Daily Evening Prayer
For the Means of Grace and for the Hope of Glory

The Order for Evening Prayer
¶ The officiant will read one of the opening sentences for Holy Week below:

God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans v. 8.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah liii. 6.

Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me. Lam. i. 12.

¶ Then the officiant will continue with the Penitential Rite, saying:

LET us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.
¶ (Or this exhortation, especially during Lent.)

¶ To be said by the whole Congregation, together with the Officiant, all kneeling.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare thou those who confess their faults.Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

¶ If a Priest or Deacon afficiates, he says.
May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Evening Responsory.
Officiant: * O LORD, open thou our lips.
People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
Officiant: * O GOD, make speed to save us.
People: O LORD, make haste to help us.
Officiant: Praise ye the Lord.
People: The Lord's Name be praised.

¶ The canticles are recited by everyone in unison, concluding with the Gloria Patri, all continuing in unison.

¶ The following, or some other suitable hymn, may be sung or said.

Phos hilaron.

O GRACIOUS Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

HAIL, gladdening Light—of his pure glory poured Who is the immortal Father, heavenly, blest, Holiest of Holies—Jesus Christ our Lord!
Now we are come to sun's hour of rest, The lights of evening round us shine, We hymn the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit divine.
Worthiest art thou at all times to be sung With undefiled tongue, Son of our God, giver of life, alone: Therefore in all the world thy glories, Lord, they own.

(No Gloria Patri after this canticle.)

¶ Then shall follow a portion of the Psalms, as appointed.

¶ The psalms are recited responsively by whole verse, with a distinct pause at the asterisk. The officiant recites the full first verse and the congregation follows with the second. The Gloria Patri follows each Psalm, except during the Holy Week Triduum.

Psalm 103 appointed in the lectionary for THE PALM SUNDAY SECOND SUNDAY IN PASSIONTIDE.
¶ See below at the * for a note on our Psalm selection practice.

Psalm 103. Benedic, anima mea.
PRAISE the Lord, O my soul; * and all that is within me, praise his holy Name.
2 Praise the Lord, O my soul, * and forget not all his benefits:
3 Who forgiveth all thy sin, * and healeth all thine infirmities;
4 Who saveth thy life from destruction, * and crowneth thee with mercy and loving-kindness;
5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things, * making thee young and lusty as an eagle.
6 The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment * for all them that are oppressed with wrong.
7 He showed his ways unto Moses, * his works unto the children of Israel.
8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, * long-suffering, and of great goodness.
9 He will not alway be chiding; * neither keepeth he his anger for ever.
10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; * nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.
11 For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth; * so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.
12 Look how wide also the east is from the west; * so far hath he set our sins from us.
13 Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children; * even so is the Lord merciful unto them that fear him.
14 For he knoweth whereof we are made; * he remembereth that we are but dust.
15 The days of man are but as grass; * for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.
16 For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone; * and the place thereof shall know it no more.
17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endureth for ever and ever upon them that fear him; * and his righteousness upon children's children;
18 Even upon such as keep his covenant, * and think upon his commandments to do them.
19 The Lord hath prepared his seat in heaven, * and his kingdom ruleth over all.
20 O praise the Lord, ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength; * ye that fulfil his commandment, and hearken unto the voice of his word.
21 O praise the Lord, all ye his hosts; * ye servants of his that do his pleasure.
22 O speak good of the Lord, all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion: * praise thou the Lord, O my soul.
GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.
The First Lesson: Isaiah 52:13-53: end

A Lesson from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Behold, my servant shall prosper, he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. As many were astonished at him--his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the sons of men--so shall he startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which has not been told them they shall see, and that which they have not heard they shall understand. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or comeliness that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearsers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to bruise him; he has put him to grief; when he makes himself an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand; he shall see the fruit of the travail of his soul and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous; and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out his soul to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Here endeth the Lesson.

Magnificat. St. Luke i. 46.

Antiphon: For it is written, * I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee: there shall you see me, saith the Lord.

MY * soul doth magnify the Lord, * and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded * the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth * all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me; * and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him * throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; * he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, * and hath exalted the humble and meek.

most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men; [particularly those who desire now to offer up their praises and thanksgivings for thy late mercies vouchsafed unto them.] We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom.

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

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

The Grace (2 Cor. xiii. 14.)

THE * grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

¶ If Compline is not to follow later in the evening, the Anthem of the Blessed Virgin Mary proper to the season may be said or sung.

¶ After Candlemas and through Wednesday in Holy Week:

Ave, Regina Coelorum.

QUEEN of the heavens, we hail thee,
Hail thee, Lady of all the Angels;
Thou the dawn, the door of morning
Whence the world's true light is risen:
Joy to thee, O Virgin glorious,
Beautiful beyond all other;
Hail, and farewell, O most gracious,
Intercede for us alway to Jesus.

V: Vouchsafe that I may praise thee, O holy Virgin.
R: Give me strength against thine enemies.

Let us pray.

GRANT us, O merciful God, protection in our weakness: that we who celebrate the memory of the holy Mother of God may, through the aid of her intercession, rise again from our sins. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Here endeth the Order of Evening Prayer.
Christ. Amen.

¶ The officiant may close here or choose from the following or other approved collects.

A Prayer for The President of the United States, and all in Civil Authority.

(Click for the Prayers for the Queen, Prime Minister, and Premiers.)

ALMIGHTY God, whose kingdom is everlasting and power infinite; Have mercy upon this whole land; and so rule the hearts of thy servants THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, The Governor of this State, and all others in authority, that they, knowing whose ministers they are, may above all things seek thy honour and glory; and that we and all the People, duly considering whose authority they bear, may faithfully and obediently honour them, according to thy blessed Word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer for all Sorts and Conditions of Men.

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that she may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; [especially those for whom our prayers are desired;] that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

A Prayer in Time of Great Sickness and Mortality.

O MOST mighty and merciful God, in this time of grievous sickness, we flee unto thee for succour. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from our peril; give strength and skill to all those who minister to the sick; prosper the means made use of for their cure; and grant that, perceiving how frail and uncertain our life is, we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Collect for the Departed

(ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we pray for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; [especially NN.] and we bless thy holy Name for all who in life and death have glorified thee: chiefly the glorious and ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and God, the holy Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles and Martyrs, and all thy Saints; beseeching thee to give us grace that, rejoicing in their fellowship and prayers, we may follow their good examples, and with them be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

A General Thanksgiving.

(Officiant and people together.)

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee

He hath filled the hungry with good things; * and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel; * as he promised to our forfathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: For it is written, * I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee: there shall you see me, saith the Lord.


A Lesson from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village opposite, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If any one asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this, 'The Lord has need of it.'" So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" And they said, "The Lord has need of it." And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt they set Jesus upon it. And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out." And when he drew near and saw the city he wept over it, saying, "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace! But now they are hid from your eyes. For the days shall come upon you, when your enemies will cast up a bank about you and surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave one stone upon another in you; because you did not know the time of your visitation." And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold, saying to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be a house of prayer'; but you have made it a den of robbers." And he was teaching daily in the temple. The chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people sought to destroy him; but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people hung upon his words.

Here endeth the Lesson.


LORD, * now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, * according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen * thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared * before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, * and to be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.

¶ The Nunc Dimittis is always the last canticle of the day. If Compline is to follow,
here the Alleluia, Salus et gloria is sung instead.

The Apostle's Creed.
I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to Judge the quick and the dead.


The Lesser Litany.

¶ Whenever the officiant is a layperson: 

Lay Officiant: O Lord hear our prayer.
People: And let our cry come unto thee.
Officiant: Let us pray.

¶ Only if the officiant is a priest or deacon:

Priest or Deacon: The Lord be with you. 
People: And with thy spirit.
Officiant: Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us. 
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer.
(No Doxology)
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. Amen.

The Suffrages.

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
R. And grant us thy salvation.
V. O Lord, save the State.
R. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
R. And make thy chosen people joyful.
V. O Lord, save thy people.
R. And bless thine inheritance.
V. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

R. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
V. O God, make clean our hearts within us.
R. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day (from Divine Worship: The Missal)

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the Cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: mercifully grant that we may follow the example of his patience, and so be made partakers of his Resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

A 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 give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

A Collect for Aid Against Perils.

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Collect for Sundays.

LORD God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his Resurrection, may praise thee in that City of which he is the light; and where he liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for the Night.

KEEP watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. Amen.

¶ In the Cycle of Prayer, we pray especially for the clergy and faithful of the Archdiocese of Bamako, Mali, the Diocese of Mahiana, Timor-Leste, the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Sambir-Drohobych, Ukraine, and the Diocese of Worcester, Massachusetts, USA.

A Prayer for the Pope, Clergy, and People.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; Send down upon N. our Pope, N. our Bishop, all bishops, priests, and deacons, and upon the Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus