

The Divine Office

First Vespers of Christmass

Prayer Before Office

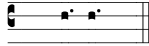
*It is considered praiseworthy to say the following prayer
silently in preparation for the Office.*

Aperi, Domine

OPEN thou, O Lord, my mouth to bless thy holy Name; cleanse also my heart from all vain, evil, and wandering thoughts; enlighten my understanding; enkindle my affections; that I may say this Office worthily with attention and devotion, and so be meet to be heard in the presence of thy divine Majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

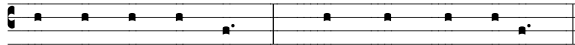
OPEN LORD, in union with that divine intention wherewith thou thyself on earth didst render thy praises to God, I desire to offer this my Office of prayer unto thee. Amen

give; that our hearts may be set to obey Thy commandments, and also that we, being defended by Thee from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost: ever one God, world without end.



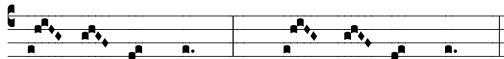
Amen

Salutation



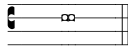
The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Benedicamus



Bless we the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction



The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost ☩ be with you all.



Amen

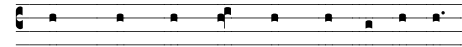
Please depart in silence and leave this Ordo at the door.



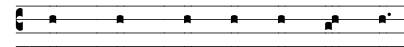
The Divine Office First Vespers of Christmass

STAND

Versicles

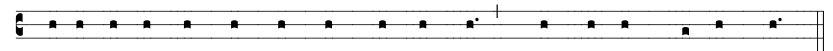


Make haste, O God, to ☩ de-liv-er me.



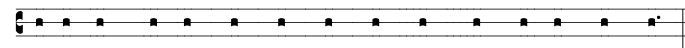
Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Profound BOW

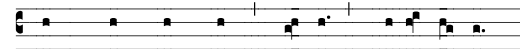


Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Ho-ly Ghost.

STAND



As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:

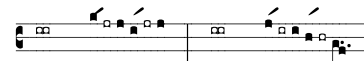


world without end. A-men. Al-le-lu-ia!

Psalmody

Antiphon: The King of peace, the true Solomon, is highly exalted and all the / earth shall seek him,* to hear the wisdom which God hath / put in his heart.

Psalm 110 *Dixit Dominus* TONE VII



¹ The Lord said unto my Lord, † Sit thou / at my right hand,* (*SIT*) until I make thine ene- / mies thy footstool.

² **The Lord shall send the rod of thy strength / out of Zíon:* rule thou in the / midst of thine énemies.**

³ Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, † in the beauties of holiness from the / womb of the mórning:* thou hast the / déw of thy youth.

⁴ **The Lord hath / swórn, and will nó't repent,* Thou art a priest for ever after the order / of Melchizedek.**

5 The Lord / át thy right hand* shall strike through kings in the / dáy of his wrath.

6 **He shall judge among the heathen,† he shall fill the places / with the dead bódies;* he shall wound the heads over / mány cón-tries.**

7 He shall drink of the / bróok in the way:* (STAND) therefore shall he / lift up the head.

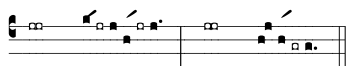
Glory be to the / Fáther and tó the Son* and / tó the Hóly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and / éver sháll be,* — / wórld without énd. Amen

Antiphon: The King of peace, the true Solomon, is highly exalted and all the / earth shall seek him,* to hear the wisdom which God hath / put in his heart.

Antiphon: This King of peace exceedeth all the / kings of the earth* for riches and / for wisdom.

Psalm 111 *Confitebor tibi* TONE III



1 Praise ye the Lord. I will praise the / Lórd with mý whole heart,* (SIT) in the assembly of the upright, and in the cón- / gregation.

2 **The / wórks of the Lórd are great,* sought out of all them that have / pléasure therein.**

3 His work is honoura- / blé and glórious:* and his righteousness en- dúreth / for éver.

4 **He hath made his wonderful works to / bé remébered:* the Lord is gracious and fúll of / compásson.**

5 He hath given meat unto / thém that féar him:* he will ever be mindful óf / his cóvenant.

6 **He hath shewed his people the / pówer óf his works,* that he may give them the heritage óf / the héathen.**

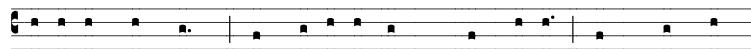
7 The works of his hands are veri- / tý and júdgment;* all his com- mándments are sure.

8 **They stand fast for / éver and éver,* and are done in truth / and úprightness.**

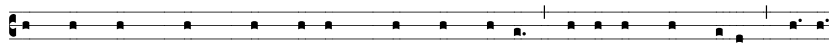
9 He sent redemption unto his people:† he hath commanded his cove- / nánt for ever:* holy and réve- / rend ís his name.

10 **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom:† a good un- derstanding have all they that do / his commándments:* (STAND) his praise endúreth / for éver.**

Glory be to the / Fáther and tó the Son* and tó / the Hóly Ghost.

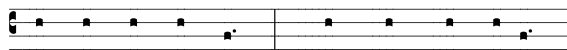


into temptation; But deliver us ✕ from evil; For Thine is

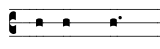


the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever Amen.

Salutation



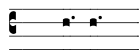
The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**



Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

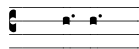
Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: grant that we, being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.



Amen

Additional Collects

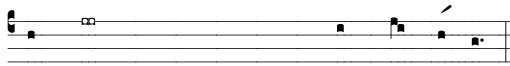
O God, who hast made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: grant, we beseech Thee, that, as we have known on earth the mysteries of that Light; we may also come to the fullness of its joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Amen

Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: give unto Thy servants that peace which the world cannot

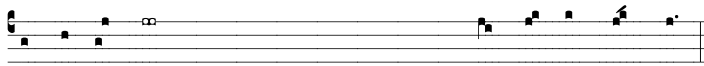


to Abraham, and to his seed for év-er. *Profound BOW*

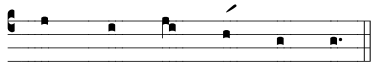


Glo-ry be to the Fá-ther and tó the Son* and tó the Hó-ly Ghost.

STAND



As it was in the beginning, is now, and év-er shall be,*



world with-out énd. A-men

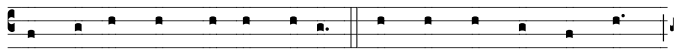
KNEEL

Kyrie

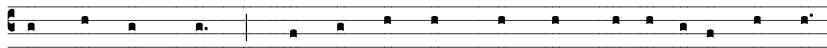


Kyrie eleison! **Christe eleison! Kyrie eleison!**

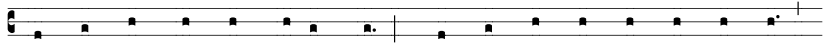
Pater Noster



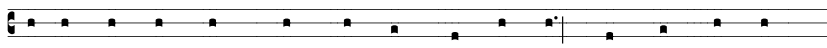
Our Father who art in heaven, **Hallowed be Thy name;**



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,



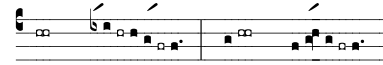
As we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and / év-er shall be,* wórd
with- / out énd. Amen**

Antiphon: This King of peace exceedeth all the/ kings of the earth* for riches
and / for wisdom.

Antiphon: The days of Mary / were accomplished,* that she should bring /
forth her first-born Son.

Psalm 112 *Beatus vir* TONE VI



1 Praise ye the Lord. Bless-ed is the man that / féareth the Lord,* (*SIT*)
that delighteth greatly in / his commándments.

2 **His seed shall be / míghty upón earth:* the generation of the
upright / shall be bless-ed.**

3 Wealth and riches shall / bé in his house:* and his righteousness endúr- /
eth for év-er.

4 **Unto the upright there ariseth / líght in the dárkness:* he is gracious,
and full of compás- / sion, and ríghteous.**

5 A good man sheweth / fávor, and léndeth:* he will guide his affáirs /
with discrétion.

6 **Surely he shall not be / móved for év-er:* the righteous shall be in ever-
lást- / ing remémbrance.**

7 He shall not be afraid of / évil tídings:* his heart is fixed, / trústing ín
the Lord.

8 **His heart is established,† he shall / nót be afraid,* until he see his desire
up- / ón his énemies.**

9 — / Hé hath dispersed,* he hath / gíven tó the poor;

**His righteousness en- / dúreth for ever;* his horn shall be exalt- / ed with
hónour.**

10 The wicked shall see it, and be grieved;† he shall gnash with his / téeth,
and mélt away:* (*STAND*) the desire of the wick- / ed shall pérish.

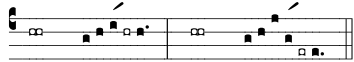
**Glory be to the / Fáther and tó the Son* - and / tó the Hóly
Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and / év-er shall be* - wórd /
without énd. Amen**

Antiphon: The days of Mary / were accomplished,* that she should bring /
forth her first-born Son.

Antiphon: Know ye that the kingdom of / God is nigh at hand;* verily I say unto you, it / will not tarry.

Psalm 113 *Laudate, pueri* TONE IV



1 Praise ye the Lord. Praise, O ye / sérvants óf the Lord,* (*SIT*) praise the / náme of the Lord.

2 **Bless-ed be the náme / of the Lord* from this time / fórtH and for évermore.**

3 From the rising of the sun unto the going dówn / of the same* the Lord's name / is to be praised.

4 **The Lord is high a- / bóve all nátions,* and his glory / abóve the héavens.**

5 Who is like ún- / to the Lord our God,* who / dwélleth on high,

6 **Who húm- / bleth himself* to behold the things that are in heaven, / ánd in the earth!**

7 He raiseth up the poor óut / of the dust,* and lifteth the needy / óut of the dúnghill;

8 **That he may sét / him with prínces,* even with the prin- / ces óf his péople.**

9 He maketh the barren wó- / man to kéeP house,* (*STAND*) and to be a joyful mother of children. / Práise ye the Lord.

Glory be to the Fá- / ther and tó the Son* - / and tó the Hóly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and / éver shall be* - / wórlD without énd. Amen

Antiphon: Know ye that the kingdom of / God is nigh at hand;* verily I say unto you, it / will not tarry.

Antiphon: Lift up / your heads, for behold,* your re- / demption draweth nigh.

Psalm 117 *Laudate Dominum* TONE VI



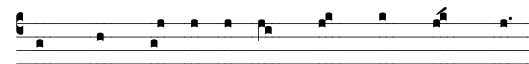
1 O praise the / Lórd, all ye nátions:* praise him, / áll ye péople.

2 **For his merciful / kíndness is gréat toward us:* and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Práise / ye the Lord.**

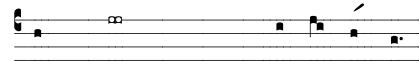
Glory be to the / Fáther and tó the Son* - and / tó the Hóly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and / éver shall be* - wórlD / without énd. Amen

Antiphon: Lift up / your heads, for behold,* your re- / demption draweth nigh.



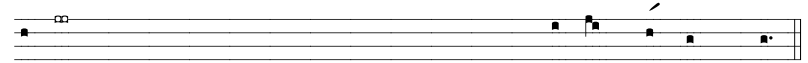
And his mer-cy is on thém that féar him*



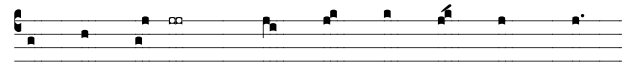
from generation to gé-ne-rá-tion.



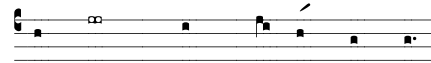
He hath shewed stréngth with his arm;*



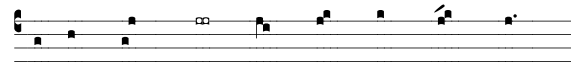
he hath scattered the proud in the imagi-ná-tion óf their hearts.



He hath put down the mígh-ty fróm their seats,*



and exalted thém of lów de-gree.



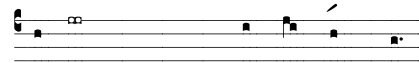
He hath filled the hún-gry with good things;*



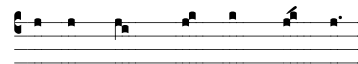
and the rich he hath sent émp-ty a-way.



He hath holp-en his sér-vant Ís-ra-el,*

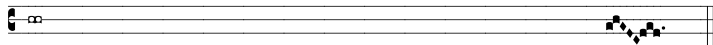


in remembrance óf his mér-cy;



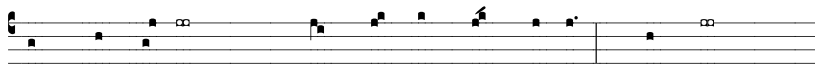
As he spake tó our fáth-ers,*

Versicle

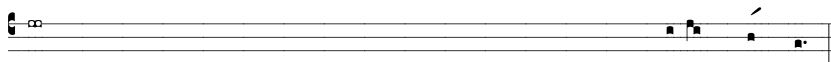


Tomorrow the iniquity of the earth shall be done a-way.
And the Saviour of the world shall reign over us.

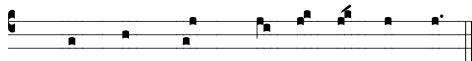
Magnificat TONE VIII



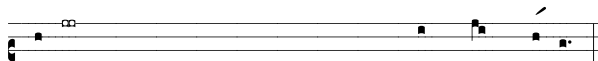
When the sun is risen, ye shall see the King of kings: * who proceedeth



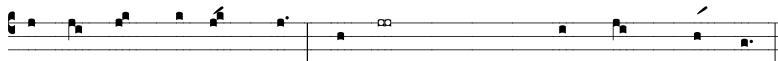
from the Father, and cometh forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber.



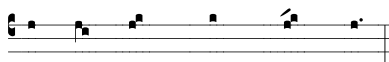
☒ **My soul doth magnify the Lord, ***



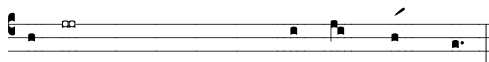
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.



For he hath regarded * the low estate of his hand-maiden:



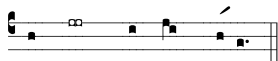
For, behold, from henceforth *



all generations shall call me blessed.



For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; *



and holy is his name.

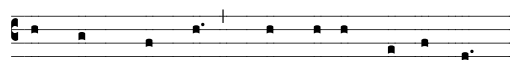
SIT

Lection

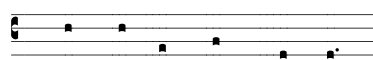
Titus 3:4-5a

But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared. Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us.

Response

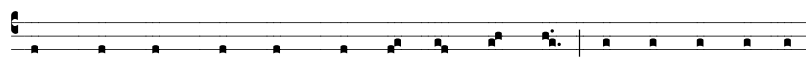


But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

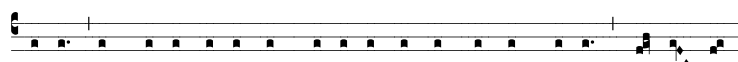


Thanks be to Thee, O Lord.

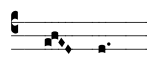
Responsory for Christmas



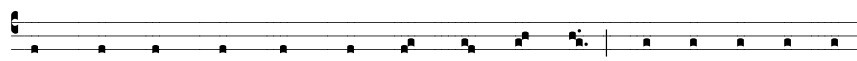
The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us; And we beheld His



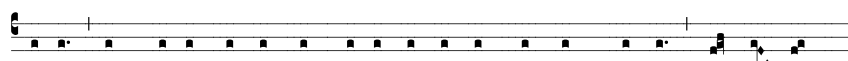
glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father, full of grace



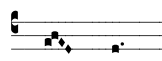
and truth.



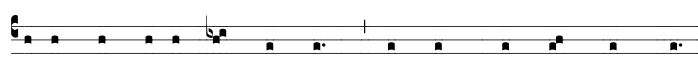
The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us; And we beheld His



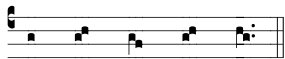
glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father, full of grace



and truth.



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,



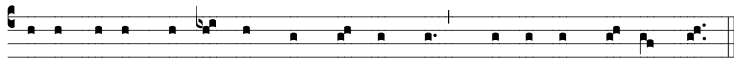
and the Word was God.



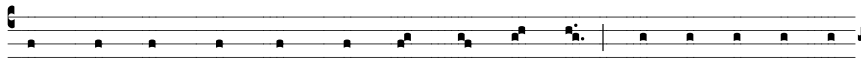
And we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the



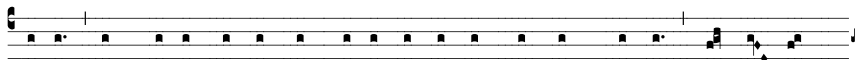
Father, full of grace and truth.



Glory be to the Fa-ther and to the Son: and to the Ho-ly Ghost.



The Word was made flesh and dwelt a-mong us; And we beheld His



glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father, full of grace

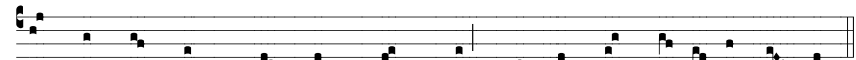


and truth.

Hymn *Christe, Redemptor omnium*



Je-sus, the Fa-ther's on-ly Son, / Whose death for all re-demp-tion won;



Be-fore the worlds, of God most high/ Be-got-ten all in-eff-a-bly.

**2 The Father's light and splendor Thou,
Their endless hope to Thee that bow
Accept the prayers and praise today
That through the world Thy servants pay.**

**3 Salvation's Author, call to mind
How, taking form of humankind,
Born of a Virgin undefiled,
Thou in man's flesh becam'st a child.**

**4 Thus testifies the present day,
Through every year in long array,
That Thou, salvation's source alone,
Proceedest from the Father's throne.**

**5 Whence sky, and stars, and sea's abyss,
And earth, and all that therein is,
Shall still, with laud and carol meet,
The Author of Thine advent greet.**

**6 And we who, by Thy precious blood
From sin redeemed, are marked for God,
On this the day that saw Thy birth,
Sing the new song of ransomed earth;**

STAND

**7 For that thine advent glory be,
O Jesus, Virgin-born to Thee;
With Father, and with Holy Ghost,
From men and from the heav'nly host.**



A-men.