was privately brought to Madrid and presented to the Apostolic Nuncio in Spain. At that time, with the approval of Innocent XIII, the Sacred Congregation of Rites confirmed its authenticity by a new examination. The greater part of his remains was transferred to the monastery of the Order in Salamanca on October 9, 1966; another portion was left in the care of the contemplative Trinitarian nuns in Madrid.

The antiphons, psalms, first reading and responsory are taken from the current week day.

### INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship Christ the Lord; he has made us children of God through the Spirit, alleluia.

Invitatory psalm

### Office of Readings

HYMN

All the ages will revere you,  
O our holy father John,  
with the title of redeemer  
for the saving work you won:  
those oppressed as suffering captives  
through you had their bonds undone.

God approved your undertaking  
and confirmed it as His own.  
As you served Him at the altar,  
He Himself His will made known:  
the Redeemer, robed in splendour,  
was upon His throne.

For this work the Order founding,  
John assumed the task esteemed.  
Felix came to join his efforts  
and was to the labor teamed:



and the Trinity was honoured  
as the captives were redeemed.

Africa restrains its furor  
as it ends the slavery;  
John has brought the price of ransom  
and he sets the captives free.  
From the dreary jails he sends them  
back to their own family.

With our fervour we entreat You,  
God, the Holy Trinity:  
loose all bondage that afflicts us,  
free us from captivity.  
Make us, Christ, your fellow-workers  
in redemptive ministry. Amen.

Melody

## SECOND READING

From a letter of recommendation by Juhel de Mothefelon, Archbishop of Tours  
(Collect. Thesauri anecdotum Edmundi Martène et Ursini Durand, O.S.B.; Paris, 1717, Tom. I, Col. 1019, du monastère de Montmajour)

### *Servants of Holy Trinity and the Captives*

The Order of the Holy Trinity for the Redemption of Captives is a choice vineyard of the Lord of Hosts. Like a vine, like a truly pleasing young plant of Christ the Lord, it has extended its branches not only from sea to sea, but even beyond the sea, since God is tending it and making it increase in a wondrous manner. It has already put forth its shoots in Paris where, by God's grace, they have a house where they promote their theological knowledge and attend to the proper formation of their members.

We earnestly recommend this God's vineyard and its shoots to your kindness. Indeed, we should not enjoy the fragrance of its goodness by ourselves, nor enjoy its flowers alone; the Church, too, should benefit and be nourished by its fruits, lest we be reproved for keeping them for ourselves.

Thus it is that we affectionately ask this favour of your kindness. When these religious come to you, deign to receive them well for the honor and love of the blessed and glorious Trinity, whose most devoted and faithful servants these religious are. They will come through your dioceses carrying letters with indulgences from the Pope and granting benefits for the sanctification of the faithful who give them alms.

Thus, through these contributions, the faithful will share in the merits, the sacrifices and the mortifications of these religious, and will be rewarded in heaven by God, the generous rewarder of all good deeds. Most of all, the faithful will partake in the charity by which these religious give not only their material possessions but even themselves to help the poor, to free captives and to promote innumerable meritorious deeds.

Consider, please, how much esteem and gratitude these religious deserve. They pursue sacred studies and sacrifice themselves completely for God by mortification and by the holy observances of their venerable

Order. They generously give both themselves and their goods for the care of the needy and the redemption of captives. As God is witness of these things, they store up treasure in heaven and deserve even now our deep gratitude for the good deeds which will cause them to be rewarded by the Lord.

## RESPONSORY

1 Thes 2: 8; Gal 4: 19

We wanted to share with you not only the Gospel, but our very lives.  
So dear had you become to us, alleluia.

You are my children, and you put me back in labor pains until Christ is formed in you.  
So dear had...

## PRAYER

God of power and mercy,  
you inspired our holy father John with your divine love  
to promote the glory of the Trinity  
and to ease the misery of those who suffer.  
May we be animated with the same spirit and become  
witnesses of your redemption in our world.  
We ask this...

## Morning Prayer

### HYMN

O God of power, hear our prayers  
which we your servants raise as one,  
keeping with joyous hymns and songs  
the memory of our father John.

How wondrous in his holy deeds!  
How good the life he did espouse!  
He has become a radiant light  
for all who dwell within God's house.

While serving God in charity,  
he made himself a sacrifice;  
he put to death all sinfulness  
by bearing well the cross of Christ.

You were his joy and victory,  
O Christ, who led him through all strife;  
now by his prayers on our behalf,  
grant us the joys of endless life.

O God our Father, praise to you;  
and to you, only begotten Son,  
who with the Spirit, Paraclete,  
are always and forever One. Amen.

Melody

### READING

Ephesians 4: 32 – 5: 2

Be kind to one another, compassionate and mutually forgiving, just as God has forgiven you in Christ. Be imitators of God as his dear children. Follow the way of love, even as Christ loved you. He gave himself for us as an offering to God, a gift of pleasing fragrance.

### RESPONSORY

Be imitators of me, and the God of peace will be with you, alleluia, alleluia.  
Be imitators of me, and the God of peace will be with you, alleluia, alleluia.

Put into practice all that you have learned and received from me.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to the Father...  
Be imitators of me...

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. In all sacrifices, we praise the Creator of the universe through his Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, who gives us life and all blessings. Alleluia.

### INTERCESSIONS

Let us humbly pray to Christ, the eternal Priest, whom the Father has anointed with the Holy Spirit to proclaim redemption to captives:

*Lord, look upon those whom you have redeemed*

Lord Jesus, may we act under the guidance of the Spirit of God, may we always live as children of God.

Jesus, High Priest, you offered the perfect sacrifice to the Father in the Holy Spirit, unite all people to yourself in your praise.

You called us to share in your holy vocation, may we care for the weak and fallen with faith and love.

You made us children of God through your Spirit, through the same Spirit make us one in rendering glory to God our Father.

We thank you, O Christ, and we thank the Father through you in the Holy Spirit, may all that we do, in word and work, be done in the spirit of our holy Father, John De Matha, and render glory to your name.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

God of power and mercy,  
you inspired our holy John with your divine love  
to promote the glory of the Trinity  
and to ease the misery of those who suffer.  
May we be animated with the same spirit and become  
witnesses of your redemption in our world.  
We ask this...

#### **Evening Prayer**

#### HYMN

Let us sing on earth the praises  
of this servant of the Lord:  
for his life was true and faithful,  
worthy of the great reward.  
For on earth he sang the glory  
of the Trinity's renown;  
and by bearing holy witness,  
he received the promised crown.

He withstood all opposition  
and renounced the passing lure  
of the tempting wealth and fortune  
that the goods of earth procure.  
He remained, though poor and needy,

wealthy for eternity,  
for he had the love and mercy  
of the Holy Trinity.

Abstaining from worldly honors  
and renouncing passing things,  
he has placed his heart in heaven  
and his soul was granted wings.  
In the fullness of the Kingdom  
did he seek his pleasure new;  
and freed from all earthly longing,  
God became his treasure true.

Blessed man now hear our prayers,  
lend your ear in charity:  
for you are the founding father  
of this whole community.  
Grant us peace of soul and comfort;  
keep us free from pain and strife,  
as we follow in your footsteps  
in the way that leads to life.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing  
to the Holy Trinity.  
May the praises of all ages  
come to you, O One in Three.  
May you grant the gift of heaven  
to all those who seek your face:  
for to those who search sincerely,  
you become the saving grace. Amen.

Melody

**READING**

Phil 3: 17; 4: 9

Be imitators of me, my brothers. Take as your guide those who follow the example that we set. Live according to what you have learned and accepted, what you have heard me say and seen me do. Then will the God of peace be with you.

## RESPONSORY

Be rooted and founded in love; let Christ dwell in your hearts, alleluia, alleluia.

Be rooted and founded in love; let Christ dwell in your hearts, alleluia, alleluia.

Be filled with God in all things.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to the Father...

Be rooted and founded...

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Be imitators of me as I am of Christ. You will be strengthened within by the Spirit, so that you many know the surpassing love of Christ, alleluia.

## INTERCESSION

Let us give thanks to the Father, who saved us through the blood of his Son and renews us through the Spirit which he lavishes on us.

Therefore, we pray:

*Lord, give us life through your Holy Spirit.*

Through your Son, send down the Holy Spirit upon the Church, may it be the sacrament of unity for all people.

Through your Son, lift up the needy, free those who are unjustly imprisoned, heal the suffering, make the world rejoice with the blessings of your Holy Spirit.

You anointed Christ with the strength of the Spirit for the ministry of salvation, may your Spirit be breathed into the world again to bless and heal all.

You called us to the perfection of the Gospel through the Holy Spirit, may we follow you Son by living genuinely according to the spirit of our holy father John.

You created us in your image, and you renewed us in Christ through the Holy Spirit, mold us into the image of your Son.

Through the intercession of holy father, John De Matha, send holy and numerous vocations to our Order, and make them docile to the action of the Spirit, and disposed to live a life of evangelical simplicity.

You transformed the followers of your Son through the fire of your Holy Spirit; inflame our hearts with a missionary desire to bring the Gospel of your Son to all peoples.

In your mercy, receive our departed brothers and sisters into your heavenly kingdom, where you live and reign with your Son and the Holy Spirit for all eternity.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

God of power and mercy,  
you inspired our holy father John with your divine love  
to promote the glory of the Trinity  
and to ease the miseries of those who suffer.  
May we be animated with the same spirit and become  
witnesses of your love in our world.  
We ask this...

#### **May 11**

BL. DOMINIC ITURRATE, priest

#### **Optional Memorial**

Dominic was born in Dima (Vizcaya) on May 11, 1901, and after having received a Christian upbringing from his parents, he felt a calling to the religious life and the priesthood. He entered the Trinitarian Order and began to live out intensely its spirituality. Soon after being ordained a priest, he was stricken with incurable consumption. Without sadness or regret, but rather joyfully and lovingly accepting God's will, he resigned himself to sickness, suffering and eventual death. He died on April 7, 1927. His mortal remains now rest in the Trinitarian church in Algorta (Vizcaya), Spain. He was beatified on October 30, 1983 by Pope John Paul II.

From the common of holy men: religious. The psalms, antiphons and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

#### **INVITATORY**

Ant. Come, let us adore Christ the Lord; through him we have access to the Father in the Holy Spirit. (P.T. Alleluia)

Invitatory psalm

## Office of Readings

### SECOND READING

From Pope John Paul II's "Homily on the occasion of the beatification of Dominic Iturrate of the Most Blessed Sacrament".

(AAS 1983)

*Total and constant conformity to the will of God*

With the words of the Book of Wisdom, today the Church expresses the love which God embraces all of creation. The love of God is most particularly expressed in the sanctification of every person.

Today the Church rejoices precisely for this reason, that is, because three of her sons, collaborating with the grace of God, have travelled the way leads to sanctity.

One of these is the Trinitarian religious Dominic Iturrate Zubero, born on Spanish soil, in the Basque country. His short life of just 26 years contains a rich message which is made concrete in his constant striving for sanctity. Here are some special characteristics which I would like to summarize.

The faithful fulfilment of God's will was an aim which in him reached very lofty heights, especially during the last years of his life. That is why in 1922 he wrote in his spiritual notebook: "Our obedience to God's will must be total, without reserve and constant". Animated by that spirit and with the authorization of his spiritual director, he vowed to "do always what he would find most perfect", resolving also "never to refuse anything to God our Lord, but to follow His holy inspiration in everything with generosity and joy".

As a Trinitarian religious, his life was deeply affected by the two central principles of the spirituality of his Order: the mystery of the Holy Trinity and the work of Redemption, which engendered in him a life of intense charity.

As a priest, he had a clear idea of his identity as "an intermediary between God and men" and as "a representative of Christ the Eternal Priest". All this enabled him to live every Eucharistic celebration as an act of personal sacrifice, in union with the supreme Victim, on behalf of all God's people.

No less notable was the presence of Mary in the spiritual life of the new Blessed, from his birth until his death. His was a devotion which he lived with great intensity and which he always sought to instill in others, convinced that: "To go to the Son through the Mother is a path both good and sure".

Just these few traits place before us a persuasive model whose virtues are in great demand and are very esteemed in our day. Father Dominic's generous and faithful response to his vocation shows the way by which our generation can also attain its inner identity and sanctification.

Yes! The saints speak of the glory of the kingdom of God. They proclaim the power of Christ's Redemption: the power of the Cross and the Resurrection. They are living witness that the Creator and Father loves all that he made.

Today, we wish to add another model of holiness to the treasury of sanctity which God has given to his Church to cherish in order that the mysterious heritage of our redemption may endure and enliven all future generations of God's people.

God, lover of life, may we be all yours. Amen.

### RESPONSORY

Eph 1:4, 6; Col 1:13

God chose us in before the world began, to be holy and blameless in his sight.

He rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of his beloved Son. (P.T. Alleluia)

That all might praise the glorious favour he has bestowed on us in his beloved.

He rescued us...



Or:

**RESPONSORY**

Cf. Is 38:3; 1 John 2:6; 5:3

Let us faithfully and wholeheartedly conduct ourselves in God's presence.

For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. (P.T. Alleluia)

Whoever claims to abide in Christ ought to live as He lived.

For the love of God is this...

Or:

From a letter of Bl. Dominic Iturrate to his parents

(Vida de Fray Domingo del Santísimo Sacramento, Madrid 1928, pp. 117-120)

*Happy the family who counts a priest among its members*

Dearest parents, may the Most Holy Trinity ever reign in your hearts.

It is with great pleasure that I take pen in hand to send you the festive news of my priestly ordination, so that you, too may share in the joy and happiness which fill my soul.

My ordination took place on August 9th, and on the 15th I solemnly celebrated my first Mass, which I offered for our family and relatives.

My dear parents, I would like you, too, to taste the joy which fills my heart, seeing myself bonded to Christ by religious vows and raised to the sublime dignity of the priesthood!

May the Most Holy Trinity be a thousand times blessed for having saved me from the dangers of the world and sheltered me behind the secure doors of the religious life. I Thank you, beloved parents, because at the cost of great sacrifice, you let me follow the invitation of a divine calling. Yes, you had to make a great sacrifice in allowing me to leave home; you overcame every difficulty and you gave me your permission to go where God called me; and now, you and I are filled with joy and happiness: you, because you have a son who is a priest, and I, because within the walls of the monastery, I have become a representative of Christ Jesus, the eternal high priest.

O my parents, you cannot imagine how much gratitude I nurture for you, for having helped me to follow the divine plan which deigned that I should be a priest and religious.

I have been made mediator between God and man; thus, I will be able to pray to the Lord for the whole family every time that I offer the sacrifice of the Mass. But, to render my prayers effective, we must all take care to remain in a state of grace and friendship with God, never allowing the devil and sin to enter into our souls.

Happy, a million times over, is the family which counts among its members a priest who prays for them! Blessed are the parents who in their old age and nearing death can say: "We have a son who is celebrating the Eucharist for us". What great consolation they will feel in their hearts at that time.

May God bless you and keep you ever in his grace.

**RESPONSORY**

Psalm 84:2-3;5

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, God of Hosts!

My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the Lord (P.T. Alleluia)

Happy are they who dwell in your house, continually they praise you.

My soul yearns...

Or:

**RESPONSORY**

Cf. Daniel 1:17

The Lord granted to this young man knowledge and wisdom:  
God confirmed his heart with the gift of the Spirit. (P.T. Alleluia)  
A priest of God, he meditated on his law, day and night.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

**Morning Prayer**

**CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH**

Ant. Whoever does my Father's will, says the Lord, he is my brother, my sister and my mother. (P.T. Alleluia)

PRAYER

God our Father,  
source of all good,  
you revealed the beauty of the mysteries  
of the Holy Trinity and of the Eucharist  
to your priest, Blessed Dominic Iturrate.  
We ask you, through his intercession,  
to grant that all people come to know and worship you  
as the one, true God,  
who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

**Evening Prayer**

**CANTICLE OF MARY**

Ant. You have left all to follow me; you will have it all returned a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. (P.T. Alleluia)

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

First Sunday after Pentecost

**SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

Titular Feast of the entire Trinitarian Family

All as in the Liturgy of the Hours

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Second Saturday after Pentecost

**FEAST OF IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

Titular Feast of the United States Province

All as in the Liturgy of the Hours

# JUNE

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## June 8

ST. MICHAEL OF THE SAINTS, PRIEST

Patron of Trinitarian Youth

Feast

Born at Vich, Spain, in 1591, he first entered the Calced Trinitarians, and then later joined the Reformed Trinitarians, where he advanced in a wonderful way in the life of perfection. He gave himself completely to the strict observance and contemplative prayer, being graced with many mystical gifts from God. He died at Valladolid on April 10, 1625, and was canonized on June 8, by Pope Pius IX.

## INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship Christ the Lord; through him we have access to the Father in the Holy Spirit. (P.T. Alleluia)

Invitatory psalm

## Office of Readings

HYMN

With joyous hymns and hearts we sing  
of Michael of the Saints;  
our holy brother, by his life,  
won praise without restraints.

From early youth, the love of God  
in him was realized,  
and helped him choose the better part  
and live his life in Christ.

Just as the sheltering rocks give rest  
to those who refuge seek,  
the Order of the Trinity  
became his safe retreat.

There in that sacred training ground  
his virtues were expressed;  
and soon his wondrous holiness  
to all was manifest.

He trained himself through self-control,  
lived penance to its length;  
within the passion of the Lord,  
he found his source of strength.

While serving God's great Mysteries,  
his form is bathed in light;  
the people see him lifted up,  
his soul toward God takes flight.

Michael desired to love the Lord  
with all his strength and soul;  
Christ touched his side and made his heart  
of love a burning coal.

May all adore and now confess  
the Holy Trinity,  
who filled His servant, Michael, blest  
with His great charity. Amen.

Melody: CM

Ant. 1 You have given him his heart's desire, and you have made him rejoice in your presence. (P.T. Alleluia)

Psalm 21:2-8, 14

O Lord your strength gives joy to the king;  
how your saving help makes him glad!  
You have granted him his heart's desire;  
you have not refused the prayer of his lips.

You came to meet him with the blessings of success,  
you have set on his head a crown of pure gold.  
He asked you for life and this you have given,  
days that will last from age to age.

You saving help has given him glory.  
You have laid upon him majesty and splendour,

you have granted to him your blessings for ever.  
You have made him rejoice with the joy of your presence.

The king has put his trust in the Lord:  
through the mercy of the Most High he shall stand firm.  
O Lord, arise in your strength;  
we shall sing and praise your power.

Ant. 1 You have given him his heart's desire, and you have made him rejoice in your presence. (P.T. Alleluia)

Ant. 2 I am wholly the Lord's; he who walked among the lilies of the field is everything to me. (P.T. Alleluia)

Psalm 92

I  
It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night,  
on the ten-stringed lyre and the lute,  
with the murmuring sound of the harp.

Your deeds, O Lord, have made me glad;  
for the work of your hands I shout with joy.  
O Lord, how great are your works!  
How deep are your designs!  
The foolish man cannot know this  
and the fool cannot understand.

Though the wicked spring up like grass  
and all who do evil thrive:  
they are doomed to be eternally destroyed.  
But you, Lord, are eternally on high.

Ant. 2 I am wholly the Lord's; he who walked among the lilies of the field is everything to me. (P.T. Alleluia)

Ant. 3 I have found the greatest love; I found the Lord and remain committed to him (P.T. Alleluia)

## II

See how your enemies perish;  
all doers of evil are scattered.

To me you give wild-ox's strength;  
you anoint me with the purest oil.  
My eyes looked in triumph on my foes;  
my ears heard gladly of their fall.  
The just will flourish like the palm-tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just;  
in him, my rock, there is no wrong.

Ant. 3 I have found the greatest love; I found the Lord and remain committed to him (P.T. Alleluia)

The law of God is in his heart. (P.T. Alleluia)  
And his steps shall not falter. (P.T. Alleluia)

## FIRST READING

From the first letter of John

3:18-24; 4:7-12

### *God is love*

Little children, let us love in deed and in truth and not merely talk about it. This is our way of knowing we are committed to the truth and are at peace before him no matter what our consciences may charge us with; for God is greater than our hearts and all is known to him.

Beloved, if our consciences have nothing to charge us with, we can be sure that God is with us and that we will receive at his hands whatever we ask. Why? Because we are keeping his commandments and doing what is pleasing in his sight. His commandment is this: we are to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and are to love one another as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him and he in them. And this is how we know that he remains in us; from the Spirit that he gave us.

Beloved, let us love one another because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten of God and has knowledge of God. The man without love has known nothing of God, for God is love. God's love was revealed in our midst in this way: he sent his only Son to the world that we might have life through him.

Love, then, consists in this: not that we have loved God but that he has loved us and has sent his Son as an offering for our sins.

Beloved, if God has loved us so, we must have the same love for one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God dwells in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us.

## RESPONSORY

Ps 73:26; Gal 2:20

Though my heart and my flesh waste away, God in the rock of my heart and my portion forever. (P.T. Alleuia)

## SECOND READING

From "A Short Treatise on Peace of Soul" by St. Michael of the Saints.  
(Opúsculos de S. Miguel de los Santos, Roma 1915, pp. 29-32)

*In God we live and move and have our being*

In order to better understand the nature of this state of "peace of soul", it would be good to note that, just as we see the sky adorned with stars, in the same way, one who arrives at this state is adorned by all types of virtues. In this state, one is so detached from all created things, from all emotions, powerful influences, passions and feelings that – if it were not for a special light that God gives him – he would not believe it possible that anyone could be attached to any of them. The knowledge of God in this state is exceeded only by that of the angels. Indeed, one who has arrived at this degree of holiness can truly be called an "angel" or even more than an angel, for he possesses the qualities of an angel while still living amidst the pains of earth. He is so involved in the things of God and so detached from what is of the senses, that he forgets about himself and is sustained by love alone, which is said to be the nourishment of angels. Although the angels have no bodies, those who arrive at this state still do have them – but they pay no attention to the condition of their bodies, emotions or passions. This flows from their intense absorption which makes them very forgetful of themselves and of all that is not God.

The apostle Paul, who learned from his own experience, confirms what we have said when he writes: "They have the mind of Christ". We can gather from this that those who do arrive at this state do not use their own senses – rather it is God who uses them. Thus, it can be said that they see without seeing, hear without hearing, speak without speaking, and understand without understanding.

Because we have a fallen human nature, we can do nothing good nor perfect of ourselves. However, those who have arrived at the perfection of peace of soul do all things with such a degree of holiness that it seems impossible for them to commit the least imperfection. For this reason, when they see, hear or speak, we say that it is not they who are acting – God is acting in them, using them as his instruments. Their actions are thus exempt from any imperfections.

## RESPONSORY

Gal 2:20; Acts 17:28

I live a life of faith in the Son of God, who lived me and gave himself up for me.

The life I now live is not my own; Christ is living in me (P.T. Alleluia)

In him we live and move and have our being.

The life I now live is not my own; Christ is living in me. (P.T. Alleluia)



HYMN Te Deum

PRAYER

God of mercy,  
you made St. Michael outstanding  
through the innocence of his life  
and his exceptional charity.

Teach us by his example  
and inflame us with the fire of your love,  
so that we may attain everlasting happiness with you.  
We ask this...

### **Morning Prayer**

HYMN

Light fills the feast we keep today  
of Michael ever blest:  
filled with the love of God above,  
he entered into rest.

From youth he fled all worldly care  
and silence he pursued;  
he twice set forth to seek and find  
the Lord in solitude.

Obedient to his parents' will  
he stayed with them till grown;  
but deep within his heart aflame  
he lived for God alone.

The Order of the Trinity  
received this man of prayer.  
Though living in obscurity,  
the world has felt his care.

The love which sealed his heart and soul  
from his most tender youth,  
became a flame that filled his life

with God's own light and truth.

He honoured Mary as he praised  
her loving, wounded Son:  
for from the opened side of Christ  
life for world was won.

Moved in his zeal for other's good,  
that love and life to share,  
he led them to be bound to God  
and freed from sin's cruel snare.

May all adore and now confess  
the Holy Trinity,  
who filled His servant, Michael, blest  
with His great charity. Amen.

Melody: CM

Ant. 1 My spirit was close to you, O God, because you were my support. (P.T. Alleluia)

Psalms and canticle from Sunday, Week I

Ant. 2 My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. (P.T. Alleluia)

Ant. 3 A consuming fire filled my heart; I was unable to endure it and was overcome. (P.T. Alleluia)

## READING

Wisdom 4:10-11

He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was transported – snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul.

## RESPONSORY

Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career, for his soul was pleasing to God. (P.T. Alleluia)

Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career, for his soul was pleasing to God. (P.T. Alleluia)

Early the Lord took him away from evil surroundings, for his soul was pleasing to God. (P.T. Alleluia)

Glory to the Father...

Having become perfect...

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. Set me as a seal on your heart, as a seal on your arm; for stern as death is love. (P.T. Alleluia)

## INTERCESSIONS

The Spirit gives witness that we are children of God. Giving thanks to God the Father through Jesus Christ, let us pray:

*Our Father, hear our prayer*

God our Father, you said of Christ, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him", may all people hear his voice and be saved.

You anointed Christ with the power of the Holy Spirit for the ministry of salvation, pour out your Spirit on the world again and transform all believers into apostles.

You sent the Holy Spirit into the world through your Son, through the intercession of St. Michael of the Saints, set our hearts on fire with the love of the Spirit.

Lord, infuse into our hearts a deep sense of charity, so that we may love one another as Christ loved us.

Grant us wisdom on our actions, that may we do all things for the glory of the Trinity today and every day.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

God of mercy,  
you made St. Michael outstanding  
through the innocence of his life  
and his exceptional charity.  
Teach us by his example  
and inflame us with the fire of your love,  
so that we may attain everlasting happiness with you.  
We ask this...

### **Daytime Prayer**

Psalms from the weekday

### **Midmorning**

Ant. Lord, let me see your face, let me hear your voice. (P.T. Alleuia)

## READING

Isaiah 61:10

I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation, and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels.

The Lord loved him and adorned him. (P.T. Alleluia)

He clothed him with a mantle of glory. (P.T. Alleluia)

### **Midday**

Ant. The Lord sent down fire upon me from on high, and it instructed me. (P.T. Alleluia)

## READING

Isaiah 25:1

O Lord, you are my God; I will extol you and praise your name; for you have fulfilled your wonderful plans of old, faithful and true.

You made him little less than the angels. (P.T. Alleluia)

You crowned him with glory and honour. (P.T. Alleluia)

### **Midafternoon**

Ant. When the Lord spoke, my soul pined for him. (P.T. Alleluia)

## READING

1 John 2:15

Do not love the world or the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

No one begotten of God acts wrongly. (P.T. Alleluia)

Because they remain close to God. (P.T. Alleluia)

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## Evening Prayer

### HYMN

Feeling his love to be too weak  
and his own heart too hard and cold,  
Michael asked for a heart of fire  
which all the love of God could hold.

He made the Lord his way of life,  
Jesus became his joy and hymn:  
it was no longer he who lived,  
but Christ himself who lived in him.

When thinking on Christ crucified,  
or no the Virgin Mother blest,  
Michael was seized by flames of love  
And lifted up in God to rest.

By keeping vigils in his prayers,  
by self-restraint and discipline,  
he kept intact the purity  
which by baptism did begin.

He lived the joy on earth below  
That is to be eternity.  
Michael reflected in his life  
God's Kingdom in its purity.

Jesus revealed his heart to you  
and deeply touched you with his love:

Michael, inflame our hearts also  
and lift our prayers to God above. Amen.

Melody: LM

Ant. 1 My son, give me your heart. (P.T. Alleluia)

Psalm 15

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent  
and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue;

he who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honors those who fear the Lord;

he who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

Ant 1 My son, give me your heart. (P.T. Alleluia)

Ant. 2 Suddenly a flame was enkindled in my soul, and the love of Christ filled me with joy. (P.T. Alleluia)

Psalm 112

Happy the man who fears the Lord,  
who takes delight in all his commands.  
His sons will be powerful on earth;  
the children of the upright are blessed.

Riches and wealth are in his house;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
He is a light in the darkness for the upright:  
he is generous, merciful and just.

The good man takes pity and lends,  
he conducts his affairs with honor.  
The just man will never waver:  
He will be remembered for ever.

He has no fear of evil news;  
with a firm heart he trust in the Lord.  
With a steadfast heart he will not fear;  
he will see the downfall of his foes.

Open-handed, he gives to the poor;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
His head will be raised in glory.

The wicked man sees and is angry,  
grinds his teeth and fades away;  
the desire of the wicked leads to doom.

Ant. 2 Suddenly a flame was enkindled in my soul, and the love of Christ filled me with joy. (P.T. Alleluia)

Ant. 3 This is a holy man who did great deeds before God, and praised the Lord with all his heart. (P.T. Alleluia)

Canticle

Revelation 15:3b-4

Mighty and wonderful are your works,  
Lord God Almighty!  
Righteous and true are your ways,  
O King of the nations!

Who would dare refuse you honor,  
Or the glory due your name, O Lord!

Since you alone are holy,  
all nations shall come  
and worship in your presence.  
Your mighty deeds are clearly seen.

Ant. 3 This is a holy man who did great deeds before God, and praised the Lord with all his heart. (P.T. Alleluia)

## READING

Ephesians 3:14-19

I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name; and I pray that he will bestow on you gifts in keeping with the riches of his glory. May he strengthen you inwardly through the working of his Spirit. May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, and may charity be the root and foundation of your life. Thus you will be able to grasp fully, with all the holy ones, the breadth and length and height and depth of Christ's love, and experience this love which surpasses all knowledge, so that you may attain to the fullness of God himself.

## RESPONSORY

I have found the greatest love; I found the Lord and remain committed to him. (P.T. Alleluia)

I have found the greatest love; I found the Lord and remain committed to him. (P.T. Alleluia)

I am wholly the Lord's and he is everything to me. I found the Lord and remain committed to him. (P.T. Alleluia)

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. My heart exults in the Lord; my heart is exalted in my God, for I rejoice in my Saviour. (P.T. Alleluia)

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to God, the source of all holiness, and ask him to lead us to holiness of life through the example and intercession of St. Michael of the Saints:

*Lord, may we be holy as you are holy.*

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the Church, purify and strengthen us so that we may proclaim you throughout the world.

Christ Jesus, mediator between God and man, you have chosen priests to be your cooperators in the ministry of redemption, by their good works may they share in the fruits of your redemption.

Spirit, fill us with your gift of life, that we may be living members of the Church.



Lord Jesus, you make your dwelling place, along with the Father and the Holy Spirit, among those whom you love, bring our community to perfection in your love through the intercession of St. Michael of the Saints.

In your mercy, receive our departed brothers and sisters into your heavenly Kindgom, where they may be one with you and the Father and your Holy Spirit.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

God of mercy,  
you made St. Michael outstanding  
through the innocence of his life  
and his exceptional charity.  
Teach us by his example  
and inflame us with the fire of your love,  
so that we may attain everlasting happiness with you.  
We ask this...

#### **June 9**

BL. ANNA MARIA TAIGI

Patroness of the Trinitarian Third Order

#### **Memorial**

Anna Maria Taigi was born in Siena, Italy, in 1769. Shortly after her marriage she moved to Rome where she raised her family. Although she was very busy in caring for her household, she never failed to exercise works of charity towards the poor and sick. Being such a model of virtue and holiness, many came to her seeking advice. She died in 1837, and her body is kept in the basilica of St. Chrysogonus.

#### **INVITATORY**

Ant. Let us praise the Lord our God on the feast of Blessed Anna Maria (P.T. Alleluia)

Invitatory psalm

## Office of Readings

### HYMN

This noble woman has deserved  
the praise the Church ordains:  
for through her holy life below  
she now with angels reigns.

With fasting, vigils, alms and tears,  
she sought with her whole heart  
to be united to her God  
and ne'er from Him depart.

Renouncing all the pomp of earth  
and worldly glory vain,  
she strove for perfect holiness  
and thus did heaven attain.

She graced her home with sanctity  
and filled it with goodness;  
now she enjoys a heavenly home  
and God's own blessedness.

Praise to our God, both One and Three,  
who led her by his care:  
may He unite us to his saints  
through her most pleasing prayer. Amen.

Melody: CM

The antiphons, psalms, verse and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

## SECOND READING

From the Brief of the Beatification of Anna Maria Taigi  
(AAS 12 [1920] pp. 241-243)

*She did not live for herself but for others*

Christian marriage is a symbol of Christ's union with the Church; indeed, the Apostle Paul calls it a great "mystery". Often, God wishes to show that it is possible, with the help of his grace, to arrive at the heights of sanctity in this state of life, despite any difficulties intrinsic to it.

The Most High willed to manifest this through a humble woman who gave a very precious witness of holiness while involved in the cares of married life and obliged to provide a living for herself and her family by the work of her hands. She fulfilled the roles of a perfect wife and attentive mother so religiously that she fittingly has become a brilliant and outstanding model for all wives and mothers.

She would rise early in the morning and leave home for a nearby church to nourish her piety and be renewed at the Eucharistic feast. Hardly had the day begun when she would be back at home with her family, dedicating herself zealously to her household duties and carrying out the obligations of her state in life. She bore seven children: four boys and three girls. Some died in infancy; those that survived showed by their upright lives and morals what a religious and ideal formation they had received.

But, busy as she was with her duties in providing for her children, this venerable servant of God was in continual meditation on the things of God.

Having turned her home into what appeared to be a shrine, she did not escape insults and slanderous remarks. These she bore fearlessly for love of Christ, forgiving those who offended her and returning good for evil. She was so inflamed with the love of divine love and being taken up with Christ, it cannot be said that, for this reason, she was not attentive to the needs of her neighbors and to the events which affected the city of Rome and the society of her day. She experienced poverty in her own life, yet she never lost an opportunity to come to the aid of the poor. Because of her immense love for God, she would offer herself up as a victim to God's Justice, eager to prevent impending disasters through her ceaseless prayers.

## RESPONSORY

Cf. Prov. 31:10, 28; 1 Pt 3:5

A wise and good wife is more precious than any treasure.

She adorns herself with reliance on God and faithfulness to her spouse (P.T. Alleluia)

Her children rise up and praise her; her husband, too, extols her.

She adorns herself...

## PRAYER

Father, you who glorify the humble,  
made Blessed Anna Maria  
an outstanding model of charity  
and a virtuous wife and mother.  
May her prayers help us  
to meet with fortitude

the challenges of our state of life  
and may her example teach us  
to love you always above all things.  
Grant this...

### **Morning Prayer**

#### HYMN

Anna Mari is now praised,  
Siena's glory and honor;  
with Rome, the city of renown,  
we also join in blessing her.

With courage she embraced her life;  
her heart was filled with fortitude;  
and for this reason she now shines  
among the blessed multitude.

In poverty she passed her youth,  
with work, she helped her parent's house;  
as faithful wife she bore the cross  
of a neglectful and harsh spouse.

Leading her children toward the good,  
she raised them in the fear of God;  
mother and wife, she shows the way,  
as model she deserves all laud.

A Trinitarian she became,  
embracing the Third Order's way:  
her home was made her place of prayer,  
where loving penance filled her day.

Wounded by love for Christ the Lord,  
for things of God her heart did crave,  
and thus to heaven she passed on,  
adorned by gifts the Spirit gave.

Now dwelling in the courts above,  
in peace, far from all earthly strife,  
she still helps those who seek her aid,  
the patron of all family life.

All glory to the Trinity,  
who always raises up the weak,  
and grants the victory here below  
to those who struggle and who seek. Amen.

Melody: LM

### READING

Sirach 26:13, 16

A gracious wife delights her husband. Like the sun rising in the Lord's heavens, the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

### RESPONSORY

The mother who teaches her children well will have cause to rejoice. (P.T. Alleluia)

The mother who teaches her children well will have cause to rejoice. (P.T. Alleluia)

She will be able to boast of them among her friends, and will have cause to rejoice. (P.T. Alleluia)

Glory to the Father...

The mother who teach her children...

### CANTICLE OF ZACHARIAH

Ant. This servant of the Lord has shown in her life the image of the virtuous woman described in the Scriptures, and has been an outstanding example of holiness in her marriage.(P.T. Alleluia)

### INTERCESSIONS

Let us glorify the One God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. With Blessed Anna Maria, we humbly pray:

*Lord, be with your people.*

Holy Lord, let justice be done in our land, may your people flourish in peace.

Almighty Father, may husbands and wives be of one mind in doing your holy will; may they always live in mutual love.

Lord Jesus, you loved your parents and were loved by them, may all families dwell in peace and love.

Holy Spirit, fill our community with your gifts, make all of us faithful witnesses of unity and love.

Holy Trinity, look with mercy on all the families for which we pray through the intercession of Blessed Anna Maria, bestow on them spiritual and earthly blessings.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

Father, you who glorify the humble,  
made Blessed Anna Maria  
an outstanding model of charity  
and a virtuous wife and mother.  
May her prayers help us  
to meet with fortitude the challenges  
of our state of life  
and may her example teach us  
to love you always above all things.  
Grant this...

#### **Evening Prayer**

#### HYMN

For this handmaid of Christ Jesus,  
let us noble hymns provide,  
for she shone with all the virtues  
fitting for a holy bride;  
as the Sacred Scriptures teach us,  
worthy wives are glorified.

Blest with living faith and fervour,  
hope and true serenity,  
by her deeds she served her neighbors,  
doing works of charity.  
Love became her only motive,  
shining from eternity.

Moved by her pure dedication  
and her constant, fervent prayer,  
Jesus, cleanse us from our passions,  
set us free from sin's cruel snare,  
that with hearts of pure devotion  
we may sing to you forever.

Prised be God, almighty Father,  
honoured be his only Son;  
glory to the Holy Spirit,  
who with them abides as One.  
Let creation always serve them  
while the endless ages run. Amen.

Melody

#### READING

Cf. Ephesians 5:32-33

Marriage is a great foreshadowing; I mean that it refers to Christ and the Church. In any case, each one should love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife for her part showing respect for her husband.

#### RESPONSORY

When marital love is faithful, it is assumed into divine love. (P.T. Alleluia)

When marital love is faithful, it is assumed into divine love. (P.T. Alleluia)

It is enriched by the redemptive love of Christ, and it is assumed into divine love. (P.T. Alleluia)

Glory to the Father...

When marital love is faithful...

#### CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Solid as a foundation built on a rock was God's will in the heart of this holy woman. Your salvation, Lord, was her entire glory. (P.T. Alleluia)

## INTERCESSIONS

God has made an everlasting covenant with his people and will not fail to bless them. Let us give thanks and direct our prayers to him:

*Lord, bless your people.*

Gather into unity all those who have the honor of being the world may believe in Christ, whom you have sent.

Pour out your grace on all families, may they radiate the presence of Christ.

Grant prosperity to our families, friends and neighbors, give them your blessings and eternal life.

Help us to keep your commandments, through your Holy Spirit, may we remain in you, and you in us.

Lord, grant eternal life to all of the faithful departed, let them enter into your heavenly Kingdom.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

Father, you who glorify the humble,  
made Blessed Anna Maria  
an outstanding model of charity  
and a virtuous wife and mother.  
May her prayers help us  
to meet with fortitude the challenges  
of our state of life  
and may her example teach us  
to love you always above all things.  
Grant this...



# AUGUST

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## August 12

BL. INNOCENT XI, POPE

Member of the Trinitarian Third Order

### Optional Memorial

Innocent XI was born in Como, Italy, in 1611. After he earned a degree in civil and canon law in Naples, he moved to Rome, became a cleric, and assumed duties in Vatican Curia. He was made a cardinal and was assigned to the Church of Novara, where he worked as a gentle and good shepherd for those under his care. Summoned to Rome in 1676, he was elected pope and assumed care for the entire Church, guiding it with wisdom and courage during difficult times. He died in 1689 after many hardships and disappointments.

From the common of pastors. The antiphons, psalms, verse and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

### SECOND READING

From a letter of Pope Innocent XI to the Bishop of St. Pontius

(Innocent XI epistulae ad Principes I, Romae 1890, p. 117)

#### *Unity and charity in the pastoral ministry*

We are not unaware of what you are so justly deploring. There is no more urgent or pressing matter weighing on our heart than that of finding some solution and adequate remedy. These are chaotic times, and many have stubborn wills. It seems that the fruits of our efforts will remain mere desires rather than realizable hopes. Nevertheless, we turn our eyes and our hearts to Him who rules the sea and can bring about a calm. Indeed, we feel a profound trust invade our soul when we think that we will be able to accomplish all things in Him who comforts us – not because of ourselves, but because of Him who is working in us.

No matter what happens, we will be attentive and ready in our pastoral office for any occasion to do good. Let everyone understand this about us: although the successful outcome of our undertakings might never materialize, nevertheless, our efforts will not diminish.

In the first place, let us not cease begging the Father of mercies with continual and zealous prayer that he pour out a spirit of humility and Christian charity into the hearts of priests and bishops, who are called to share in our solicitude for the direction of the Church. From such spirit, harmony will ensue among the clergy, which is so necessary to procure the salvation of souls. With such spirit, they will be able to work together amicably to increase God's glory and to successfully cultivate the vineyard of Christ.

They will be able to keep at a distance the deceits of the heretics who, like roving wolves, continue to approach the sheepfold of Christ with new snares. If in labouring so much for a re-establishment of peace in Christendom, we neglect to promote peace among the clergy, who are a most important component of Christian society, we can rightly be accused of failing in our duties.

Following the example and custom of our predecessors, and that of Jesus Christ himself, we conduct ourselves in such a way that we open our paternal heart freely and willingly to anyone who seeks the assistance of the Apostolic See in religious matters. This is what befits the common father of all. And we do so without preferential regard for anyone, unless his or her virtues merits the preferential attention of our pontifical office.

## RESPONSORY

Cf. Acts 20:28; Jeremiah 23:4

Keep watch over the whole flock which the Holy Spirit has given you to guard. Shepherd the Church of God.  
So that they need no longer fear and tremble.

I will appoint shepherds who will shepherd my people.  
So that they need no longer fear and tremble.

## PRAYER

O God,  
you raised up Blessed Innocent  
as shepherd of the whole Church  
to protect the freedom of your people  
and to reform the Christian way of life.  
Through his intercession,  
may we be firm in our faith,  
overcome all adversity,  
and come to eternal glory with Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever end ever.  
Amen.

## August 25

ST. LOUIS, KING

Member of the Trinitarian Third Order

### Memorial

St. Louis was born in 1214 and became king of France when he was only twenty-two years old. He married and became the father of eleven children, who received from him an intense Christian formation. He excelled in penance, prayer and in his love for the poor. While ruling his kingdom, he not only had high regard for peace among his peoples and for the temporal needs of his subjects, but also for their spiritual welfare as well. He undertook two crusades, one in 1248 the other in 1270, to recover the tomb of Christ, and died near Carthage in 1270.

From the common of holy men. The antiphons, psalms, verse and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

### Office of Readings

#### SECOND READING

From St. Louis' "Spiritual Testament" to his son

(Acta Sanctorum Augusti [591868], 546)

*Under a just king a country prospers*

My dearest son, my first instruction is that you should love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your strength. Without this there is no salvation. Keep yourself, my son, from everything that you know displeases God, that is to say, from every mortal sin. You should permit yourself to be tormented by every kind of martyrdom before you would allow yourself to commit a mortal sin.

If the Lord should permit that you suffer some trial, bear it willingly and with gratitude, considering that it has happened for your good and that perhaps you well deserve it. If the Lord bestows upon you any kind of prosperity, thank him humbly and see that you become other reason. Take care not to oppose or offend God by using the very gifts he has given you.

Attend church celebrations with earnestness and devotion. As long as you are in church, be careful not to let your eyes wander and not to speak empty words, but pray to the Lord devoutly, either aloud or in your heart.

Be kindhearted to the poor, the unfortunate and the afflicted. Give them as much help and consolation as you can. Thank God for all of the benefits he has bestowed upon you, that you may be worthy to receive greater ones. Be just to your subjects, swaying neither to right nor left, but holding the line of justice. Always side with the poor rather than with the rich, until you are certain of the truth. See that all your subjects live in justice and peace, but especially those who have ecclesiastical rank and who belong to religious orders.

Be devout and obedient to our mother, the Church of Rome, and the Supreme Pontiff as your spiritual father. Work to remove all sin from your land, particularly blasphemies and heresies.

In conclusion, dearest son, I give you every blessing that a loving father can give a son. May the Three Persons of the Holy Trinity and all the saints protect you from every evil. And may the Lord give you the grace to do his will so that he may be served and honoured through you, that together in the next life, we may come to see him, love him, and praise him unceasingly. Amen.

## RESPONSORY

Cf. 2 Kings 18:3, 5-7

He did what was pleasing in the sight of the Lord; among all kings none could compare with him.  
He was loyal to the Lord and never turned away from him.

The Lord was with him, because he kept his commandments.  
He was loyal...

## PRAYER

Father,  
you raised St. Louis from the cares of earthly rule  
to the glory of your heavenly Kingdom.  
By the help of his prayers,  
may we work in harmony to build the earthly city  
and hope to come one day  
to live with you in your everlasting kingdom.  
Grant this...

# SEPTEMBER

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## September 12

HOLY NAME OF MARY

Memorial

From the common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, except:

### INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship the Lord; he has given to his Mother the name of Mary. Or: We venerate the holy name of Mary; let us adore her Son, Christ the Lord.

Invitatory psalm

### Office of Readings

HYMN

Hail Mary, hope of all the world!

Hail, gentle Virgin blest!

Hail, loving Mother of our God,

on whom his grace does rest.

Hail, Virgin chosen from all time!

In symbols, you were shown:

within the bush which burned unharmed

on Sinai's holy crown.

Hail, rose of pure and sweet delight!

Hail, branch of Jesse's tree!

Your fruit has come to set us free

from our sad slavery.

How awesome is your holiness.

How great your majesty!

Yet Virgin, as our advocate

you show yourself to be.

Through you has truly come the end

to our captivity:

through you the gates of Paradise

open to make us free.

Let us all praise with grateful hearts  
the Holy Trinity:  
for through you, Mary, comes the way  
to life eternally. Amen.

Melody: CM

Ant. 1 How glorious is your name over all the earth, O Mary.

Psalm 24

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things,  
who has not sworn so as to deceive his neighbour.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory?  
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is he, the king of glory?  
He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory.

Ant. 1 How glorious is your name over all the earth, O Mary.

Ant. 2 The name of Mary is a refuge in distress to all who call upon it.

#### Psalm 46

God is for us a refuge and strength,  
a helper close at hand, in time of distress:  
so we shall not fear though the earth should rock,  
though the mountains fall into the depths of the sea,  
even though its waters rage and foam,  
even though the mountains be shaken by its waves.

The Lord of hosts is with us:  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

The waters of a river give joy to God's city,  
the holy place where the Most High dwells.  
God is within, it cannot be shaken;  
God will help it at the dawning of the day.  
Nations are in tumult, kingdoms are shaken:  
he lifts his voice, the earth shrinks away.

The Lord of hosts is with us:  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come, consider the works of the Lord,  
the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth.  
He puts an end to wars over all the earth;  
the bow he breaks, the spear he snaps.  
He burns the shields with fire.  
"Be still and know that I am God,  
Supreme among the nations, supreme on the earth!"

The Lord of hosts is with us:  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Ant. 2 The name of Mary is a refuge in distress to all who call upon it.

Ant. 3 O Mary, city of God, glorious things are said of your holy name.

#### Psalm 87

On the holy mountain is his city  
cherished by the Lord.

The Lord prefers the gates of Zion  
to all Jacob's dwellings.

Of you are told glorious things,  
O city of God!

"Babylon and Egypt I will count  
among those who know me;  
Philistia, Tyre, Ethiopia,  
these will be her children  
and Zion shall be called "Mother"  
for all shall be her children".

It is he, the Lord Most High,  
who gives each his place.  
In his register of peoples he writes:  
"These are her children",  
and while they dance they will sing:  
"In you all find their home".

Ant. 3 O Mary, city of God, glorious things are said of your holy name.

The Lord has made known the holy name of Mary.  
And he has revealed the power of that name to all nations.

#### FIRST READING

From the Book of Judith

13:18-20; 14:7; 16:13-15

*The Lord exalted the name of Mary*

"Blessed are you, daughter, by the Most High God, above all the women on earth; and blessed be the Lord God, the creator of heaven and earth, who guided your blow at the head of the chief of our enemies. Your deed of hope will never be forgotten by those who tell of the might of God. May God make this redound to



your everlasting honor, rewarding you with blessings, because you risked your life when your people were being oppressed, and you averted our disaster, walking uprightly before our God”.

Blessed are you in every tent of Judah; and in every foreign nation, all who hear of you will be struck with terror.

O Lord, great are you and glorious, wonderful in power and unsurpassable. Let your every creature serve you; for you spoke, and they were made, you sent forth your Spirit, and they were created; no one can resist your word. The mountains to their bases, and the seas, are shaken; the rocks, like wax, melt before your glance. But to those who fear you, you are very merciful.

## RESPONSORY

Cf. Judith 14:7

Blessed are you by the Lord your God in every tent of Judah.

In every foreign nation, all who hear of you will be struck with awe.

You are the glory of Jerusalem, the surpassing joy of Israel; you, O Mary, are the splendid honor of our people.

In every foreign nation...

## SECOND READING

From a homily by St. Bernard of Clairvaux

(Homilia 2 super “Missus est”: PL 183, 61-71)

*Call on Mary whose name means « Star of the Sea »*

The Gospel says: “And the virgin’s name was Mary”. We should speak a little this name which is said to mean “star of the sea”. It is most fitting for the Virgin Mother who may well be compared to a star; for, as a star beams forth its rays without any diminution of its own luster, so, too, the Virgin gave birth to a Son with no loss to her virginity. The departing rays do not lessen the star’s brightness, nor Mary’s Son her inviolate maidenhood. She is, therefore, that noble star risen from Jacob, whose rays give light to the whole world, whose splendour shines in the heavens and penetrates to the lowest places of the earth. She gives light to the earth and warmth to minds more than to bodies. She encourages virtues and stamps out vices. She is, therefore, that illustrious and noble star raised by nature above the wide sea of life. She shines with merits, she enlightens with her example.

You, all of you, who are cast about upon the sea of time, amidst storms and tempests, more than those who walk on life’s solid ground, keep your eyes fixed on the brightness of that star if you do not wish to be overwhelmed by those storms. If the winds of temptation arise, if you run aground on the reefs of affliction, look to the star, call upon Mary. If you are upset by the immensity of your sins, confused by the corruption of your conscience, terrified by the thought of judgement, overtaken by great sadness or deep despair, think of Mary.

In danger, anguish and doubt, think of Mary, call upon Mary. Do not let her name leave your lips nor your heart. In order to obtain the help of her prayers, do not abandon the company of her presence. Following her, you will not be lost; calling on her, you will not despair; thinking of her, you will not err; holding to her, you will not fall. Under her protection, you will not fear; under her guidance, you will succeed, so that you may experience for yourself how fittingly it was said, “and the Virgin’s name was Mary”.

## RESPONSORY

Let us honor the holy and noble name of Mary.  
For the Virgin brought forth salvation for the world.

Let the heavens and the earth rejoice in her name.  
For the Virgin...

## PRAYER

God of heaven and earth,  
your Son, Jesus the Lord,  
while dying on the altar of the cross,  
chose Mary, his mother, to be our mother also.  
Grant that we  
who entrust ourselves to her maternal care  
may always experience her protection  
when we call upon her name.  
We ask this...

## Morning Prayer

### HYMN

O Virgin Mother of our God,  
you are the daughter of your Son,  
you are the highest work of God,  
yet humblest of all creation.

The mystery hidden from the start  
fulfilment reached through you at last.  
You are the honor of our race  
and our true glory unsurpassed.

A living temple you became,  
a noble dwelling all adorned,  
so that the Most High Fashioner  
was in your fashioned and man born.

In your pure womb the Son of God  
became a living flame of love;

and through His warmth on earth appeared  
for man the fruits of heaven above.

May glory now to God ascend,  
to Father and to Paraclete;  
and to your Son be endless praise,  
who robed you in His grace replete.

Melody: LM

Ant. 1 With joyful voices, praise the holy name of Mary.

Psalms and canticle from Sunday, Week I

Ant. 2 Saints in heaven and righteous people on earth, praise the holy name of Mary.

Ant. 3 Over all the earth, O Mary, hymns of praise are sung to your name.

#### READING

Judith 13:18b, 19, 20a

Blessed are you, daughter, by the Most High God, above all the women on earth; may God make this  
redound to your everlasting honor. Your deeds of hope ill never be forgotten by those who tell of the might  
of God.

#### RESPONSORY

May my mouth be filled with your praise, O Mary.  
May my mouth be filled with your praise, O Mary.

May I sing the glory of your holy name.  
With your praise, O Mary.

Glory to the Father...  
May my mouth be filled...

#### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. Blessed be God who gave to Mary a name which shines as a light on those who sit in darkness and, as  
the star of the sea, guides those who strive to attain the haven of your peace.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us glorify our Saviour, who chose the Virgin Mary to be his Mother. Let us ask him:

*May your Mother intercede for us, Lord.*

Sun of Justice, the Immaculate Virgin Mary was the white dawn announcing your easing, grant that we may always live in the light of your coming.

Eternal Word, you chose Mary as the uncorrupted ark of your dwelling place, free us from the corruption of sin.

Saviour of all peoples, your Mother stood at the foot of your cross, grant through her intercession, that we might rejoice to share in your passion.

With ultimate generosity and love, you gave Mary as a mother to your beloved discipline, help us to live as worthy children of so noble a mother.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

God of heaven and earth,  
your Son, Jesus the Lord,  
while dying on the altar of the cross,  
chose Mary, his mother, to be our mother also.  
Grant that we  
who entrust ourselves to her maternal care  
may always experience her protection  
when we call upon her name.  
We ask this...

## Daytime Prayer

The antiphons and psalms are taken from the current weekday.

Ant. Your name will be glorified for ever, O Mary.

## READING

Cf. Ezekiel 16:14

Your name was renowned among the nations for your beauty, perfect as it was, because of my splendour which I had bestowed on you, says the Lord God.

I will rejoice and be glad in you, Mary.

I will sing hymns of praise to your name.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## Evening Prayer

### HYMN

Radiant as a star in heaven,  
you reflect the love of God:  
Virgin Mother of our Saviour,  
source of joy and life unflawed,  
living fountain for all mortals  
giving hope to those downtrod.

Honored Lady, in the Kingdom,  
standing by your Son most high,  
you are raised above creation,  
yet to us you still draw nigh.  
You guide all the faithful safely,  
and their prayers to yours ally.

In your kindness, as a helper,  
you are swift to hear each call.  
Yet, whene'er you see one needy,  
sooner than it does befall,  
you with love provide the answer,  
your grace can his need forestall.

In you is God's mercy treasured,  
in you're his magnificence.  
You embody all his workings,  
all his loving providence.  
By your total self-oblation,  
our salvation did commence.

Glory be to God the Father,  
and the Holy Paraclete.  
Glory be to God's Son given,  
who in you took up his seat.  
For as with a wondrous garment,  
He robed you in grace replete. Amen.

Melody

Ant. 1 The angel Gabriel was sent to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, and the virgin's name was Mary.

Psalm 122

I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
"Let us go to God's house".  
And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city  
Strongly compact.  
It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,  
there to praise the Lord's name.  
There were set the thrones of judgement  
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:  
"Peace be to your homes!  
May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, please!"

For love of my brethren and friends  
I say: "Peace upon you!"  
For love of the house of the Lord  
I will ask for your good.

Ant. 1 The angel Gabriel was sent to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, and the virgin's name was Mary.

Ant. 2 My lips will praise you, O Mary, because your name is sweeter to my mouth than honey.

#### Psalm 127

If the Lord does not build the house,  
in vain do its builders labor;  
if the Lord does not watch over the city,  
in vain does the watchman keep vigil.

In vain is your earlier rising,  
your going later to rest,  
you who toil for the bread you eat:  
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.

Truly sons are a gift from the Lord,  
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.  
Indeed the sons of youth  
are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

O the happiness of the man  
who has filled his quiver with these arrows!  
He will have no cause for shame  
when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.

Ant. 2 My lips will praise you, O Mary, because your name is sweeter to my mouth than honey.

Ant. 3 Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women.

#### Canticle                      Ephesians 1:3-10

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

Ant. 3 Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women.

## READING

Acts 1:14

Together they devoted themselves to constant prayer. There were some women in their company, and Mary, the mother of Jesus.

## RESPONSORY

The name of Mary is like a shining star.  
The name of Mary is like a shining star.

She gives light to sinners and directs them to the haven of salvation.  
Like a shining star.



Glory to the Father...

The name of Mary...

### CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. The gentle name of Mary consoles the brokenhearted, relieves the afflicted and lifts up the fallen.

### INTERCESSIONS

Let us praise God our almighty Father, who wished that Mary, his Son's mother, be celebrated by each generation. Now in need we ask:

*Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.*

O God, worker of miracles, you made the Immaculate Virgin Mary share body and soul in your Son's glory in heaven, direct the hearts of your children to that same glory.

You made Mary our mother. Through her intercession grant strength to the weak, comfort to the sorrowing, pardon to sinners, salvation and peace to all.

You made Mary full of grace, grant all people the joyful abundance of your grace.

Make your Church of one mind and one heart in love, and help all believers be one in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus.

You crowned Mary queen of heaven, may all the dead rejoice in your kingdom with the saints for ever.

Our Father...

### PRAYER

God of heaven and earth,  
your Son, Jesus the Lord,  
while dying on the altar of the cross,  
chose Mary, his mother, to be our mother also.

Grant that we  
who entrust ourselves to her maternal care  
may always experience her protection  
when we call upon her name.  
We ask this...

## September 24

BL. MARK CRIADO, PRIEST AND MARTYR

### Memorial

Born in Andujar, Spain, around the year 1522, he joined the Order of the Most Holy Trinity and was assigned to the apostolate of preaching. He set out for the provinces of Almeria and Granada, where he zealously preached the Gospel to Moors as well as to Christians. Captured by the Moors, he died a martyr near the town of La Peza in 1569.

From the common of one martyr. The antiphons, psalms, verse and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

### INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship Christ the Lord; through him we have access to the Father in the Holy Spirit.

Invitatory psalm

### Office of Readings

#### SECOND READING

From the works of John Baptist of the Conception  
(Obras, Roma 1830: Tom I, cap. 54, pp. 184-185)

*The Holy Ones of God are called martyrs*

Although it is true that all saints are holy ones of God, the martyrs are called "the holy ones of God" in a very special way. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his holy ones". It is evident that David is here speaking of the death of martyrs from the words of the same psalm: "I will take up the chalice of salvation". Indeed, by saying: "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his holy ones", David infers that God attaches a special quality to the death of the martyrs and that He honors and rewards them in a special way. It is also clear that the honor and excellence of martyrs consist precisely in their deaths. The glory of holy lives they lived than in their deaths. Death is natural and common to everyone: however, the holy lives of confessors are not natural nor common to all – rather they are supernatural and divine, and for such reason, they are rewarded with the crown of glory. By contrast, the greatness of martyrs centers in their deaths much more than in their lives. Their laying down their lives for God is the greatest act of all, as the Redeemer himself said: "There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends".

Thus David, by making mention of death, not of life, in this text, and by qualifying such death as precious in the sight of God, clearly shows that he is speaking only of martyrs, whom he calls the holy ones of God.

It is not David alone who honors the martyrs with this title; the Church itself, speaking in the name of God, refers to them in this way: "For you, my holy ones, bitter conflict was your lot in the days of your mortal lives. Now will I grant you the reward you deserve for your sufferings". And elsewhere, "Your holy ones, O Lord, followed a wonderful path, keeping your commandments". And the Church has other such sayings.

There is a reason why the martyrs are called the holy ones of God in a special way. Just as we call those whom the Church canonizes the "holy ones of the Church", and those whom a certain Pope has canonized

the "saints" of that Pope, so too, it is necessary to have as "the holy ones of God" those whom God has designated as such through these words of his Son: "There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends". It is as though Jesus had said that we must not expect anything greater or more heroic of a man than that he should lay down his life for his friends. And this is what the holy martyrs have done. By these very words, then, God has canonized those who have laid down their lives for him. Therefore, they are to be called "holy ones of God".

## RESPONSORY

1 John 3:16, 14

The way that we came to understand love was that he laid down his life for us.

We, too, must lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers and sisters.

We, too, must lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

Or:

From a treatise by St. Peter Damian, bishop

(cap. 3: PL 145, 735-736)

*Place me as a seal on your heart*

Whenever anyone embraces Christ in the interior of his heart with a steadfast love, whenever anyone meditates on the mystery of his passion with the idea of imitating it, Christ becomes a kind of a sachet of myrrh which, according to the words of Holy Scripture, will rest on his heart. Thus, the bridegroom says to the bride, "Set me as a seal on your heart, as a seal on your arm".

Often, when we want to keep something in mind which we do not want to forget, we tie something around our finger or our arm. Whenever we see this sign, the object comes to mind and is in no danger of being forgotten. If someone appears to love Christ, but neglects to do good works, he is like a person who has put the seal of Christ in his heart, but not on his arm. If someone, however, remains cold and unkindled by the fire of divine love, but performs good works, he is like a person who has put the seal of holiness on his arm, but does not manifest the seal of Christ on his heart. In order that this holy soul be sealed by the Spirit of Christ in both places, he must put the seal of Christ on his heart so that he may burn with the fire of his love from the very depth of his being. Then, he must put it also on his arm that he may persist in doing good works.

Paul put Jesus as a seal on his body as well as his arm when he said: "I bear the wounds of Jesus in my body". He put Jesus as a seal on his heart when, in another place, full of thanksgiving, he proclaimed: "God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world has been crucified to me and I unto the world". Indeed, St. Paul gloried in Christ Jesus Crucified, whose stigmata were impressed on his body and whose seal he bore in his heart.

The heavenly Bridegroom, on his part, places each of his chosen ones as a seal on himself and looks upon them with divine satisfaction. This is what God promised to Zerubbabel, a prince of Judah, when He said: "On that day, I will take you, Zerubbabel, my servant, and I will set you as a signet ring in my sight".

## RESPONSORY

2 Tim 4:7-8; see Phil 3:8-10

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.  
From now on a merited crown awaits me.

I have come to rate all as loss that I may know Christ and share in his sufferings by being formed into the pattern of his death.  
From now on a merited crown awaits me.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer.

## Morning Prayer

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. My soul will praise the Lord until and unto death.

PRAYER

All-powerful and ever-living God,  
you made your martyr Mark Criado  
a special herald of your word.  
Through his prayers  
may we witness in our way of life  
to the faith we hold in our hearts.  
Grant this...

## Evening Prayer

### CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Whoever acknowledges me before all people, I will acknowledge him before my Father.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer.

## **September 28**

ST. SIMON DE ROJAS, PRIEST

### **Memorial**

St. Simon was born in Valladolid, Spain, around the year 1552. Steeped in piety from childhood, he joined the Order of the Most Holy Trinity, where he spent almost his whole life teaching or governing the friars. At the same time, he was very active in apostolate. He was also engaged in giving spiritual direction, in doing charitable works and in promoting divine worship, especially the devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. He died on September 24, 1624. Pope John Paul II canonized him on July 3, 1988.

From the common of pastors. The antiphons, psalms, verse and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

### **INVITATORY**

Ant. Come, let us worship Christ, the Lord; through him we have access to the Father in the Holy Spirit.

Invitatory psalm

### **Office of Reading**

HYMN

We praise the name of Simon blest,  
who sits enthroned in heaven's light;  
and there he lends a gracious ear  
to those in prayer who seek his might.

When as a child, he learned to speak,  
he showed the grace which in him stirred;  
he greets the Mother of our God  
with Gabriel's own blessed word.

Advised by heaven's call he sought  
the Order of the Trinity,  
which was acclaimed by happy throngs  
delivered from captivity.

He lived the spirit of the Rule,  
by ransoming those bound in chains;  
and by his pious words he freed  
those he instructed from their pains.

Praise, honor, and all thanks to You,  
O Most High, sov'reign Trinity:  
For countless blessings You bestow  
Upon Your people evermore. Amen.

Melody: LM

## SECOND READING

From "A Treatise on Prayer and Its Glories" by St. Simon de Rojas  
(Buenos Aires 1939, pars secunda, cap. 14, p. 149)

*The fruit of prayer is a humble soul*

Humility has always been, is, and will always be a very powerful force both in heaven and on earth. We can see that not only in the house of God, which is the Church, are the humble exalted, but also in the world and among the worldly powerful. This outstanding virtue is appreciated by the virtuous, but it is also valued by the wicked, cultivated by the humble and esteemed by the ambitious who lavish praises on a humble person, but loathe an arrogant one.

Thus, St. Bernard teaches that the surpassing value of this virtue consists in the fact that it makes a person acceptable to the proud, to the angels and to God himself. Thus, too, in the writings of St. Thomas, this virtue is given the highest place in his list of virtues.

Whoever is not practicing prayer should dismiss all hope of ever acquiring humility. It is in prayer that God teaches the soul solid humility. As St. Paul affirms, in prayer is found the way by which the eternal Father gives us knowledge of his beloved and humble Son, who is his exact mirror and to whom we should conform ourselves. Just as, when a mirror is placed before you, you discover the flaws of your face, so, too, in prayer and meditation on Our Lord Jesus Christ, you will see your true self, you will humble yourself and you will think less of yourself than your vanity demands. Kneeling and seeing themselves in similar mirrors: the holy patriarch Abraham declared himself to be dust and ashes; Job called himself burnt linen; David, a worm and not a man. What is more than all this, however, is that the most pure Queen of heaven, who was called the Mother of God by the angel, saw herself in this clear mirror and called herself the handmaid of the Lord.

Thus, it can be seen that if you neglect prayer, you cannot know yourself. If you want to know yourself, your origins, your true profile, and if you wish to acquire true humility, you must climb up to the mountain of prayer. From there you will see that kings and kingdoms amount to nothing. From such height the prophet Isaiah cried out: "All mankind is grass, and all their glory like the flowers of the field", and Solomon shouted to the whole world: "Vanity of vanities; all things are vanity". Life is vain; vain are beauty, clothing, flowers, honors and all those who desire these things.

## RESPONSORY

Cf. John 14:13; Col 4:2

Whatever you ask the Father in my name, I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in his Son.

Pray with perseverance, be attentive to prayer, and pray in a spirit of thanksgiving, so that the Father...

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## **Morning Prayer**

### HYMN

Let us on earth the praises  
of this servant of the Lord:  
For his life was true and faithful,  
worthy of great reward.  
For on earth he sang the glory  
of the Trinity's renown;  
and by bearing holy witness,  
he received the promised crown.

He withstood all opposition  
and renounced the passing lure  
of the tempting wealth and fortune  
that the goods of earth procure.  
He remained, though poor and needy,  
wealthy for eternity,  
for he had the love and mercy  
of the Holy Trinity.

Abstaining from worldly honors  
and renouncing passing things,  
he has placed his heart in heaven  
and his soul was granted wings.  
In the fullness of the Kingdom  
did he seek his pleasure new;  
and freed from all earthly longing,  
God became his treasure true.

Blessed man now hear our prayers  
lend your ear in charity;  
for you are a holy member  
of our own community.  
Grant us peace of soul and comfort;  
keep us free from pain and strife,  
as we follow in your footsteps  
In the way that leads to life.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing

to the Holy Trinity.  
May the praises of all ages  
come to you, O One in Three.  
May you grant the gift of heaven  
to all those who seek your face:  
for to those who search sincerely,  
You become the saving grace. Amen.

Melody

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. Blessed Simon was an aid to the captive and the poor, a consolation to the sad and afflicted.

### PRAYER

Father,  
your love filled the heart of Saint Simon  
and manifested itself in his special devotion  
to the holy Mother of your Son,  
and in his great love for the less fortunate.  
Through his prayers, grant that we be inflamed  
with the same devotion and love, and that,  
under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
we may always enjoy your mercy and love.  
We ask this...

### Evening Prayer

#### HYMN

Renouncing passing earthly life,  
enkindled by the fire of love,  
the blessed Simon turned to prayer  
and sought the will of God above.

By fasting, vigils, penitence,  
he trained his body for the Lord.  
Repentance was his rule of life:  
in him God's image was restored.



As teacher he was sent to count  
to from the children of the king.  
By his example and his words,  
virtue was taught in everything.

Praise, honor, and all thanks to you,  
O Most High, sov'reign Trinity:  
for countless blessings you bestow  
upon Your people evermore. Amen.

Melody: LM

### CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. With great praise, St. Simon exalted Mary, the Mother of God, and glorified her holy name.

### PRAYER

Father,  
your love filled the heart of Saint Simon  
and manifested itself in his special devotion  
to the holy Mother of your Son,  
and in his great love for the less fortunate.  
Through his prayers, grant that we be inflamed  
With the same devotion and love, and that,  
under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
we may always enjoy your mercy and love.  
We ask this...

# OCTOBER

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**October 8**

**OUR LADY OF GOOD REMEDY**

Principal Patroness of the Order

Solemnity

**Evening Prayer I**

HYMN

O Mary, hope of faithful hearts,  
raise up those fallen down.

From slavery to Satan's power  
free those who are your own.

The saddened seek your helping hand,  
the suffering call your name;  
and all who on the earth do dwell,  
your patronage acclaim.

A mother's care you manifest,  
and help to all extend:  
lift us above life's threatening storms  
by your protecting hand.

Regard your suppliants' prayers and tears,  
O Mother, of mercy well,  
protect us in our struggles here  
for you have conquered hell.

Our fathers placed beneath your care  
our whole community;  
protect it, make it thrive and grow  
throughout eternity.

Stir up your love in every heart,  
O blessed Trinity:  
and as our fathers did decree,  
she shall our model be. Amen.

Melody: CM

Ant. 1 Virgin Mary, you are the vessel of grace and glory; you are temple of the Holy Trinity.

Psalm 113

Praise, O servants of the Lord,  
praise the name of the Lord!  
May the name of the Lord be blessed  
both now and for evermore!  
From the rising of the sun to its setting  
praised be the name of the Lord!

High above all nations is the Lord,  
above the heavens his glory.  
Who is like the Lord, our God,  
who has risen on high to his throne  
yet stoops from the heights to look down,  
to look down upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,  
from his misery he raises the poor  
to set him in the company of princes,  
yes, with the princes of his people.  
To the childless wife he gives a home  
And gladdens her heart with children.

Ant. 1 Virgin Mary, you are the vessel of grace and glory; you are temple of the Holy Trinity.

Ant. 2 Mary brought forth Jesus, she bore our Remedy, she brought forth our salvation.

Psalm 147:12-20

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!  
Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates,  
he has blessed the children within you.  
He established peace on your borders,  
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth  
and swiftly runs his command.  
He showers down snow white as wool,  
he scatters hoar-frost like ashes.

He hurls down hailstones like crumbs.  
The waters are frozen at his touch;  
he sends forth his word and it melts them:  
at the breath of his mouth the waters flow.

He makes his word known to Jacob,  
to Israel his laws and decrees.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his decrees.

Ant. 2 Mary brought forth Jesus, she bore our Remedy, she brought forth our salvation.

Ant. 3 You are our protection, you are our refuge, you are our mother of remedy, O Mary.

Canticle                      Ephesians 1:3-10

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 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 favour  
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 favour 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 the earth.

Ant. 3 You are our protection, you are our refuge, you are our mother of remedy, O Mary.

#### READING

Galatians 4:4-5

But when the designated time had come, God sent forth his Son born of a woman, born under the law, to deliver from the law those who were subjected to it, so that we might receive our status as adopted children.

#### RESPONSORY

You are the fullness of the graces of the Trinity, Most Holy Virgin.  
You are the fullness of the graces of the Trinity, Most Holy Virgin.

Let us share in your graces,  
Most Holy Virgin.

Glory to the Father...  
You are the fullness...

#### CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Hail, daughter of God the Father! Hail, Mother of God the Son! Hail, Spouse of the Holy Spirit! Sacred Vessel of the Holy Trinity.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us extol God, the almighty Father, with great praises, for he has given us Mary, the Mother of his Son and the Spouse of the Holy Spirit, to be our patroness and remedy. And so we pray:

*Lord, keep us under Mary's protection*

You brought a remedy to the world through Mary; at her intercession, grant healing to the afflicted, consolation to the sorrowful, forgiveness to sinners, and peace and salvation to all.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, may your Church be of one heart and one mind, may the faithful devote themselves to constant prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

You made Mary our Mother, may we experience her maternal love.

You filled your servant Mary with your grace, send your Spirit upon our Order and fill us with your grace.

You crowned Mary as Queen of heaven, may all the dead rejoice for ever in your Kingdom with Mary and the whole company of your saints.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

God,  
you brought a remedy to the world  
through the glorious Virgin Mary.  
May we who are invoking her protection  
be aided in all our necessities  
and obtain eternal happiness.  
Grant this...

## INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship Christ the Lord; for he has given us Mary as our Mother and Remedy

Invitatory psalm

## Office of Readings

### HYMN

O Mary, you accept our prayers  
and lovingly grant remedy;  
we ask you with humility:  
remain with us continually.

Be with us if we fall in sin  
and feel its cruel captivity:  
break all the bonds which hold us chained,  
and cleanse our hearts' iniquity.

Help us when love is growing cold  
and worldly lures lead us astray;  
let heaven shine within our hearts  
lest we forget salvation's way.

Assist us in our sufferings,  
when body, soul or spirit fail.  
Bring peace and calm into our lives  
until the light of heav'n prevail.

Be with your children at death's hour;  
protect them in your great pity;  
that with your aid, they may enjoy  
rewards throughout eternity.

With grateful hearts we sing your praise  
With hymns to you, blest Trinity:  
For giving us in all our needs  
The Virgin as a remedy. Amen.

Melody: LM

Ant. 1 Hail, Mary, delight of the Father! Through you, the knowledge of God has reached all the ends of the earth.

Psalm 24

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things,  
who has not sworn so as to deceive his neighbour.

He shall receive blessing from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory?  
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is he, the king of glory?  
He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory.

Ant.1 Hail, Mary, delight of the Father! Through you, the knowledge of God has reached all the ends of the earth.

Ant. 2 Hail, Mary, bearer of the Son! He has become incarnate through you.



Psalm 46

God is for us a refuge and strength,  
a helper close at hand, in time of distress:  
so we shall not fear though the earth should rock,  
though the mountains fall into the depths of the sea,  
even though its waters rage and foam,  
even though the mountains be shaken by its waves.

The Lord of hosts is with us:  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

The waters of a river give joy to God's city,  
the holy place where the Most High dwells.  
God is within, it cannot be shaken;  
God will are in tumult, kingdoms are shaken:  
He lifts his voice, the earth shrinks away.

The Lord of hosts is with us:  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come, consider the works of the Lord,  
the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth.  
He puts an end to wars over all the earth;  
the bow he breaks, the spear he snaps.  
He burns the shields with fire.  
"Be still and know that I am God,  
supreme among the nations, supreme on the earth!"

The Lord of hosts is with us:  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Ant. 2 Hail, Mary, bearer of the Son! He has become incarnate through you.  
Ant. 3 Hail, Mary, wondrous temple of the Holy Spirit!

Psalm 87

On the holy mountain is his city  
cherished by the Lord.  
The Lord prefers the gates of Zion

to all Jacob's dwellings.  
Of you are told glorious things,  
O city of God!

"Babylon and Egypt I will count  
among those who know me;  
Philistia, Tyre, Ethiopia,  
these will be her children  
and Zion shall be called 'Mother'  
for all shall be her children".

It is he, the Lord Most High,  
who gives each his place.  
In his register of peoples he writes:  
"These are her children",  
and while they dance they will sing:  
"In you all find their home".

Ant. 3 Hail, Mary, wondrous temple of the Holy Spirit!

You are the hope in which we trust.  
You are the Patroness to whom we run for help.

### FIRST READING

From the letter of Paul to the Galatians

3:22; 4:7

*Through faith are children and heirs of God*

Scripture has locked all things in under the constraint of sin. Why? So that the promise might be fulfilled in those who believe, in consequence of faith in Jesus Christ. Before faith came we were under constraint of the law, locked in until the faith that was coming should be revealed. In other words, the law was our monitor until Christ came to bring about our justification through faith. But now that faith is here, we are no longer in the monitor's charge. Each one of you is a son of God because of your faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who have been baptized into Christ Jesus. All of you who have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with him. There does not exist among you Jew or Greek, slave of freeman, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus. Furthermore, if you belong to Christ you are the descendants of Abraham, which means you inherit all that was promised.

Brothers, as long as a designated heir is not of age, his condition is no different from that of a slave, even though in name he is master of all his possessions; for he is under the supervision of guardians and administrators until the rime set by his father. In the same way, while we were not yet of age, we were like slaves subordinated to the elements of the world; but when the designated time had come, God sent forth his Son born of a woman, born under the law, to deliver from the law those who were subjected to it, so that we might receive our status as adopted sons. The proof that you are sons is the fact that God has sent

forth into our hearts the spirit of his Son which cries out "Abba!" ("Father!"). You are not no longer a slave but a son! And the fact that you are a son makes you an heir, by God's design.

## RESPONSORY

Holy Mary, you are the pure tabernacle of the Incarnate Word, the cherished daughter of the Most High Father, the beloved Spouse of the Holy Spirit.

You are the most noble servant of the Holy Trinity.

Mary is established in humility, built on hope, adorned with charity.

You are the most noble servant of the Holy Trinity.

Or:

From the letter of Paul to the Romans

5:12-21

*Where sin abounded, grace has abounded all the more*

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world and with sin death, death thus coming to all men inasmuch as all sinned – before the law there was sin in the world, even though sin is not imputed when there is no law – I say, from Adam to Moses death reigned, even over those who had not sinned by breaking a precept as did Adam, that type of the man to come.

But the gift is not like the offense. For if by the offense of the one man all died, much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound for all. The gift is entirely different from the sin committed by the one man. In the first case, the sentence followed upon one offense and brought condemnation, but in the second, the gift came after many offenses and brought acquittal. If death began its reign through one man because of his offense, much more shall those who receive the overflowing grace and gift of justice live and reign through the one man, Jesus Christ.

To sum up, then: just as a single offense brought condemnation to all men, a single righteous act brought all men acquittal and life. Just as through one man's disobedience all shall become just.

The law came in order to increase offenses; but despite the increase of sin, grace has far surpassed it, so that, as sin reigned through death, grace may reign by way of justice leading to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## RESPONSORY

Happy are you, holy Virgin Mary, most worthy of all praise.

For Christ our God, the sun of justice, has risen from you; through him we have been saved and redeemed.

You are the source of salvation and grace, the harbour of peace and mercy.

For Christ our God...

## SECOND READING

From the Apostolic Letter "Sacred Vessel of the Holy Trinity" by Pope John XXIII  
(AAS LIII [1961] 602-604)

*Mary, the Patroness of the Order of the Most Holy Trinity*

The Trinitarian religious whose primary duties are to worship the Triune God with a special devotion, to promote this devotion and to aid the needy and those who suffer by performing works of mercy, have honoured the Virgin Mary, the Sacred Vessel of the Holy Trinity, under the title of "Mother of Good Remedy" from the very beginnings of their Order.

Indeed, St. John De Matha, their founder and lawgiver, had a great love for the Virgin Mother of God. He founded and spread this holy Order under her protection and bequeathed to his sons and daughters the heritage of a strong Marian devotion. A singular love for the Mother of God has flourished among these religious throughout the ages, for she continually healed the sufferings of her suppliants; indeed, it still flourishes among them up to the present day.

The General Chapter of 1959, aware that such traditional devotion had become even stronger in the Order, decided to express the desire of all religious of the Order and to petition the Apostolic See that the glorious Virgin Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Good Remedy, be declared the principal, heavenly Patroness of the Trinitarian Order.

We have willingly decided to grant this request, hoping that the friars of the Order will be inflamed to honor the Virgin Mary under this title with an ever more ardent love. We also trust that they, moved by her example, will more intensely commit themselves to bring relief and remedy to the less fortunate.

Therefore, after consulting with the Sacred Congregation of Rites, with full knowledge and mature deliberation, and with the fullness of our apostolic authority, by virtue of this document, we designate and declare the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of Good Remedy, to be forever the heavenly, principal Patroness of the whole Order of the Most Holy Trinity, along with St. Agnes, virgin and martyr. The celebration of Our Lady of Good Remedy is to be given all the liturgical honors and privileges which are fittingly accorded to the patrons of religious Orders and Congregations; moreover, we grant the added faculty of celebrating her feast each year on October 8.

## RESPONSORY

Most holy Virgin, we come to you in times of danger and need.

You are our protection, you are our refuge, you are our Mother of Remedy.

You are the hope in which we trust; you are the Patroness to whom we run for help.

You are our protection...

HYMN Te Deum

## PRAYER

God,  
you brought a remedy to humankind  
through the glorious Virgin Mary.  
May we who are invoking her protection  
be aided in all our necessities  
and obtain eternal happiness.  
Grant this...

## **Morning Prayer**

### HYMN

O Mother of our Order blest,  
placed as our patron from the start,  
with heartfelt thanks we sing your praise  
for all the blessings you impart.

Since our lips falter in this task,  
unworthy sinners, we confess:  
let heaven's host sing hymns of praise  
while we on earth your name now bless.

May those reborn through your Son's blood,  
O Virgin, never yield to sin;  
nor let them ever be misled  
by the false webs the world does spin.

Watch over us who pray to you,  
protect our whole community:  
shield us from sin, for we are yours,  
entrusted by the Trinity.

May we rejoice in a clean heart,  
grant us to live in purity;  
by your right hand remove from us  
all that impedes fidelity.

With grateful hearts we sing your praise  
with hymns to you, blest Trinity:  
for giving us in all our needs  
the Virgin as a remedy. Amen.

Melody: LM

Ant. 1 Let every tongue confess you as the Mother of God, the Spouse of the Holy Spirit, and the beloved daughter of God the Father.

Psalms and canticle from Sunday, Week I

Ant. 2 The Father praises you because of your chastity; the Son, because of your humility; the Holy Spirit, because of your deep faith.

Ant. 3 You are the fullness of the graces of the Trinity, O Mary. Help us to share in your grace.

#### READING

Wisdom 10:13, 17

Wisdom did not abandon the just man when he was sold, but delivered him from sin. She gave the holy ones the recompense of their labours, conducted them by a wondrous road, and became a shelter for them by day and a starry flame by night.

#### RESPONSORY

Mother of mercy, grant us the help of your grace.

Mother of mercy, grant us the help of your grace.

Bring relief and remedy to our miseries.

Grant us the help of your grace.

Glory to the Father...

Mother of mercy...

#### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. O Mary, open your heart to all and bestow from the fullness of your mercy: redemption to the slave, health to sick, comfort to the afflicted, pardon to the sinner, grace to the just, joy to the angels.

## INTERCESSIONS

As suppliants, let us direct our prayer to the Triune God who wants us to celebrate Mary as the Daughter of the Father, the Mother of the Son, and the Spouse of the Holy Spirit:

*Mother of Good Remedy, intercede for us.*

You gave Mary to the world as a bright dawn and star of the sea, may we always walk in the light of her virtues.

You made Mary your dwelling place and tabernacle, prepare our hearts to welcome you as she received you.

You lift up the lowly and fill the hungry with good things, raise up the fallen; come to the aid of the needy; break the bonds of captives.

You bought peace, joy, and remedy to the world through Mary, have mercy on all those await your redemption and mercy.

You made Mary the Mother and Patroness of our Order, may we all live a life worthy of our calling and make every effort to preserve the unity which has the Spirit as its origin and peace as its binding force.

Our father...

## PRAYER

God,  
you brought a remedy to the world  
through the glorious Virgin Mary.  
May we who are invoking her protection  
be aided in all our necessities  
and obtain eternal happiness.  
Grant this...

## Daytime Prayer

Complementary Psalmody.

## Midmorning

Ant. We call upon your prompt remedy and saving protection in all our needs.

**READING**

Baruch 5:3-4

For God will show all the earth your splendour: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship.

You are the source of salvation and all grace.

You are the harbour of peace and mercy.

**Midday**

Ant. O Virgin Mary, you are the help and remedy of all who take refuge under your protection.

**READING**

Wisdom 10:10

She, when the just man fled from his brother's anger, guided him in direct ways, showed him the kingdom of God and gave him knowledge of holy things; she prospered him in his labours and made abundant the fruit of his works.

Those who find me, find life,

And win the favour of the Lord.

**Midafternoon**

Ant. You are source of healing, the cause of reconciliation, the temple of salvation.

**READING**

Wisdom 10:15-16

The holy people and blameless race – it was Wisdom which delivered them from the nation that oppressed them. She entered the soul of the Lord's servant and withstood fearsome kings with signs and portents.

You are a refuge for the afflicted.

You bring consolation to the sorrowing.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer



## Evening Prayer II

### HYMN

Star upon the ocean, Maria!  
Vessel of devotion, Maria!  
Mother of all races,  
Queen of heaven's graces, Maria!

Holy, humble maiden, Maria!  
You with grace are laden, Maria!  
Angels bend before you,  
All on earth implore you, Maria!

Blest before all others, Maria!  
Mother of all mothers, Maria!  
In our life protect us,  
In our death direct us, Maria!

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Or:

Ave, maris stella,  
Dei mater alma,  
atque semper Virgo,  
felix caeli porta.

Sumens, illud "Ave"  
Gabrielis ore,  
funda nos in pace,  
mutuans Evae nomen.

Solve vincla reis,  
profer lumen caecis,  
mala nostra pelle,  
bona cuncta posce.

Nostra te esse matrem,  
sumat per te precem  
qui pro nobis natus  
tulit esse tuus.

Virgo singuláris,  
inter omnes mitis,  
nos culpis solútos  
mites fac et castos.

Vitam praesta puram,  
iter para tutum,  
ut vidéntes Iesum  
semper collaétemur.

Sit laus Deo Patri,  
summo Christo decus,  
Spíritui Sancto  
honor, tribus unus. Amen.

Ant. 1 In the ineffable mercy of God, Mary was chosen as his Mother for the salvation of the world.

Psalm 122

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

"Let us go to God's house".

And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.

It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,  
there to praise the Lord's name.  
There were set the thrones of judgement  
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:

"Peace be to your homes!

May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peaces!"

For love of my brethren and friends

I say: "Peace upon you!"

For love of the house of the Lord  
I will ask for good.

Ant. 1 In the ineffable mercy of Good, Mary was chosen as his Mother for the salvation of the world.

Ant. 2 Hail, font of all healing, you gave us Christ our Saviour.

#### Psalm 127

If the Lord does not build the house,  
in vain do its builders labor;  
if the Lord does not watch over the city,  
in vain does the watchman keep vigil.

In vain is your earlier rising,  
your going later to rest,  
you who toil for the bread you eat:  
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.

Truly sons are a gift from the Lord,  
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.  
Indeed the sons of youth  
are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

O the happiness of the man  
who has filled his quiver with these arrows!  
He will have no cause for shame  
when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.

Ant. 2 Hail, font of all healing, you gave us Christ our Saviour.

Ant. 3 We bless you, O full of grace, for you bore Christ, who is both God and man.

#### Canticle

Ephesians 1:3-10

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

Ant. 3 We bless you, O full of grace, for you bore Christ, who is both God and man.

## READING

Cf. Ephesians 2:3-5

All of us by nature deserved God's wrath like the rest. But God is rich in mercy; because of his great love for us, he brought us to life with Christ when we were dead in sin. By this favour we were saved.

## RESPONSORY

Mother of the Redeemer, gather us around you.

Mother of the Redeemer, gather us around you.

We call upon your remedy and protection.

Gather us around you.

Glory to the Father...

Mother of the Redeemer...

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. You, O Mary, are a shelter to the outcast and the consolation of the world; you are liberty to captives and comfort to the sorrowing.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us praise the Father: he has sent his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, to redeem the world, and has poured out on us his Holy Spirit, in whom we call out, "Abba! Father!" Let us ask in faith:

*Give us your grace, O Holy Trinity.*

You chose Mary, your beloved daughter, to be filled with your grace, fill our hearts with the grace of your love.

You prepared the Virgin Mary as the most pure dwelling for you Son, make us bearers of your Word.

You made Mary the Sacred Vessel of the Holy Spirit, make us perpetual temples of your Spirit.

You kept Mary attentive to your Word, and she became your faithful servant, through her intercession, sanctify our Order that we may remain faithful to our vocation.

You filled Mary with heavenly wisdom, may we grow in our knowledge of you and your Son through the Holy Spirit.

You received Mary into heaven to be for ever with your Son and the Holy Spirit, receive our brothers and sisters who hoped in you and your Son and the Holy Spirit with faith and love.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

God,  
you brought a remedy to the world  
through the glorious Virgin Mary.  
May we who are invoking her protection  
be aided in all our necessities  
and obtain eternal happiness.  
Grant this...

## October 23

### THE HOLY REDEEMER

#### Feast

The devotion to the Holy Redeemer in the Trinitarian Order is closely associated with the redemptive work of the Order and the historical event of 1682 when Spanish Trinitarians ransomed and brought back from Morocco a statue of the Holy Redeemer together with 211 Christian captives. From the time of its ransom, this holy image has been greatly venerated, and it still is in many parts of the Christian world. This feast, already celebrated in the Order for many years, was liturgically approved on December 22, 1787 and confirmed in the liturgical revision of 1973.

#### Evening Prayer I

When this feast occurs on a Sunday or is celebrated as a Solemnity, the Evening Prayer is said as follows

#### HYMN

Christ, Redeemer, Lord of heaven,  
Saviour of all creation:  
trampling down our death by your death,  
granting life to everyone,  
You free all from sin's cruel bondage,  
Your Cross grants true redemption.

Lord, we pray you: Save your people,  
and bless your inheritance!  
May your work for our redemption  
through the whole world still advance,  
by the holy, saving mysteries  
which your love to mankind grants.

As a Lamb, all meek and spotless,  
You were to the slaughter led,  
Offered as a saving victim,  
Standing in the sinners' stead;  
And you cleansed the whole creation  
By the blood that you have shed.

Conquering death, you rose victorious,  
opening Eden's once sealed door.  
Your love shown in self-oblation  
wounded nature did restore.  
Those redeemed, you lead to heaven  
where they praise you evermore.

Grant that we may join their number,  
Lord, Redeemer, hear our plea.  
Men of every race and nation  
by your blood have been set free;  
of them all you make a Kingdom  
to the Father's great glory. Amen.

Melody: 87, 87, 87

Ant. 1 Jesus Christ loved us, and by his blood, cleansed us from our sins.

Psalm 113

Praise, O servants of the Lord,  
praise the name of the Lord!  
May the name of the Lord be blessed  
both now and for evermore!  
From the rising of the sun to its setting  
praised be the name of the Lord!

High above all nations is the Lord,  
above the heavens his glory.  
Who is like the Lord, our God,  
who has risen on high to his throne  
yet stoops from the heights to look down,

to look down upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,  
from his misery he raises of princes,  
yes, with the princes of his people.  
To the childless wife he gives a home  
and gladdens her heart with children.

Ant. 1 Jesus Christ loved us, and by his blood, cleansed us from our sins.

Ant. 2 While we were still sinners, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son.

Psalm 117

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him, all you peoples!

Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever.

Ant. 2 While we were still sinners, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son.

Ant. 3 Christ is the source of eternal salvation for all who will listen to him.

Canticle                      Revelation 11:17-18; 12:10b-12a

We praise you, the Lord God Almighty,  
who is and who was.  
You have assumed your great power,  
you have begun your reign.

The nations have raged in anger,  
but then came your day of wrath  
and the moment to judge the dead:  
the time to reward your servants the prophets  
and the holy ones who revere you,  
the great and the small alike.



Now have salvation and power come,  
the reign of our God and the authority  
of his Anointed One.  
For the accuser of our brothers is cast out,  
who night and day accused them before God.

They defeated him by the blood of the Lamb  
and by the word of their testimony;  
love for life did not deter them from death.  
So rejoice, you heavens,  
and you that dwell therein!

Ant. 3 Christ is the source of eternal salvation for all who will listen to him.

## READING

Hebrews 2:9-10

But we do see Jesus crowned with glory and honor because He suffered death: Jesus who was made for a little while lower than the angels, that through God's gracious will he might taste death for the sake of all men. Indeed, it was fitting that when bringing many sons to glory God, for whom and through whom all things exist, should make their leader in the work of salvation perfect through suffering.

## RESPONSORY

With his own blood, Christ entered once and for all into the sanctuary.

With his own blood, Christ entered once and for all into the sanctuary.

To achieve eternal redemption Christ entered once and for all into the sanctuary.

Glory to the Father...

With his own blood...

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Christ is the eternal priest whom the Father has anointed with the Holy Spirit to proclaim redemption to the captives.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to our Redeemer, who reconciled the world to himself, to his Father and to the Holy Spirit by his death and resurrection:

*Lord, have mercy on us.*

Lord and Master, you became obedient even unto death for us, teach us to obey the will of the Father always.

You are our life. By dying on the cross you destroyed death and hell, may we die with you in order to be raised with you in glory.

You are our Saviour and you gave up your life for us all, may we love one another with the same love.

Saviour, you stretched out your hands on the cross and drew all ages to yourself, free the human family from sin and grant it everlasting glory.

Holy Redeemer, have mercy on the dead, whom you have redeemed with your blood, may they be made worthy to enter into the heavenly banquet with you.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

God our Father,

look upon us with love.

You redeem us and make us your children in Christ.

Give us true freedom

and bring us to the inheritance you promised.

We ask this...

## INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship God the Father; he has anointed Christ with the power of the Holy Spirit for the mission of salvation.

Or: Let us adore the Lord, the King of angels and the Redeemer of the ages.

Invitatory psalm

## Office of Readings

### HYMN

Creator of the stars of night,  
Your people's everlasting light,  
Jesus, Redeemer, save us all,  
and hear your servants when they call.

Now, grieving that the ancient curse  
should doom to death a universe,  
You heal all those who need your grace  
to save and heal a ruined race.

At whose great name, majestic now,  
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;  
all things in heaven and earth adore,  
and own thee King for evermore.

To God the Father, God the Son,  
and God the Spirit, Three in One,  
Praise, honor, might, and glory be  
from age to age eternally.

Melody: LM

Ant. 1 Redeem me, Lord, and have pity on me.

### Psalm 26

Give judgement for me, O Lord:  
for I walk the path of perfection.  
I trust in the Lord;  
I have not wavered.

Examine me, Lord, and try me;  
O test my heart and my mind,  
for your love is before my eyes  
and I walk according to your truth.

I never take my place with liars  
and with hypocrites, I shall not go.  
I hate the evil-doer's company:  
I will not take my place with the wicked.

To prove my innocence I wash my hands  
and take my place around your altar,  
singing a song of thanksgiving,  
proclaiming all your wonders.

O Lord, I love the house where you dwell,  
the place where your glory abides.

Do not sweep me away with sinners,  
nor my life with bloodthirsty men  
in whose hands are evil plots,  
whose right hands are filled with gold.

As for me, I walk the path of perfection.  
Redeem me and show me your mercy.  
My foot stands on level ground:  
I will bless the Lord in the assembly.

Ant. 1 Redeem me, Lord, and have pity on me.

Ant. 2 Lord, the blood of your Son, our Redeemer, cries out to you from the earth.

#### Psalm 85

O Lord, you once favored your land  
and revived the fortunes of Jacob,  
you forgave the guilt of your people  
and covered all their sins.  
You averted all your rage,  
you calmed the heart of your anger.

Revive us now, God, our helper!  
Put an end to your grievance against us.  
Will you be angry with us for ever,  
will your anger never cease?

Will you not restore again our life  
that your people may rejoice in you?  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people and his friends  
and those who turn to him in their hearts.  
His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
And justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps.

Ant. 2 Lord, the blood of your Son, our Redeemer, cries out to you from the earth.  
Ant. 3 Blessed is the land that is open to receive the blood of the Redeemer.

#### Psalm 98

Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord, all the earth,  
ring out your joy.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,  
with the sound of music.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
acclaim the King, the Lord.

Let the sea and all within it thunder;  
the world, and all its peoples.  
Let the rivers clap their hands  
and the hills ring out their joy.

Rejoice at the presence of the Lord,  
for he comes to rule the earth.  
He will rule the world with justice  
and the peoples with fairness.

Ant. 3 Blessed is the land that is open to receive the blood of the Redeemer.

You have made your strength known in the sight of the nations.  
You have redeemed your people with your arm.

## FIRST READING

From the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

1:3-14

*Through the blood of Christ we have been redeemed*

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, to be full of love; he likewise predestined us through Christ Jesus to be his adopted sons – such was his will and pleasure – that all might praise the glorious favour he has bestowed on us in his beloved. It is in Christ and through his blood that we have been redeemed and our sins forgiven, so immeasurably generous is God's favour to us. God has given us the wisdom to understand fully the mystery, the plan he was pleased to decree in Christ, to be carried out in the fullness of time: namely, to bring all things in the heavens and on earth into one under Christ's headship.

In him we were chosen; for in the decree of God, who administers everything according to his will and counsel, we were predestined to praise his glory by being the first to hope in Christ. In him you too were chosen; when you heard the glad tidings of salvation, the word of truth, and believed in it, you were sealed

with the Holy Spirit who had been promised. He is the pledge of our inheritance, the first payment against the full redemption of a people God has made his own, to praise his glory.

## RESPONSORY

Ephesians 1:5, 7-8

God predestined us through Christ Jesus to be his adopted children.

It is in Christ and through his blood that we have been redeemed.

We have our sins forgiven, so immeasurably generous is God's favour to us.

It is in Christ...

## SECOND READING

From a sermon by St. Augustine, bishop

(Sermo 134: PL 38, 742-746)

*Behold, our redemption is at hand*

Who can free us from death and slavery unless he is free among the dead? And who is free among the dead unless he is among sinners without having sin? "Behold, the prince of this world", says our Redeemer; "Behold, the prince of this world is at hand. He has no hold on me". He has a hold on those whom he has deceived, on those whom he has seduced, on those upon whom he has forced sin and death. "He has no hold on me". Come, Lord, Come, Redeemer! Let the captives know you; let the captor flee from you; be a Redeemer for us!

He found me when I was lost. He, against whom the devil can do nothing that he normally does against flesh, found me. The prince of this world found flesh in him. What flesh? Mortal flesh, which he should be able to have a hold on, which he should be able to crucify, which he should be able to kill. You are wrong, Deceiver: the Redeemer does not succumb; you are wrong. You see mortal flesh in the Lord; but it is not sinful flesh; it is in the form of sinful flesh. God sent his Son in the form of sinful flesh: true flesh, mortal flesh, but not sinful flesh.

But why is this? So that by sin, which he certainly did not have in him, he might destroy sin in the flesh. Thus, he was in the form of sinful flesh, but he was not sinful flesh. How will he destroy sin in the flesh by sin? Normally a form takes its name from the thing of which it is a form. Flesh that is in the form of a sinful flesh is called sin, that it might be a sacrifice for sin. The Apostle Paul says "He who did not know sin became sin for us". Thus, God allowed Christ, who did not know sin, to become sin for us. Why is this, brothers? Those who are familiar with the Old Testament Scriptures will understand what I am saying. It is stated not once, but several times in very many places that there are sacrifices for sins. For example, a goat, a sheep or something else is offered for sin; that victim which was offered for sin was called "sin", a sin-offering. Therefore, God allowed him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us; that is, he became a sacrifice for sin. Sin was offered, and sin was taken away. The blood of the Redeemer was poured out, and the bonds of debtors were broken. This is the blood which was poured out for many for the remission of sins.

Or:

From the "Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy" by the Second Vatican Council

(Nn. 5-6)

*The plan of salvation*

God, who "wishes all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth", "in many and various ways... spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets". When the fullness of time had come He sent His Son, the Word made flesh, anointed by the Holy Spirit, to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the contrite of heart, to be a "bodily and spiritual medicine", the Mediator between God and man. For His humanity, united with the person of the Word, was the instrument of our salvation. Thus, in Christ "there came forth the perfect satisfaction needed for our reconciliation, and we received the means for giving worthy worship to God".

The wonders wrought by God among the people of the Old Testament were but a prelude to the work of Christ the Lord in redeeming mankind and giving perfect glory to God. He achieved His task principally by the paschal mystery of His blessed passion, resurrection from the dead, and glorious ascension, whereby "dying, he destroyed our death and, rising, he restored our life". For it was from the side of Christ as He slept the sleep of death upon the cross that there came forth the wondrous sacrament which is the whole Church.

Just as Christ was sent by the Father, so also He sent the apostles, filled with the Holy Spirit. This He did so that, by preaching the gospel to every creature, they might proclaim that the Son of God, by His death and resurrection, had freed us from the power of Satan and from death, and brought us into the Kingdom of His Father. His purpose was also that they might exercise the work of salvation which they were proclaiming, by means of sacrifice and sacraments, around which the entire liturgical life revolves. Thus, by baptism, men are plunged into the paschal mystery of Christ: they die with Him, are buried with Him, and rise with Him; they receive the spirit of adoption as sons "by virtue of which we cry: Abba, Father", and thus become those true adorers whom the Father seeks. In like manner, as often as they eat the supper of the Lord they proclaim the death of the Lord until He comes. For that reason, on the very day of Pentecost, when the Church appeared before the world, "those who received the word" of Peter "were baptized. And "they continued steadfastly in the teaching of the apostles and in the communion of the breaking of the bread and in the prayers... praising God and being in favour with all the people".

From that time onward, the Church has never failed to come together to celebrate the paschal mystery: reading "in all the scriptures the things referring to himself", celebrating the Eucharist in which "the victory and triumph of his death are again made present" and at the same time giving thanks "to God for his unspeakable gift" in Christ Jesus", to the praise of his glory", through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**RESPONSORY**

Cf. 1 Pt 1:18-19; Eph 2:18; 1 Jn 1:7

You were redeemed not by any diminishable sum of silver or gold, but by Christ's blood, the blood of a spotless, unblemished Lamb: through him we all have access to the Father in the Spirit.

The blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, cleanses us from all sin.

Through him we all have access to the Father in the Spirit.

HYMN Te Deum



## PRAYER

God our Father,  
look upon us with love.  
You redeem us and make us your children in Christ.  
Give us true freedom  
and bring us to the inheritance you promised.  
We ask this...

## **Morning Prayer**

### HYMN

O Jesus, our Redeemer blest,  
our love, our life, our hope sublime:  
although as God you fashioned all,  
You were fashioned a man in time.

What depth of mercy moved you on  
to heed our deep iniquity?  
You shared our suff'ring and our death  
that we from death might be set free.

You stormed the gates to hell's black realm,  
redeeming captives from its pride;  
then entered heaven where you dwell  
enthroned close by your Father's side.

In your great mercy, heal our pain,  
restore the harm done to our race,  
fulfilling our most ardent prayer:  
to gaze upon you face to face.

Be now on earth our light and joy,  
for you shall be our true reward.  
May we within your glory rest,  
throughout all ages, blessed Lord. Amen.

Melody: LM

Ant. 1 For our sake, Christ became our wisdom, justice, holiness and redemption.

Psalms and canticle from Sunday, Week I

Ant. 2 He made of us a kingdom for his Father; he is the first-born of the dead and King of kings on the earth.

Ant. 3 We proclaim Christ and give praise to him with all our hearts for having paid the price of our redemption.

## READING

Colossians 1:12-14

Give thanks to the Father for having made you worthy to share the lot of the saints in light. He rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son. Through him we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins.

## RESPONSORY

You have redeemed us, O Lord, with your blood.

You have redeemed us, O Lord, with your blood.

And you have made us a Kingdom and priests for God our Father,  
with your blood.

Glory to the Father...

You have redeemed us...

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. Because of his great love for us, God brought us to life in Christ and gave us a new life in the Holy Spirit.

Or:

Ant. The blood of Christ, who through the Holy Spirit was offered to God, cleanses our consciences from dead works and enables us to worship the living God.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to Christ our Redeemer, who came to save humanity. With confidence we pray to him:

*For your glory, Lord, hear us*

Lord Jesus, you entered the sanctuary through your own blood and resurrection, lead us into the glory you share with the Father.

You reconciled all people in your body through the sacrifice of the cross, grant peace and unity to all peoples.

You sent your disciples into the whole world to preach the gospel to all peoples, may your Spirit sustain those who announce your Good News.

You led our captivity captive, restore the freedom of the children of God to our brothers and sisters who suffer physical or spiritual captivity.

You unite us to yourself through your Spirit, may neither trial, persecution nor danger ever separate us from your love.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

God our Father,  
look upon us with love.  
You redeem us and make us your children in Christ.  
Give us true freedom  
and bring us to the inheritance you promised.  
We ask this...

#### **Daytime Prayer**

Psalms from the current weekday

#### **Midmorning**

Ant. The blood which we drink is the blood of our Redeemer, the blood which clamors for our redemption.

#### **READING**

Romans 3:23-24

All have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God. All are now undeservedly justified by the gift of God, through the redemption wrought in Christ Jesus.

The blood of Christ cleanses us.

To worship the living God.

## **Midday**

Ant. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

### **READING**

1 Timothy 2:4-6

God wants all to be saved and come to know the truth. And the truth is this: "God is one. One also is the mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all".

Lord, you have blessed your land.

You have forgiven the sins of your people.

## **Midafternoon**

Ant. Jesus Christ loved us and washed away our sins in his blood.

### **READING**

Revelation 4:11

"O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power. For you have created all things; by your will they came to be and were made".

Lord, you have redeemed your people with your mighty right arm.

You have made of us a kingdom of priests for God.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## **Evening Prayer II**

### **HYMN**

Hail, Redeemer, Saviour, Master,  
who from death have set us free:  
signed by light from your face shining  
we find our nobility.  
Your redeeming blood was given  
to end our captivity.  
Let not evil ever strip us  
of the giv'n eternity.

Free the slaves to be your servants,  
lift the burdens from the poor.  
Let those bowed by sin and sorrow  
through you find forgiveness sure.  
May we all rejoice forever  
at your side, O Lord, secure,  
for your blood, o'er us in love shed,  
is our freedom's signature.

Glory, power, honor, worship  
might and endless majesty,  
blessed Jesus, our Redeemer,  
be to you eternally,  
to your everlasting Father,  
Source of all reality,  
and the Paraclete, the Spirit,  
Trinity in Unity. Amen.

Melody: 87, D

Ant. 1 Through the blood of Christ we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins.

Psalm 116:10-19

I trusted, even when I said:  
"I am sorely afflicted",  
and when I said in my alarm:  
"No man can be trusted".

How can I repay the Lord  
for his goodness to me?  
The cup of salvation I will raise;  
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people.  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.

You servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Ant. 1 Through the blood of Christ we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins.  
Ant. 2 God justified us in his beloved Son; in him we have redemption and salvation.

Psalm 143:1-11

Lord, listen to my prayer:  
turn your ear to my appeal.  
You are faithful, you are just; give answer.  
Do not call your servant to judgement  
for no one is just in your sight.

The enemy pursues my soul;  
he has crushed my life to the ground;  
he has made me dwell in darkness  
like the dead, long forgotten.  
Therefore my spirit fails;  
my heart is numb within me.

I remember the days that are past:  
I ponder all your works.  
I muse on what your hand has wrought  
and to you I stretch out my hands.  
Like a parched land my soul thirsts for you.

Lord, make haste and answer;  
for my spirit fails within me.  
Do not hide your face  
lest I become like those in the grave.

In the morning let me know your love  
for I put my trust in you.  
Make me know the way I should walk:

to you I lift up my soul.

Rescue me, Lord, from my enemies;

I have fled to you for refuge.

Teach me to do your will

for you, O Lord, are my God.

Let your good spirit guide me

in ways that are level and smooth.

For your name's sake, Lord, save my life;

in your justice save my soul from distress.

Ant. 2 God justified us in his beloved Son; in him we have redemption and salvation.

Ant. 3 Saviour of the world, save us! Through your cross you redeemed us. Help us, O Lord, our God.

Canticle

Philippians 2:6-11

Though he was in the form of God,

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,

and it was thus that he humbled himself,

obediently accepting death,

death on a cross!

Because of this,

God highly exalted him

and bestowed on him the name

above every other name.

So that at Jesus' name

every knee must bend

in the heavens, on the earth,

and under the earth,

and every tongue proclaim

to the glory of God the Father:  
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

Ant. 3 Saviour of the world, save us! Through your cross you redeemed us. Help us, O Lord, our God.

#### READING

Titus 3:5b-7

God saved us through the baptism of new birth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he lavished on us through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs, in hope, of eternal life.

#### RESPONSORY

We are cleansed from all sin by the blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

We are cleansed from all sin by the blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Through him we have access to the father in the Spirit.

By the blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Glory to the Father...

We are cleansed...

#### CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Hail to our King, the Son of David, the Redeemer, whom the prophets foretold as the Saviour of the world.

#### INTERCESSIONS

Honor and glory be to Christ the Redeemer, who bestows his Holy Spirit on those who believe. Let us pray:

*Christ, lead us to the Father.*

Heir of all nations, gather the human family into the Kingdom of your Church, may all acknowledge you to be their head in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

We pray to you, Christ, for those who are afflicted with illness, grief, slavery and exile, may they find consolation and help in you.

Word of truth, wisdom, and splendour of the Father, send forth your light and your truth, so that we may be your witnesses to our brothers and sisters in all we do and say.

Jesus Christ, you hung upon the cross to set us free, bring salvation and redemption to all.



May the dead arrive at the freedom and glory of the children of God, and at the fullness of their redemption.

Our Father...

PRAYER

God our Father,

look upon us with love.

You redeem us and make us your children in Christ.

Give us true freedom

and bring us to the inheritance you promised.

We ask this...

# NOVEMBER

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## November 4

ST. FELIX OF VALOIS, PRIEST

Co-founder of the Order of the Most Holy Trinity

### Memorial

St. Felix led the life of a hermit with other hermits near Cerfroid, in the territory of Meaux, towards the end of the twelfth century. When John de Matha arrived there and revealed his intention of founding a religious Order for the redemption of Christian captives, the hermits "offered themselves and all they had to God for establishing the new Order". According to tradition, St. Felix of Valois has been considered a special co-worker of St. John de Matha and, for this reason, co-founder of the Order of the Most Holy Trinity. He is believed to have died around the year 1212.

From the common of pastors. When this Memorial is celebrated as a Solemnity, all else is taken from the common of pastors.

### INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship Christ the Lord; through him we have access to the Father in the Holy Spirit.

Invitatory psalm

### Office of Readings

HYMN

Renouncing all earthly treasure,  
Felix chose the better part:  
ent'ring by the narrow portal,  
he sought Christ with his whole heart;  
fleeing from the world's confusion,  
he pursued a life apart.

Solitude within the forest  
led him God's own face to see.  
Then to John as Fellow-worker  
he was joined by God's decree  
to redeem the helpless captives  
suff'ring barb'rous tyranny.

Felix hastens to the Order,  
aids it in its early days,

consecrating it with fervour  
to the Triune God with praise,  
which the habit of the brethren  
in three-colored signs conveys.

Throughout savage lands his sons go,  
sent to ransom captive souls.  
As he blesses their departure  
he with strength their hearts consoles:  
"Fear not man, nor beast nor nature,  
for our God your paths controls".

Through your prayers, O father Felix,  
keep the bark of faith afloat.  
Let not storms nor winds assail it,  
guide it through the seas remote;  
to those whom the tyrants threaten  
your care and concern devote.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
Trinity in Unity:  
rescue us from all cruel bondage,  
by your power make us free;  
that for Christ, our true Redeemer,  
willing servants we may be. Amen.

Melody

Ant. 1 Felix did not love the passing riches of this world; rather, he meditated on the law of the Lord day and night, and God enriched him with his blessings.

Psalm 21:2-8, 14

O Lord, your strength gives joy to the king;  
how your saving help makes him glad!  
You have granted him his heart's desire;  
you have not refused the prayer of his lips.

You came to meet him with the blessing of success,  
you have set on his head a crown of pure gold.

He asked you for life and this you have given,  
days that will last from age to age.

Your saving help has given him glory.  
You have laid upon him majesty and splendour,  
you have granted to him your blessings for ever.  
You have made him rejoice with the joy  
of your presence.

The king has put his trust in the Lord:  
through the mercy of the Most High he shall stand firm.  
O Lord, arise in your strength;  
we shall sing and praise your power.

Ant. 1 Felix did not love the passing riches of this world; rather, he meditated on the law of the Lord day and night, and God enriched him with his blessings.

Ant. 2 Felix turned away from the pleasures of the world to serve God alone, and the Lord led him to his holy mountain.

## Psalm 92

I

It is good to give thanks to the Lord  
to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night,  
on the ten-stringed lyre and the lute,  
with the murmuring sound of the harp.

You deeds, O Lord, have made me glad;  
for the work of your hands I shout with joy.  
O Lord, how great are your works!  
How deep are your designs!  
The foolish man cannot know this  
and the fool cannot understand.

Though the wicked spring up like grass  
and all who do evil thrive:  
they are doomed to be eternally destroyed.  
But you, Lord, are eternally on high.

Ant. 2 Felix turned away from the pleasures of the world to serve God alone, and the Lord led him to his holy mountain.

Ant. 3 The Lord loved Felix with an everlasting love and called him to redeem the faithful held captive.

## II

See how your enemies perish;  
all doers of evil are scattered.  
To me you give the wild-ox's strength;  
you anoint me with the purest oil.  
My eyes looked in triumph on my foes;  
my ears heard gladly of their fall.  
The just will flourish like the palm-tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just;  
in him, my rock, there is no wrong.

Ant. 3 The Lord loved Felix with an everlasting love and called him to redeem the faithful held captive.

May the thoughts of my heart always turn to you.  
Lord, my helper and my redeemer.

## SECOND READING

From "The Chaste Marriage of the Word and the Soul" by St. Lawrence Justinian, bishop  
(Cap. 6, post med.: Opera, Lugduni 1568, p. 161)

*Whoever desires perfection must build a solitary place within himself*

Whoever, following the example of the Lord, desires to win the trophy of victory over his spiritual enemies, should avoid frivolous associations, flee noise and bustle, and move to some place that is set apart. It would be good for him to keep strict watch over his senses.

Indeed, when the mind is distracted by exterior things, it is less able to reflect on interior matters. It cannot be involved in both; thus, it should flee crowds and withdraw to some more remote area, seeking communion with God, so that it may not be corrupted nor be overcome by unforeseen temptations.

Truly, solitude is a friend in time of sadness, the mother of interior peace, the place of contemplation and the retreat for divine visitations. Having learned this through experience when he was tempted, the Prophet

said, "Far away would I flee; I would lodge in the wilderness; I would hasten to find shelter from the violent storm and the tempest" (Ps 55: 8-9). And the friend of the groom, in spite of his young age, followed the directives of the Word, fled the company of all people and took refuge in desert caves, lest he give in to his enemies in the hour of trial, lest he defile the splendour of his innocence by the least stain of sin.

Life in cities is never safe. All sins thrive there: frivolity reigns, envy torments, quarrels disturb, lust dominates, wealth attracts, sensuality entices and the pleasures of the flesh enervate the soul. Only those who attend to their spiritual welfare are able to avoid the shipwreck of their lives.

Let those live in the world who are in love with themselves, those who are not inflamed with a zealous love for striving to acquire virtue. Whoever wants to grow in perfection, whoever generously has no fear of fighting vices and spiritual evils, according to the advice of the Lord, should first renounce all that he has, then he should build within himself a solitary place where he can be attentive to God and carry on a continual spiritual combat, fleeing there even from the company of relatives. He should keep in mind the example of Redeemer who, when he was tempted by the devil, wished to be alone in the desert. After he had won the victory, he allowed people to be with him.

Solitude is always to be loved, although it is not always to be had. Whoever uses it prudently will carry off the glorious trophy of victory over his enemies.

## RESPONSORY

Let us bless the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit, who brought Felix and John together, to be of one mind and heart in the task of redeeming the faithful held captive.

These are men of mercy who walked together in the house of the Lord, to be of one mind and heart...

## PRAYER

God,  
you gave our blessed father Felix  
the spirit of charity and humility.  
May we follow in his footsteps,  
loving our brothers and sisters in everything  
and you above all things.  
Grant this...

## Morning Prayer

### HYMN

With joyful hearts, we sing the praise  
of holy father Felix blest;  
and in the noble path he traced,  
let all our efforts be expressed.

Moved by the love of Christ the Lord,  
the passing things of earth he scorned;  
rejecting worldly vanities,  
he sought the wilderness forlorn.

By fasting was his body freed,  
austerity restored his soul;  
by prayerful vigils he perceived  
the presence of our God in all.

The law of Christ he did fulfil,  
his life transformed by God's own lights.  
As teacher of the holy life,  
he leads us on to sacred heights.

To free the captives from the chains  
oppressing them in pagan lands,  
with John the Order he began  
and thus our father he now stands.

With zeal be present to your sons  
O holy Felix, in our deeds;  
watch over us with your great love,  
protecting us in all our needs.

Praise, glory, honor, as is due,  
to God the Father and the Son,  
and to the Holy Paraclete,  
while everlasting ages run. Amen.

Melody: LM

Ant. 1 Felix abandoned all the pleasures of the world to serve God more freely through contemplative prayer.

Psalms and canticle from Sunday, Week I

Ant. 2 God led him forth from his hermitage to comfort and bring God's redemption to many.

Ant. 3 This is the man who did great works in the sight of God, and praised the Lord with his whole heart.

## READING

Romans 12:1-2

And now, brothers, I beg you through the mercy of God to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you may judge what is God's will, what is good, pleasing and perfect.

## RESPONSORY

If we obey the word of Christ, charity is perfected in us.

If we obey the word of Christ, charity is perfected in us.

If we do the will of God the Father, we will enter the Kingdom of heaven.

Charity is perfected in us.

Glory to the Father...

If we obey the word of Christ, charity is perfected in us.

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. Remember that you are my servant; turn to me, for I have redeemed you.

Or:

Ant. My well-being is with God; my hope is in the Lord.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us celebrate the mercy of God the Father, who revealed himself in Christ Jesus, and gave us the Holy Spirit. Let us now pray to him with our whole heart:

*Be mindful of us, Lord, for we are your children.*

Lord, look upon all those who are called by the name of Christian, may they be gathered into one communion by your Holy Spirit.

Fill our life of faith with joy and peace, so that we may abound in hope and the strength of the Spirit.

Put the spirit of the Gospel into our hearts, in order that we may always according to your teachings.

Lord, through the intercession of our holy father Felix, shower on our Order your blessings, make us faithful witnesses of truth and love.

Holy Father, you accepted the sacrifice of your Son, accept our offering and lead us to eternal life.



Our Father...

#### PRAYER

God,  
you gave our blessed father Felix  
the spirit of charity and humility.  
May we follow in his footsteps,  
loving our brothers and sisters in everything  
and you above all things.  
Grant this...

#### **Evening Prayer**

#### HYMN

Let us sing on earth the praises  
of this servant of the Lord:  
for his life was true and faithful,  
worthy of the great reward.  
For on earth he sang the glory  
of the Trinity's renown;  
and by bearing holy witness,  
he received the promised crown.

He withstood all opposition  
and renounced the passing lure  
of the tempting wealth and fortune  
that the goods of earth procure.  
He remained, through poor and needy,  
wealthy for eternity,  
for he had the love and mercy  
of the Holy Trinity.

Abstaining from worldly honors  
and renouncing passing things,  
he has placed his heart in heaven  
and his soul was granted wings.  
In the fullness of the Kingdom  
did he seek his pleasure new;  
and freed from all earthly longing,

God became his treasure true.

Blessed man, now hear our prayers,  
lend your ear in charity:  
for you are a founding father  
of this whole community.  
Grant us peace of soul and comfort;  
keep us free from pain and strife,  
as we follow in your footsteps  
in the way that leads to life.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing  
to the Holy Trinity.  
may the praises of all ages  
come to you, O One in Three.  
May you grant the gift of heaven  
to all those who seek your face:  
for to those who search sincerely,  
You become the saving grace. Amen.

Melody: 87, 87 D

Ant. 1 This servant proved himself faithful and wise; the Lord entrusted the care of his household to him.

Psalm 15

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent  
and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue;

he who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honors those who fear the Lord;

he who keeps his pledge, come what may;

who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribe against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

Ant. 1 This servant proved himself faithful and wise; the Lord entrusted the care of his household to him.

Ant. 2 Behold, this is the servant whom I have chosen to hear the cry of the poor and to free the captives.

#### Psalm 112

Happy the man who fears the Lord,  
who takes delight in all his commands.  
His sons will be powerful on earth;  
the children of the upright are blessed.

Riches and wealth are in his house;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
He is a light in the darkness for the upright:  
he is generous, merciful and just.

The good man takes pity and lends,  
he conducts his affairs with honor.  
The just man will never waver:  
he will be remembered for ever.

He has no fear of evil news;  
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.  
With a steadfast heart he will not fear;  
he will see the downfall of his foes.

Open-handed, he gives to the poor;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
His head will be raised in glory.

The wicked man sees and is angry,  
grinds his teeth and fades away;  
the desire of the wicked leads to doom.

Ant. 2 Behold, this is the servant whom I have chosen to hear the cry of the poor and to free the captives.

Ant. 3 My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

Canticle

Revelation 15:3-4

Mighty and wonderful are your works,  
Lord God Almighty!  
Righteous as true are your ways,  
O King of the nations!

Who would dare refuse you honor,  
or the glory due your name, O Lord?

Since you alone are holy,  
all nations shall come  
and worship in your presence.  
Your mighty deeds are clearly seen.

Ant. 3 My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

#### READING

Philippians 2:1-4

In the name of the encouragement you owe me in Christ, in the name of the solace that love can give, of fellowship in spirit, compassion, and pity, I beg you: make my joy complete by your unanimity, possessing the one love, united in spirit and ideals. Never act out of rivalry or conceit; rather, let all parties think humbly of others as superior to themselves, each of you looking to other's interests than to his own.

#### RESPONSORY

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, for God has shown his mercy through his servant Felix.  
Blessed be the Holy Trinity, for God has shown his mercy through his servant Felix.

Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, for God has shown his through his servant, Felix.

Glory to the Father...  
Blessed be the Holy Trinity...

#### CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Blessed Felix, man of faith, you gave up the cares of the world to please God alone! Pray for us, that we may triumph over the enticements of the world.

## INTERCESSIONS

We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Holy Spirit himself makes intercession for us with groaning that cannot be expressed in speech. Therefore, we humbly pray:

*Holy Spirit pray for us.*

Lord, help us understand the mystery of the Church more deeply, that it may be a more efficacious sacrament of salvation for the whole world.

Teach us to give up what is unnecessary, so that we may be more effective in bringing aid to our brothers and sisters in need.

Pour your love into all who share the one bread of life, may they enjoy closer unity in the body of your Son.

May the leaders of our communities be solicitous for those in their care, may they be called and truly be ministers, according to the example of Christ.

We pray to you for all who are living in the world and for all who have left us in the hope of eternal life.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

God,  
you gave our blessed father Felix  
the spirit of charity and humility.  
May we follow in his footsteps,  
loving our brothers and sisters in everything  
and you above all things.  
Grant this...

**The Memorial of St. Charles Borromeo is transferred to Nov. 5.**

## **November 13**

ALL SAINTS OF THE ORDER OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Feast

### INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship God, whose praises are sung in the assembly of the saints.

Invitatory psalm

### Office of Readings

HYMN

By your grace, O God of glory,  
choirs of saints your praise intone.  
They were tilled and made the good soil  
where your word as seed was sown.  
Harvest rich and fruitful bearing,  
they in strife and peace have shone.  
Now are stored before your throne.

These our brethren fought the good fight  
never did the foe prevail.  
They have kept the faith entrusted,  
won a crown that ran the good race,  
true to Christ in all travail.  
Now in white and splendid garments,  
they rejoice beyond the veil.

Company of saints, now hear us:  
listen to our fervent prayers:  
free those chained in soul or body,  
captives bound by evil's snares.  
Spirits of the just, made perfect,  
lift all burdens and despair.  
Join us to your choirs in heaven  
that with you we be co-heirs.

May the Trinity be honoured  
by creation's worship due:  
Glory be to you, our Father,  
living God, eternal, true!  
Praise to you, O Son, Redeemer,  
Who did sin and death subdue!  
Blest are you, O Holy Spirit:  
with the saints, our lives renew. Amen.

Melody: 87, 87 D

Ant. 1 How great is your name, O Lord, for with glory and honor you have crowned your saints; you have set them over the works of your hands.

#### Psalm 8

How great is your name, O Lord, our God,  
through all the earth!

Your majesty is praised above the heavens;  
on the lips of children and of babes  
you have found praise to foil your enemy,  
to silence the foe and the rebel.

When I see the heavens, the work of your hands,  
the moon and the stars which you arranged,  
what is man that you should keep him in mind,  
mortal man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him little less than a god;  
with glory and honor you crowned him,  
gave him power over the works of your hand,  
put all things under his feet.

All of them, sheep and cattle,  
yes, even the savage beasts,  
birds of the air, and fish  
that make their way through the waters.

How great is your name, O Lord our God,  
through all the earth!

Ant. 1 great is your name, O Lord, for with glory and honor you have crowned your saints; you have set them over the works of your hands.

Ant. 2 The saints will exult in glory; they have won a shining victory over flesh and blood.

#### Psalm 15

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent  
and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue;

he who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honors those who fear the Lord;

he who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

Ant. 2 The saints will exult in glory; they have won a shining victory over flesh and blood.

Ant. 3 This is the people that seeks the Lord, that seeks the face of our God.

#### Psalm 16

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.  
I say to the Lord: "You are my God.  
My happiness lies in you alone".

He has put into my heart a marvellous love  
for the faithful ones who dwell in his land.  
Those who choose other gods increase their sorrows.  
Never will I offer their offerings of blood.



Never will I take their name upon my lips.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.

The lot marked out for me is my delight:  
welcome indeed the heritage that falls to me!

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever.

Ant. 3 This is the people that seeks the Lord, that seeks the face of our God.

They were faithful until death.  
And they received the crown of life from the Lord

### FIRST READING

From the book of Sirach

44:1-15

*The assembly proclaims their praise*

Now will I praise those godly men, our ancestors, each in his own time: the abounding glory of the Most High's portion, his own part, since the days of old. Subduers of the land in kingly fashion, men of the land in kingly fashion, men of renown for their might, or counsellors in their prudence, or seers of all things in prophecy; resolute princes of the folk, and governors with their staves; authors skilled in composition, and forgers of epigrams with their spikes, composers of melodious psalms, or discourses on lyric themes. Stalwart men, solidly established and at peace in their own estates – all these were glorious in their time, each illustrious in his day. Some of them have left behind a name and men recount their praiseworthy deeds; but of others there is no memory, for when they ceased, they ceased. And they are as though they had not lived, they and their children after them.

Yet these also were godly men whose virtues have not been forgotten; their wealth remains in their families, their heritage with their descendants; through God's covenant with them their family endures, their

posterity for their sake. And for all time their progeny will endure, their glory will never be blotted out; their bodies are peacefully laid away, but their name lives on and on. At gatherings their wisdom is retold, and the assembly proclaims their praise.

## RESPONSORY

Because of their covenant with the Lord and the traditions of their fathers, the saints of God persevered in the love of their brothers and sisters, for they were always of one spirit and one faith.

Behold, how good it is and how pleasant, where brothers dwell in unity, for they were always...

## SECOND READING

From the sermons of St. Bernard, Abbott

(Sermo 4 de Festo Omnium Sanctorum: Opera, Edit. Cisterc. 5, 1968, 354-360)

*Eternal life is to know the Most Holy Trinity*

Now, with regard to the altar, from under which St. John heard the voices of the saints, in my opinion, it signifies nothing other than the body of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Hence, the saints are presently in blissful repose under the humanity of Christ on which the very angels desire to look until the day dawns when they shall be placed no longer beneath, but upon the altar. But what have I said? Which of the angels, not to speak of men, shall ever be able to reach, much less transcend, the glory of the humanity of Christ. In what sense, therefore, can it be said that the souls of the saints now resting under the altar shall hereafter be raised above it? Only by vision and contemplation – not by honor or dignity. For then the Son shall manifest himself to us not as now in the form of a servant, but in the form of God, according to his promise. He will also reveal to us the Father and the Holy Spirit, for without that vision nothing could satisfy us; for in this consists “eternal life”: that we may know the Father, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom he has sent, and in them – as is evident – also the Spirit of the Father and the Son.

Passing, then, to talk about us, he will minister unto us, replenishing our souls with the new and heretofore untested delights springing from the contemplation of his unclouded majesty. Hence, St. John the Evangelist says in one of his epistles, “Dearly beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will later be has not yet come to light”. And he adds, “We know that when it comes to light, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is”.

Hear, also, the Bride in the Canticle of Canticles, exclaiming with confidence as she stands above the altar: “His left hand is under my head, and his right arm embraces me”. That is to say, the beatified soul shall be lifted above the mysteries of Christ’s Incarnation and humanity, which is justly called his left hand, and thus the soul will be able to contemplate with greater intensity Christ’s divinity and majesty, which are logically called his right hand.

My friends, in that everlasting and blissful beatitude, we shall enjoy our God in three different ways: we shall see him in all his creatures, we shall possess him in ourselves, and – what is incomparably better and sweeter – we shall also contemplate the Trinity in itself, gazing upon its supreme glory with the eye of a pure heart, without any intermediary symbols. For in this shall consist the eternal and perfect life we long for: that we shall know Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

## RESPONSORY

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God almighty, He who was, and who is, and who is to come.  
Salvation is from our God, who is seated on the throne, and the Lamb.

A huge crowd from every nation and race, people and tongue, dressed in long white robes and holding palm branches in their hands, cried out in a loud voice, saying: Salvation is from our God...

HYMN Te Deum

## PRAYER

God of all holiness,  
you bring us together from many nations  
to praise the Holy Trinity.  
May we persevere  
in seeking after the perfection of the Gospel  
and walk worthily in the vocation  
to which you have called us.  
We ask this...

## Morning Prayer

HYMN

All you who followed Christ the Lord,  
and faithful witness bore:  
receive with joy the great reward  
in heaven evermore.

In exile here from heav'n above,  
which is our fatherland,  
in fellowship, glad hymns we raise  
to praise your sacred band.

The rugged Cross you did take up,  
moved by love for the Lord.  
You followed him with faith and zeal,  
obedient to his word.

You left behind all worldly lures,  
the devil's pomps and snares.  
By witnessing to Christ on earth,  
you reign as heaven's heirs.

Now seated at the wedding feast  
in glory with our God,  
receive the prayers of those below  
who tread the path you trod.

All glory to the Trinity,  
Who guides us in His love.  
Through your fraternal prayers lead us  
to join your ranks above. Amen.

Melody: CM

Ant. 1 Sing praise to our God, all you his servants and those who fear him.

Psalms and canticle from Sunday, Week I

Ant. 2 The Lord chose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of kingdom.

Ant. 3 The Lord adorned them with a crown of justice and gave them a name of glory.

## READING

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

May the Lord increase you and make you overflow with love for one another and for all, even as our love does for you. May he strengthen your hearts, making them blameless and holy before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones.

## RESPONSORY

You O saints, are the glory of the Lord and the honor of his people.

You O saints, are the glory of the Lord and the honor of his people.

The Lord has given you a crown of glory and a name that will last for ever.

And the honor of his people.

Glory to the Father...

You, O saints...

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. The glorious company of saints and all your elect acclaim you together with one voice: Blessed Trinity, One God.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us give thanks to God the Father, who cleanses us in the blood of his Son and enlightens us with the grace of the Holy Spirit, that our lives may shine with works of faith, hope and charity. Let us pray to him:

*Lord, sanctify your people redeemed by Christ.*

God, you promised your people the triumph of justice, protect the holiness of your Church.

God, in whom we live and move and have our being, come and reveal in us the fact that we are your people.

Lord God, open the hearts of all people to your Word, so that they may be strengthened in holiness.

Lord, source and author of all holiness, unite our Order more closely to Christ through the mystery of the Eucharist, that it may grow in knowledge of you and flourish in holiness.

Grant that we may thirst for Christ and run to him, as to a fountain of living water.

Through your Son, by the working of the Holy Spirit, you make the human race a holy people, direct all nations in harmony along the ways of justice and peace.

Sanctify all of us whom you have called to perfect charity, so that we may live worthy lives, pleasing you in all we do.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

God of all holiness,  
you bring us together from many nations  
to praise the Holy Trinity.  
May we persevere  
in seeking after the perfection of the Gospel  
and walk worthily in the vocation  
to which you have called us.  
We ask this...

## **Daytime Prayer**

Antiphons and psalms from the current weekday.

## **Midmorning**

### **READING**

1 Peter 1:15-16

Become holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct, after the likeness of the holy One who called you; remember, Scripture says, "Be holy, for I am holy".

Rejoice and be glad, all you saints.

For your reward is great in heaven.

## **Midday**

### **READING**

Wisdom 3:9

Those who trust in the Lord shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

Blessed are all who love you, O Lord.

They rejoice in your mercy.

## **Midafternoon**

### **READING**

Cf. Romans 8:28

We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

All who see them will know them, for they are the people the Lord has blessed.

PRAYER, as in Morning Prayer

## **Evening Prayer**

### **HYMN**

With our hymns, we sing the praises  
of these servants of the Lord.

Heav'n and earth unite to crown them  
for they gained the great reward:

while they lived their lives among us,  
faith and deeds were in accord.

Gentle, humble, chaste and loving,  
they led lives that knew no shame.  
By their constant, faithful efforts,  
they the Kingdom did proclaim.  
While on earth they were God's temples,  
till to Him their spirits came.

They rejoice in helping others  
and to suffering bring release.  
They console the broken-hearted,  
troubled souls recover peace.  
By their prayers for those afflicted,  
misery and anguish cease.

Therefore let our hymns continue  
to these loving brethren blest.  
May our thanks and praise be given  
to them as in Christ they rest.  
In our daily needs and labours,  
may their aid still be expressed.

Honour, glory, might and worship  
to the one true God, the Lord!  
May the highest praise be rendered  
and his Name be e'er adored.  
By his word the world is fashioned,  
and to life it is restored. Amen.

Melody: 87, 87, 87

Ant. 1 Blessed be the Lord who has redeemed all peoples and has called all from darkness into his own wonderful light.

Psalms 110:1-5, 7

The Lord's revelation to my Master:

"Sit on my right:  
your foes I will put beneath your feet".

The Lord will wield from Zion  
your sceptre of power:  
rule in the midst of all your foes.

A prince from the day of your birth  
on the holy mountains;  
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.  
"You are a priest for ever,  
a priest like Melchizedek of old".

The Master standing at your right hand  
will shatter kings in the day of his great wrath.

He shall drink from the stream by the wayside  
and therefore he shall lift up his head.

Ant. 1 Blessed be the Lord who has redeemed all peoples and has called all from darkness into his own wonderful light.

Ant. 2 Let us glorify the Lord who enriches his servants with heavenly gifts.

Psalms 116:10-19

I trusted, even when I said:

"I am sorely afflicted",  
and when I said in my alarm:  
"No man can be trusted".

How can I repay the Lord  
for his goodness to me?  
The cup call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil



O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Ant. 3 The assembly of saints rejoices in the Kingdom of God and sings hymns of glory before the throne of God, alleluia.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain

to receive power and riches,  
wisdom and strength,  
honour and glory and praise.

Ant. 3 The assembly of saints rejoices in the Kingdom of God and sings hymns of glory before the throne of God, alleluia.

## READING

2 Corinthians 6:16

You are temple of the living God, just as God has said: "I will dwell with them and walk among them. I will be their God and they shall be my people".

## RESPONSORY

The God of all grace called us to his glory.  
The God of all grace called us to his glory.

That we might be holy and spotless in his sight, he called us to his glory.

Glory to the Father...  
The God of all grace...

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. The saints sing a new hymn before the throne of God and the Lamb, and the earth resounds with their voices: Holy, Holy, Holy!

## INTERCESSIONS

Glory and honor to God the Father, who revealed a new and everlasting covenant with his people in the blood of Christ; through the outpouring and work of the Holy Spirit, he purifies and strengthens our hearts in love. In prayer, we say:

*Lord, bless your people.*

Lord, strengthen the vocation of those who, leaving all things, have followed Christ, so that they may be living witnesses of the holiness of the Church to all people.

Sanctify us, Lord, by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, make us perfect as we follow your Son.

You are the source of holiness, keep us holy and pure.

Help us to understand the mystery of Christ more profoundly, so that our lives may express his love more clearly.

Holy Father, you have reconciled us to yourself in Christ, keep us united in your name that we may be one and grow in charity.

Cleanse and renew our Order, may it bear genuine witness to the Gospel.

You called us to perfect charity, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, teach us to come to you through Christ, your Son.

You are enthroned in glory with the Son and the Holy Spirit, make the souls of the faithful departed rejoice in the light of your presence.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

God of all holiness,  
you bring us together from many nations  
to praise the Holy Trinity.  
May we persevere  
in seeking after the perfection of the Gospel  
and walk worthily in the vocation  
to which you have called us.  
We ask this..

## **November 14**

ALL DECEASED OF THE TRINITARIAN ORDER

All as in the Office of the Dead except the following:

### **Office of Readings**

#### **SECOND READING**

From the sermons of Saint Augustine, Bishop

(Sermo 173: PL 38, 937-939)

*We shall die in the body; but if we have faith we shall live*

When we celebrate the anniversary of our departed brothers and sisters, we should keep in mind something that is to be hoped for, and something that is to be feared. What is to be hoped for? "Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful one". And what is to be feared? "The death of sinners is disastrous". Likewise, in hope: "The just shall be in everlasting remembrance" and "He shall not fear an evil report". But there will be an evil report – and nothing can be worse – for those on the left who will hear, "Depart into everlasting fire". The just, on the contrary, shall not fear this evil report. They will be among those on the right, and to them it will be said, "Come, you have my Father's blessing! Inherit the Kingdom!"

In this life, which we live out between the highest good and the worst evil, we should keep in mind what the Gospel says: "Whoever believes in me, though they should die, will come to life". What does it mean to say that "though they shall die, they shall come to life?" It means that, though they die in the body, they will come to life in the spirit. Then Jesus adds, "Whoever is alive and believes in me, will never die". But earlier he says "though they should die" – how then can he say "they will never die?" What he means is that, "Though they should die" in time, "they will never die" in eternity. Thus, the problem is solved, for the words of truth cannot contradict one another, and they have the ability to nourish holy affections.

Thus, though we should die in our bodies, we shall live if we have faith. Our faith in the resurrection of the dead, however, is very different from any belief of the pagans. Thus, the Apostle Paul says, "We would have you be clear about those who sleep in death, friends; otherwise, you might yield to grief, like those who have no hope". It is not that you will not grieve, but rather that you will not grieve like the pagans who have no hope. It is necessary that you grieve, but when you grieve, your hope will console you. How could you not grieve when a body which was living is left motionless with the departure of the soul? What is not seen departs; what remains is seen with sorrow. But if this is the cause of sorrow, there is also consolation for this sorrow. What consolation? "The Lord himself will come down from heaven at the word of command, at the sound of the Archangel's voice and God's last trumpet blast; and those who have died in Christ will rise first. Then we, the living, the survivors, will be caught up with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air". Will this be for a short time only? No! What then? "Thenceforth we shall be with the Lord unceasingly". So, let sorrow disappear when so great is the consolation!

#### **RESPONSORY**

Cf: 1 Thes 4:13-14; Jer 22:10

Do not yield to grief about those who sleep in death, like those who have no hope.

If we believe that Jesus died and rose, God will bring forth with him the dead those who have fallen asleep believing in him.

Weep not, mourn not for one who dies.

If we believe that Jesus died and rose...

## PRAYER

All-powerful and ever-living God,  
you are the giver of all life on earth  
and the perfect joy of the saints in heaven.  
Give the departed brothers and sisters of our Order  
The fullness of joy in the kingdom of your glory.  
We ask this...

This prayer is used also at Morning and Evening Prayer and at all minor Hours.

# DECEMBER

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## December 17

### ST. JOHN DE MATHA, PRIEST

Founder of the Order of the Most Holy Trinity

Solemnity

John de Matha was born in Faucon in Provence around the year 1154. He completed his graduate studies with honors at the University of Paris, where he later taught theology. Ordained to the priesthood, he experienced a heavenly vision while offering his first Mass. He quickly realized that he had been destined by the Lord to redeem Christian captives. To attain this objective, he founded the Order of the Most Holy Trinity at Cerfroid in 1194. He wrote the Order's Rule, which was approved by Innocent III on December 17, 1198. Professing the Rule with great zeal, he was very active in redeeming Christian captives and performing works of mercy. In all this, he sought the glory of the Triune God, whose mystery of Love and Redemption he set as the foundation and purpose of his Order. He died at Rome in the house of St. Thomas in Formis on the Caelian Hill on December 17, 1213.

### Evening Prayer I

HYMN

All the ages will revere you,  
O our holy father John,  
with the title of redeemer,  
for the saving work you won.  
Those oppressed as suff'ring captives  
through you had their bonds undone.

God approved your undertaking  
and confirmed it as his own.  
As you served him made known:  
the Redeemer, robed in splendour,  
was revealed upon his throne.

For this work the Order founding,  
John assumed the task esteemed.  
Felix came to join his efforts  
and was to the labor teamed:  
and the Trinity was honoured  
as the captives were redeemed.

With our fervour we entreat you,  
God, the Holy Trinity:

loose all bondage that afflicts us,  
free us from captivity.  
Make us, Christ, your fellow-workers  
in redemptive ministry. Amen.

Melody: 87, 87, 87

Ant. 1 The Lord looked down from heaven, and heard the cries of the captives, and freed those condemned to die.

#### Psalm 146

My soul, give praise to the Lord;  
I will praise the Lord all my days,  
make music to my God while I live.

Put no trust in princes,  
in mortal men in whom there is no help.  
Take their breath, they return to clay  
and their plans that day come to nothing.

He is happy who is helped by Jacob's God,  
whose hope is in the Lord his God,  
who alone made heaven and earth,  
the seas and all they contain.

It is he who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free,

the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan.

It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age.

Ant. 1 The Lord looked down from heaven, and heard the cries of the captives, and freed those condemned to die.

Ant. 2 The Lord sent redemption to his people through his servant John, for the salvation of many.

Psalm 147: 1-11

Praise the Lord for he is good;  
sing to our God for he is loving:  
to his our praise is due.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem  
and brings back Israel's exiles,  
he heals the broken-hearted,  
he binds up all their wounds.  
He fixes the number of the stars;  
he calls each one by its name.

Our Lord is great and almighty;  
his wisdom can never measured.  
The Lord raises the lowly;  
he humbles the wicked to the dust.  
O sing to the Lord, giving thanks;  
sing psalms to our God with the harp.

He covers the heavens with clouds;  
he prepares the rain for the earth,  
making mountains sprout with grass  
and with plants to serve man's needs.  
He provides the beasts with their food  
and young ravens that call upon him.

His delight is not in horses  
nor his pleasure in warrior's strength.  
The Lord delights in those who revere him,  
in those who wait for his love.

Ant. 2 The Lord sent redemption to his people through his servant John, for the salvation of many.

Ant. 3 He redeemed captives from the hand of the foe and gathered them from all lands.



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

Ant. 3 He redeemed captives from the hand of the foe and gathered them from all lands.

## READING

Hebrews 13:1-3

Love your fellow Christians always. Do not neglect to show hospitality, for by that means some have entertained angels without knowing it. Be as mindful of prisoners as if you were sharing their imprisonment, and of the ill-treated as of yourselves, for you may yet suffer as they do.

Or:

## READING

Galatians 5:13-14

My brothers, remember that you have been called to live in freedom – but not a freedom that gives free rein to the flesh. Out of love, place yourselves at one another's service. The whole law has found its fulfilment in this one saying: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself".

## RESPONSORY

John broke the bonds of the captives asunder, he redeemed them from slavery.

John broke the bonds of the captives asunder, he redeemed them from slavery.

That they might pass to the glorious freedom of the children of God, he redeemed them from slavery.

Glory to the Father...

John broke the bonds...

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Because of the ardent love with which blessed John loved the captives, he renounced all his possessions and did not hesitate to lay down his life.

## INTERCESSIONS

Brothers, as we celebrate the solemnity of our holy father John, let us direct our prayers of praise and glory together to God, One and Three:

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.*

God our Father, send your Spirit, the Comforter, upon your Church in the name of your Son, may he keep it in the bond of love and truth.

Only Son, you led our captivity captive; restore the freedom of the children of God to our brothers and sisters who suffer captivity in body or spirit, through the Holy Spirit, may they abide in you and be called children of God.

Holy Spirit, Father of the poor and Comforter of the afflicted, grant relief to the oppressed, trust to the despairing, consolation to the grieving, joy to the sorrowful, hope and health to the sick, may all seek and love the heavenly Father by following the Gospel of Christ.

Lord, send laborers into your harvest to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, strengthen them in faith, hope and charity.

God our Father, keep us in the love of your Spirit, following in the footsteps of our holy father John, may we be worthy ministers of your Son's redemption.

Father of the living, grant full redemption to the departed, especially to our deceased brothers and sisters and to our benefactors, may they enter into your glory, where your Son and the Holy Spirit reign with you in eternal unity.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

Father,  
you filled our holy father John  
with the mercy of your Son  
and the love of the divine Spirit.  
May we follow in his footsteps  
by worshipping the Holy Trinity  
and practicing the works of redemption and charity.  
We ask this...

Or:

Almighty and ever-living God,  
you blessed our holy father John  
with the gifts of faith and charity.  
May we follow in his footsteps  
by redeeming our brothers and sisters  
from all captivity of soul and body  
for the glory of the Holy Trinity.  
Grant this...

#### INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship Christ, the Redeemer of all.

Invitatory psalm

## Office of Readings

### HYMN

By the will of the heav'n above,  
on earth below is found  
the Order of redemptive love  
to free the captives bound.

John for the task is set apart  
by God the Trinity;  
he consecrates his life and heart  
to saving charity.

For those who seek nobility,  
inspired by heaven's call:  
to love and serve God, One and Three,  
exceeds the hopes of all.

Belov'd of the redeeming Christ  
is John who chooses here  
redemption of all those chastised  
by bondage cruel and drear.

O God, when time has run its course  
and all in judgement share,  
no other deed shall have more force  
than love's redemptive care.

To save his neighbors from distress  
and ease their cruel plight,  
John shared in their dark bitterness  
and led them out to light.

O God, Redeemer, set us free  
and keep us without strife;  
restore to all their dignity  
that you might be our Life. Amen.

Melody: CM

Ant. 1 The captives called out to the Lord, and he heard them; he sent his servant John to break their bonds asunder.

Psalm 102

I

O Lord, listen to my prayer  
And let my cry for help reach you.  
Do not hide your face from me  
in the day of my distress.  
Turn your ear towards me  
and answer me quickly when I call.

For my days are vanishing like smoke,  
my bones burn away like a fire.  
My heart is withered like the grass.  
I forget to eat my bread.  
I cry with all my strength  
and my skin clings to my bones.

I have become like a pelican in the wilderness,  
like an owl in desolate places.  
I lie awake and I moan  
like some lonely bird on a roof.  
All day long my foes revile me;  
those who hate me use my name as a curse.

The bread I eat is ashes;  
my drink is mingled with tears.  
In your anger, Lord and your fury  
you have lifted me up and thrown me down.  
My days are like a passing shadow  
and I wither away like the grass.

Ant. 1 The captives called out to the Lord, and he heard them; he sent his servant John to break their bonds asunder.

Ant. 2 He freed the poor who called out to him, and the needy who had no helper; he delivered them from oppression and violence.

## II

But you, O Lord, will endure for ever  
and your name from age to age.  
You will arise and have mercy on Zion:  
for this is the time to have mercy;  
yes, the time appointed has come  
for your servants love her very stones,  
are moved with pity even for her dust.

The nations shall fear the name of the Lord  
and all the earth's kings your glory,  
when the Lord shall build up Zion again  
and appear in all his glory.  
Then he will turn to the prayers of the helpless;  
he will not despise their prayers.

Let this be written for ages to come  
that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord;  
for the Lord leaned down from his sanctuary on high.  
He looked down from heaven to the earth  
that he might hear the groans of the prisoners  
and free those condemned to die.

The sons of your servants shall dwell untroubled  
and their race shall endure before you  
that the name of the Lord may be proclaimed in Zion  
and his praise in the heart of Jerusalem,  
when peoples and kingdoms are gathered together  
to pay their homage to the Lord.

Ant. 2 He freed the poor who called out to him, and the needy who had no helper; he delivered them from oppression and violence.

Ant. 3 John loved his neighbour, for whom he constantly prayed and was ready to give his life.

Psalm 107:1-16

"O give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
for his love endures for ever".

Let them say this, the Lord's redeemed,  
whom he redeemed from the hand of the foe  
and gathered from far-off lands,  
from east and west, north and south.

Some wandered in the desert, in the wilderness,  
finding no way to a city they could dwell in.  
Hungry they were and thirsty;  
their soul was fainting within them.

Then they cried to the Lord in their need  
and he rescued them from their distress  
and he led them along the right way,  
to reach a city they could dwell in.

Let them thank the Lord for his love,  
for the wonders he does for all people.  
For he satisfies the thirsty soul;  
he fills the hungry with good things.

Some lay in darkness and in gloom,  
prisoners in misery and chains,  
having defied the words of God  
and spurned the counsels of the Most High.  
He crushed their spirit with toil;  
they stumbled; there was no one to help.

Then they cried to the Lord in their need  
and he rescued them from their distress.  
He led them forth from darkness and gloom  
and broke their chains to pieces.

Let them thank the Lord for his goodness,  
for the wonders he does for all people:  
for he bursts the gates of bronze  
and shatters the iron bars.

Ant. 3 John loved his neighbour, for whom he constantly prayed and was ready to give his life.

They cried out to the Lord in their distress, and he delivered them from all their afflictions.

## FIRST READING

From the book of the prophet Isaiah

61:1-4; 62:10-12; 63:7-8

*The Lord sent me to proclaim freedom to captives*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favour from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God, to comfort all who mourn; to place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes, to give them the oil of gladness in place of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a listless spirit. They will be called oaks of justice, planted by the Lord to show his glory. They shall rebuild the ancient ruins, the former wastes they shall raise up and restore the ruined cities, desolate now for generations.

Pass through, pass through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, raise up a standard over the nations. See, the Lord proclaims to the ends of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, your Saviour comes! Here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. They shall be called the holy people, the redeemed of the Lord, and you shall be called "Frequented", a city that is not forsaken.

The favors of the Lord I will recall, the glorious deeds of the Lord, because of all he has done for us; for is good to the house of Israel, he has favored us according to his mercy and his great kindness.

He said: They are indeed my people, children who are not disloyal; so he became their savior in their every affliction.

## RESPONSORY

This is John, to whom the Redeemer appeared between two captives, to free Christians held captive and strengthen those whose faith was shaken.

This man gave himself for his brothers and sisters, to free Christians held captive...

Or:

From the book of Exodus

5:1-11; 6:1-6

*I am the Lord who will lead you out of slavery*

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Let my people go, that they may celebrate a feast to me in the desert". Pharaoh answered, "Who is the Lord, that I should heed his plea to let Israel go? I do not know the Lord; even if I did, I would not let Israel go". They replied, "The God of the Hebrews has sent us word. Let us go a three days' journey in the desert, that we may offer sacrifice to the Lord, our God; otherwise he will punish us with pestilence or the sword".

The king of Egypt answered them, "What do you mean, Moses and Aaron, by taking the people away from their work? Off to your labor! Look how numerous the people of the land are already", continued Pharaoh, "and yet you would give them rest from their labor!"



That very day Pharaoh gave the taskmasters and foremen of the people this order: "You shall no longer supply the people with straw for their brick-making as you have previously done. Let them go and gather straw themselves! Yet you shall levy upon them the same quota of bricks as they have previously made. Do not reduce it. They are lazy; that is why they are crying, 'Let us go to offer sacrifice to our God'. Increase the work for the men, so that they keep their minds on it and pay no attention to lying words".

So the taskmasters and foremen of the people went out and told them, "Thus says Pharaoh: I will not provide you with straw. Go and gather the straw yourselves, wherever you can find it. Yet there must not be the slightest reduction in your work".

The Lord answered Moses, "Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh. Forced by my mighty hand, he will send them away; compelled by my outstretched arm, he will drive them from his land". God also said to Moses, "I am the Lord. As God the Almighty I appeared to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, but my name, Lord, I did not make known to them. I also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they were living as aliens. And now that I have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are treating as slaves, I am mindful of my covenant. Therefore, say to the Israelites: I am the Lord. I will free you from the forced labor of the Egyptians and will deliver you from their slavery. I will rescue you by my outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgement".

**RESPONSORY**, as above last responsory

## **SECOND READING**

From a Bull of Pope Innocent III

(Bulla "Operante" 17 dec. 1198, Reg. Vat. Vol. 4, Fol. 126, V)

### *Servants and ministers of the Trinity*

Innocent, Bishop, Servant of the Servants of God, to our beloved son, John, Minister, and the Brothers of the Holy Trinity, our greetings and apostolic blessings.

Placed, as We are, at the summit of the Apostolic See by the efficacious mercy of God, it is our duty to lend our support to upright desires, and make them effective when they stem from the root of charity, especially in the case where what is sought are the interests of Jesus Christ and common good is preferred to personal gain.

When you, beloved son in Christ, Brother John, Minister, had formerly approached our presence and had taken care to indicate humbly to Us your project, which is believed to have come from divine inspiration, petitioning that your intent be strengthened by apostolic protection, We naturally – in order that We might better know that your desire is founded in Christ, without whom no stable foundation can be laid – judged it opportune to send you back, with our letters, to our venerable brother..., the Bishop of Paris, and our beloved son..., the Parisian Abbot of St. Victor, so that, through them, inasmuch as they are thoroughly acquainted with your desire, We could be instructed about your intent and its benefit, about the foundation of your Order and its way of life, and thus give you our assent more assuredly and more effectively.

Since, as We have learned from their letters, it is clear that you seem to seek the interest of Christ rather than your own, and since We wish that apostolic protection assist you, We grant to you and to your successors, by the authority of this document, the Rule according to which you are to live. My son and Minister, the aforementioned Bishop and Abbot have sent to Us, along with their letters, the body of the Rule augmented with those points which We ordered to be added, according to our own judgement and at your request. We mandate that this charter of concession remain inviolate forever. We have also disposed for the sake of evidence and clarity, that the Rule's text be reported in this document.

In the name of the holy and undivided Trinity.

The Brothers of the House of the Holy Trinity are to live in obedience to the prelate of their house – who shall be called Minister – in chastity and without personal possessions.

All things, from whatsoever lawful source they may come, the Brothers are to divide into three equal parts. Insofar as two parts will be sufficient, they are to provide for carrying on the works of mercy, as well as provide for a moderate sustenance for themselves and the required domestics. The third part is to be reserved for the ransom of captives who are incarcerated for the faith of Christ by pagans: with a reasonable price paid either for their ransom or for the ransom of pagan captives, so that afterwards by a reasonable exchange and in good faith a Christian may be ransomed for a pagan according to the merits and status of the persons.

All the churches of this Order are to be named in honor of the Holy Trinity and they are to be of simple construction...

In conclusion, no one at all is to violate this charter of our concession and disposition or rashly dare to oppose it. Should anyone dare to do so, let him realize that he will incur the wrath of God Omnipotent and of his blessed apostles Peter and Paul.

Issued at the Lateran, on December 17, in the year of the Incarnation of the Lord one thousand one hundred ninety-eight, in the first year of our pontificate.

### RESPONSORY

To you be praise, glory and thanksgiving, for ever, blessed Trinity.

You made John go before us in the sublime work of redeeming captives, and to show us the way.

And blessed is your holy and glorious name, praiseworthy and exalted above all for ever, blessed Trinity.

You made John...

Or:

From "Story of Foundation of the Order of the Most holy Trinity" by an anonymous author of the Thirteenth Century

(Biblio. Nat. Paris.: cod. Ms. Lat. 9753, vol. 10, V)

*John saw the Lord Jesus holding the hands of two chained captives*

This is the origin and the reason for which this Order of the Holy Trinity and of the Captives was founded, and here is the miracle which inspired its foundation.

There was a certain good cleric, holding a chair of Theology at the University of Paris, named Prevostin, who was held in high esteem as a philosopher. Under his guidance, another young Master studied and attained a chair in Theology in Paris also; his name was John of Provence. He was a man who feared God, serving him day and night. From early childhood, he had made a firm decision to enter an Order, but he did not know clearly which one. He often had to bear ridicule from his companions because he was so zealous in his service of God. Thinking of how he might live in peace with his companions and yet be able to serve God, he decided to seek ordination to the priesthood, which he did so that he would have a logical reason for reciting the Divine Office and spending more time in prayer.

Lovingly and ceaselessly he beseeched the Lord to show him what Order he should join. As the time approached to celebrate his first Mass, he asked the Lord Bishop of Paris, the Abbot of St. Victor of Paris and his mentor, Prevostin, to attend. On the day of the celebration, all the important figures of Paris were present for the occasion. During the Mass, when he got to the consecration of the sacred species, he begged the Lord to show him what Order he should enter for his salvation, if God so willed. Then, when he lifted his eyes to heaven, he saw the majesty of God, and the Lord Jesus holding in his hands two men with chains on their legs: one was black and misshapen, the other white and emaciated. Since he was delaying so long

during the consecration of the sacred species, those who were present, namely the Bishop, the Abbot, Master Prevostin and all others were astounded and kept asking each other what was happening. But, looking up toward heaven, the Bishop, the Abbot and Master Prevostin saw the same vision and glorified the Lord. Then they roused him, and regaining himself, he continued the celebration.

Once the Mass was ended, they questioned him as to what he had seen. He admitted that he had seen the vision and praised the Lord; likewise, those who had also seen it admitted that they had. After reflecting on the meaning of the vision, John, the Bishop of Paris and the Abbot of St. Victor drafted the Rule of Life and the other directives in conformity with the members of the new Order were to live. Later, the Lord Bishop and the others, wishing that the Rule be confirmed by the Lord Pope, wrote to the Lord Pope saying that he could believe the bearer of the letter, and that what he had seen was true. The Bishop gave the letter to Master John of Provence, who quickly as he was able, began his journey and headed toward Rome. But, on the way, he came to a certain place called Cerfroid. Four hermits living there questioned him as to where he was going and why he was heading for Rome. Since they persisted in questioning him, he explained the reason to them. They rejoiced at what they heard, and, providing that he succeeded in his cause of establishing the Order, they offered themselves and all they had to God and the Order. In short, Master John, arriving at the Apostolic See, had an audience with the Lord Pope, and showing him his letters of recommendation, told and explained the vision that he had seen. The Pope did not want to believe him and considered him and considered him and the bishop fools for testifying to such things. John set out for Paris. Not long thereafter, the same vision which Master John had seen appeared to the Lord Pope as he celebrated Mass. He regretted that he had not granted Master John's petition, and sent messengers to call him back, if they could find him. The Lord Pope said, "May the Lord send him back to me".

Indeed, a little later, that holy man again headed for Rome, and in an audience with the Lord Pope, he obtained what he sought.

Thus – thanks be to God – the Order of the Holy Trinity began in the year of our Lord one thousand one hundred and ninety-eight.

**RESPONSORY**, as above last responsory

HYMN Te Deum

PRAYER

Father,  
you filled our holy father John  
with the mercy of your Son  
and the love of the divine Spirit.  
May we follow in his footsteps  
by worshipping The Holy Trinity  
and practicing the works of redemption and charity.  
We ask this...

Or:

Almighty and everliving God,  
you blessed our holy father John  
with the gifts of faith and charity.

May we follow in his footsteps  
by redeeming our brothers and sisters  
from all captivity of soul and body  
for the glory of the Holy Trinity.  
Grant this...

### **Morning Prayer**

#### HYMN

Jesus, Redeemer of our pains,  
the source and goal of charity:  
You free us from all binding chains  
and from all dread captivity.

To serve you with devotion true,  
to free the captive multitude,  
John struggled on his whole life through  
for all held fast in servitude.

Consumed by holy zeal's demands,  
impelled by Christ's undying love,  
John trav'led to the furthest lands  
to bring redemption from above.

O Christ, true fount of charity,  
who touched our father from above:  
fill all in our community  
with that same blest redemptive love.

Jesus, you wish to make us free:  
keep us from bondage here below  
and grant us all true liberty  
that, bound to you, our hearts may grow.

O Three-fold Light, our God most true,  
John placed our Order in your care.  
Now freed by three-fold bonds to you,  
grant us your life and love to share.

Praise God the Father and His Son,

who freed us from captivity,  
and God the Spirit, Three in One,  
the ever-blessed Trinity. Amen.

Meter: LM

Ant. 1 I will praise the name of my Lord in songs, for he has heard the cry of the poor and did not remain unmindful of their bonds.

Psalms and canticle from Sunday, Week I

Ant. 2 I will glorify the Lord with praise, for he sent his servant John to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners.

Ant. 3 O Blessed John, you were destined by the Lord to be a redeemer of captives and a comfort to the poor.

#### READING

Isaiah 61:1-3a

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God, to comfort all who mourn; to place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes, to give them the oil of gladness in place of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a listless spirit.

Or:

#### READING

Isaiah 58:6-7

This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own.

#### RESPONSORY

To you be praise, glory and thanksgiving, O blessed Trinity.

To you be praise, glory and thanksgiving, O blessed Trinity.

You sent redemption to your people, O blessed Trinity.

Glory to the Father...

To you be praise...

#### CANTICLE OF ZACHARIAH

Ant. Neither death nor life, neither the present nor the future, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God.

Or:

Ant. The Lord fashioned you that you might open the eyes of the blind and lead the captives from captivity and those sitting in darkness from their prisons.

#### INTERCESSIONS

Let us continually praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, dwelling in our midst, saying:

*To you be praise, glory and thanksgiving, blessed Trinity*

God our Father, you gave us the Son and the Holy Spirit, through them, may all come to know the mystery of your divine love.

Only Son, you asked the Father to give us the Comforter, may the Spirit of truth and love remain with us.

Holy Spirit, you ceaselessly cry out in our hearts: Abba Father!, make us attentive to your action so that we may always call upon the Father and be heirs with Christ.

Christ, you sent the Comforter from the Father to bear witness to you, faithful to the spirit of our holy father John, may we continue his work of redemption, and become sacrifices of praise to the Most Holy Trinity.

God of mercy, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, may all of us who are dedicated to the Holy Trinity in a special way, love you above all things, and may our lives and service to others be a continual praise to you.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

Father,  
you filled our holy father John  
with the mercy of your Son  
and the love of the divine Spirit.  
May we follow in his footsteps  
by worshipping the Holy Trinity  
and practicing the works of redemption and charity.  
We ask this...

Or:

Almighty and everliving God,  
you blessed our holy father John  
with the gifts of faith and charity.  
May we follow in his footsteps  
by redeeming our brothers and sisters  
from all captivity of soul and body  
for the glory of the Holy Trinity.  
Grant this...

### **Daytime Prayer**

#### **Midmorning**

Ant. John freed the captives from captivity and those sitting in darkness from their prisons.

#### **Midday**

Ant. Every person will be free and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

#### **Midafternoon**

Ant. The Lord sent John to relieve the misery of the oppressed and to wipe away the tears of the poor.

The following psalms are used during one of the above hours. At the other hours, the complementary psalmody is used.

Psalm 72

I

O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement.

May the mountains bring forth peace for the people  
and the hills, justice.

May he defend the poor of the people

and save the children of the needy  
and crush the oppressor.

He shall endure like the sun and the moon  
from age to age.

He shall descend like rain on the meadow,  
like raindrops on the earth.

In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.

He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

Before him his enemies shall fall,  
his foes lick the dust.

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts  
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba  
shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,  
all nations shall serve him.

## II

For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor.

From oppression he will rescue their lives,  
to him their blood is dear.

Long may he live,  
may the gold of Sheba be given him.  
They shall pray for him without ceasing  
and bless him all the day.

May corn be abundant in the land  
to the peaks of the mountains.  
May its fruit rustle like Lebanon;



may men flourish in the cities  
like grass on the earth.

May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.  
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name.

Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel,  
who alone works wonders,  
ever blessed his glorious name.  
Let his glory fill the earth.

Amen! Amen!

#### Psalm 82

God stands in the divine assembly.  
In the midst of the gods he gives judgement.

"How long will you judge unjustly  
and favour the cause of the wicked?  
Do justice for the weak and the orphan,  
defend the afflicted and the needy.  
Rescue the weak and the poor;  
set them free from the hand of the wicked.

Unperceiving, they grope in the darkness  
and the order of the world is shaken.  
I have said to you: 'You are gods,  
and all of you, sons of the Most High'.  
And yet, you shall die like men,  
you shall fall like any of the princes".

Arise, O God, judge the earth,  
for you rule all the nations.

#### **Midmorning**

Ant. John freed the captives from captivity and those sitting in darkness from their prisons.

## READING

Ephesians 1:13-14

In him you too were chosen; when you heard the glad tidings of salvation, the word of truth, and believed in it, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit who had been promised. He is the pledge of our inheritance, the first payment against the full redemption of a people God has made his own, to praise his glory.

He chose us to be holy and spotless,  
and to live a life of love, in his sight.

## Midday

Ant. Every person will be free and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

## READING

Isaiah 63:9

He became their savior in their every affliction. It was not a messenger or an angel, but he himself who saved them. Because of his love and pity, he redeemed them himself.

He heard the cries of the captives.  
He freed them their distress.

## Midafternoon

Ant. The Lord sent John to relieve the misery of the oppressed and to wipe away the tears of the poor.

## READING

Colossians 1:13-14

He rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son. Through him we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins.

He remembered us in our affliction,  
and redeemed us from our enemies.

## PRAYER

Almighty and ever-living God,  
you blessed our holy father John  
with the gifts of faith and charity.  
May we follow in his footsteps  
by redeeming our brothers and sisters

from all captivity of soul and body  
for the glory of the Holy Trinity.  
Grant this...

## **Evening Prayer II**

### HYMN

Let us sing on earth the praises  
of this servant of the Lord:  
for his life was true and faithful,  
worthy of the great reward.  
For on earth he sang the glory  
of the Trinity's renown;  
and by bearing holy witness,  
he received the promised crown.

He withstood all opposition  
and renounced the passing lure  
of the tempting wealth and fortune  
that the goods of earth procure.  
He remained, through poor and needy,  
wealthy for eternity,  
for he had the love and mercy  
of the Holy Trinity.

Abstaining from worldly honors  
and renouncing passing things,  
he has placed his heart in heaven  
and his soul was granted wings.  
In the fullness of the Kingdom  
did he seek his pleasure new;  
and freed from all earthly longing,  
God became his treasure true.

Blessed man now hear our prayers,  
lend your ear in charity:  
for you are the founding father  
of this whole community.  
Grant us peace of soul and comfort;

keep us free from pain and strife,  
as we follow in your footsteps  
in the way that leads to life.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing  
to the Holy Trinity.

May the praises of all ages  
come to you, O One in Three.

May you grant the gift of heaven  
to all those who seek your face:  
for to those who search sincerely,  
You become the saving grace. Amen.

Melody: 87, 87 D

Ant. 1 The Lord witnessed the affliction of the captives and came down to redeem them.

Psalm 116:1-9

I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him.

They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with the anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.

O Lord my God, deliver me!

How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me.

Turn back, my soul, to your rest  
for the Lord has been good;  
he has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears

and my feet from stumbling.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

Ant. 1 The Lord witnessed the affliction of the captives and came down to redeem them.

Ant. 2 Blessed be God who sent his angel and saved his servants who trusted in him.

#### Psalm 126

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said: "What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!"  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves.

Ant. 2 Blessed be God who sent his angel and saved his servants who trusted in him.

Ant. 3 With his whole heart John praised God: his life was a sacrifice of praise to the Trinity and a steady  
labor of love for captives.

#### Canticle

Colossians 1:12:20

Let us give thanks to the Father  
for having made you worthy  
to share the lot of the saints  
in light.

He rescued us  
from the power of darkness  
and bought us  
into the kingdom of his beloved Son.  
Through him we have redemption,  
the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the invisible God,  
the first-born of all creatures.  
In him everything in heaven and on earth was created,  
things visible and invisible.

All were created through him;  
all were created for him.  
He is before all else that is.  
In him everything continues in being.

It is he who is head of the body, the church;  
he who is the beginning,  
the first-born of the dead,  
so that primacy may be his in everything.

It pleased God to make absolute fullness reside in him  
and, by means of him  
to reconcile everything in his person,  
both on earth and in the heavens,  
making peace through the blood of his cross.

Ant. 3 With his whole heart John praised God: his life was a sacrifice of praise to the Trinity and a steady labor of love for captives.

READIND

Cf. 1 John 3:23-24

Beloved, his commandment is this: we are to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and are to love one another as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him and he in them. And this is how we know that he remains in us: from the Spirit that he gave us.

Or:

## READING

! John 4:11-16

Beloved, if God has loved us so, we must have the same love for one another. No one has ever seen God.

Yet if we love one another God dwells in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us. The way we know we remain in him and he in us is that he has given us of his Spirit. We have seen for ourselves, and can testify, that the Father has sent the Son as savior of the world. When anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwells in him and he in God. We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.

God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

## RESPONSORY

The way we came to understand the love of God was this: that he laid down his life for us.

The way we came to understand the love of God was this: that he laid down his life for us.

We, too, must lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

He laid down his life for us.

Glory to the Father...

The way we came to understand...

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. Tribulations and difficulties could not extinguish the love of John toward the captives, for his heart burned with the love of the Trinity.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us humbly pray to God the Father, who sent his Son to save all peoples, and renews all things through his Spirit, the Comforter:

*Lord, have mercy on your family, and enkindle us with the fire of your love.*

Merciful Father, may we put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Only Son, you proceed from the Father and became one of us by the power of the Holy Spirit, teach us the way to the Father and renew our hearts in the Spirit of your Word.

Holy Spirit, you ceaselessly cry out in our hearts: Abba, Father!, heal the sick, comfort the afflicted, help all those who suffer persecution for Christ, give freedom to captives, and grant health and salvation to all.

Triune God, in you we live and move and have our being; fill us with joy and peace in our faith, perfect our whole Trinitarian family in your love, that all may preserve the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Father of the living, remember those who left this world in peace, sealed by your Spirit, admit them into glory with your Son.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

Father,  
you filled our holy father John  
with the mercy of your Son  
and the life of the divine Spirit.  
May we follow in his footsteps  
by worshipping the Holy Trinity  
and practicing the works of redemption and charity.  
We ask this...

Or:

Almighty and ever living God,  
you blessed our holy father John  
with the gifts of faith and charity.  
May we follow in his footsteps  
by redeeming our brothers and sisters  
from all captivity of soul and body  
for the glory of the Holy Trinity.  
Grant this...



# VOTIVE OFFICE

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## VOTIVE OFFICE OF THE HOLY TRINITY

### INVITATORY

Ant. Come, let us worship the true God: One in the Trinity and a Trinity in One.

Or:

Come, let us worship God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Invitatory psalm

### Office of Readings

#### HYMN

All that you called into being  
and in you find life and light,  
all that grace creation's story  
find in you their true delight,  
Most High Father, Word and Spirit,  
Triune God with but one might.

You grant life in full abundance,  
O Most loving Trinity;  
and in ways past understanding,  
you hold all in harmony.  
Your love is true life in heaven:  
may it be our destiny.

Ev'rything on earth sings praises  
to Your timeless radiance.  
Draw creation toward your splendour,  
that it may be light be filled.  
Let the fire of your own Spirit  
flames of love in all advance.

Joined in spirit to all people  
who in heaven now rejoice,

we unite our prayers and praises,  
with their choirs we form one voice.  
Keep us all a royal priesthood  
and a people of your choice. Amen.

Melody: 87, 87, 87

Or:

Deserving of all heart felt praise,  
O ever-blessed Trinity:  
today in our poor, humble hymns,  
we wish to laud your majesty.

The choirs of heaven worship you,  
O Triune God, with endless songs,  
while all on earth and all that breathes  
acclaim that praise to you belong.

The One, true God is Three-fold light:  
Father, Son and Paraclete:  
with power He creates and leads  
His world to love and life replete.

Both One and Three, a mystery,  
confessed in faith and known by love:  
a Trinity in Unity,  
the Living God, all things above.

All glory, praise and honor be  
to you throughout eternity,  
O Father, Son and Spirit blest,  
the Triune Flame, One Majesty. Amen.

Melody: LM

Or:

O God, the Holy Trinity,  
with order you the world endue.

You granted daylight for our toil  
and night that we might rest in You.

At dawn with hymns to you we come,  
at eventide our prayers ascend;  
through night and day preserve us all  
and your enduring grace extend.

We gather in your presence now  
as servants at their Master's throne.  
Accept the praises we unite  
to hymns the heav'nly hosts intone.

Grant this, O Father, in your love:  
together with your only Son,  
and Holy Spirit, Paraclete,  
you rule while endless ages run. Amen.

Melody: LM

Or:

Praiseworthy Trinity, be blest,  
O wondrous Unity!  
Your power, might and mystery  
flow toward infinity.

O Father, Son and Paraclete,  
eternal, wondrous Light:  
you are love, and purity,  
and endless life's delight.

You crown with love the lives of those  
who in you place their trust;  
you cleanse their sins and miseries  
and count them with the just.

O Father, Son and Spirit blest,  
we ask you: hear our prayers;  
and in your Kingdom, Trinity

may we become true heirs. Amen.

Melody: CM

The antiphons, psalms, verse and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

## SECOND READING

From the first letter to Serapion by Saint Athanasius, bishop  
(Ep. 1 ad Serapionem 28-30: PG 26, 594-595, 599)

*Light, radiance and grace are in the Trinity and from the Trinity*

It will not be out of place to consider the ancient tradition, teaching and faith of the Catholic Church, which was revealed by the Lord, proclaimed by the apostles and guarded by the fathers. For upon this faith the Church is built, and if anyone were to lapse from it, he would no longer be a Christian either in fact or in name.

We acknowledge the Trinity, holy and perfect, to consist of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. In the Trinity there is no intrusion of any alien element or of anything from the outside, nor is the Trinity a blend of a creative and a created being. It is a wholly creative and energizing reality, self-consistent and undivided in its active power, for the Father makes all things through the Word and in the Holy Spirit, and in this way the unity of the Holy Trinity is preserved. Accordingly, in the Church, one God is preached, one God who is "above all things" as Father, for he is principle source; he is "through all things" through the Word; and he is "in all things" in the Holy Spirit. Writing to the Corinthians about spiritual matters, Paul traces all reality back to one God, the Father, saying: "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in everyone".

Even the gifts that the Spirit dispenses to individuals are given by the Father through the Word. For all that belongs to the Father belongs to the Son, and so the graces given by the Son in the Spirit are true gifts of the Father. Similarly, when the Spirit dwells in us, the Word who bestows the Spirit is in us too, and the Father is present in the Word. This is the meaning of the text: "My Father and I will come to him and make our home with him". For where the light is, there also is the radiance; and where the radiance is, there too, are its power and its resplendent grace.

This is also Paul's teaching in his second letter to the Corinthians: "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all". For grace and the gift of the Trinity are given by the Father through the Son in the Holy Spirit. Just as grace is given from the Father through the Son, so there could be no communication of the gift to us except in the Holy Spirit. But when we share in the Spirit, we possess the love of the Father, the grace of the Son and the fellowship of the Spirit himself.

## RESPONSORY

Let us adore the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit; let us praise and exalt God above all forever.

Blessed be God in the firmament of heaven; all praise, all glory to him forever.

Let us praise...

Or:

From a book addressed to Monimus by Saint Fulgentius of Ruspe, bishop  
(Lib. 2, 11-12: CCL 91, 46-48)

*The Trinity, sacrament of unity and love*

The spiritual building up of the body of Christ is achieved through love. As St. Peter says: "Like living stones you are built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ". And there can be no more effective way to pray for this spiritual growth than for the Church, itself Christ's body, to make the offering of his body and blood in the sacramental form of bread and wine. "For the cup we drink is a participation in the blood of Christ, and the bread we break is a participation in the body of Christ. Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body, since we all share the same bread". And so we pray that, by the same grace that made the Church Christ's body, all its members may remain firm in the unity of that body through the enduring bond of love.

We are right to pray that this may be brought about in us through the gift of the one Spirit of the Father and the Son. The Holy Trinity, the One true God, is of its nature unity, equality and love, and by one divine activity sanctifies its adopted sons. That is why Scripture says that "God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit he has given us". The Holy Spirit, who is the one Spirit of the Father and the Son, produces in those to whom he gives the grace of divine adoption the same effect as he produced among those whom the Acts of the Apostles describe as having received the Holy Spirit. We are told "the company of those who believed were of one heart and soul", because the one Spirit of the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is one God, had created a single heart and soul in all those who believed.

This is why St. Paul in his exhortation to the Ephesians says that this spiritual unity in the bond of peace must be carefully preserved. "I, therefore, a prisoner for the Lord," he writes, "beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, with all humility and meekness and with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit".

God makes the Church itself a sacrifice pleasing in his sight by preserving within it the love which his Holy Spirit has poured out. Thus the grace of that spiritual love is always available to us, continually enabling us to offer ourselves to God as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to him forever.

**RESPONSORY**

John 17:20, 21-22

I pray for them, that all may be one as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, I have given them the glory you gave me, that they may be one as we are one.

As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world, that they...

Or:

From the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church of the Second Vatican Council  
(Lumen Gentium, nn. 2-4)

*God renews and sanctifies us in his Son through the Holy Spirit*

By an utterly free and mysterious decree of His own wisdom and goodness, the eternal Father created the whole world. His plan was to dignify men with a participation in His own divine life. He did not abandon men after they had fallen in Adam, but ceaselessly offered them helps to salvation, in anticipation of Christ the Redeemer, "who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature". All the elect, before time began, the Father "foreknew and predestined to become conformed to the image of his Son, that he should be the firstborn among many brethren".

He planned to assemble in the holy Church all those who would believe in Christ. Already from the beginning of the world the foreshadowing of the Church took place. She was prepared for in a remarkable way throughout the history of the people of Israel and by means of the Old Covenant. Established in the present era of time, the Church was made manifest by the outpouring of the Spirit. At the end of time she will achieve her glorious fulfilment. Then, as may be read in the holy Fathers, all just men from the time of Adam, "from Abel, the just one, to the last of the elect", will be gathered together with the Father in the universal Church.

The Son, therefore, came on a mission from His Father. It was in Him, before the foundation of the world, that the Father chose us and predestined us to become adopted sons, for in Him it has pleased the Father to re-establish all things. To carry out the will of the Father, Christ inaugurated the kingdom of heaven on earth and revealed to us the mystery of the Father. By His obedience He brought about redemption. The Church, or, in other words, the kingdom of Christ now present in mystery, grows visibly in the world through the power of God.

This inauguration and this growth are both symbolized by the blood and water which flowed from the open side of the crucified Jesus and are foretold in the Lord's words concerning His death on the cross: "And I, if be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself". As often as the sacrifice of the cross in which "Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed" is celebrated on an altar, the work of our redemption is carried on. At the same time, in the sacrament of the Eucharistic bread the unity of all believers who from one body in Christ is both expressed and brought about. All men are called to this union with Christ, who is the light of the world, from whom we go forth, through whom we live, and toward whom our journey leads us.

When the work which the Father had given the Son to do on earth was accomplished, the Holy Spirit was sent on the day of Pentecost in order that He might forever sanctify the Church, and thus all believers would have access to the Father through Christ in the one Spirit. He is the Spirit of life, a foundation of water springing up to life eternal. Through Him the Father gives life to men who are dead from sin, till at last He revives in Christ even their mortal bodies.

The Spirit dwells in the Church and in the hearts of the faithful as in a temple. In them He prays and bears witness to the fact that they are adopted sons. The Spirit guides the Church into the fullness of truth and gives her a unity of fellowship and service. He furnishes and directs her with various gifts, both hierarchical and charismatic, and adorns her with the fruits of His grace. By the power of the gospel He makes the Church grow, perpetually renews her, and leads her to perfect union with her Spouse. The Spirit and the Bride both say to the Lord Jesus, "Come!".

Thus, the Church shines forth as "a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit".

**RESPONSORY**

Gal 3:26; 4:6; 1 John 3:1

Each one of you is a child of God because of your faith in Christ Jesus, God has sent forth into your hearts the Spirit of his Son which cries out, "Abba, Father!"

See what love the Father has bestowed on us in letting us be called children of God! Yet that is what we are. God has sent forth...

Or:

From the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of the Second Vatican Council  
(Sacrosanctum Concilium, nn. 5-6)

*God's plan of salvation*

God who "wishes all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth", "in many and various ways... spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets". When the fullness of time had come, He sent His Son, the Word made flesh, anointed by the Holy Spirit, to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the contrite of heart, to be a "bodily and spiritual medicine", the Mediator between God and man. For His humanity, united with the person of the Word, was the instrument of our salvation. Thus in Christ "there came forth the perfect satisfaction needed for our reconciliation, and we received the means for giving worthy worship to God".

The wonders wrought by God among the people of the Old Testament were but a prelude to the work of Christ the Lord in redeeming mankind and giving perfect glory to God. He achieved His task principally by the paschal mystery of His blessed passion, resurrection from the dead, and glorious ascension, whereby "dying he destroyed our death and, rising, he restored our life". For it was from the side of Christ as He slept the sleep of death upon the cross that there came forth the wondrous sacrament which is the whole Church.

Just as Christ was sent by the Father, so also He sent the apostles, filled with the Holy Spirit. This He did so that, by preaching the gospel to every creature, they might proclaim that the Son of God, by his death and resurrection, had freed us from the power of Satan and from death, and brought us into the kingdom of His Father. His purpose was also that they might exercise the work of salvation which they were proclaiming, by means of sacrifice and sacraments, around which the entire liturgical life revolves.

Thus, by baptism men are plunged into the paschal mystery of Christ: they die with Him, are buried with Him, and rise with Him; they receive the spirit of adoption as sons "by virtue of which we cry: Abba, Father", and thus become those true adorers whom the Father seeks. In like manner, as often as they eat the supper of the Lord, they proclaim the death of the Lord until He comes. For that reason, on the very day of Pentecost, when the Church appeared before the world, "those who received the word" of Peter "were baptized". And "they continued steadfastly in the teaching of the apostles and in the communion of the breaking of the bread and in prayers... praising God and being in favour with all the people". From that time onward, the Church has never failed to come together to celebrate the paschal mystery: reading "in all the scriptures the things referring to Christ Jesus", celebrating the Eucharist in which "the victory and triumph of his death are again made present, and at the same time giving thanks" to God for the unspeakable gift of his Son, "to the praise of his glory", through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**RESPONSORY**

1 John 4:9; John 3:16

God's love was revealed in our midst in this way: He sent his only Son into the world, that whoever would believe in him may not die but may have eternal life.

Yes, God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever would believe...

Or:

From the treatise "On the Trinity" by Didymus of Alexandria  
(Lib. 2. 12: PG 39, 667-674)

*The Holy Spirit renews us in baptism*

The Holy Spirit renews us in baptism through his Godhead, which he shares with the Father and the Son. Finding us in a state of deformity, the Spirit restores our original beauty and fills us with his grace, leaving no room for anything unworthy of our appreciation. The Spirit frees us from sin and death, and changes us from the earthly creatures we were, creatures of dust and ashes, into spiritual creatures, shares in the divine glory, offspring and heirs of God the Father who bear a likeness to the Son and are his co-heirs and brothers, destined to reign with him to share his glory. In place of earth, the Spirit re-opens heaven to us and gladly admits us into paradise, giving us even now greater glory than the angels, and by the holy waters of baptism, extinguishing the unquenchable fires of hell.

We creatures are conceived twice: to the human body we owe our first conception, to the divine Spirit, our second. John says, "To all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God. There were born not by human generation, not by the desire of the flesh, not by the will of man, but of God". All who believed in Christ, he says, received power to become children of God, that is, of the Holy Spirit, and to gain kinship with God. To show that their parent was God the Holy Spirit, John adds these words of Christ: "I give you this solemn warning, that without being born of water and the Spirit, no one can enter the kingdom of God".

Visibly, through the ministry of priests, the baptismal font gives symbolic birth to our visible bodies. Invisibly, through the ministry of angels, the Spirit of God, whom even the mind's eye cannot see, baptizes into himself both our souls and bodies, giving them a new birth.

Speaking quite literally, and also in harmony with the words "of water and the Spirit", John the Baptist says of Christ: "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire". Since we are only vessels of clay, we must first be cleansed with water and then hardened by spiritual fire – for "God is a consuming fire". We need the Holy Spirit to perfect and renew us, for spiritual fire can cleanse us, and spiritual water can recast us as in a furnace and make us into new creatures.

**RESPONSORY**

John 15:15; 14:26; 15:14

I no longer speak of you as slaves, for a slave does not know what his master is about. Receive the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, whom the Father sends you.

You are my friends, if you do what I command you. Receive the Holy Spirit...

HYMN Te Deum



## PRAYER

Choose one of the following.

Father,  
you sent your Word to bring us truth  
and your Spirit to make us holy.  
Through them  
we come to know the mystery of your life.  
Help us to worship you, One God in Three Persons,  
by proclaiming and living our faith in you.  
Grant this...

Or:

Father,  
you gather the nations to praise the name of the Trinity.  
May all who are reborn in baptism  
be one in faith and love.  
Grant this...

Or:

Father of our freedom and salvation,  
hear the prayers of those redeemed  
by your Son's sufferings  
and anointed by your Holy Spirit.  
Through you we have life;  
with you may we have eternal joy.  
We ask this...

Or:

All-powerful and ever-living God,  
you sent your beloved Son to redeem us.  
May all who have been born again  
by water and the Spirit  
live up to the dignity  
of being your adopted sons and daughters,  
and enjoy always the grace of your love.

We ask this...

Or:

Almighty and ever-living God,  
your Spirit made us your children  
confident to call you Father.  
Increase the action of your Spirit within us  
and bring us to our promised inheritance.  
Grant this...

Or:

Almighty and ever-living God,  
strengthen our faith, hope and love.  
May we do with loving hearts what you ask of us  
and come to share the life you promise.  
We ask this...

### **Morning Prayer**

#### HYMN

O Trinity, the wondrous Light  
that flows from heaven's holy height:  
receive the fervent hymns and prayer  
which our devoted hearts declare.

Creator of reality,  
Lord, God, and Father almighty:  
let not our faith the mind enthrall,  
but shine in love for you and all.

O Son, the father's clear likeness,  
who shared and healed our brokenness:  
may we be branches which entwine  
with you, the true life-giving Vine.

Spirit, the living Flame of Love,  
send us pure light from heav'n above:

may it all minds and souls renew,  
and with your love our hearts imbue.

You dwell within us, Trinity,  
bound to us through pure charity.  
Lead us to chant unending hymns,  
beholding you with heaven's throngs. Amen.

Melody: LM

Or:

O Trinity in Unity,  
eternal, Holy Light:  
look down with love on us, we pray,  
repentant and contrite.

With faith, the Father we confess,  
and his redeeming Son,  
and Spirit, in our hearts poured forth,  
the Three who are but One.

You are the Truth and Charity  
which we believe and love;  
you are the goal and great reward  
we seek in heav'n above.

Beginning and end of all things,  
the source from which life flows,  
you are the comfort ever near  
that hope on us bestows.

Alone you did creation make,  
in you true light is seen;  
sufficient is your love alone,  
in you all needs foreseen.

O Father, Son and Spirit blest,  
we ask you: hear our prayers,  
and in your Kingdom, Trinity,

may we become true heirs. Amen.

Melody: CM

Or:

O Trinity most glorious!  
O wondrous Unity!  
Your power, might and majesty  
flow from eternity!

You are the source of holiness,  
divine and without end,  
profound, unsounded mystery,  
the light and life of all.

Begotten from the Father's side,  
the Son saves us from death;  
proceeding from the Father's love,  
and Spirit is our breath.

The Son lives in the Father's love,  
in him the Father dwells;  
the Spirit rests upon us all  
and to God's love impels.

O Unity, who are Three-fold,  
O Trinity, One Lord:  
you are the hope, the light, the life:  
you are our great reward.

To God the Father be all praise,  
and to his only Son,  
together with the Paraclete,  
while endless ages run. Amen.

Melody: CM

Or:

O God, who are before all time!  
O God, begotten of true God!  
O God, who from our God proceed,  
may your love be our staff and guide!

May you become our true delight,  
our love, our peace, our dignity.  
May all desire and hope in you  
fulfilment find eternally.

O Father, Lord of all that is,  
with your own Son, the Virgin-born,  
and Holy Spirit, Breath of life,  
you lovingly the world adorn.

Keep in your care, O Trinity,  
the things from which your goodness flow:  
you first created us in love,  
then fashioned us anew by blood.

All fashioned by the Father's hand  
were saved by Christ's great charity;  
the Spirit then called us to form  
the new, redeemed community.

The holy Triune adored  
is worthy to receive all might,  
all honor, glory, praise and strength,  
all loving worship, as is right. Amen.

Melody: LM

The antiphons and psalms are taken from the current weekday. The reading with its responsory may be chosen from the following:

**READING**

2 Corinthians 13:13

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

## RESPONSORY

All praise, all glory be to you, O Holy Trinity.

All praise, all glory be to you, O Holy Trinity.

May we give thanks to you for ever, O Holy Trinity...

Glory to the Father...

All praise...

Or:

## READING

Revelation 7:12

Praise and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving and honor, power and might, to our God for ever end ever.  
Amen!

## RESPONSORY

Blessed is your holy and glorious name, O blessed Trinity.

Blessed is your holy and glorious name, O blessed Trinity.

Praiseworthy and exalted above all for all ages, O blessed Trinity...

Glory to the Father...

Blessed is your holy...

Or:

## READING

Galatians 4:4-6

When the designated time had come, God sent forth his Son born of a woman, born under the law, to deliver from the law those who were subjected to it, so that we might receive our status as adopted sons. The proof that you are sons is the fact that God has sent forth into our hearts the spirit of his Son which cries out "Abba!" ("Father!").

## RESPONSORY

We call upon you, we praise you, we worship you, O blessed Trinity.

We call upon you, we praise you, we worship you, O blessed Trinity.

In you are our hope, our salvation, our glory, O blessed Trinity.

Glory to the Father...

We call upon you...

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

One of the following antiphons may be chosen:

Ant. 1 O holy, undivided Trinity, Creator and Ruler of all that exists, may all praise be yours now, for ever, and for ages unending.

Ant. 2 Glory and honor to God, One in three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for endless ages.

Ant. 3 O blessed and glorious Trinity, we worship you: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Ant. 4 May praises resound for ever from our mouths to God the Father, to his eternal Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Ant. 5 To you, O blessed Trinity, be worship and honor, glory and power, praise and joyful adoration through eternal ages.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let give all honor and glory to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as we cry out with joy:

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

God our Father, send your Spirit to us who know not how to pray as we ought, so that he may help us in our weakness, and bestow upon us those gifts which will make us pleasing to you.

Christ, Son of the living God, you asked the Father to send the Holy Spirit upon your Church, make us worthy to have this Spirit of truth with us always.

Holy Spirit, come to us and bestow upon us your gifts: charity, joy, peace, equanimity, kindness, generosity, patience, faithfulness, self-control, chastity.

Father all powerful, you have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts so that we cry out, "Abba, Father", make us obedient to your Spirit that we may be coheirs with Christ.

Christ Jesus, you sent the Paraclete, upon the Apostles to bear witness to you, enable us also to be your witnesses before all people.

Father of all the living, receive all the departed into the glory of your kingdom, where your Son and the Holy Spirit with you in one and eternal unity.

Or:

All glory and honor to God, for in the blood of Christ he has ratified a new and everlasting covenant with his people, and continually renews us in the Holy Spirit. Let us now lift our voices in prayer to the Triune God:

*Bless your people, Lord.*

Father, help us to put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and fill us with your Holy Spirit.

Lord Jesus, you came from the Father; fill us with your Spirit, and teach us the saving way that leads to the Father.

Holy Spirit, hope of the poor and consoler of the afflicted, bring freedom to those in captivity and joy to those in sorrow.

Lord, sanctify us by the outpouring of your Spirit, and keep us faithful in following your Son.

Holy Father, may we live this day under the direction of the Spirit of Christ, and always walk worthily as your children.

Our Father...

#### PRAYER

The prayer is one of the following:

Father,  
you sent your Word to bring us truth  
and your Spirit to make us holy.  
Through them  
we come to know the mystery of your life.  
Help us to worship you, One God in Three Persons,  
by proclaiming and living our faith in you.  
Grant this...



Or:

Father,  
you gather the nations to praise the name of the Trinity.  
May all who are reborn in baptism  
be one in faith and love.  
Grant this...

Or:

Father of our freedom and salvation,  
hear the prayers of those redeemed  
by your Son's sufferings  
and anointed by your Holy Spirit.  
Through you we have life;  
with you may we have eternal joy.  
We ask this...

Or:

All-powerful and ever-living God,  
you sent your beloved Son to redeem us.  
May all who have been born again  
by water and the Spirit  
live up to the dignity  
of being your adopted sons and daughters,  
and enjoy always the grace of your love.  
We ask this...

Or:

Almighty and ever-living God,  
your Spirit made us your children  
confident to call you Father.  
Increase the action of your Spirit within us  
and bring to our promised inheritance.  
Grant this...

Or:

Almighty and ever-living God,  
strengthen our faith, hope and love.  
May we do with loving hearts what you ask of us  
And come to share the life you promise.  
We ask this...

### **Evening Prayer**

#### HYMN

O triune God of majesty,  
All by your hand was made.  
Time and creation bend to you,  
by you are ages weighed.

Your love alone foresees all needs,  
your care to joy gives birth.  
Your hand extended heaven's vault,  
and limited the earth.

O Father, source of every grace;  
O Son, the Father's Light;  
O Holy Spirit, Paraclete:  
in love, guide all aright.

From you, O blessed Trinity,  
creation takes its source:  
those seeking beauty, life and growth  
to you must have recourse.

You crowned your works by making us  
adopted sons by grace,  
the living temples, mirroring  
the glory of your face.

May we be joined to angel hosts  
and to their choirs belong,  
to thankfully your love proclaim  
in our unending song. Amen.

Melody: CM

Or:

Throughout the world all tongues proclaim  
the Trinity's great power and fame.  
As God and Master of us all,  
He in our worship hears our call.

The Triune God dwells everywhere,  
to him none other can compare.  
He reigns transcendent far above,  
yet tends each creature with his love.

The uncreated Father reigns.  
The Son, begotten, all sustains.  
The Spirit fills with life and light.  
The Three are but one power might.

Our God created everything;  
the Son is our Redeemer-King:  
by taking in Mary's womb,  
He saved us all from sin and tomb.

By essence, God is unity,  
and yet, in equal Persons Three.  
This is the faith the Fathers taught.  
May we confess it as true thought.

All glory to the Father be,  
and Son and Spirit equally.  
Let all creation ever sing  
the praises of our Triune King. Amen.

Melody: LM

Or:

O Trinity of blessed Light,  
O Unity of princely might,  
the fiery sun now goes his way.  
Send Thou within our hearts Your ray.

To Three our morning song of praise,  
To three our evening prayer we raise.  
O grant us with thy saints on high,  
to praise thee through eternity.

All laud to God the Father be.  
All praise, eternal Son, to thee.  
All glory as is ever meet  
to God the Holy Paraclete.

Melody: LM

Or:

O Trinity in Unity,  
draw near with Your pure grace.  
You are the uncreated source,  
assigning all their place.

The hosts of heaven praise your name,  
and bow before your throne;  
and earthy creatures everywhere  
their evening hymns intone.

Your servants bend in worship here  
to glorify your love.  
May our poor hymns on earth be joined  
to those in heav'n above.

Our faith proclaims you as our light:  
O Triune God be blest!  
As Alpha and Omega known,  
You are by all confessed. Amen.

Melody: CM

The antiphons and psalms are taken from the current weekday. The reading with its responsory may be chosen from the following:

#### READING

Romans 11:33-36

How deep are the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! How inscrutable his judgements, how unsearchable his ways! For "who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counsellor? Who has given him anything so as to deserve return?" For from him and through him and for him things are. To him be glory for ever. Amen.

#### RESPONSORY

Let us worship the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; let us praise God for ever.

Let us worship the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; let us praise God for ever.

To God alone be honor and glory; let us praise God for ever.

Glory to the Father...

Let us worship...

Or:

#### READING

Ephesians 4:3-6

Make every effort to preserve the unity which has the Spirit as its origin and peace as its origin and peace as its binding force. There is but one body and one Spirit, just as there is but one hope given all of you by your call. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all, and works through all, and is in all.

#### RESPONSORY

Two seraphim cried one to another: Holy, Holy, Holy.

Two seraphim cried one to another: Holy, Holy, Holy.

Then I heard what sounded like the song of a great crowd, singing; Holy, Holy, Holy.

Glory to the Father...

Two seraphim...

Or:

## READING

Titus 3:5-7

God saved us through the baptism of new birth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he lavished upon us through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs, in hope, of eternal life.

## RESPONSORY

We profess that for you to be, to live, to understand are all one, O Holy Trinity.

We profess that for you to be, to live, to understand are all one, O Holy Trinity.

Save us, set us free and give us life, O Holy Trinity.

Glory to the Father...

We profess...

## CANTICLE OF MARY

One of the following antiphons may be chosen

Ant. 1 We give you thanks, O God: Trinity, one and true, Divinity one and most high, Unity one and holy.

Ant. 2 With our whole heart and voice we acknowledge, we praise and we bless you, God the Father unbegotten; you, the only begotten Son; you, the Holy Spirit, constant friend and guide. Holy and undivided Trinity, to you be honor and glory for ever.

Ant. 3 To you all angels, all the powers of heaven sing in endless praise: Holy, Holy, Holy.

Ant. 4 Throughout the world, the holy Church acclaim you: Father of majesty unbounded; Son, worthy of all worship; Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

Ant. 5 Praise to the Holy Trinity and undivided Unity. Let us praise God for he has shown us his mercy.

## INTERCESSIONS

The Father, through the Holy Spirit, has given life to the humanity of Christ his Son, and has made him a source of life for us. Let us raise our voices in praise to the Triune God:

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

Father, almighty and eternal God, send the Holy Spirit upon your Church, preserve in it the unity of charity and the fullness of truth.

Send laborers into your harvest, Lord to teach the truth to all nations, and to baptize them in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and to confirm them in faith.

Father, strengthen all who suffer persecution in the name of your Son, for he promised to send the Spirit of Truth to answer for them.

Father Omnipotent, may all people come to acknowledge you, together with the Word and the Holy Spirit, as the One True God, may they believe in you, hope in you, and love you.

Father of all the living, bring the dead to share in your glory, the glory of your eternal kingdom where you reign with your Son and the Holy Spirit.

Or:

Let us give thanks to God the Father who gave us his only Son; he purified our hearts and strengthened us by the outpouring and the work of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray:

*Lord, perfect us in love.*

Lord, grant an increase of faith and love to all who have been called to a closer following of Christ, fill us continually with your Spirit.

May we acknowledge the dignity of all who have been redeemed with the blood of your Son and sanctified and respect the freedom of conscience of all our brothers and sisters.

God, in whom we live, move and have our being, come and make us evermore aware that we are yours.

Lord, give us the spirit of prayer and penance, that we might burn with love for you and others.

May the dead attain the glorious freedom of the children of God, and the fullness of redemption.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

The prayer is chosen from one of the following:

Father,  
you sent your Word to bring us truth  
and your Spirit to make us holy.  
Through them  
we come to know the mystery of your life.  
Help us to worship you, One God in Three Persons,  
by proclaiming and living our faith in you.  
Grant this...

Or:

Father of our freedom and salvation,  
hear the prayers of those redeemed  
by your Son's sufferings  
and anointed by your Holy Spirit.  
Through you we have life;  
with you may we have eternal joy.  
We ask this...

Or:

All-powerful and ever-living God,  
you sent your beloved Son to redeem us.  
May all who have been born again  
by water and the Spirit  
live up to the dignity  
of being your adopted sons and daughters,  
and enjoy always the grace of your love.  
We ask this...

Or:

Almighty and ever-living God,  
your Spirit made us your children  
confident to call you Father.  
Increase the action of your Spirit within us



and bring us to our promised inheritance.  
Grant this...

Or:

Almighty and ever-living God,  
strengthen our faith, hope and love.  
May we do with loving hearts what you ask of us  
and come to share the life you promise.  
We ask this...

## **VOTIVE OFFICE OF OUR LADY OF GOOD REMEDY**

### **INVITATORY**

Ant. Come, let us worship Christ the Lord; he has given us Mary as our Mother and Remedy.

Invitatory psalm

### **Office of Readings**

#### **HYMN**

O Mary, you accept our prayers  
and lovingly grant remedy;  
we ask you with humility:  
remain with us continually.

Be with us if we fall in sin  
and feel its cruel captivity:  
break all the bonds which hold us chained,  
and cleanse our hearts' iniquity.

Help us when love is growing cold  
and worldly lures lead us astray;  
let heaven shine within our hearts  
lest we forget salvation's way.

Assist us in our sufferings,  
when body soul or spirit fail.

Bring peace and calm into our lives  
until the light of heav'n prevail.

Be with your children at death's hour;  
protect them in your great pity;  
that with your aid, they may enjoy  
rewards throughout eternity.

With grateful hearts we sing your praise  
with hymns unto the Trinity:  
for giving us in all our needs  
the Virgin as a remedy. Amen.

Melody: LM

Or:

O Mary, hope of faithful hearts,  
raise up those fallen down.  
From slavery to Satan's power  
free those who are your own.

The sadder seek your helping hand,  
the sufferer call your name;  
and all who on the earth do dwell,  
your patronage acclaim.

A mother's care you manifest,  
and help to all extend:  
lift us above life's threatening storms  
by your protecting hand.

Regard your suppliants' prayers and tears,  
O Mother, of mercy well:  
protect us in our struggles here  
for you have conquered hell.

Our fathers placed beneath your care  
our whole community;  
protect it, make it thrive and grow

throughout eternity.

Stir up Your love in every heart,  
O blessed Trinity:  
and as our fathers did decree,  
She shall our model be. Amen.

Melody: CM

Or:

O Virgin Mother of our God,  
you are the daughter of your Son:  
you are the highest work of God,  
yet humblest of all creation.

The myst'ry hidden from the start  
fulfilment reached through you at last.  
You are the honor of our race  
and our true glory unsurpassed.

A living temple you become,  
a noble dwelling all adorned  
so that the Most High Fashioner  
was in you fashioned and man born.

In your pure womb the Son of God  
became a living flame of love;  
and through His warmth on earth appeared  
for man the fruits of heav'n above.

May glory now to God ascend,  
to Father and to Paraclete;  
and to your Son be endless praise,  
who robed you in His grace replete.

Melody: LM

The antiphons, psalms, verse and first reading with its responsory are taken from the current weekday.

## SECOND READING

From the Apostolic Letter "Sacred Vessel of the Holy Trinity" by Pope John XXIII

(AAS LIII, 1961, 602-604)

The Trinitarian religious whose primary duties are to worship the Triune God with a special devotion, to promote this devotion and to aid the needy and those who suffer by performing works of mercy, have honoured the Virgin Mary – Sacred Vessel of the Holy Trinity – under the title of "Mother of Good Remedy" from the very beginnings of their Order.

Indeed, St. John de Matha, their founded and lawgiver, had a great love for the Virgin Mother of God. He founded and spread this holy Order under her protection and bequeathed to his sons and daughters the heritage of a strong Marian devotion. A singular love for the Mother of God has flourished among these religious throughout the ages, for she continually healed the sufferings of her suppliants; indeed, it still flourishes among them up to the present day.

The General Chapter of 1959, aware that such traditional devotion had become even stronger in the Order, decided to express the desire of all religious of the Order and to petition the Apostolic See that the glorious Virgin Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Good Remedy, should be declared the principal, heavenly patroness of the Trinitarian Order.

We have willingly decided to grant this request, hoping that the friars of the Order will be inflamed to honor the Virgin Mary under this title with an even more ardent love. We also trust that they, moved by her example, will more intensely commit themselves to bring relief and remedy to the less fortunate. Therefore, after consulting with the Sacred Congregation of Titles, with full knowledge and mature deliberation, and with the fullness of our apostolic authority, by virtue of this document, we designate and declare the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of Good Remedy, to be forever the heavenly, principal patroness of the whole Order of the Most Holy Trinity, along with St. Agnes, virgin and martyr. The celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Good Remedy is to be given all the liturgical honors and privileges which are fittingly accorded to the patrons of religious Orders and Congregations; moreover, we grant the added faculty of celebrating her feast each year on October 8.

## RESPONSORY

Most powerful Virgin, we come to you in dangers and adversities.

You are our protection, you are our refuge, you are our Mother of Remedy.

You are the hope in which we trust; you are the Patroness to whom we run for help.

You are our protection...

Or:

From "The Book of Miracles of Our Lady of Remedy" by Paul Aznar, priest.  
(Barcelona, 1626, pp. 27-28)

*The mystery of the Incarnation and the glory of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

As soon as the Blessed Virgin Mary gave her consent, God became incarnate in her womb. The Holy Spirit fashioned a perfect soul that he had ever created, and both were joined to the Person of the Eternal Word. Thus, God was made man, that man might become God. In a virginal bridal chamber, God was wed to humankind, and the Virgin Mary was raised to the dignity of the Mother of God.

The whole Trinity rejoices in this mystery of the Incarnation. The Eternal Father exults because of the Son whom he gives us as a gift. The Son rejoices to be made man for the salvation of humankind. The Holy Spirit exults in being the author of this awesome work of mercy and love for humanity.

The soul of Christ, created by God and raised to the sublimity of divinity and enriched by heavenly gifts and virtues, is joyful in being joined to the Person of the Redeemer. Who could ever adequately describe the unfathomable nature of this joy, since it is caused by a human soul being united to a divine Person who is infinite Goodness in himself?

And the Virgin Mary also rejoices in the conception of her Son. Through it she became the Virgin Mother of God – the Mother of the One who came to bring healing to our world. The Incarnation is indeed the event which established Mary as the Mother of the Remedy of the world. What a joy for Mary! What a joy that wells up from within her! If a simple shadowy cloud is transformed into something bright, translucent and resplendently beautiful when a ray of sunshine passes through it, how much more glorious must Mary have become when the Sun of Justice passed into her womb? She, who from the very beginning had been full of grace, now overflows with graces. The Virgin exults in this superabundance of grace, knowing that she has become the heavenly Mother of Remedy for all, both angels and men. May fervent thanks be given to the Holy Trinity for this great favour. Amen.

**RESPONSORY**

Rejoice, Virgin Mary; you are worthy of all praise; from you, Christ our God, the Sun of Justice, has risen.

He freed us from the curse and won for us God's favour; he destroyed death and granted us everlasting life.  
From you, Christ our God...

Or:

From "The Book of Miracles of Our Lady of Remedy" by Paul Aznar, priest.  
(Barcelona, 1626, pp. 35-36)

*Gratitude to the Trinity for the grace of Redemption*

There is a reason why the Most Holy trinity desired the foundation of our holy Order and why it wished the Blessed Virgin Mary to be its patroness under the title of Our Lady of Remedy. Just as the divine Trinity chose the Virgin Mary to be Mother of the Son of God and a remedy for the human race, in the very same way, God willed that there should be a religious institute, dedicated to the Most Holy Trinity, in which Our Lady of Remedy would be venerated in a special way. This Order would be a perpetual reminder – and a promoter – of the endless praise that is due to God, One and Three, for the wondrous benefits which he gave us in his Son, the Redeemer of the world. In this way, all without exception, would be animated to

thank God for the great blessings of the redemption which Christ our Lord, true God and true man, won for us through his sacred passion and merits.

When any Christian hears the name of Our Lady of Remedy, they should glory in it, for it brings to mind the central issue of the Redemption and should make them very thankful to our Lord and the Virgin Mary.

Actually, all religious families have been founded to praise God, day and night, because of the numberless marvels which he has worked for humankind. The orders of Basil, Anthony, Benedict, the Camaldolese, Carthusians, Jeronimites, Dominicans, Franciscans, Carmelites, Mercedarians, Minims, Jesuits – all the Institutes and local churches which flourish in Christendom with a variety of titles and attributes of our Lady – all of them exist for the specific purpose of rendering praise and thanksgiving to the divine Majesty of God. Nevertheless, God willed that our Order should serve as a stimulus to do this under the title of the Holy Trinity and the patronage of Our Lady of Remedy.

## RESPONSORY

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his own Son, born of a woman, that we might become adopted sons and daughters.

The Son of God chose Mary as his Mother to heal the world, that we might become...

Or:

From "The Book of Miracles of Our Lady of Remedy" by Paul Aznar, priest.  
(Barcelona, 1626, pp. 71v-72v)

### *Why spread devotion to Our Lady?*

The reason for which we should be devoted to blessed Mary is the fact that she is our Mother. "Show yourself a Mother", the Church says in speaking to our Lady in the liturgy. The Lord himself stated, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father". According to this, we are all brothers and sisters in Christ and adopted children of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Saint Augustine asserts that Christ made all the faithful sons and daughters of his Mother at the moment when, from the Cross, he looked toward John, who represented all of us, and said to his Mother, "Woman, this is your son". She merited to be the mother of all the faithful because of her sorrow which were similar to those of childbirth. She loves us intimately and, for this reason, we should love her in return, responding to her love with our love. It is normal for children to love their mothers; how much more should they love a mother of this stature who holds such a great love for all her children.

Another reason moving us to devotion to our Lady is the zeal with which she watches over us from heaven. We should venerate her as our benefactress. Indeed, she is our advocate, the one who brings healing into our lives and the reward of eternal salvation. She even has power to remedy material needs, as can be seen from her mediation at Cana in Galilee. When the wine supply was exhausted, she pleaded with Jesus: "My Son, they have no wine. I beg you to provide some for them". She quickly ordered the absorption jars to be filled with water, which the Lord transformed into the best of wine. Saint Augustine, in speaking of the Blessed Virgin Mary, states that, just as she is holier than all the saints, she is also more attentive to all of our needs.

Thus, you who have so many bodily and spiritual needs, in your home and family, have recourse to this Lady who is the Mother of God's Remedy. Say to her, "My Lady, help me; gain for me the forgiveness of my sins, an increase in virtue, safety in my infirmities, remedy and healing to pass through all the trials of this life, and, especially, bring me to eternal life where I might see you and love you even more than I have loved you here on earth".

## RESPONSORY

Mary, source of divine remedy, you brought forth Christ, the Saviour of all.

Save us always from all dangers, glorious and blessed Virgin; you brought forth Christ...

Or:

From the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church of the Second Vatican Council.  
(Lumen Gentium, nn. 63-65)

### *Mary as a type of the Church*

Through the gift and role of divine maternity, Mary is united with her Son, the Redeemer, and with His singular graces and offices. By these, the Blessed Virgin is also intimately united with the Church. As St. Ambrose taught, the Mother of God is a model of the Church in the matter of faith, charity, and perfect union with Christ. For in the mystery of the Church, herself rightly called mother and virgin, the Blessed Virgin stands out in eminent and singular fashion as exemplar of both virginity and motherhood.

For, believing and obeying, Mary brought forth on earth the Father's Son. This she did, knowing not man but overshadowed by the Holy Spirit. She was the new Eve, who put her absolute trust not in the ancient serpent but in God's messenger. The Son whom she brought forth is He whom God placed as the first-born among many brethren, namely, the faithful. In their birth and development she cooperates with a maternal love.

The Church, moreover, contemplating Mary's mysterious sanctity, imitating her charity, imitating her charity, and faithfully fulfilling the Father's will, becomes herself a mother by accepting God's word in faith. For by her preaching and by baptism she brings forth to a new and immortal life children who are conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of God. The Church herself is a virgin, who keeps whole and pure the fidelity she has pledged to her Spouse. Imitating the Mother or her Lord, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, she preserves with virginal purity an integral faith, a firm hope, and a sincere charity.

In the most holy Virgin the Church has already reached that perfection whereby she exists without spot or wrinkle. Yet the followers of Christ still strive to increase in holiness by conquering sin. And so they raise their eyes to Mary who shines forth to the whole community of the elect as a model of all virtues. Devotedly meditating on her and contemplating her in the light of the Word made man, the Church with reverence enters more intimately into the supreme mystery of the Incarnation and becomes ever increasingly like her Spouse.

For Mary figured profoundly in the history of salvation and in a certain way unites and mirrors within herself the central truths of the faith. Hence when she is being preached and venerated, she summons the faithful to her Son and His sacrifice, and to love for the Father. Seeking after the glory of Christ, the Church becomes more like her exalted model, and continually progresses in faith, hope, and charity, searching out and doing the will of God in all things. Hence the Church in her apostolic work also rightly looks to her who brought forth Christ, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin, so that through the Church Christ may be born and grow in the hearts of the faithful also. The virgin Mary in her own life lives an example of that maternal love by which all should be fittingly animated to cooperate in the apostolic mission of the Church, and to foster the rebirth of humanity.

## RESPONSORY

The salvation of the world has appeared to all who believe through the Virgin Mary.  
The splendour of her life illumines all the Churches.

Let us celebrate with great devotion the memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
The splendour of her life...

Or:

From the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church of the Second Vatican Council  
(Lumen Gentium, nn. 66, partium 67:68-69)

### *Devotion to Mary increases devotion to the Holy Trinity*

Mary was involved in the mysteries of Christ. As the most holy Mother of God she was, after her Son, exalted by divine grace above all angels and men. Hence the Church appropriately honors her with special reverence. Indeed, from most ancient times the Blessed Virgin has been venerated under the title of "God-bearer". In all perils and needs, the faithful have fled prayerfully to her protection. Especially after the Council of Ephesus, the cult of the People of God toward Mary wonderfully increased in veneration and love, in invocation and imitation, according to her own prophetic words: "All generations shall call me blessed; because He who is mighty has done great things for me".

As it has always existed in the Church, this cult is altogether special. Still, it differs essentially from the cult of adoration which is offered to the Incarnate Word, as well as to the Father and to the Holy Spirit. Yet devotion to Mary is most favourable to this supreme cult. The Church has endorsed many forms of piety toward the Mother of God, provided that they were within the limits of sound and orthodox doctrine. These forms have varied according to the circumstances of time and place and have reflected the diversity of native characteristics and temperament among the faithful. While honouring Christ's Mother, these devotions cause her Son to be rightly known, loved, and glorified, and all His commands observed. Through Him all things have their being and in Him "it has pleased [the eternal Father] that... all his fullness should dwell".

This most holy Synod deliberately teaches this Catholic doctrine. At the same time, it admonishes all the sons of the Church that the cult, especially the liturgical cult, of the Blessed Virgin, be generously fostered. It charges that practices and exercises of devotion toward her be treasured as recommended by the teaching authority of the Church in the course of centuries, and that those decrees issued in earlier times regarding the veneration of images of Christ, the Blessed Virgin, and the saints, be religiously observed.

Let the faithful remember moreover that true devotion consists neither in fruitless and passing emotion, nor in a certain vain credulity. Rather, it proceeds from true faith, by which we are led to know the excellence of the Mother of God, and are moved to a filial love toward our mother and the imitation of her virtues.

In the bodily and spiritual glory which she possesses in heaven, the Mother of Jesus continues in this present world as the image and first flowering of the Church as she is to be perfected in the world to come. Likewise, Mary shines forth on earth, until the day of the Lord shall come, as a sign of sure hope and solace for the pilgrim People of God.

It gives great joy and comfort to this most holy Synod that among the separated brethren, too, there are those who give due honor to the Mother of our Lord and Saviour. This is especially so among the easterners, who with ardent emotion and devout mind concur in reverencing the Mother of God, ever virgin.

Let the entire body of the faithful pour forth persevering prayers to the Mother of God and Mother of men. Let them implore that she who aided the beginnings of the Church by her prayers may now, exalted as she



is in heaven above all the saints and angels, intercede with her Son in the fellowship of all the saints. May she do so until all the peoples of the human family, whether they are honoured with the name of Christian or whether they still do not know their Saviour, are happily gathered together in peace and harmony into the one People of God, for the glory of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity.

## RESPONSORY

Most holy Virgin, fullness of the graces of the Trinity, make all peoples share in your perfect grace.

May the family of nations be gathered into the one People of God in peace and harmony; make all peoples share...

## HYMN Te Deum

## PRAYER

The prayer is chosen from one of the following:

God,  
you brought a remedy to the world  
through the glorious Virgin Mary.  
May we who are invoking her protection  
be aided in all our necessities  
and obtain eternal happiness.  
Grant this...

Or:

Almighty ever-living God,  
you brought a saving remedy to the world  
through your only Son, our Redeemer.  
As we honor his Mother  
under the title of Our Lady of Good Remedy,  
may we always experience her protection  
in all our spiritual and material needs.  
Grant this...

Or:

Lord,  
come to the aid of your people with your gift of peace.  
May our trust in the protection

of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
bring us freedom from all adversity  
and safety in all dangers.  
We ask this...

Or:

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...

### **Morning Prayer**

HYMN

O Mother of our Order blest,  
placed as our patron from the start,  
with heartfelt thanks we sing your praise  
for all the blessings you impart.

Since our lips falter in this task,  
unworthy sinners, we confess:  
let heaven's hosts sing hymns of praise  
while we on earth your name now bless.

May those reborn through your Son's blood,  
O Virgin, never yield to sin;  
nor let them ever be misled  
by the false webs the world does spin.

Watch over us who pray to you,  
protect our whole community:  
shield us from sin, for we are yours,  
entrusted by the Trinity.

May we rejoice in a clean heart,  
grant us to live in purity;  
by your right hand remove from us  
all that impedes fidelity.

With grateful hearts we sing our praise  
with hymns unto the Trinity:  
for giving us in all our needs  
the Virgin as a remedy. Amen.

Melody: LM

Or:

Hail, Remedy for all our ills!  
Hail, Mother of our King!  
Protect and keep our Order strong  
beneath your shelt'ring wings.

Hail, glory of the Trinity,  
O Virgin, full of grace!  
As Mother of true Life and Light,  
in your our hope we place.

O shining Star upon the sea,  
who calms the ocean's waves:  
save all from shipwreck in this life  
and guide them safely home.

Direct us in our daily way  
to follow Christ, your Son,  
that in our consecrated lives  
we may all evil shun.

O Mother of Good Remedy,  
receive our prayers above.  
Make us worthy of your care  
and grateful for your love.

We bring to you our hearts and minds,

a thankful offering:  
as your own flock we wish to live  
always your praise to sing.

O Queen, in you the fault of Eve  
was finally undone.  
May all creation know and praise  
the presence of your Son.

Forevermore let praise resound  
unto the Trinity.  
May all be freely joined as one  
within His Unity. Amen.

Melody: CM

Or:

O Virgin, splendour of God's works,  
life-giving fountain of all grace:  
in you redemption was begun,  
in you salvation first took place.

O Mother of God's only Son,  
through whom his grace to us drew near:  
you are the portal of the Light  
that drives away sin's darkness drear.

To you our hymns of thanks belong,  
of you our songs of praise resound!  
Therefore, receive this offering  
and make our lives with love abound.

Release the guilty from their chains;  
free all from dread captivity;  
let your maternal love extend  
to save those bound by misery.

Praise God the Son, the Virgin-born,  
and His All-Holy Father blest,

and God the Spirit, living fire:  
the Three in One, by all confessed. Amen.

Melody: LM

The antiphons and psalms are from the current weekday. The reading with its responsory may be chosen from the following:

#### READING

Cf. Wisdom 10:13, 17

She did not abandon the just man when he was sold, but delivered him from sin. She went down with him into the dungeon, and did not desert him in his bonds. She gave the holy ones the recompense of their labours, conducted them by a wondrous road, and became a shelter for them by day a starry flame by night.

#### RESPONSORY

Queen of mercy, grant us the help of your grace.

Queen of mercy, grant us the help of your grace.

Grant relief; be a remedy to our sufferings.

Grant us the help of your grace.

Glory to the Father...

Queen of mercy...

Or:

#### READING

Baruch 5:3-4

For God will show all the earth your splendour; you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship.

#### RESPONSORY

The Virgin Mary is exalted in heaven above all the angels and saints.

The Virgin Mary is exalted in heaven above all the angels and saints.

She intercedes before her Son in the fellowship of all the saints, above all the angels and saints.

Glory to the Father...

The Virgin Mary...

Or:

#### READING

Galatians 4:4-5

When the designated time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to deliver from the law those who were subjected to it, so that we might receive our status as adopted children.

#### RESPONSORY

You are the fullness of the graces of the Trinity, most holy Virgin Mary.

You are the fullness of the graces of the Trinity, most holy Virgin Mary.

Make us sharers in your perfect grace, most holy Virgin Mary.

Glory to the Father...

You are the fullness...

Or:

#### READING

Ephesians 2:3b-5

By nature, all of us deserved God's wrath, like the rest. But God is rich in mercy; because of his great love for us, he brought us to life with Christ when we were dead in sin. By this favour you were saved.

#### RESPONSORY

Accept us under your patronage, Mother of our Redeemer.

Accept us under your patronage, Mother of our Redeemer.

We invoke your remedy and protection, Mother of our Redeemer.

Glory to the Father...

Accept us...

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

One of the following antiphons may be chosen:

Ant. 1 Hail, Daughter of the Father! Hail, Mother of God the Son! Hail, Spouse of the Holy Spirit! Sacred Vessel of the Holy Trinity.

Ant. 2 O Mary, open your heart to all and bestowed from the fullness of your mercy : redemption to the slave, hearth to the sick, comfort to the afflicted, pardon to the sinner, grace to the just, joy to the angels.

Ant. 3 You are our haven in the stormy sea of life ; you are our solace ; you are the redemption of captives and the comfort of those in sorrow.

Ant. 4 We ask your protection, blessed Virgin ; under the wings of your maternal devotion and mercy, protect us and guide us.

Ant. 5 You are the virgin tabernacle of the Incarnate Word, the cherished daughter of the most high father, the beloved spouse of the Holy Spirit, the most noble dwelling of the Holy Trinity.

Ant. 6 You are the hope in which we trust ; you are the patroness to whom we run help, Virgin Mary.

## INTERCESSIONS

As suppliants, let us direct our prayer to God, One and Three, who wants us to honour Mary as the Daughter of the Father, the Mother of the Son, and the sacred Vessel of the Holy Spirit :

*Look upon Mary and hear our prayer.*

You gave Mary to the world as a bright dawn and a star of the sea, may we always walk in the path of her virtue.

You made Mary your dwelling place and tabernacle, prepare our hearts to welcome you as she received you.

You lift up the lowly and fill the hungry with good things, raise up the fallen, come to the aid of the needy, break the bonds of captives.

You brought peace, joy and remedy to the world through Mary, have mercy on all those who await your redemption.

You made Mary the Mother and Patroness of our Order, may we all live a life worthy of our calling and make every effort to preserve the unity which has the Spirit as its origin and peace as its binding force.

Or :

Let us extol God, the almighty Father, with great praise, for he has given us Mary, the Mother of his Son and Spouse of the Holy Spirit, to be our patroness and remedy. Let us prayerfully say:

*Holy Trinity, keep us under Mary's protection.*

Trinity Most Holy, you brought a remedy to the world through Mary; through her intercession, grant healing to the afflicted, consolation to the sorrowful, forgiveness to sinners, and peace and salvation to all.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, may your Church be of one heart and one mind, may the faithful devote themselves to constant prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

You made Mary our Mother, may we experience her maternal love.

You filled your servant Mary with your grace, grant our Order an abundance of your blessings.

You made Mary the Mother of mercy, may those who are in danger experience her maternal care.

Or :

Let us praise God who sent his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, to redeem the world, and has poured out his Holy Spirit, in whom we call out, "Abba, Father!" Let us humbly pray:

*Bestow on us your favour, O Lord.*

You chose Mary, your beloved daughter, as the tabernacle of grace, fill the hearts of your children with the grace of your love.

You prepared the Virgin Mary as the most pure dwelling of your Son, make us tabernacles of your Word.

You made Mary the sacred vessel of the Holy Spirit, make us perpetual temples of your Spirit.

You kept Mary attentive to your Word, and made her your faithful servant, through her intercession, sanctify our Order that we may remain faithful to the spirit of our vocation.

You filled Mary with heavenly wisdom, may we grow in the knowledge of you and your Son through the Holy Spirit.



## PRAYER

The prayer is chosen from one of the following:

God,  
you brought a remedy to the world  
through the glorious Virgin Mary.  
May we who are invoking her protection  
be aided in all our necessities  
and obtain eternal happiness.  
Grant this...

Or:

Almighty and ever-living God,  
you brought a saving remedy to the world  
through your only Son, our redeemer.  
As we honor his Mother  
under the title of Our Lady of Good Remedy  
may we always experience her protection  
in all our spiritual and material needs.  
Grant this...

Or:

Lord,  
come to the aid of your people with your gift of peace.  
May our trust in the protection  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
bring us freedom from all adversity  
and safety in all dangers.  
We ask this...

Or:

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

## **VOTIVE OFFICE OF OUR HOLY FATHER JOHN DE MATHA**

The antiphon for the Invitatory, second reading and its responsory, the antiphons for the Canticles of Zechariah and Mary, the readings with their responsories, the intercessions and the prayers are taken from either the Solemnity of our holy founder St. John de Matha, or the Memorial of the Transfer of his Relics.

Appendix:

### **Te Deum**

You are God: we praise you;

You are the Lord: we acclaim you;

You are the eternal Father:

All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven.

Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:

Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free  
you did not spurn the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death,  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come, and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.