

HOLY WEEK LATE EVENING OFFICE

PREPARATION

Blessed be our God for all time, now and for evermore. **Amen.**

Glory to you, our God, glory be to you,
Holy Spirit, Comforter,
treasure of all goodness and giver of life,
come and dwell in us,
cleansing us from all sin,
and in your love bring us to salvation.

**Holy God, holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm 139: 1-18

1 O Lord, you have searched me | out and | known me; ■
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my | thoughts •from a|far.

2. You mark out my journeys | and my | resting place ■
and are ac|quainted with | all my | ways.

3 For there is not a word | on my | tongue, ■
but you, O Lord, | know it | alto|gether.

4 You encompass me behind | and be|fore ■
and | lay your | hand up|on me.

5† Such knowledge is too | wonderful | for me, ■
so high | that I | cannot at|tain it.

6 Where can I go then | from your | spirit? ■
Or where can I | flee | from your | presence?

7 If I climb up to heaven, | you are | there; ■
if I make the grave my bed, | you are | there | also.

8 If I take the | wings of the | morning ■
and dwell in the | uttermost | parts •of the | sea,

9. Even there your | hand shall | lead me, ■
your | right hand | hold me | fast.

10 If I say, ‘Surely the | darkness will | cover me ■
and the light a|round me | turn to | night,’

11. Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as | clear as the | day; ■
darkness and light to | you are | both a|like.

OPENING PRAYER

RESPONSORY

PSALM

12 For you yourself created my | inmost | parts; ■
you knit me together | in my | mother's | womb.
13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and | wonderfully | made; ■
marvellous are your | works, my | soul knows | well.
14 My frame was not | hidden | from you, ■
when I was made in secret
and woven in the | depths | of the | earth.
15 Your eyes beheld my form, as | yet un|finished; ■
already in your book were | all my | members | written,
16† As day by day | they were | fashioned ■
when as | yet | there was | none of them.

17 How deep are your counsels to | me, O | God! ■
How | great | is the | sum of them!
18. If I count them, they are more in number | than the | sand, ■
and at the end, I am | still | in your | presence.

A READING

The following short lesson:

If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

Mark 8: 34b, 35

or the appointed reading:

Monday in Holy Week

Colossians 1: 18-23

He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

Tuesday in Holy Week

Galatians 6: 11-18

See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which[a] the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Wednesday in Holy Week

Revelation 14: 18 - 15: 4

Then another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over fire, and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, 'Use your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe.' So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and gathered the vintage of the earth, and he threw it into the great wine press of the wrath of God. And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the wine press, as high as a horse's bridle, for a distance of about two hundred miles.

Then I saw another portent in heaven, great and amazing: seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is ended. And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb:

'Great and amazing are your deeds,
Lord God the Almighty!
Just and true are your ways,
King of the nations!
Lord, who will not fear
and glorify your name?
For you alone are holy.
All nations will come
and worship before you,
for your judgements have been revealed.'

Mundy Thursday

Ephesians 2: 11-18

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called 'the uncircumcision' by those who are called 'the circumcision'—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Good Friday

John 19: 13-30

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!' They cried out, 'Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Shall I crucify your King?' The chief priests answered, 'We have no king but the emperor.' Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Do not write, "The King of the Jews", but, "This man said, I am King of the Jews."' Pilate answered, 'What I have written I have written.' When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his

tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.' This was to fulfil what the scripture says, 'They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.' And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), 'I am thirsty.' A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Easter Eve

1 John 5: 5-12

Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

MEDITATION

A period of meditation on the reading follows.

THE GOSPEL CANTICLE

NUNC DIMITTIS *The Song of Simeon Luke 2: 29-32*

1 Now, Lord, you let your servant | go in | peace: ■
your | word has | been fulfilled.

2 My own eyes have | seen the · sal|vation ■
which you have prepared in the | sight of | every | people.

3 A light to re|veal you · to the | nations ■
and the | glory · of your | people | Israel.

PRAYER

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to the Lord with all our heart and with all our soul.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all Christian people, that they may live in love and truth.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all ministers of the Church, and for our brothers and sisters in Christ.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for peace throughout the world, and for all governments.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for our neighbours and for all our friends.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for those who hate us as we pray for those who love us.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for refugees and prisoners, and for all who are exposed to the dangers of travel.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all sick people, for the sorrowful and the dying.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for the abundance of the fruits of the earth, and that the poor and hungry may receive a just share.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us remember our brothers and sisters who have entered into eternal rest.
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

SILENT OR OPEN PRAYER

Continue praying in silence

Silence is kept.

or

Continue praying in a time of open prayer.

A period of open prayer follows.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

THE COLLECT

One of the following:

Almighty God,
as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son,
help us to see and know your love for us,
so that in humility, love and joy
we may place at his feet
all that we have and all that we are;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

O Lord and Master of my life,
take from me the spirit of laziness,
despair, evil imagination and vain talking.
Give me, your servant,
the spirit of purity, humility, patience and love.
Lord and Master of my life,

grant me to see my own faults
and not judge my neighbour,
for blessed are you unto the ages of ages. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

or

**Our Father, who art in heaven:
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

COMMON COLLECT

**Lord Almighty,
come and scatter the darkness of our hearts
by the light of your presence;
that we may know you the Light of the world
and the one true God,
blessed this night and for evermore. Amen.**

THE ENDING

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

DISMISSAL

BLESSING

May Christ, who heals us through his blood, bless us.
May he restore in us whatever is lacking in our faith

and set us at liberty to worship him in freedom
through our words and deeds. **Amen.**