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

Saturday, 31 December 2022
Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas
Saint Sylvester I, Pope

The Order for Morning Prayer

¶ The officiant will read one of the opening sentences for Christmas below:

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. St. Luke ii. 10, 11.

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. Rev. xxi. 3.

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

LET us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.
¶ (Or It is eucharistic, 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 officiates, 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 Morning Responsor.

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 and people:

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.

Officiant: Praise ye the Lord.

People: The Lord's Name be praised.

¶ The Invitatory Psalm and Canticles are recited by everyone in unison, concluding with the Gloria Patri, all continuing in unison.

Christmas Invitatory.

BEHOLD a virgin shall conceive and bear a son: * and shall call his Name

Immanuel.

Unto us a child is born: * unto us a son is given.

In this was manifested the love of God towards us: * because that God sent his Only

Begotten Son into the world that we might live through him.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: * who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

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.

¶ 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.

The Psalms for the Morning of Day 31, in the traditional 30-day cycle. (Day 31

repeats Day 30.) Alternatively Psalms 46 and 48 appointed for today in the lectionary.

¶ See below at the * for a note on our Psalm selection practice.

The Thirtieth Day.

Morning Prayer.

Psalm 144. Benedictus Dominus.

BLESSED be the Lord my strength, * who teacheth my hands to war, and
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 Collect for the Departed
(ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we pray for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; [especially N.N.] 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 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 General Thanksgiving.
(Officiant and people together.)
ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee 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 ourselves 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 my fingers to fight:
2 My hope and my fortress, my castle and deliverer, my defender in whom I trust; * who subdueth my people that is under me.
3 Lord, what is man, that thou hast such respect unto him? * or the son of man, that thou so regardest him?
4 Man is like a thing of nought; * his time passeth away like a shadow.
5 Bow thy heavens, O Lord, and come down; * touch the mountains, and they shall smoke.
6 Cast forth thy lightning, and tear them; * shoot out thine arrows, and consume them.
7 Send down thine hand from above; * deliver me, and take me out of the great waters, from the hand of strangers;
8 Whose mouth talketh of vanity, * and their right hand is a right hand of wickedness.
9 I will sing a new song unto thee, O God; * and sing praises unto thee upon a ten-stringed lute.
10 Thou hast given victory unto kings, * and hast delivered David thy servant from the peril of the sword.
11 Save me, and deliver me from the hand of strangers, * whose mouth talketh of vanity, and their right hand is a right hand of iniquity:
12 That our sons may grow up as the young plants, * and that our daughters may be as the polished corners of the temple;
13 That our garners may be full and plenteous with all manner of store; * that our sheep may bring forth thousands, and ten thousands in our fields;
14 That our oxen may be strong to labour; that there be no decay, * no leading into captivity, and no complaining in our streets.
15 Happy are the people that are in such a case; * yea, blessed are the people who have the Lord for their God.
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.

Psalm 145. Exaltabo te, Deus.
I WILL magnify thee, O God, my King; * and I will praise thy Name for ever and ever.
2 Every day will I give thanks unto thee; * and praise thy Name for ever and ever.
3 Great is the Lord, and marvellous worthy to be praised; * there is no end of his greatness.
4 One generation shall praise thy works unto another, * and declare thy power.
5 As for me, I will be talking of thy worship, * thy glory, thy praise, and wondrous works;
6 So that men shall speak of the might of thy marvellous acts; * and I will also tell of thy greatness.
7 The memorial of thine abundant kindness shall be showed; * and men shall sing of thy righteousness.
8 The Lord is gracious and merciful; * long-suffering, and of great goodness.
9 The Lord is loving unto every man; * and his mercy is over all his works.
10 All thy works praise thee, O Lord; * and thy saints give thanks unto thee.
11 They show the glory of thy kingdom, * and talk of thy power;
12 That thy power, thy glory, and mightiness of thy kingdom, * might be known unto men.
13 Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, * and thy dominion endureth throughout all ages.
14 The Lord upholdeth all such as fall, * and lifteth up all those that are down.
15 The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord; * and thou givest them their meat in due season.
16 Thou openest thine hand, * and fillest all things living with plenteousness.
17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways, * and holy in all his works.
18 The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him; * yea, all such as call upon him faithfully.
19 He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him; * he also will hear their cry, and will help them.
20 The Lord preserveth all them that love him; * but scattereth abroad all the ungodly.
21 My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; * and let all flesh give thanks unto his holy Name for ever and 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.

Psalm 146. Lauda, anima mea.

PRAISE the Lord, O my soul: while I live, will I praise the Lord; * yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God.
2 O put not your trust in princes, nor in any child of man; * for there is no help in them.
3 For when the breath of man goeth forth, he shall turn again to his earth, * and then all his thoughts perish.
4 Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, * and whose hope is in the Lord his God:
5 Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is; * who keep us in thy continual protection at the intercession of Saint Sylvester, whom thou didst raise up to be shepherd of the whole Church; through 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, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Collect for Grace.
O LORD, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that we, being ordered by thy governance, may do always what is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Collect for Saturdays.
ALMIGHTY God, who after the creation of the world didst rest from all thy works and sanctify a day of rest for all thy creatures: Grant that we, putting away all earthly anxieties, may be duly prepared for the service of thy sanctuary, and that our rest here upon earth may be a preparation for the eternal rest promised to thy people in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ In the Cycle of Prayer, we pray especially for the clergy and faithful of the Diocese of Iligan, Philippines, the Archdiocese of Ljubljana, Slovenia, the Archdiocese of Mombasa, Kenya, the Diocese of Oluasi, Ghana, and the Diocese of Santa Rosa de Copán, Honduras.

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 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.
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.
Lay
Officiant: O Lord hear our prayer.

Priest or
Deacon: The Lord be with you.

People: And let our cry come unto thee.

People: And with thy spirit.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer.

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 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 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.

Additionally, the following Collect may be said:

BE merciful to the people of thy flock, O Lord, eternal Shepherd of our souls: and keepeth his promise for ever;
6 Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong; * who feedeth the hungry.
7 The Lord looseth men out of prison; * the Lord giveth sight to the blind.
8 The Lord helpeth them that are fallen; * the Lord careth for the righteous.
9 The Lord careth for the strangers; he defendeth the fatherless and widow:
* as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.
10 The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore, * and throughout all generations.
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 62

A Lesson from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name which the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My delight is in her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a virgin, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent. You who put the Lord in remembrance, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise in the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: "I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink your wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in the courts of my sanctuary." Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. Behold, the Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, "Behold, your salvation comes; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." And they shall be called The holy people, The redeemed of the Lord; and you shall be called Sought out, a city not forsaken.

Here endeth the Lesson.

Te Deum laudamus.
(On Sundays except in Pre-Lent and Lent, and on Feasts, Solemnities, and all days during the Octaves of Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost)

WE praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.
To thee all Angels cry aloud; the Heavens, and all the Powers therein;
To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of thy glory.
The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.
The noble army of Martyrs praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee;
The Father of an infinite Majesty; Thine adorable, true and only Son; Also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

THOU art the King of Glory, O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father. When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man, thou didst humble thyself to be born of a Virgin. When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers. Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father. We therefore pray thee, help thy servants, whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy Saints, in glory everlasting.

O LORD, save thy people, and bless thine heritage. Govern them and lift them up for ever.

Day by day we magnify thee;
And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

(No Gloria Patri after the Te Deum.)

The Second Lesson: John 6:41-58

A Lesson from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven." They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?'" Jesus answered them, "Do not murmur among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Every one who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that any one has seen the Father except him who is from God; he has seen the Father. Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh." The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live because of me. This is the bread which came down from heaven, not such as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live for ever."

Here endeth the Lesson.

Benedictus.
St. Luke i. 68.

BLESSED * be the Lord God of Israel; * for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us, * in the house of his servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets, * which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies, * and from the hand of all that hate us.
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, * and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he swore to our forefather Abraham, * that he would give us;
That we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies * might serve him without fear;
In holiness and righteousness before him, * all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: * for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people * for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God; * whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death, * and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
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 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: ‡ Only if the officiant is a priest or deacon: