

Ry. ii. The Lord, who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

And the cows went straight in the direction of Beth-she'-mesh along one highway, lowing as they went; they turned neither to the right nor to the left, and the lords of the Philistines went after them as far as the border of Beth-she'-mesh. Now the people of Beth-she'-mesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley; and when they lifted up their eyes and saw the ark, they rejoiced to see it. The cart came into the field of Joshua of Beth-she'-mesh, and stopped there. A great stone was there; and they split up the wood of the cart and offered the cows as a burnt offering to the Lord. And the Levites took down the ark of the Lord.

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever

you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever.

V. And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." – Establishing. – Glory. – For ever.

Prayer

Grant us, Lord, a lasting fear and love of your holy name; for you never fail to guide those whom you firmly establish in your love. Through.

Friday

Feast of

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

I CLASS

I VESPERS

Ant. to psalms Praise the Lord; strong is his love for us.

Psalms Praise, O servants, etc. [1]

Little Chapter Ephes. 3

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all men see what is the plan of the

mystery hidden for ages in God.

Ry. As the Father has loved me so have I loved you. * Abide in my love.

V. If you keep my commandments you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. – Abide. – Glory. – Abide.

Hymn

See how the army of our sins,
A cruel army, proud and fierce,
The heart of God, most innocent,
Ungratefully and basely pierce!

Our sins direct the cruel stroke
Made by the thrust of soldier's lance;
The dreaded sharpness of its point
Our crimes with mortal guilt enhance.

From out that opened heart is born
The holy Church, of Christ the bride;
Behold, the ark to save our race,
The door, this wound made in his side.

Hence comes an everlasting stream
Of grace in wondrous sevenfold flood,

That we may there our robes defiled,
Cleanse in the Lamb's most precious blood.

It were a shame, again by sin
That blessed Heart to lacerate;
Instead, the flames which tell his love
Let us in spirit emulate.

All glory be to you, O Lord,
Who from your heart all grace outpour;
With Father and with Spirit blest
In every age, for evermore.
Amen.

V. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.
Ry. For I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Magnif. ant. I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already enkindled!

Prayer

O God, from the heart of your Son, wounded by our sins, you mercifully shower upon us the infinite treasures of love; grant, we beg you, that as we offer him our devoted and dutiful service, we may also fittingly perform our work of reparation. Through the same.

COMPLINE

Psalms from Sunday

Nunc dimittis ant.

Alleluia. With joy you will draw, alleluia, from the wells of salvation, alleluia, alleluia.

MATINS

Invit. The heart of Jesus wounded with love for us, * come, let us adore.

Hymn

O great Creator of the world,
Mankind's Redeemer,
Christ the blest;
True God from God, in whom we see
The Father's image clear expressed!

By love alone you were impelled
To take our mortal flesh to you,
And what the former Adam lost,
As second Adam to renew.

That self-same all creative love,
Which made the sea and stars and earth,
Took pity on our ancient woes
And broke the bondage of our birth.

Never in your heart permit
The strength of that high love to wane!
For from this well the nations draw

The grace that cleanses every stain.

For this the pain of wounds was borne,
For this the lance was driven in;
And forth the blood and water ran
To cleanse us from the guilt of sin.

All glory be to you, O Lord,
Who from your heart all grace outpour;
With Father and with Spirit blest
In every age, for evermore.
Amen.

I Nocturn

Psalm 32

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; * for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, * with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.

O sing him a song that is new, * play loudly, with all your skill.

For the word of the Lord is faithful * and all his works to be trusted.

The Lord loves justice and right * and fills the earth with his love.

By his word the heavens were made, * by the breath of his mouth all the stars.

He collects the waves of

the ocean; * he stores up the depths of the sea.

Let all the earth fear the Lord, * all who live in the world revere him.

He spoke; and it came to be. * He commanded, it sprang into being.

He frustrates the designs of the nations, * he defeats the plans of the peoples.

His own designs shall stand for ever, * the plans of his heart from age to age.

They are happy, whose God is the Lord, * the people he has chosen as his own.

From the heavens the Lord looks forth, * he sees all the children of men.

From the place where he dwells he gazes * on all the dwellers on the earth,

He who shapes the hearts of them all * and considers all their deeds.

A king is not saved by his army, * nor a warrior preserved by his strength.

A vain hope for safety is the horse; * despite its power it cannot save.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, * on those who hope in his love,

To rescue their souls from death, * to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. * The Lord is our help and our shield.

In him do our hearts find joy. * We trust in his holy name.

May your love be upon us, O Lord, * as we place all our hope in you.

Ant. 1 The plans of his heart are from age to age.

Psalm 35

Sin speaks to the sinner * in the depths of his heart. There is no fear of God * before his eyes.

He so flatters himself in his mind * that he knows not his guilt.

In his mouth are mischief and deceit. * All wisdom is gone.

He plots the defeat of goodness * as he lies on his bed.

He has set his foot on evil ways, * he clings to what is evil.

Your love, Lord, reaches to heaven; * your truth to the skies.

Your justice is like God's mountain, * your judgments like the deep.

To both man and beast you give protection. * O Lord, how precious is your love.

My God, the sons of men * find refuge in the shelter of your wings.

They feast on the riches of your house; * they drink from the stream of your delight.

In you is the source of life * and in your light we see light.

Keep on loving those who know you, * doing

justice for upright hearts.

Let the foot of the proud not crush me * nor the hand of the wicked cast me out.

See how the evil-doers have fallen ! * Flung down, they shall never arise.

Ant. 2 In you is the source of light. We drink from the stream of your delight, Lord.

Psalm 40

Happy the man who considers the poor and the weak. * The Lord will save him in the day of evil,

Will guard him, give him life, make him happy in the land * and will not give him up to the will of his foes.

The Lord will help him on his bed of pain, * he will bring him back from sickness to health.

As for me, I said: "Lord, have mercy on me, * heal my soul for I have sinned against you."

My foes are speaking evil against me. * "How long before he dies and his name be forgotten?"

They come to visit me and speak empty words, * their hearts full of malice, they spread it abroad.

My enemies whisper together against me. * They all weigh up the evil which is on me ;

"Some deadly thing has fastened upon him, * he

will not rise again from where he lies."

Thus even my friend, in whom I trusted, * who ate my bread, has turned against me.

But you, O Lord, have mercy on me. * Let me rise once more and I will repay them.

By this I shall know that you are my friend, * if my foes do not shout in triumph over me.

If you uphold me I shall be unharmed * and set in your presence for evermore.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel from age to age. * Amen. Amen.

Ant. 3 My friend who ate my bread has turned against me.

V. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.

Ry. For I am gentle and lowly in heart.

From the Prophet Jeremiah

Lesson i Chapter 24

Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: "Like these good figs, so I will regard as good the exiles from Judah, whom I have sent away from this place to the land of the Chalde'ans. I will set my eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them back to this land. I will build them up, and not tear them down ; I will plant them, and not uproot them. I will give

them a heart to know that I am the Lord ; and they shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i I will make with them an everlasting covenant that I will not turn away from doing good to them ; and I will put the fear of me in their hearts, * that they may not turn from me. **V.** I will rejoice in doing them good with all my heart. — That.

Lesson ii Chapter 30

Thus says the Lord: "Behold, I will restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob, and have compassion on his dwellings ; the city shall be rebuilt upon its mound, and the palace shall stand where it used to be. Out of them shall come songs of thanksgiving, and the voices of those who make merry. Their prince shall be one of themselves, their ruler shall come forth from their midst ; I will make him draw near, and he shall approach me, for who would dare of himself to approach me?—says the Lord. And you shall be my people, and I will be your God." Behold the storm of the Lord ! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tem-

pest ; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. The fierce anger of the Lord will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his mind. In the latter days you will understand this." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii If this had been done by an enemy I could bear his taunts. * But it is you, my own companion ! How close was the friendship between us ! **V.** If a rival had risen against me, I could hide from him. — But it is you.

Lesson iii Chapter 31

At that time," says the Lord, "I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people." Thus says the Lord: "The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness ; when Israel sought for rest, the Lord appeared to him from afar. I have loved you with an everlasting love ; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land

of Egypt, my covenant which they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. When we were dead through our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, * out of the great love with which he loved us. **V.** That in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace. — Out of. — Glory. — Out of.

II Nocturn

Psalm 46

All peoples clap your hands, * cry to God with shouts of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, * great king over all the earth.

He subdues people under us * and nations under our feet.

Our inheritance, our glory, is from him, * given to Jacob out of love.

God goes up with shouts of joy; * the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Sing praise for God, sing

praise, * sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth. * Sing praise with all your skill.

God is king over the nations; * God reigns on his holy throne.

The princes of the people are assembled * with the people of Abraham's God.

The rulers of the earth belong to God, * to God who reigns over all.

Ant. 4 God is king of all the earth; he is king over the nations.

Psalm 60

O God, hear my cry! * Listen to my prayer!

From the end of the earth I call: * my heart is faint.

On the rock too high for me to reach * set me on high,

O you who have been my refuge, * my tower against the foe.

Let me dwell in your tent for ever * and hide in the shelter of your wings.

For you, O God, hear my prayer * and grant me the heritage of those who fear you.

May you lengthen the life of the king: * may his years cover many generations.

May he ever sit enthroned before God: * bid love and truth be his protection.

So I will always praise your name * and day after day fulfil my vows.

Ant. 5 My heart is faint; on the rock too high for me to reach set me on high.

Psalm 93

O Lord, avenging God, * avenging God, appear!

Judge the earth, arise, * give the proud what they deserve!

How long, O Lord, shall the wicked, * how long shall the wicked triumph?

They bluster with arrogant speech; * the evildoers boast to each other.

They crush your people, Lord, * they afflict the ones you have chosen.

They kill the widow and the stranger * and murder the fatherless child.

And they say: "The Lord does not see; * the God of Jacob pays no heed."

Mark this, most senseless of people; * fools, when will you understand?

Can he who made the ear, not hear? * Can he who formed the eye, not see?

Will he who trains nations, not punish? * Will he who teaches men, not have knowledge?

(The Lord knows the thoughts of men. * He knows they are no more than a breath.)

Happy the man whom you teach, O Lord, * whom you train by means of your law:

To him you give peace in evil days * while the pit is being dug for the wicked.

The Lord will not abandon his people * nor forsake those who are his own:

For judgment shall again be just * and all true hearts shall uphold it.

Who will stand up for me against the wicked? * Who will defend me against those who do evil?

If the Lord were not to help me, * I would soon go down into the silence.

When I think: "I have lost my foothold"; * your mercy, Lord, holds me up.

When cares increase in my heart * your consolation calms my soul.

Can judges who do evil be your friends? * They do injustice under cover of law;

They attack the life of the just * and condemn innocent blood.

As for me, the Lord will be a stronghold; * my God will be the rock where I take refuge.

He will repay them for their wickedness, destroy them for their evil deeds. * The Lord, our God, will destroy them.

Ant. 6 When cares increase in my heart, your consolation calms my soul.

℣. As for me, I said, "Lord, have mercy on me."

℞. Heal my soul for I have sinned against you."

Lesson iv

Among the wonderful developments in sacred doctrine and devotion by which the plan of divine wisdom is ever more sharply defined in the church, scarcely any stands out more clearly than the increase in devotion to the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Often in the past, the Fathers, the Doctors and the Saints paid tribute to our Saviour's love for us, saying that the wound opened in the side of Christ was the hidden source of all graces. Since the Middle Ages, when popular piety began to be characterised by a more delicate devotion to the sacred humanity of our Saviour, contemplative souls made it a habit of penetrating beyond that wound to the heart itself wounded with love for men. From that time on, such contemplation became so usual for certain dedicated souls that there was scarcely a country or a religious order which did not bear abundant witness to this practice. In more recent times, especially when heretics were trying, by claims of false piety, to wean the Christian peoples

away from the most holy Eucharist, devotion to the Sacred Heart began to be practised publicly. This was achieved principally through the efforts of Saint John Eudes, who is rightly regarded as being the promoter of public devotion to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

℞. iv The Lord is close to all who call on him, * to all who call on him from their hearts. ℣. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. – To all.

Lesson v

God chose his own instrument by which he might fully and perfectly establish world-wide devotion to the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. This instrument was a humble virgin of the order of the Visitation, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, who from an early age was filled with love for the sacrament of the Eucharist. Christ the Lord, appearing to her many times, made her aware of the riches of his divine heart and of its desires. Of these apparitions, the most celebrated was that in which Jesus appeared to her as she was praying before the Blessed Sacrament. Showing her his most Sacred Heart, he complained that in return

for its great love he received nothing but insults from ungrateful men. He asked her to try to have a new feast established on the Friday after the octave of Corpus Christi, so that through this feast his heart would be honoured as is fitting, and due reparation made for sins against him in the Sacrament of his love. Everyone is aware of the many great obstacles encountered by the handmaid of God in her efforts to carry out his commands. But strengthened by the Lord himself and vigorously supported by her spiritual directors, who strove with extraordinary zeal to promote this devotion, she faithfully endeavoured, until death, to fulfil the task entrusted to her from heaven.

℞. v I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding, * and revealed them to babes. ℣. Yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. – And revealed.

Lesson vi

At length, in the year 1765, Pope Clement XIII approved a Mass and Office in honour of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. The feast was extended to the whole church by Pius

IX. After that, devotion to the most Sacred Heart of Jesus, like a river at the flood, spread throughout the whole world, sweeping away all obstacles. At the dawn of the new century a jubilee year having been proclaimed, Leo XIII desired that the entire human race should be consecrated to the most Sacred Heart. This consecration took place in all the churches of the catholic world with solemn ceremony and was the occasion of a great increase in this devotion. Whole nations as well as individual families were drawn to it and many of these devoted themselves to the Divine Heart and placed themselves at his disposal. Finally Pope Pius XI raised the feast of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus to the rank of first class with an octave, that the rank of the feast might more fully correspond to the devotion of christian people, now so clearly widespread. Moreover, in atonement for the rights denied to Christ, the greatest of kings and most loving Lord, and to show contrition for the sins of all men, he ordered that an act of reparation be recited on this day each year in all christian churches throughout the world.

℞. vi. All the nations

shall come * to adore you, Lord. **V.** They shall glorify your name: for you are great and do marvellous deeds. — To adore. — Glory. — To adore.

III Nocturn

Psalm 96

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice, * the many coastlands be glad.

Cloud and darkness are his raiment; * his throne, justice and right.

A fire prepares his path; * it burns up his foes on every side.

His lightnings light up the world, * the earth trembles at the sight.

The mountains melt like wax * before the Lord of all the earth.

The skies proclaim his justice; * all peoples see his glory.

Let those who serve idols be ashamed, those who boast of their worthless gods. * All you spirits worship him.

Sion hears and is glad; the people of Judah rejoice * because of your judgments, O Lord.

For you indeed are the Lord most high above all the earth, * exalted far above all spirits.

The Lord loves those who hate evil; he guards the souls of his saints; *

he sets them free from the wicked.

Light shines forth for the just * and joy for the upright of heart.

Rejoice, you just, in the Lord; * give glory to his holy name.

Ant. 7 You who love the Lord, give glory to his holy name.

Psalm 97

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,

At the presence of the

Lord: for he comes, * he comes to rule the earth.

He will rule the world with justice * and the peoples with fairness.

Ant. 8 All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Psalm 107

My heart is ready, O God; * I will sing, sing your praise.

Awake, my soul; awake, lyre and harp. * I will awake the dawn.

I will thank you, Lord, among the peoples, * praise you among the nations;

For your love reaches to the heavens * and your truth to the skies.

O God, arise above the heavens; * may your glory shine on earth!

O come and deliver your friends; * help with your right hand and reply.

From his holy place God has made this promise: **℣** "I will triumph and divide the land of Shechem; * I will measure out the valley of Succoth.

Gilead is mine and Manasseh. Ephraim I take for my helmet, * Judah for my commander's staff.

Moab I will use for my washbowl, on Edom I will plant my shoe. * Over the Philistines I will shout in triumph."

But who will lead me to

conquer the fortress? * Who will bring me face to face with Edom?

Will you utterly reject us, O God, * and no longer march with our armies?

Give us help against the foe: * for the help of man is vain.

With God we shall do bravely * and he will trample down our foes.

Ant. 9 I will praise you among the nations, for your love reaches to the heavens.

V. He makes us remember his wonders. The Lord is compassion. **R.** He gives food to those who fear him.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Lesson vii Chapter 19

At that time, since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the sabbath (for that sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Etc.

Homily of St. Bonaventure, Bishop

Book concerning the Tree of Life, number 30

Divine Providence permitted that one of the soldiers should open the

sacred side of Christ, piercing it with a lance. This was allowed that the church might be formed from Christ's side as he slept upon the cross and to fulfil the Scripture which says: "They shall look on him whom they have pierced." As blood and water flowed forth the price of our salvation was paid. Issuing from the hidden spring of his heart, it gave the sacraments of the church the power to confer the life of grace. To those already alive in Christ it was a draught from the living spring, welling up to eternal life. Arise then, Soul, friend of Christ! Do not cease to keep vigil. Place there your mouth whence you may draw water from the wells of salvation.

Ry. vii. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, * I will draw all men to myself. **V.** He said this to show by what death he was to die. - I will draw.

Lesson viii

Concerning the Mystical Life. Chap. 3

Having once drawn near to the heart of the most adorable Lord Jesus, and since it is good for us to be here, let us not easily be torn away from it. How good and how pleasant it is

to dwell in this heart! Your heart is a great treasure, a precious pearl which we have found in the dug-up field that is your body. Who would cast away this pearl? Rather will I give all other pearls, exchange all my thoughts and affections and purchase it for myself. I will entrust all my anxieties to the heart of the good Jesus, and he will support me without fail. And so, adorable Jesus, having found this heart of yours, which is mine also, I will pray to you, my God. Let my prayers enter into that sacred Shrine where they will be heard: indeed draw me entirely into your heart.

Ry. viii. Let us therefore be imitators of God * and let us walk in love. **V.** As Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. - And let us walk.

Lesson ix

For this, was your side pierced, that an entrance might lie open to us. For this, was your heart wounded, that freed from outside disturbances, we might dwell there. Still more, it was wounded that through the visible wound we might perceive the invisible wound of love. How better could this ardour be shown, than that he allowed

not only the body but also the heart itself to be wounded with a lance? Thus, the wound in the flesh shows forth the wound in the spirit. Who would not love this heart, so deeply wounded? Who would not return love to one so loving? Who would not embrace one so chaste? Let us, who are still in the flesh, return, in so far as we can, love to him who loves us, embrace him who was wounded for us, whose hands and feet, side and heart were dug by the un-dutiful tenant-vinedressers. Let us pray, too, that with the dart of his love he may touch our hearts, still hard and unrepentant, and that he may graciously keep us enclosed in the bonds of his love.

Ry. ix. As the Father has loved me so have I loved you. * Abide in my love. **V.** If you keep my commandments you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. - Abide in my love. - Glory. - Abide in my love.

Before Lauds.

V. The Lord is compassion and love. **Ry.** Slow to anger and rich in mercy.

LAUDS

Antiphons (and at the Hours)

1. One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear and at once there came out blood and water.

Psalm The Lord is king, etc. p. 29.

2. Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If anyone thirst, let him come to me and drink."

3. God loved us with an everlasting love, therefore, being lifted up from the earth and taking pity on us, he drew us to his heart.

4. Come to me all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

5. My son, give me your heart and let your eyes observe my ways.

Little Chapter Ephes. 3

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God.

Hymn

O Heart, the Ark that holds the law,
Not that whence bondage came of old;
But law of pardon and of grace
And law of mercy manifold.

O Heart, for this new covenant
The spotless shrine unto us
given ;
The Temple, holier than of
old,
Its veil more helpful than
that riven.

For, love decreed that you
should bear,
From wounding thrust, the
open sore ;
That, of the love invisible,
The hidden wounds we
might adore.

Beneath this sign of love,
behold,
A victim, bloodied, mystic,
lies ;
And Christ as Priest has
offered up
In both these ways his
sacrifice.

What loved one will not
love requite ?
What soul redeemed re-
fuses love,
Nor chooses in this heart to
find
His everlasting home
above ?

All glory be to you, O
Lord,
Who from your heart all
grace outpour ;
With Father and with
Spirit blest
In every age, for evermore.
Amen.

With joy you will
draw water. *R.* From the
wells of salvation.

Bened. ant. For these
things took place that the
Scripture might be ful-
filled, which says, " They
shall look on him whom
they have pierced."

Prayer

O God, from the heart
of your Son, wound-
ed for our sins, you merci-
fully shower upon us the
infinite treasures of love ;
grant, we beg you, that as
we offer him our devoted
and dutiful service, we
may also fittingly perform
our work of reparation.
Through the same.

**At the Hours, Psalms
from the Sunday.**

TERCE

Ant. Jesus stood up and
proclaimed, " If anyone
thirst let him come to me
and drink."

**Little Chapter as in
Lauds.**

R. Take my yoke upon
you and learn from me, *
alleluia, alleluia. - Take
my yoke. *V.* For I am
gentle and lowly in heart. -
Alleluia. - Glory. - Take
my yoke.

V. As for me, I said,
" Lord, have mercy on me.
R. Heal my soul for I have
sinned against you."

SEXT

Ant. God loved us with
an everlasting love, there-
fore, being lifted up from
the earth and taking pity on
us, he drew us to his heart.

Little Chapter Ephes. 3

For this reason I bow my
knees before the Father,
from whom every family in
heaven and on earth is
named, that according to
the riches of his glory he
may grant you to be
strengthened with might
through his spirit in the
inner man, and that Christ
may dwell in your hearts
through faith.

R. As for me, I said,
" Lord, have mercy on
me," * alleluia, alleluia. -
As for me. *V.* " Heal my
soul for I have sinned
against you." - Alleluia. -
Glory. - As for me.

V. He makes us remember
his wonders. The Lord is
compassion. *R.* He gives
food to those who fear him.

NONE

Ant. My son, give me
your heart and let your eyes
observe my ways.

Little Chapter Ephes. 3

That you, being rooted
and grounded in love,
may have power to com-
prehend with all the saints

what is the breath and
length and height and
depth, and to know the
love of Christ which sur-
passes knowledge, that you
may be filled with all the
fullness of God.

R. He makes us remem-
ber his wonders. The Lord
is compassion, * alleluia,
alleluia. - He makes. *V.*
He gives food to those who
fear him. - Alleluia. - Glory.
- He makes.

V. With joy you will
draw water. *R.* From the
wells of salvation.

II VESPERS

Psalm 109

The Lord's revelation to
my Master: * " Sit on
my right: I will put your
foes beneath your feet."

The Lord will send from
Sion 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 daybreak 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, the Judge of the
nations, will heap high the

bodies ; * heads shall be shattered far and wide.

He will drink from the stream by the wayside * and therefore he shall lift up his head.

Psalm 110

I will thank the Lord with all my heart * in the meeting of the just and their assembly.

Great are the works of the Lord ; * to be pondered by all who love them.

Majestic and glorious his work, * his justice stands firm for ever.

He makes us remember his wonders. * The Lord is compassion and love.

He gives food to those who fear him ; * keeps his covenant ever in mind.

He has shown his might to his people * by giving them the lands of the nations.

His works are justice and truth: * his precepts are all of them sure,

Standing firm for ever and ever: * they are made in uprightness and truth.

He has sent deliverance to his people and established his covenant for ever. * Holy his name, to be feared.

To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom ; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise shall last for ever !

Psalm 115

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.

Psalm 127

O blessed are those who fear the Lord * and walk in his ways !

By the labour of your hands you shall eat. * You will be happy and prosper ;

Your wife like a fruitful vine * in the heart of your house ;

Your children like shoots of the olive, * around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed * the man who fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Sion * all the days of your life !

May you see your children's children in a happy Jerusalem ! * On Israel, peace !

Psalm 147

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem ! * Sion, 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. One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear

and at once there came out blood and water.

Little Chapter Ephes. 3

To me, though I am the least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God.

Hymn

See how the army of our sins,
A cruel army, proud and fierce,
The heart of God, most innocent,
Ungratefully and basely pierce !

Our sins direct the cruel stroke
Made by the thrust of soldier's lance ;
The dreaded sharpness of its point
Our crimes with mortal guilt enhance.

From out that opened heart is born
The holy Church, of Christ the bride ;
Behold, the ark to save our race,
The door, this wound made in his side.

Hence comes an everlasting stream
Of grace in wondrous sevenfold flood,
That we may there our robes defiled,
Cleanse in the Lamb's most precious blood.

It were a shame again by sin
That blessed Heart to lacerate;
Instead, the flames which tell his love
Let us in spirit emulate.

All glory be to you, O Lord,
Who from your heart all grace outpour;
With Father and with Spirit blest
In every age, for evermore.
Amen.

V. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.
R. For I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Magnif. ant. When they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water.

Prayer

O God, from the heart of your Son, wounded for our sins, you mercifully shower upon us the infinite treasures of love; grant, we

beg you, that as we offer him our devoted and dutiful service, we may also fittingly perform our work of reparation. – Through the same.

COMPLINE

Psalms from Sunday.

Nunc dimittis ant.
Alleluia. With joy you will draw, alleluia, from the wells of salvation, alleluia, alleluia.

Saturday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 7

And the men of Kir'iath-je'arim came and took up the ark of the Lord, and brought it to the house of Abin'adab on the hill; and they consecrated his son, Elea'zar, to have charge of the ark of the Lord. From the day that the ark was lodged at Kir'iath-je'arim, a long time passed, some twenty years, and all the house of Israel lamented after the Lord.

R. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and

night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. – Toward this house.

Second responsory to be said on vigils.

R. (ii.) My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me: Against you, you alone, have I sinned. – And what is evil.

Lesson ii

Then Samuel said to all the house of Israel, "If you are returning to the Lord with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Ash'taroth from among you, and direct your heart to the Lord, and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines." So Israel put away the Ba'als and the Ash'taroth, and they served the Lord only. Then Samuel said, "Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the Lord for you." So they gathered at Mizpah, and drew water and poured it out before the Lord, and fasted on that

day, and said there, "We have sinned against the Lord." And Samuel judged the people of Israel at Mizpah. Now when the Philistines heard that the people of Israel had gathered at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel.

R. ii. (iii.) And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried: * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, Master, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." – My father. – (Glory. – My father.)

Prayer

Grant us, Lord a lasting fear and love of your holy name; for you never fail to guide those whom you firmly establish in your love. Through.

III SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **R.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. All from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the Lord.

Prayer

O God, guardian of those who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing holy, increase your mercy towards us. With you as our ruler and guide, may we so pass through the good things of this world as not to lose those of the world to come. Through.

MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 8

When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. The name of his first-born son was Jo'el, and the name of his second, Abi'jah; they were judges in Beer-sheba. Yet his sons did not walk in his ways, but turned aside after gain; they took bribes and perverted justice. Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways; now appoint for us a king to govern us like all the nations."

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed me.

Lesson ii

But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." And Samuel prayed to the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, "Hearken to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. According to all the deeds which they have done to me, from the day I brought them out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you. Now then, hearken to their voice; only, you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them." So Samuel told all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking a king from him.

Ry. ii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the

flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." – Establishing.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson iii Chapter 15

At that time, the tax collectors and sinners were drawing near to hear Jesus. Etc.

Homily of Saint Gregory, Pope

Homily 34 on the Gospels

You have heard, my brothers, in the reading from the Gospel, how sinners and tax collectors came to our Redeemer, and how he received them, not only talking with them, but also eating with them. The Pharisees seeing this were scornful. From which, understand that true justice has compassion, but false justice has scorn. And, indeed, the just are rightly in the habit of looking down on sinners. But that which is done in the haughtiness of pride is one thing, that which is done out of zeal for discipline is quite another thing.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity, * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king. **Ry.** He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. What man of you having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it? Alleluia.

Prayer

O God, guardian of those who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing holy, increase your mercy towards us. With you as our ruler and guide, may we so pass through the good things of this world as not to lose those of the world to come. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. What woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin,

does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?

Monday MATINS

From the first book of
Kings

Lesson i Chapter 8

But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No! but we will have a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may govern us and go before us and fight our battles." And when Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the Lord.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed me.

Lesson ii Chapters 8 and 9

And the Lord said to Samuel, "Hearken to their voice, and make them a king." Samuel then said

to the men of Israel, "Go every man to his city." There was a man of Benjamin whose name was Kish, the son of Abi'el, son of Zeror, son of Becor'ath, son of Aphi'ah, a Benjaminite, a man of wealth; and he had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he; from his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. - He it is.

Lesson iii

Now the asses of Kish, Saul's father, were lost. So Kish said to Saul his son, "Take one of the servants with you, and arise, go and look for the asses." And they passed through the hill country of E'phraim and passed through the land of Shal'ishah, but they did not find them. And they passed through the land of Sha'alim, but they were not there. Then they passed

through the land of Benjamin, but they did not find them.

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." - Establishing. - Glory. - For ever.

Tuesday MATINS

From the first book of
Kings

Lesson i Chapter 9

When they came to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant who was with him, "Come, let us go back, lest my father cease to care about the asses and become anxious about us." But he said to him, "Behold, there is a man of God in this city, and he is a man that is held in honour; all that he says comes true. Let us go there; perhaps he can tell us about the journey on which we have set out." Then Saul said to his servant, "But if we go, what

can we bring the man? For the bread in our sacks is gone, and there is no present to bring the man of God. What have we?" The servant answered Saul again, "Here, I have with me the fourth part of a shekel of silver, and I will give it to the man of God, to tell us our way."

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. - And he will.

Lesson ii

And Saul said to his servant, "Well said; come, let us go." So they went to the city where the man of God was. As they went up the hill to the city, they met young maidens coming out to draw water, and said to them, "Is the seer here?" They answered, "He is; behold, he is just ahead of you. Make haste; he has come just now to the city, because the people have a sacrifice today on the high place. As soon as you enter the city, you will find him, before he goes up to the high place to eat; for the people will not eat until he comes, since he must bless the sacrifice; afterward those eat who are invited. Now go up, for

you will meet him immediately."

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David, of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? - And took away.

Lesson iii

So they went up to the city. As they were entering the city, they saw Samuel coming out toward them on his way up to the high place. Now the day before Saul came, the Lord had revealed to Samuel: "Tomorrow about this time I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be prince over my people Israel. He shall save my people from the hand of the Philistines; for I have seen the affliction of my people, because their cry has come to me." When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord told him, "Here is the man of whom I spoke to you! He it is who shall rule over my people."

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, *

where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. - Where fell. - Glory. - The mighty ones of Israel.

Prayer

O God, guardian of those who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing holy, increase your mercy towards us. With you as our ruler and guide, may we so pass through the good things of this world as not to lose those of the world to come. Through.

Wednesday

MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 9

Then Saul approached Samuel in the gate, and said, "Tell me where is the house of the seer?" Samuel answered Saul, "I am the seer; go up before me to the high place, for today you shall eat with me, and in the morning I will let you go and will tell you all that is on your mind. As for your asses that were lost three days ago, do not set your mind on them, for

they have been found. And for whom is all that is desirable in Israel? Is it not for you and all your father's house?"

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Lesson ii

Saul answered, "Am I not a Benjaminite, from the least of the tribes of Israel? And is not my family the humblest of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then have you spoken to me in this way?" Then Samuel took Saul and his servant and brought them into the hall and gave them a place at the head of those who had been invited, who were about thirty persons.

Ry. ii. My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight, I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned. - And what is evil.

Lesson iii

And Samuel said to the cook, "Bring the portion I gave you, of which I said to you 'Put it aside.'" So the cook took up the leg and the upper portion and set them before Saul; and Samuel said, "See, what was kept is set before you. Eat; because it was kept for you until the hour appointed, that you might eat with the guests." So Saul ate with Samuel that day.

Ry. iii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried: * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father. - Glory. - My father.

Prayer

O God, guardian of those who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing holy, increase your mercy towards us. With you as our ruler and guide, may we so pass through the good things of

this world as not to lose those of the world to come. Through.

Thursday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 10

Then Samuel took a vial of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said, "Has not the Lord anointed you to be prince over his people Israel? And you shall reign over the people of the Lord and you will save them from the hand of their enemies round about. And this shall be the sign to you that the Lord has anointed you to be prince over his heritage. When you depart from me today you will meet two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzak, and they will say to you, 'The asses which you went to seek are found, and now your father has ceased to care about the asses and is anxious about you saying, "What shall I do about my son?"'"

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep, * and an-

ointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed me.

Lesson ii

Then you shall go on from there further and come to the oak of Tabor; three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you there, one carrying three kids, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine. And they will greet you and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall accept from their hand."

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. - He it is.

Lesson iii

After that you shall come to Gib'eath-elokim, where there is a garrison of the Philistines; and there, as you come to the city, you will meet a band of prophets coming down from the high place with harp, tambourine,

flute, and lyre before them, prophesying. Then the spirit of the Lord will come mightily upon you, and you shall prophesy with them and be turned into another man."

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people, and I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." - Establishing. - Glory. - For ever.

Friday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 10

Now Samuel called the people together to the Lord at Mizpah; and he said to the people of Israel, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all the kingdoms that were oppressing you.' But you

have this day rejected your God, who saves you from all your calamities and your distresses; and you have said, 'No! but set a king over us.' Now therefore present yourselves before the Lord by your tribes and by your thousands."

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you out of the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. - And he will.

Lesson ii

Then Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel near, and the tribe of Benjamin was taken by lot. He brought the tribe of Benjamin near by its families, and the family of the Matrites was taken by lot; finally he brought the family of the Matrites near man by man, and Saul the son of Kish was taken by lot. But when they sought him, he could not be found. So they inquired again of the Lord, "Did the man come hither?" and the Lord said, "Behold, he has hidden himself among the baggage." Then they ran and fetched him from there; and when he stood among the people, he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders upward. And Samuel said to all the

people, "Do you see him whom the Lord has chosen? There is none like him among all the people." And all the people shouted, "Long live the king!"

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? - And took away.

Lesson iii

Then Samuel told the people of the rights and duties of kingship; and he wrote them in a book and laid it up before the Lord. Then Samuel sent all the people away, each one to his home. Saul also went to his home at Gib'e-ah, and with him went men of valour whose hearts God had touched. But some worthless fellows said, "How can this man save us?" And they despised him, and brought him no present. But he held his peace.

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round

about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. - Where fell. - Glory. - The mighty ones of Israel.

Prayer

O God, guardian of those who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing holy, increase your mercy towards us. With you as our ruler and guide, may we so pass through the good things of this world so as not to lose those of the world to come. Through.

Saturday MATINS

From the first book of
Kings

Lesson i Chapter 11

Then Nahash the Ammonite went up and besieged Ja'besh-gil'ead; and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, "Make a treaty with us, and we will serve you." But Nahash the Ammonite said to them, "On this condition I will make a treaty with you, that I gouge out all your right eyes, and thus put disgrace upon all Israel."

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes

before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Second responsory to be said on vigils:

Ry. (ii.) My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned. - And what is evil.

Lesson ii

The elders of Jabesh said to him, "Give us seven days respite that we may send messengers through all the territory of Israel. Then, if there is no one to save us, we will give ourselves up to you." When the messengers came to Gib'e-ah of Saul, they reported the matter in the ears of the people; and all the people wept aloud. Now Saul was coming from the field behind the oxen; and

Saul said, "What ails the people, that they are weeping?" So they told him the tidings of the men of Jabesh. And the spirit of God came mightily upon Saul when he heard these words, and his anger was greatly kindled. He took a yoke of oxen, and cut them in pieces and sent them throughout all the territory of Israel by the hand of messengers, saying, "Whoever does not come out after Saul and Samuel, so shall it be done to his oxen!"

Ry. ii. (iii.) And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father. - (Glory. - My father.)

IV SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. So David prevailed over the Philis-

tine with a sling and with a stone, in the name of the Lord.

Prayer

Lord, grant us, we pray, that the course of this world may, by your arrangement, be guided for us in peace, and that your church may serve you joyfully and undisturbed. Through.

MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 12

And Samuel said to all Israel, "Behold, I have hearkened to your voice in all that you have said to me, and have made a king over you. And now, behold, the king walks before you; and I am old and grey, and behold, my sons are with you; and I have walked before you from my youth until this day. Here I am; testify against me before the Lord and before his anointed. Whose ox have I taken? Or whose ass have I taken? Or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? Or from whose hand have I taken a bribe to blind my eyes with it? Testify against me and I will restore it to you." They said, "You have not defrauded us or oppressed us

or taken anything from any man's hand."

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed me.

Lesson ii

And he said to them, "The Lord is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand." And they said, "He is witness." And Samuel said to the people, "The Lord is witness, who appointed Moses and Aaron and brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt. Now therefore stand still, that I may plead with you before the Lord concerning all the saving deeds of the Lord which he performed for you and for your fathers. When Jacob went into Egypt and the Egyptians oppressed them, then your fathers cried to the Lord and the Lord sent Moses and Aaron, who brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this place. But they forgot the Lord

their God; and he sold them into the hand of Sis'era, commander of the army of Jabin king of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab; and they fought against them. And they cried to the Lord and said, 'We have sinned, because we have forsaken the Lord, and have served the Ba'als and the Ash'taroth; but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve you.' And the Lord sent Jerubba'al and Barak, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side; and you dwelt in safety."

Ry. ii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." - Establishing.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson iii Chapter 5

At that time, while the people pressed upon Jesus to hear the word of

God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. Etc.

Homily of Saint Ambrose, Bishop

Book 4 on Luke chap. 5 near the end

Since the Lord bestowed health on so many, no matter what their disease, neither time nor place could keep back the people who wished to be healed. Evening fell and still they followed him; he came to the borders of the lake, still they pressed on. And so the Lord went up into Peter's boat. This is the boat which, according to Matthew, was recently tossing about on the sea, and, according to Luke, is filled with fishes. So you may recognise that in the beginning, the church is tossed about, but afterwards is filled to overflowing. For the fish are they who steer their way through this life. There (in the account of Matthew) Christ is sleeping in the midst of his disciples, here he is teaching; he sleeps with the lukewarm but watches with the perfect.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity,* for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity,

everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

R. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. Jesus got into a boat, and sitting down he taught the crowds, alleluia.

Prayer

Lord, grant us, we pray, that the course of this world may, by your arrangement, be guided for us in peace, and that your church may serve you joyfully and undisturbed. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **R.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. Master, we toiled all night and took nothing ! But at your word I will let down the nets.

Monday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 13

And the Philistines mustered to the fight with Israel thirty thousand

chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and troops like the sand on the seashore in multitude: they came up and encamped in Michmash, to the east of Bethaven. When the men of Israel saw that they were in straits (for the people were hard pressed), the people hid themselves in caves and in holes and in rocks and in tombs and in cisterns, or crossed the fords of the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. Saul was still at Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

R. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy.

V. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed me.

Lesson ii

He waited seven days, the time appointed by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and the people were scattering from him. So Saul said, "Bring the burnt offering here to me, and the peace offerings." And he offered the burnt offering. As soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him and salute

him. Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines had mustered at Michmash, I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down upon me at Gilgal, and I have not entreated the favour of the Lord'; so I forced myself and offered the burnt offering."

R. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the Lord your God, which he commanded you; for now the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel for ever. But now your kingdom shall not continue; the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart; and the Lord has appointed him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept

what the Lord commanded you."

R. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord," and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." – Establishing your kingdom. – Glory. – For ever.

Tuesday

MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 14

And Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armour, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the Lord will work for us; for nothing can hinder the Lord from saving by many or by few." And his armour-bearer said to him, "Do all that your mind inclines you to; behold, I am with you, as is your mind so is mine." Then said Jonathan, "Behold, we will cross over to the men, and we will show ourselves to them. If they say to us, 'Wait

until we come to you,' then we will stand still in our place, and we will not go up to them. But if they say, 'Come up to us,' then we will go up; for the Lord has given them into our hand. And this shall be the sign to us."

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. — And he will.

Lesson ii

So both of them showed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines; and the Philistines said, "Look, Hebrews are coming out of the holes where they have hid themselves." And the men of the garrison hailed Jonathan and his armour-bearer, and said, "Come up to us, and we will show you a thing." And Jonathan said to his armour-bearer, "Come up after me; for the Lord has given them into the hand of Israel." Then Jonathan climbed up on his hands and feet, and his armour-bearer after him. And they fell before Jonathan, and his armour-bearer killed them after him; and that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armour-bearer made, was of about twenty men within as it

were half a furrow's length in an acre of land.

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? — And took away.

Lesson iii

And there was a panic in the camp, in the field, and among all the people; the garrison and even the raiders trembled; the earth quaked; and it became a very great panic. And the watchmen of Saul in Gib'e-ah of Benjamin looked; and behold, the multitude was surging hither and thither. Then Saul said to the people who were with him, "Number and see who has gone from us." And when they had numbered, behold, Jonathan and his armour-bearer were not there.

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. — Where fell. — Glory. — The mighty ones of Israel.

Prayer

Lord, grant us, we pray, that the course of this world may, by your arrangement, be guided for us in peace, and that your church may serve you joyfully and undisturbed. Through.

Wednesday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 15

And Samuel said to Saul, "The Lord sent me to anoint you king over his people Israel; now therefore hearken to the words of the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts, 'I will punish what Am'alek did to Israel in opposing them on the way, when they came up out of Egypt. Now go and smite Am'alek, and utterly destroy all that they have; do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.'"

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and

night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. — Toward this house.

Lesson ii

So Saul summoned the people, and numbered them in Tela'im, two hundred thousand men of Judah. And Saul came to the city of Am'alek, and lay in wait in the valley. And Saul said to the Ken'ites, "Go, depart, go down from among the Amal'ekites, lest I destroy you with them; for you showed kindness to all the people of Israel when they came out of Egypt." So the Ken'ites departed from among the Amal'ekites. And Saul defeated the Amal'ekites, from Hav'ilah as far as Shur, which is east of Egypt. And he took Agag the king of the Amal'ekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

Ry. ii. My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone,

have I sinned. – And what is evil.

Lesson iii

But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep and of the oxen and the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them; all that was despised and worthless they utterly destroyed. The word of the Lord came to Samuel: “I repent that I have made Saul king; for he has turned back from following me, and has not performed my commandments.” And Samuel was angry; and he cried to the Lord all night.

Ry. iii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli’jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli’sha cried: * “My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” Then he said, “If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so.” – My father. – Glory. – My father.

Prayer

Lord, grant us, we pray, that the course of this world may, by your arrangement, be guided for us in peace, and that your church may serve you

joyfully and undisturbed. Through.

Thursday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 15

Then Samuel said to Saul, “Stop! I will tell you what the Lord said to me this night.” And he said to him, “Say on.” And Samuel said, “Though you are little in your own eyes, are you not the head of the tribes of Israel? The Lord anointed you king over Israel. And the Lord sent you on a mission, and said, ‘Go, utterly destroy the sinners, the Amal’ekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.’”

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father’s sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed me.

Lesson ii

Why then did you not obey the voice of the Lord? Why did you swoop

on the spoil, and do what was evil in the sight of the Lord?” And Saul said to Samuel, “I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, I have gone on the mission which the Lord sent me, I have brought Agag the king of Am’alek, and I have utterly destroyed the Amal’ekites. But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the best of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal.”

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

And Samuel said, “Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.”

Ry. iii. “I took you out of your father’s house,” says the Lord, “and ap-

pointed you to feed the flock of my people, and I have been with you whenever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies.” – Establishing your kingdom. – Glory. – For ever.

Friday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 16

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, seeing I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me him whom I name to you.”

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver

you out of the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. – And he will.

Lesson ii

Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eli’ab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is before him.”

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance: “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands”? – And took away.

Lesson iii

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord sees not as

man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abin’adab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.”

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo’a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo’a. – Where fell. – Glory. – The mighty ones of Israel.

Prayer

Lord, grant us, we pray, that the course of this world may, by your arrangement, be guided for us in peace, and that your church may serve you joyfully and undisturbed. Through.

Saturday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 16

Now the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from

Lesson ii

the Lord tormented him. And Saul’s servants said to him, “Behold now, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. Let our lord now command your servants, who are before you, to seek out a man who is skilful in playing the lyre; and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will be well.”

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day: that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. – Toward this house.

Second responsory to be said on vigils:

Ry. (ii.) My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight, I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned. – And what is evil.

So Saul said to his servants, “Provide for me a man who can play well, and bring him to me.” One of the young men answered, “Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skilful in playing, a man of valour, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence; and the Lord is with him.” Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, “Send me David your son, who is with the sheep.” And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a skin of wine and a kid, and sent them by David his son to Saul. And David came to Saul, and entered his service. And Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armour-bearer. And Saul sent to Jesse saying, “Let David remain in my service, for he has found favour in my sight.”

Ry. ii. (iii.) And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli’jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli’sha cried: * “My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” Then he said, “If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so.” – My father. – (Glory. – My father.)

V SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"?

Prayer

O God, you have prepared good things as yet unseen for those who love you. Pour into our hearts a desire for your love; so that loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain that fulfilment of your promises which surpasses all longing. Through.

MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 17

And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand

shekels of bronze. And he had greaves of bronze on his legs, and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. And the shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his shield-bearer went before him.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed me.

Lesson ii

He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us." And the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day; give me a man that we may fight together." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine,

they were dismayed and greatly afraid. Now David was the son of an Eph'ra-thite of Bethlehem in Judah, named Jesse, who had eight sons. In the days of Saul the man was already old and advanced in years. The three eldest sons of Jesse had followed Saul to the battle; and the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eli'ab the first born, and next to him Abin'adab, and the third Shammah. David was the youngest; the three eldest followed Saul. But David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

Ry. ii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." - Establishing your kingdom.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 5

At that time, Jesus said to his disciples: "Unless your righteousness

exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Etc.

Homily of St. Augustine, Bishop

Bk. 1 on the Lord's Sermon on the Mount, chapter 9.

The righteousness of the Pharisees is that they shall not kill: the righteousness of those who are to enter the kingdom of heaven is that they should not be angry without cause. Not to kill, is therefore but the minimum commanded, and whoever breaks that shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever fulfils this command, not to kill, will not immediately be great, and fit for the kingdom of heaven. Still he has attained to a certain degree. He will be made perfect, however, if he does not become angry without cause. If he succeeds in this, he will be all the more removed from murder.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity, * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. - For endless

ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. You have heard that it was said to the men of old, “You shall not kill; and whoever kills shall be liable to judgment.”

Prayer

O God, you have prepared good things as yet unseen for those who love you. Pour into our hearts a desire for your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain that fulfilment of your promises which surpasses all longing. Through.

II VESPER

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift, alleluia.

Monday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 17

And Jesse said to David his son, “Take for your brothers an ephah of this parched grain, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers; also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their thousand. See how your brothers fare, and bring some token from them.” Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father’s sheep, * and he anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed me.

Lesson ii

And David rose early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took the provisions, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the encampment as the host was going forth to

the battle line, shouting the war cry. And Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army.

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

And David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage, and ran to the ranks, and went and greeted his brothers. As he talked with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.

Ry. iii. “I took you out of your father’s house,” says the Lord, “and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies.” – Establishing your kingdom. – Glory. – For ever.

Prayer

O God, you have prepared good things as yet unseen for those who love you. Pour into our hearts a desire for your love; so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain that fulfilment of your promises which surpasses all longing. Through.

Tuesday MATINS

Lesson i Chapter 17

When the words which David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul; and he sent for him. And David said to Saul, “Let no man’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight against this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth.”

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. – And he will.

Lesson ii

But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father; and when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, I went after him and smote him and delivered it out of his mouth; and if he arose against me, I caught him by the beard, and smote him and killed him. Your servant has killed both lions and bears."

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? - And took away.

Lesson iii

And this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God." And David said, "The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of

Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. - Where fell. - Glory. - The mighty ones of Israel.

Prayer

O God, you have prepared good things as yet unseen for those who love you. Pour into our hearts a desire for your love; so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain that fulfilment of your promises, which surpasses all longing. Through.

Wednesday
MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 17

Then he (David) took his staff in his hand, and chose five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in his shepherd's bag or wallet; his sling was in his hand, and he drew near to the Philistine. And the Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him.

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes

before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Lesson ii

And when the Philistine looked, and saw David he disdained him; for he was but a youth, ruddy and comely in appearance. And the Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine said to David "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field."

Ry. ii. My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned. - And what is evil.

Lesson iii

Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a

javelin; but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down, and cut off your head; and I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

Ry. iii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father. - Glory. - My father.

Thursday
MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 18

As they were coming home, when David returned from slaying the Philistine, the women came

out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with timbrels, with songs of joy, and with instruments of music. And the women sang to one another as they made merry, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands." And Saul was very angry, and this saying displeased him; he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed thousands; and what more can he have but the kingdom?"

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed me.

Lesson ii

And Saul eyed David from that day on. And on the morrow an evil spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house, while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. Saul had his spear in his hand; and Saul cast the spear, for he thought, "I will pin David to the wall." But David evaded him twice.

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. - He it is.

Lesson iii

Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with him but had departed from Saul. So Saul removed him from his presence, and made him a commander of a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. And David had success in all his undertakings; for the Lord was with him. And when Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in awe of him. But all Israel and Judah loved David; for he went out and came in before them.

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." - Establishing. - Glory. - For ever.

Prayer

O God, you have prepared good things as yet unseen for those who love you. Pour into our hearts a desire for your love; so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain that fulfilment of your promises which surpasses all longing. Through.

Friday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 19

And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David. But Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted much in David. And Jonathan told David, "Saul my father seeks to kill you; therefore take heed to yourself in the morning, stay in a secret place and hide yourself; and I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak to my father about you; and if I learn anything I will tell you."

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your

enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. - And he will.

Lesson ii

And Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father, and said to him, "Let not the king sin against his servant David; because he has not sinned against you, and because his deeds have been of good service to you; for he took his life in his hand and he slew the Philistine, and the Lord wrought a great victory for all Israel. You saw it, and rejoiced; why then will you sin against innocent blood by killing David without cause?" And Saul hearkened to the voice of Jonathan; Saul swore, "As the Lord lives, he shall not be put to death."

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? - And took away.

Lesson iii

And there was war again; and David went out and fought with the Philistines, and made a great

slaughter among them, so that they fled before him. Then an evil spirit from the Lord came upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand; and David was playing the lyre. And Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear; but he eluded Saul, so that he struck the spear into the wall. And David fled, and escaped.

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. - Where fell. - Glory. - The mighty ones of Israel.

Saturday MATINS

From the first book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 20

So Jonathan knew that his father was determined to put David to death. And Jonathan rose from the table in fierce anger and ate no food the second day of the month, for he was grieved for David, because his father had disgraced him. In the morning Jonathan went out into the

field to the appointment with David, and with him a little lad.

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Second responsory to be said on Vigils:

Ry. (ii.) My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned. - And what is evil.

Lesson ii

And he said to his lad, "Run and find the arrows which I shoot." As the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. And when the lad came to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan called after the lad and said, "Is not the arrow beyond you?"

And Jonathan called after the lad, "Hurry, make haste, stay not." So Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master. But the lad knew nothing; only Jonathan and David knew the matter. And Jonathan gave his weapons to his lad, and said to him, "Go and carry them to the city." And as soon as the lad had gone, David rose from beside the stone heap and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed three times; and they kissed one another, and wept with one another.

Ry. ii. (iii.) And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father. - (Glory. - My father.)

Prayer

O God, you have prepared good things as yet unseen for those who love you. Pour into our hearts a desire for your love; so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain that fulfilment of your promises

which surpasses all longing. Through.

VI SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. King Saul was angry and said: "To me they have ascribed a thousand, and to the son of Jesse ten thousand."

Prayer

From you alone, God of strength, comes all that is good! Implant in our hearts love for your name, and increase in us true religion; thus will you foster what there is of good in us, and, with fatherly care, guard what you have fostered. Through.

MATINS

Here begins the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 1

After the death of Saul, when David had returned from the slaughter of the Amal'ekites, David remained two days in Ziklag; and on the third day, behold, a man came from Saul's camp, with his

clothes rent and earth upon his head. And when he came to David, he fell to the ground and did obeisance. David said to him, "Where do you come from?" And he said to him, "I have escaped from the camp of Israel."

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed.

Lesson ii

And David said to him, "How did it go? Tell me." And he answered, "The people have fled from the battle, and many of the people also have fallen and are dead; and Saul and his son Jonathan are also dead." Then David said to the young man who told him, "How do you know that Saul and his son Jonathan are dead?" And the young man who told him said, "By chance I happened to be on Mount Gilbo'a; and there was Saul leaning upon his spear; and lo, the chariots and the horsemen were close upon him. And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called to me. And I

answered 'Here I am.' And he said to me, 'Who are you?' I answered him, 'I am an Amal'ekite.' And he said to me, 'Stand beside me and slay me, for anguish has seized me, and yet my life still lingers.' So I stood beside him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live after he had fallen; and I took the crown which was on his head and the armlet which was on his arm, and I have brought them here to my lord."

Ry. ii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies." – Establishing.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Lesson iii Chapter 8

In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him, and said to them, "I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been

with me now three days, and have nothing to eat." Etc.

Homily of St. Ambrose,
Bishop

Book 6, Chapter 9 of St. Luke near the beginning

The food of heavenly grace was distributed. But note to whom distribution was made. Not to the idle, not to those in the city, that is, to Jewish officialdom or those attached to earthly prestige; but to such as sought Christ in the desert. It is those who are not disdainful that Christ receives; and he, the Word of God, speaks to them not about worldly things but about the Kingdom of God. It is to those who carry the open sores of physical suffering that he willingly applies his healing medicine.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.
Ry. He is robed in majesty

Bened. ant. I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days, and have nothing to eat; and if I send them away hungry, they will faint on the way, alleluia.

Prayer

From you alone, God of strength, comes all that is good! Implant in our hearts love for your name, and increase in us true religion; thus will you foster what there is of good in us, and, with fatherly care, guard what you have fostered. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. And Jesus, took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he blessed them and broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd, alleluia.

Monday

MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 2

After this David inquired of the Lord, "Shall I go up into any of the cities

of Judah?" And the Lord said to him, "Go up." David said, "To which shall I go up?" And he said, "To Hebron." So David went up there, and his two wives also, Ahin'oram of Jezreel, and Ab'igail the widow of Nabal of Carmel. And David brought up his men who were with him, every one with his household; and they dwelt in the towns of Hebron.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. — And anointed me.

Lesson ii

And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. When they told David, "It was the men of Ja'besh-gil'ead who buried Saul," David sent messengers to the men of Ja'besh-gil'ead, and said to them, "May you be blessed by the Lord, because you showed this loyalty to Saul your lord, and buried him!"

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the

mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. — He it is.

Lesson iii

Now may the Lord show steadfast love and faithfulness to you! And I will do good to you because you have done this thing. Now therefore let your hands be strong, and be valiant; for Saul your lord is dead, and the house of Judah has anointed me king over them."

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies.—Establishing your kingdom. — Glory. — For ever.

Prayer

From you alone, God of strength, comes all that is good! Implant in our hearts love for your name, and increase in us true

religion; thus will you foster what there is of good in us, and, with fatherly care, guard what you have fostered. Through.

Tuesday MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 5

Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Behold, we are your bone and flesh. In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you that led out and brought in Israel; and the Lord said to you, 'You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel.'" So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord.

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. — And he will.

Lesson ii

And they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when

he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. And the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jeb'usites, the inhabitants of the land.

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? — And took away.

Lesson iii

And they said to David, "You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame will ward you off" — thinking, "David cannot come in here." Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Sion, that is, the city of David. And David said on that day, "Whoever would smite the Jebusites, let him get up the water shaft to attack the lame and the blind, who are hated by David's soul." Therefore it is said, "The blind and the lame shall not come into the house."

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. - Where fell. - Glory. - The mighty ones of Israel.

Wednesday

MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 6

David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. And David arose and went with all the people who were with him from Ba'ale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who sits enthroned on the cherubim. And they carried the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abin'adab which was on the hill.

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and

night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Lesson ii

Uzzah and Ahi'o, the sons of Abin'adab, were driving the new cart with the ark of God; and Ahi'o went before the ark. And David and all the house of Israel were making merry before the Lord with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

Ry. ii. My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned. - And what is evil.

Lesson iii

And when they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there because he

put forth his hand to the ark; and he died there beside the ark of God. And David was angry because the Lord had broken forth upon Uzzah.

Ry. iii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father. - Glory. - My father.

Prayer

From you alone, God of strength, comes all that is good! Implant in our hearts love for your name, and increase in us true religion; thus will you foster what there is of good in us, and, with fatherly care, guard what you have fostered. Through.

Thursday MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 6

And it was told King David, "The Lord has blessed the household

of O'bed-e'dom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God." So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of O'bed-e'dom to the city of David with rejoicing; and when those who bore the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed me.

Lesson ii

And David danced before the Lord with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting, and with the sound of the horn. As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart.

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and

freed me from the paw of the wild beast * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

And they brought in the Ark of the Lord, and set it in its place inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord. And when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts, and distributed among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins.

R. iii. “I took you out of your father’s house,” says the Lord, “and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies.” – Establishing. – Glory. – For ever.

Friday

MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson 1 Chapter 7

Now when the king dwelt in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies round about, the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart; for the Lord is with you.”

R. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. – And he will.

Lesson ii

But that same night the word of the Lord came Nathan, “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not dwelt in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling, in all places where I have moved

with all the people of Israel.’”

R. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands”? – And took away.

Lesson iii

“**D**id I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”” Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went.’”

R. iii. Mountains of Gilbo’a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo’a. – Where fell. – Glory. – The mighty ones of Israel.

Prayer

From you alone, God of strength, comes all that is good! Implant in our hearts love for your name, and increase in us true religion; thus will you foster what there is of good in us, and, with fatherly care, guard what you have fostered. Through.

Saturday MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 8

After this David defeated the Philistines and subdued them, and David took Meth’eg-am’mah out of the hand of the Philistines. And he defeated Moab, and measured them with a line, making them lie down on the ground; two lines he measured to be put to death, and one full line to be spared. And the Moabites became servants to David and brought tribute.

R. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down,

Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

A second responsory to be said on Vigils:

Ry. (ii.) My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned. - And what is evil.

Lesson ii

David also defeated Hadade'zer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to restore his power at the river Euphrates. And David took from him a thousand and seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand foot soldiers; and David hamstringed all the chariot horses, but left enough for a hundred chariots. And when the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadade'zer, king of Zobah, David slew twenty-two thousand men of the Syrians. Then David put garrisons in Aram of Damascus; and the Syrians became ser-

vants to David and brought tribute. And the Lord gave victory to David wherever he went. And David took the shields of gold which were carried by the servants of Hadade'zer, and brought them to Jerusalem.

Ry. ii. (iii.) And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father - (Glory. - My father.)

VII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

If this Sunday occurs between the 1st and 7th of August, the Magnificat antiphon and the lessons for Sunday and the week in August, page 362, the remainder of the books of Kings being omitted.

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Who among all in your kingdom was found so faithful as David, going out, coming back and going forth at the king's command?

Prayer

O God, whose providence arranges all things without any error, we earnestly beg you to take away all that is harmful and to bestow everything that will be for our good. Through.

MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 11

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go forth to battle, David sent Jo'ab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking upon the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of

his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed.

Lesson ii

And David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is not this Bathshe'ba, the daughter of Eli'an, the wife of Uri'ah the Hittite?" So David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Then she returned to her house. And the woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am with child." So David sent word to Jo'ab, "Send me Uri'ah the Hittite." And Jo'ab sent Uri'ah to David. When Uri'ah came to him, David asked how Jo'ab was doing, and how the people fared, and how the war prospered. Then David said to Uri'ah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." And Uri'ah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uri'ah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house.

Ry. ii. "I took you out of your father's house," says

the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. *℣.* And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies." – Establishing.

Lesson iii is taken from the homily on the gospel of this Sunday p. 509.

℣. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. *℣.* Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

¶ *Antiphons to the Benedictus and Magnificat, as also the prayers, that are to be said on this and on the other Sundays after Pentecost, are to be found on p. 509.*

Monday MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 11

Uri'ah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah dwell in booths; and my lord Jo'ab and the

servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing." Then David said to Uri'ah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will let you depart."

℣. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. *℣.* The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed me.

Lesson ii

So Uri'ah remained in Jerusalem that day, and the next. And David invited him, and he ate in his presence and drank, so that he made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house. In the morning David wrote a letter to Jo'ab, and sent it by the hand of Uri'ah. In the letter he wrote: "Set Uri'ah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down and die."

Tuesday MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 12

℣. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. *℣.* May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

And as Jo'ab was besieging the city, he assigned Uri'ah to the place where he knew there were valiant men. And the men of the city came out and fought with Jo'ab; and some of the servants of David among the people fell. Uri'ah the Hittite was slain also. Then Jo'ab sent and told David all the news about the fighting.

℣. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. *℣.* And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." – Establishing. – Glory. – For ever.

And the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his morsel, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him.

℣. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. *℣.* Put away the foreign gods from among you. – And he will.

Lesson ii

Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared it for the man who had come to him." Then David's anger

was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him: he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? - And took away.

Lesson iii

Nathan said to David, "You are the man. Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul; and I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have smitten Uri'ah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife and have slain him

with the sword of the Ammonites.'"

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you* where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. - Where fell. - Glory. - The mighty ones of Israel.

Wednesday

MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 15

After this Ab'salom got himself a chariot and horses, and fifty men to run before him. And Ab'salom used to rise early and stand beside the way of the gate; and when any man had a suit to come before the king for judgment, Ab'salom would call to him, and say, "From what city are you?" And he would say, "Your servant is of such and such a tribe in Israel."

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day: that your ears be attentive and your eyes may open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Lesson ii

Ab'salom would say to him, "See, your claims are good and right; but there is no man deputed by the king to hear you." Ab'salom said moreover, "Oh that I were judge in the land! Then every man with a suit or cause might come to me, and I would give him justice." And whenever a man came near to do obeisance to him, he would put out his hand, and take hold of him, and kiss him.

Ry. ii. My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned. - And what is evil.

Lesson iii

Thus Ab'salom did to all of Israel who came to the king for judgment; so Ab'salom stole the hearts of the men of Israel. And at the end of four years Ab'salom said to the king, "Pray let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed to the Lord, in

Hebron. For your servant vowed a vow, while I dwelt at Geshur in Aram, saying, 'If the Lord will indeed bring me back to Jerusalem, then I will offer worship to the Lord.'"

Ry. iii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father. - Glory. - My father.

Thursday

MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 15

And while Ab'salom was offering the sacrifices, he sent for Ahith'ophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city Giloh. And the conspiracy grew strong, and the people with Ab'salom kept increasing. And a messenger came to David, saying, "The hearts of the men of Israel have gone after Ab'salom." Then David said to all his servants who were with him at

Jerusalem, "Arise, and let us flee; or else there will be no escape for us from Ab'salom."

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. — And anointed.

Lesson ii

Go in haste, lest he overtake us quickly, and bring down evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword." And the king's servants said to the king, "Behold, your servants are ready to do whatever my lord the king decides." So the king went forth, and all his household after him. And the king left ten concubines to keep the house.

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. — He it is.

Lesson iii

And the king went forth, and all the people after

him; and they halted at the last house. And all his servants passed by him; all the Cher'ethites, and all the Pel'ethites, and all the six hundred Gittites who had followed him from Gath, passed on before the king. Then the king said to It'tai the Gittite, "Why do you also go with us?"

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies." — Establishing. — Glory. — For ever.

Friday

MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 18

Then David mustered the men who were with him, and set over them commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds. And David sent forth the army, one third under the command of Jo'ab, one third under the command of Abi'shai the son of

Zeru'iah, Jo'ab's brother, and one third under the command of It'tai the Gittite. And the king said to the men, "I myself will also go out with you."

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. — And he will.

Lesson ii

But the men said, "You shall not go out. For if we flee, they will not care about us. If half of us die, they will not care about us. But you are worth ten thousand of us; therefore it is better that you send us help from the city." The king said to them, "Whatever seems best to you I will do." So the king stood at the side of the gate.

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? — And took away.

Lesson iii

And all the army marched out by hundreds and

by thousands. And the king ordered Jo'ab and Abi'shai and It'tai, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Ab'salom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders about Ab'salom. So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of E'phraim.

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gil'boa. — Where fell. — Glory. — The mighty ones of Israel

Saturday

MATINS

From the second book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 18

And Ab'salom chanced to meet the servants of David. Ab'salom was riding upon his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak, and his head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on.

And a certain man saw it, and told Jo'ab, "Behold, I saw Ab'salom hanging in an oak."

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Lesson ii

Jo'ab said to the man who told him, "What, you saw him! Why then did you not strike him there to the ground? I would have been glad to give you ten pieces of silver and a girdle." But the man said to Jo'ab, "Even if I felt in my hand the weight of a thousand pieces of silver, I would not put forth my hand against the king's son; for in our hearing the king commanded you and Abi'shai and It'tai, 'For my sake protect the young man Ab'salom.' On the other hand, if I had dealt treacherously against his life (and there is nothing hidden from the king), then you yourself would have stood aloof." Jo'ab said, "I will not waste time like this with you." And he took three darts in his hand,

and thrust them into the heart of Ab'salom, while he was still alive in the oak. And ten young men, Jo'ab's armour-bearers, surrounded Ab'salom and struck him, and killed him.

Ry. ii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father.

VIII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

If this Sunday occurs between the 1st and 7th of August, the Magnificat antiphon and the lessons for Sunday and the week are taken from the 1st week in August, p. 362, the remainder of the books of Kings being omitted.

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. I am distressed for you, my brother

Jonathan; very wonderful was your love to me, passing the love of women. As a mother loves her only son, so did I love you. The bow of Jonathan turned not back, his shield in battle never turned aside, and his spear was never turned away.

Prayer

We ask you, Lord, to grant us the spirit always to think and do what is right. May we, who cannot exist without you, be able to live according to your will. Through.

MATINS

Here begins the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 1

Now King David was old and advanced in years; and although they covered him with clothes, he could not get warm. Therefore his servants said to him, "Let a young maiden be sought for my lord the king, and let her wait upon the king, and be his nurse; let her lie in your bosom, that my lord the king may be warm." So they sought for a beautiful maiden throughout all the territory of Israel, and found Ab'ishag the Shu'nammite, and brought her to the king.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep; * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed.

Lesson ii

The maiden was very beautiful; and she became the king's nurse and ministered to him; but the king knew her not. Now Adoni'jah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, "I will be king"; and he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. His father had never at any time displeased him by asking, "Why have you done thus and so?" He was also a very handsome man; and he was born next after Ab'salom. He conferred with Jo'ab the son of Zeru'iah and with Abi'athar the priest; and they followed Adoni'jah and helped him. But Zadok the priest, and Benai'ah the son of Jehoi'ada, and Nathan the prophet, and Shim'e-i, and Re'i, and David's mighty men were not with Adoni'jah. Adoni'jah sacrificed sheep, oxen, and fatlings by the Serpent's Stone, which is beside En-ro'gel, and he

invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the royal officials of Judah, but he did not invite Nathan the prophet or Benai'ah or the mighty men or Solomon his brother.

Ry. ii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies." —Establishing.

Lesson iii is taken from the homily on the gospel of this Sunday, p. 510.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. — For endless ages. — Glory. — For endless ages.

Monday

MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 1

And Nathan said, "My lord the king, have you said, 'Adoni'jah shall

reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne'? For he has gone down this day, and has sacrificed oxen, fatlings and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king's sons, Jo'ab the commander of the army, and Abi'athar the priest; and behold, they are eating and drinking before him, and saying, 'Long live King Adoni'jah!' But me, your servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benai'ah the son of Jehoi'ada, and your servant Solomon, he has not invited."

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep: * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. — And anointed me.

Lesson ii

Has this thing been brought about by my lord the king and you have not told your servants who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?" Then King David answered, "Call Bathshe'ba to me." So she came into the king's presence, and stood before the king. And the king swore saying, "As the Lord lives, who has redeemed

my soul out of every adversity, as I swore to you by the Lord, the God of Israel, saying, 'Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne in my stead'; even so will I do this day."

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. — He it is.

Lesson iii

King David said, "Call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benai'ah the son of Jehoi'ada." So they came before the king. And the king said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord, and cause Solomon my son to ride on my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon; and let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet there anoint him king over Israel; then blow the trumpet, and say, 'Long live King Solomon!'"

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have

been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies." — Establishing. — Glory. — For ever.

Tuesday

MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 1

So Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benai'ah the son of Jehoi'ada, and the Cher'ethites and the Pel'ethites, went down and caused Solomon to ride on King David's mule, and brought him to Gihon. There Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the tent, and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!" And all the people went up after him, playing on pipes, and rejoicing with great joy, so that the earth was split by their noise.

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your

enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. – And he.

Lesson ii

Adoni'jah and all the guests who were with him heard it as they finished feasting. And when Jo'ab heard the sound of the trumpet, he said, "What does this uproar in the city mean?" While he was still speaking, behold, Jonathan the son of Abi'athar the priest came; and Adoni'jah said, "Come in, for you are a worthy man and bring good news."

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him: he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? – And took away.

Lesson iii

Jonathan answered Adoni'jah, "No, for our lord King David has made Solomon king; and the king has sent him with Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benai'ah, the son of Jehoi'ada and the Cher'ethites and the Pel'ethites; and they have caused him to ride on the

king's mule; and Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet have anointed him king at Gihon; and they have gone up from there rejoicing, so that the city is in an uproar. This is the noise that you have heard."

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. – Where fell. – Glory. – The mighty ones of Israel.

Wednesday

MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 2

When David's time to die drew near, he charged Solomon his son, saying, "I am about to go the way of all the earth. Be strong, and show yourself a man, and keep the charge of the Lord your God, walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his ordinances, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn; that

the Lord may establish his word which he spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before me in faithfulness with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail you a man on the throne of Israel.' "

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. – Toward this house.

Lesson ii

" **M**oreover you know also what Jo'ab the son of Zeru'iah did to me, how he dealt with the two commanders of the armies of Israel, Abner the son of Ner, and Ama'sa the son of Jether, whom he murdered, avenging in time of peace blood which had been shed in war, and putting innocent blood upon the girdle about my loins, and upon the sandals of my feet.' "

Ry. ii. My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enor-

mity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned. – And what is evil.

Lesson iii

" **A**ct therefore according to your wisdom, but do not let his grey head go down to Sheol in peace. But deal loyally with the sons of Barzil'lai the Gileadite, and let them be among those who eat at your table; for with such loyalty they met me when I fled from Ab'salom your brother.' "

Ry. iii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." – My father. – Glory. – My father.

Thursday

MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 2

So Solomon sat upon the throne of David his

father; and his kingdom was firmly established. Then Adoni'jah the son of Haggith came to Bathshe'ba the mother of Solomon. And she said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably." Then he said, "I have something to say to you." She said, "Say on." He said, "You know that the kingdom was mine, and that all Israel fully expected me to reign; however, the kingdom has turned about and become my brother's, for it was his from the Lord."

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep: * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. — And anointed me.

Lesson ii

And now I have one request to make of you; do not refuse me." She said to him, "Say on." And he said, "Pray ask King Solomon—he will not refuse you—to give me Ab'ishag the Shu'nammite as my wife." Bathshe'ba said, "Very well; I will speak for you to the king."

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and

freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. — He it is.

Lesson iii

So Bathshe'ba went to King Solomon, to speak to him on behalf of Adoni'jah. And the king arose to meet her, and bowed down to her; then he sat on his throne, and had a seat brought for the king's mother; and she sat on his right. Then she said, "I have one small request to make of you; do not refuse me." And the king said to her, "Make your request, my mother; for I will not refuse you." She said, "Let Ab'ishag the Shu'nammite be given to Adoni'jah your brother as his wife."

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies." — Establishing. — Glory. — For ever.

Friday

MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 3

So the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon. Solomon made a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt; he took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had finished building his own house and the house of the Lord and the wall around Jerusalem. The people were sacrificing at the high places, however, because no house had yet been built for the name of the Lord.

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. — And he will.

Lesson ii

Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of David his father; only, he sacrificed and burnt incense at the high places. And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt

offerings upon that altar, at Gibeon.

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? — And took away.

Lesson iii

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day."

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. Where fell. — Glory. — The mighty ones of Israel.

Saturday

MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 9

When Solomon had finished building the house of the Lord and the king's house and all that Solomon desired to build, the Lord appeared to Solomon a second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon. And the Lord said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your supplication, which you have made before me; I have consecrated this house which you have built, and put my name there for ever; my eyes and my heart will be there for all time."

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Lesson ii

And as for you, if you will walk before me, as David your father walked,

with integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you, and keeping my statutes and my ordinances, then I will establish your royal throne over Israel for ever, as I promised David your father, saying, 'There shall not fail you a man upon the throne of Israel.' But if you turn aside from following me, you or your children, and do not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them, then I will cut off Israel from the land which I have given them; and the house which I have consecrated for my name I will cast out of my sight; and Israel will become a proverb and a byword among all peoples."

Ry. ii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father.

IX SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

II class

If this Sunday occurs between the 1st and the 7th of August, the Magnificat antiphon and the lessons for Sunday and the week are taken from the 1st week in August, p. 362, the remainder of the books of Kings being omitted.

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. **T**hen David spoke to the Lord, when he saw the angel who was smiting the people, and said, "True, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly; but these sheep, what have they done?"

Prayer

Open, Lord, the ears of your mercy to our prayers; and, that you may grant the petitions of those who ask, make them seek only that which is pleasing to you. Through.

MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 10

Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the

fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with hard questions. She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices, and very much gold, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king which he could not explain to her.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast.- And anointed.

Lesson ii

And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, their clothing, his cup-bearers, and his burnt offerings which he offered at the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her. And she said to the king, "The report was true which I heard in my own land of your affairs and of

your wisdom, but I did not believe the reports until I came and my own eyes had seen it, and, behold, the half was not told me; your wisdom and prosperity surpass the report which I heard. Happy are your wives! Happy are these your servants, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! Blessed be the Lord your God, who has delighted in you and set you on the throne of Israel! Because the Lord loved Israel for ever, he has made you king, that you may execute justice and righteousness." Then she gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, and a very great quantity of spices, and precious stones.

Ry. ii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies." – Establishing.

Lesson iii is taken from the homily on the gospel of this Sunday p. 511.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to

the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

From the third Book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 10

Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold, besides that which came from the traders and from the traffic of the merchants, and from all the kings of Arabia and from the governors of the land.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed.

Lesson ii

King Solomon made two hundred large shields of beaten gold; six hundred shekels of gold went into each shield. And he

made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three minas of gold went into each shield; and the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon. The king also made a great ivory throne, and overlaid it with the finest gold. The throne had six steps.

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

And at the back of the throne was a calf's head, and on each side of the seat were arm rests and two lions standing beside the arm rests, while twelve lions stood there, one on each end of a step on the six steps. The like of it was never made in any kingdom.

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the

great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies." – Establishing. – Glory. – For ever.

Tuesday MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 10

Thus King Solomon excelled all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom. And the whole earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put into his mind. Every one of them brought his present, articles of silver and gold, garments, myrrh, spices, horses and mules, so much year by year.

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. – And he.

Lesson ii

And Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen; he had fourteen hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem. And the king made silver as com-

mon in Jerusalem as stone, and he made cedar as plentiful as the sycamore of the Shephe'lah.

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? - And took away.

Lesson iii

And Solomon's import of horses was from Egypt and Ku'e, and the king's traders received them from Ku'e at a price. A chariot could be imported from Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty; and so through the king's traders they were exported to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Syria.

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. - Where fell. - Glory. - The mighty ones of Israel.

Wednesday MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 11

Now King Solomon loved many foreign women; the daughter of Pharaoh, and Moabite, Ammonite, E'domite, Sido'nian, and Hittite women, from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the people of Israel, "You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods."

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day, that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Lesson ii

Solomon clung to these in love. He had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart. For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods; and his heart was not wholly true to the Lord his God,

as was the heart of David his father.

Ry. ii. My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned. - And what is evil.

Lesson iii

For Solomon went after Ash'toreth the goddess of the Sido'nians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. So Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not wholly follow the Lord, as David his father had done. Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites, on the mountain east of Jerusalem.

Ry. iii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see

me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father. - Glory. - My father.

Thursday MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 11

And at that time, when Jerobo'am went out of Jerusalem, the prophet Ahi'jah the Shi'lonite found him on the road. Now Ahi'jah had clad himself with a new garment; and the two of them were alone in the open country. Then Ahi'jah laid hold of the new garment that was on him, and tore it into twelve pieces. And he said to Jerobo'am, "Take for yourself ten pieces; for thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Behold, I am about to tear the kingdom from the hand of Solomon, and will give you ten tribes.'" "

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed.

Lesson ii

“ (But he shall have one tribe, for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel), because he has forsaken me, and worshipped Ash'toreth the goddess of the Sido'nians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the Ammonites, and has not walked in my ways, doing what is right in my sight and keeping my statutes and my ordinances, as David his father did.”

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. V. May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

“ Nevertheless I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand ; but I will make him ruler all the days of his life, for the sake of David my servant whom I chose, who kept my commandments and my statutes ; but I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it to you, ten tribes. Yet to

his son I will give one tribe.”

Ry. iii. “ I took you out of your father's house,” says the Lord, “ and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. V. And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth ; and I gave you rest from all your enemies.” – Establishing. – Glory. – For ever.

Friday

MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapters 11 & 12

And Solomon slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of David, his father ; and Rehobo'am his son reigned in his stead. Rehobo'am went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king. And when Jerobo'am the son of Nebat heard of it (for he was still in Egypt whither he had fled from King Solomon), then Jerobo'am returned from Egypt. And they sent and called him.

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him

only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. V. Put away the foreign gods from among you. – And he will.

Lesson ii

And Jerobo'am and all the assembly of Israel came and said to Rehobo'am, “ Your father made our yoke heavy. Now therefore lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke upon us, and we will serve you.” He said to them, “ Depart for three days, then come again to me.”

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him ; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. V. Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, “ Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands ” ? – And took away.

Lesson iii

So the people went away. Then King Rehobo'am took counsel with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he was yet alive, saying, “ How do you advise me to answer these people ? ” And they said to him, “ If you will be a servant to this people today and serve

them, and speak good words to them when you answer them, then they will be your servants for ever.”

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. V. All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you ; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. Where fell. – Glory. – The mighty ones of Israel.

Saturday

MATINS

From the third book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 12

So Jerobo'am and all the people came to Rehobo'am the third day, as the king said, “ Come to me again the third day.” And the king answered the people harshly, and forsaking the counsel which the old men had given him, he spoke to them according to the counsel of the young men, saying, “ My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke ; my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.”

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer

which your servant makes before you this day: that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. – Toward this house.

Lesson ii

So the king did not hearken to the people; for it was a turn of affairs brought about by the Lord that he might fulfil his word, which the Lord spoke by Ahi'jah the Shilonite to Jerobo'am the son of Nebat. And when all Israel saw that the king did not hearken to them, the people answered the king, "What portion have we in David? We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. To your tents, O Israel! Look now to your own house, David." So Israel departed to their tents. But Rehobo'am reigned over the people of Israel who dwelt in the cities of Judah. Then King Rehobo'am sent Ador'am, who was taskmaster over the forced labour, and all Israel stoned him to death with stones. And King Rehobo'am made haste to mount his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

Ry. ii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven

by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." – My father.

X SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

If this Sunday occurs between the 1st and the 7th of August, the Magnificat antiphon and the lessons for Sunday and the week are taken from the 1st week in August, p. 362, the remainder of the books of Kings being omitted.

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you! For there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul not anointed with oil. How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan lies slain upon your high places. Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely! In life

and in death they were not divided!

Prayer

O God, you show your almighty power chiefly by being forgiving and merciful. Increase your mercy towards us so that as we hasten towards those things that you have promised, you may make us to share in the heavenly treasures. Through.

MATINS

Here begins the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 1

After the death of Ahab, Moab rebelled against Israel. Now Ahazi'ah fell through the lattice in his upper chamber in Samar'ia, and lay sick; so he sent messengers, telling them, "Go, inquire of Ba'al-ze'bub, the god of Ekron, whether I shall recover from this sickness." But the angel of the Lord said to Eli'jah the Tishbite, "Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samar'ia, and say to them, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Ba'al-ze'bub, the god of Ekron?' Now therefore thus says the Lord, 'You shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone, but you shall surely die.'"

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep, * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed.

Lesson ii

So Eli'jah went. The messengers returned to the king, and he said to them, "Why have you returned?" And they said to him, "There came a man to meet us, and said to us, 'Go back to the king who sent you, and say to him, Thus says the Lord, Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are sending to inquire of Ba'al-ze'bub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone, but shall surely die.'" He said to them, "What kind of man was he who came to meet you and told you these things?" They answered him, "He wore a garment of haircloth, with a girdle of leather about his loins." And he said, "It is Eli'jah the Tishbite." Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty men with his fifty. He went up to Eli'jah, who was sitting on the top of a hill, and said to him, "O man of God, the

king says, 'Come down.'” But Eli'jah answered the captain of fifty, “If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty.” Then fire came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

Ry. ii. “I took you out of your father's house,” says the Lord, “and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies.” — Establishing.

Lesson iii is taken from the homily on the gospel of this Sunday, p. 512.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. — For endless ages. — Glory. — For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 1

Again the king sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Eli'jah, and entreated him, “O man of God, I pray you, let my life, and the life of these fifty servants of yours, be precious in your sight. Lo, fire came down from heaven, and consumed the two former captains of fifty men with their fifties; but now let my life be precious in your sight.”

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. — And anointed.

Lesson ii

Then the angel of the Lord said to Eli'jah, “Go down with him; do not be afraid of him.” So he arose and went down with him to the king, and said to him, “Thus says the Lord, ‘Because you have sent messengers to inquire of Ba'al-ze'bub, the god of Ekron,—is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of his word?—therefore you shall not

come down from the bed to which you have gone, but you shall surely die.’”

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. — He it is.

Lesson iii

So he died according to the word of the Lord which Eli'jah had spoken. Jehor'am, his brother, became king in his stead in the second year of Jehor'am the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, because Ahazi'ah had no son. Now the rest of the acts of Ahazi'ah which he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

Ry. iii. “I took you out of your father's house,” says the Lord, “and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies. — Establishing. — Glory. — For ever.

Tuesday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 2

Now when the Lord was about to take Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'jah and Eli'sha were on their way from Gilgal. And Eli'jah said to Eli'sha, “Tarry here, I pray you; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Eli'sha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Eli'sha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?” And he said, “Yes, I know it; hold your peace.”

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. — And he.

Lesson ii

Eli'jah said to him, “Eli'sha, tarry here, I pray you; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I

will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Eli'sha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; hold your peace."

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? – And took away.

Lesson iii

Then Eli'jah said to him, "Tarry here, I pray you; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan.

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel! **V.** All you mountains round about,

may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. – Where fell. – Glory. – The mighty ones of Israel.

Wednesday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 2

Then Eli'jah took his mantle, and rolled it up, and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground. When they had crossed, Eli'jah said to Eli'sha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Eli'sha said, "I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit."

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. – Toward this house.

Lesson ii

And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if

you do not see me, it shall not be so." And as they still went on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Eli'jah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Eli'sha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!"

Ry. ii. My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath * and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone have I sinned. – And what is evil.

Lesson iii

And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and rent them in two pieces. And he took up the mantle of Eli'jah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the mantle of Eli'jah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the Lord, the God of Eli'jah?" And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other; and Eli'sha went over.

Ry. iii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." – My father. – Glory. – My father.

Thursday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 6

Now the sons of the prophets said to Eli'sha, "See, the place where we dwell under your charge is too small for us. Let us go to the Jordan and each of us get there a log, and let us make a place for us to dwell there." And he answered, "Go." Then one of them said, "Be pleased to go with your servants." And he answered, "I will go." So he went with them.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel, and took me from my father's sheep * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed

me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed.

Lesson ii

And when they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees. But as one was felling a log, his axe head fell into the water ; and he cried out, “Alas, my master! It was borrowed.” Then the man of God said, “Where did it fall?” When he showed him the place, he cut off a stick, and threw it in there, and made the iron float. And he said, “Take it up.” So he reached out his hand and took it.

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies.

V. May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

Once when the king of Syria was warring against Israel, he took counsel with his servants, saying, “At such and such a place shall be my camp.” But the man of God sent word to the king of Israel, “Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Syrians are going down there.” And the king of

Israel sent to the place of which the man of God told him. Thus he used to warn him, so that he saved himself there more than once or twice.

Ry. iii. “I took you out of your father’s house,” says the Lord, “and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies.” – Establishing. – Glory. – For ever.

Friday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 6

When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was round about the city. And the servant said, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” He said, “Fear not, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” Then Eli’sha prayed, and said, “O Lord, I pray you, open his eyes that he may see.”

Ry. i. Direct your heart

to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. – And he will.

Lesson ii

So the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw ; and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Eli’sha. And when the Syrians came down against him, Eli’sha prayed to the Lord, and said, “Strike this people, I pray thee, with blindness.” So he struck them with blindness in accordance with the prayer of Eli’sha. And Eli’sha said to them, “This is not the way, and this is not the city ; follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek.”

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him ; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, “Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands” ? – And took away.

Lesson iii

And he led them to Samar’ia. As soon as they entered Samar’ia,

Eli’sha said, “O Lord, open the eyes of these men, that they may see.” So the Lord opened their eyes, and they saw ; and lo, they were in the midst of Samar’ia. When the king of Israel saw them he said to Eli’sha, “My father, shall I slay them? Shall I slay them?” He answered, “You shall not slay them. Would you slay those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow?”

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo’a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel ! **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you ; but let him pass by Gilbo’a. – Where fell. – Glory. – The mighty ones of Israel.

Saturday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 8

Now Eli’sha had said to the woman whose son he had restored to life, “Arise, and depart with your household, and sojourn wherever you can ; for the Lord has called for a famine, and it will come upon the land for seven years.” So the woman

arose, and did according to the word of the man of God; she went with her household and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years.

R. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. — Toward this house.

Lesson ii

And at the end of the seven years, when the woman returned from the land of the Philistines, she went forth to appeal to the king for her house and her land. Now the king was talking with Geha'zi the servant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me all the great things that Eli'sha has done." And while he was telling the king how Eli'sha had restored the dead to life, behold, the woman whose son he had restored to life appealed to the king for her house and her land. And Geha'zi said, "My lord, O King, here is the woman, and here is her son whom Eli'sha restored to life." And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed an official for her, saying,

"Restore all that was hers, together with all the produce of the fields from the day that she left the land until now."

R. ii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." — My father.

XI SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

If this Sunday occurs between the 1st and the 7th of August, the Magnificat antiphon and the lessons for Sunday and the week are taken from the 1st week in August, p. 362, the remainder of the books of Kings being omitted.

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **R.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. But King David going about with veiled face, mourned his

son, saying: "O Ab'salom, my son! My son, Ab'salom! Would I had died instead of you, my son Ab'salom!"

Prayer

Almighty, eternal God, your infinite goodness surpasses anything that we might deserve or even desire. Pour out your mercy upon us, forgiving us those things that trouble conscience, and giving us the grace for which we would not presume to ask. Through.

MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 8

Now Eli'sha came to Damascus. Ben-ha'dad the king of Syria was sick; and when it was told him, "The man of God has come here," the king said to Haz'ael, "Take a present with you and go to meet the man of God, and inquire of the Lord through him, saying, 'Shall I recover from this sickness?'" So Haz'ael went to meet him, and took a present with him, all kinds of goods of Damascus, forty camel loads. When he came and stood before him, he said, "Your son Ben-ha'dad king of Syria has sent me to you, saying, 'Shall I recover from this sickness?'"

R. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep: * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. — And anointed.

Lesson ii

And Eli'sha said to him, "Go, say to him, 'You shall certainly recover'; but the Lord has shown me that he shall certainly die." And he fixed his gaze and stared at him, until he was ashamed. And the man of God wept. And Haz'ael said, "Why does my lord weep?" He answered, "Because I know the evil that you will do to the people of Israel; you will set on fire their fortresses, and you will slay their young men with the sword, and dash in pieces their little ones, and rip up their women with child." And Haz'ael said, "What is your servant, who is but a dog, that he should do this great thing?" Eli'sha answered, "The Lord has shown me that you are to be king over Syria." Then he departed from Eli'sha, and came to his master, who said to him, "What did Eli'sha say to you?" And he answered, "He told me that you

would certainly recover." But on the morrow he took the coverlet and dipped it in water and spread it over his face, till he died. And Haz'ael became king in his stead.

Ry. ii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." - Establishing.

Lesson iii is taken from the homily on the gospel of this Sunday p. 513.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **Ry.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. - For endless ages. - Glory. - For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 13

Now when Eli'sha had fallen sick with the

illness of which he was to die, Jo'ash king of Israel went down to him, and wept before him, crying, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And Eli'sha said to him, "Take a bow and arrows"; so he took a bow and arrows. Then he said to the king of Israel, "Draw the bow"; and he drew it. And Eli'sha laid his hands upon the king's hands. And he said, "Open the window eastward."

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his angel and took me from my father's sheep: * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. **V.** The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. - And anointed.

Lesson ii

And he opened it. Then Eli'sha said, "Shoot"; and he shot. And he said, "The Lord's arrow of victory, the arrow of victory over Syria! For you shall fight the Syrians in Aphek until you have made an end of them." And he said, "Take the arrows"; and he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground with them"; and he struck three times, and stopped. Then the man of God was angry with

him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck down Syria until you had made an end of it, but now you will strike down Syria only three times."

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. - He it is.

Lesson iii

So Eli'sha died, and they buried him. Now bands of Moabites used to invade the land in the spring of the year. And as a man was being buried, lo, a marauding band was seen and the man was cast into the grave of Eli'sha; and as soon as the man touched the bones of Eli'sha, he revived, and stood on his feet.

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people, and I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. **V.** And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth; and I gave you rest from all your enemies." -

Establishing. - Glory. - For ever.

Tuesday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 18

In the third year of Hoshe'a son of Elah, king of Israel, Hezeki'ah the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign. He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi the daughter of Zechari'ah. And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, according to all that David his father had done. He removed the high places, and broke the pillars and cut down the Ashe'rah.

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. **V.** Put away the foreign gods from among you. - And he will.

Lesson ii

And he broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the people of Israel had burned incense to it; it was called Nehush'tan. He trusted in the Lord the God of Israel;

so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him. For he held fast to the Lord; he did not depart from following him, but kept the commandments which the Lord commanded Moses.

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine ***** and took away the reproach from Israel. **V.** Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands"? - And took away.

Lesson iii

And the Lord was with him; wherever he went forth, he prospered. He rebelled against the king of Assyria, and would not serve him. He smote the Philistines as far as Gaza and its territory, from watchtower to fortified city. In the fourth year of King Hezeki'ah, which was the seventh year of Hoshe'a son of Elah, king of Israel, Shalmane'ser king of Assyria came up against Samaria and besieged it and took it.

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, ***** where fell the mighty ones

of Israel! **V.** All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. - Where fell. - Glory. - The mighty ones of Israel.

Wednesday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 20

The rest of the deeds of Hezeki'ah, and all his might, and how he made the pool and the conduit and brought water into the city, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? And Hezeki'ah slept with his father; and Manas'sch his son reigned in his stead.

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day; that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open ***** toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. - Toward this house.

Lesson ii Chapter 21

Manas'sch was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Heph'zibah. And he did what was evil in the

sight of the Lord, according to the abominable practices of the nations whom the Lord drove out before the people of Israel. For he built the high places which Hezeki'ah his father had destroyed.

Ry. ii. My sins outnumber the sands of the seashore, so many have I committed; and I am not worthy to see the height of heaven because of the enormity of my offences, for I have provoked your wrath ***** and what is evil in your sight I have done. **V.** My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone have I sinned. - And what is evil.

Lesson iii

And he erected altars for Ba'al, and made an Ashe'rah, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them. And he built altars in the house of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, "In Jerusalem will I put my name." And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord. And he burned his son as an offering and practised soothsaying and augury.

Ry. iii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven

by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, ***** "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." - My father. - Glory. - My father.

Thursday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 23

And the king (Josiah) went up to the house of the Lord, and with him all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests and the prophets, all the people, both small and great; and he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant which had been found in the house of the Lord. And the king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book; and all the people joined in the covenant.

Ry. i. God listens to everyone. He sent his

angel, and took me from my father's sheep * and anointed me with the oil of his mercy. *V.* The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion and freed me from the paw of the wild beast. – And anointed.

Lesson ii

And the king commanded Hilki'ah, the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the threshold, to bring out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels made for Ba'al, for Ashe'rah, and for all the host of heaven; he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron, and carried their ashes to Bethel.

Ry. ii. The Lord who delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and freed me from the paw of the wild beast, * he it is who will deliver me from the hands of my enemies. *V.* May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – He it is.

Lesson iii

And he deposed the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places at the cities of Judah and round about Jerusalem; those also who burned incense

to Ba'al, to the sun, and the moon, and the constellations, and all the host of the heavens. And he brought out the Ashe'rah from the house of the Lord, outside Jerusalem, to the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and beat it to dust and cast the dust of it upon the graves of the common people.

Ry. iii. "I took you out of your father's house," says the Lord, "and appointed you to feed the flock of my people. I have been with you wherever you went, * establishing your kingdom for ever. *V.* And I made for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth, and I gave you rest from all your enemies." – Establishing. – Glory. – For ever.

Friday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapter 23

Moreover, the altar at Bethel, the high place erected by Jerobo'am the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, that altar with the high place he pulled down and he broke in pieces its stones, crushing them to dust; also he burned the Ashe'rah. And

Lesson iii

as Josi'ah turned, he saw the tombs there on the mount; and he sent and took the bones out of the tombs, and burned them upon the altar, and defiled it, according to the word of the Lord which the man of God proclaimed, who had predicted these things.

Ry. i. Direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, * and he will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. *V.* Put away the foreign gods from among you. – And he will.

Lesson ii

Then he said, "What is yonder monument that I see?" And the men of the city told him, "It is the tomb of the man of God who came from Judah and predicted these things which you have done against the altar at Bethel." And he said, "Let him be; let no man move his bones." So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet who came out of Samar'ia.

Ry. ii. Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands, for the hand of the Lord was with him; he struck the Philistine * and took away the reproach from Israel. *V.* Is not this David of whom they sang in the dance, "Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands"? – And took away.

Moreover, Josi'ah put away the mediums and the wizards and the teraphim and the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might establish the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilki'ah the priest found in the house of the Lord. Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might.

Ry. iii. Mountains of Gilbo'a, let there be no dew or rain upon you, * where fell the mighty ones of Israel. *V.* All you mountains round about, may the Lord visit you; but let him pass by Gilbo'a. – Where fell. – Glory. – The mighty ones of Israel.

Saturday MATINS

From the fourth book of Kings

Lesson i Chapters 24 & 25

And Zedeki'ah rebelled against the king of Babylon. And in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Baby-

lon, came with all his army against Jerusalem, and laid siege to it; and they built siegeworks against it round about. So the city was besieged till the eleventh year of King Zedeki'ah. On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land.

Ry. i. Listen, Lord, to the cry and to the prayer which your servant makes before you this day, that your ears be attentive and your eyes may be open * toward this house day and night. **V.** Look down, Lord, from your holy habitation, from heaven. — Toward this house.

Lesson ii

Then a breach was made in the city; the king with all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between the two walls, by the king's garden, though the Chalde'ans were around the city. And they went in the direction of the Arabah. But the army of the Chalde'ans pursued the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho: and all his army was scattered from him. Then they captured the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah, who passed sentence upon him. They slew the sons of Zedeki'ah

before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedeki'ah, and bound him in fetters and took him to Babylon.

Ry. ii. And it came to pass that as the Lord was taking Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'sha cried, * "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen. **V.** I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." Then he said, "If you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so." — My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen.

I SUNDAY OF AUGUST

II class

If the first Sunday falls on a day from August 1 to 3, the month has five Sundays, and the current Scripture is read in its entirety as it is found in the Breviary.

If, however, the first Sunday falls on a day from August 4 to 7, the month has only four Sundays, and that part of current Scripture which is assigned to the fifth week is omitted.

I VESPERS

Little Chapter 2 Cor. 1

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of

mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction.

Ry. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. — By my own. — Glory. — By my own.

Hymn

O Trinity of blessed light,
O Unity of princely might,
As fiery sun now goes its way,
O spread within our hearts your ray.

To you our morning song of praise,
To you our evening prayer we raise;
O may our suppliant glory be
To sing your praise eternally.

To God the Father glory true,
The same, eternal Son, to you,
To Counsellor Spirit glory be
Both now and for eternity.
Amen.

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.**

And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. All wisdom comes from the Lord and is with him for ever.

¶ Today and until Advent the prayer said at I Vespers is that of the current Sunday after Pentecost as given below, p. 509.

MATINS

Here begin the Proverbs of Solomon

Lesson i Chapter 1

The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: That men may know wisdom and instruction, understand words of insight, receive instruction in wise dealing, righteousness, justice, and equity; that prudence may be given to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth—the wise man also may hear and increase in learning, and the man of understanding acquire skill, to understand a proverb and a figure, the words of the wise and their riddles.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a

master workman. – Before all the hills.

This series, In the beginning, is read until first Sunday of September.

Lesson ii

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and reject not your mother's teaching; for they are a fair garland for your head, and pendants for your neck. My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent. If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood, let us wantonly ambush the innocent; like Sheol let us swallow them alive and whole, like those who go down to the Pit; we shall find all precious goods, we shall fill our houses with spoil; throw in your lot among us, we will all have one purse"—my son, do not walk in the way with them, hold back your foot from their paths; for their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed blood. For in vain is a net spread in the sight of any bird; but these men lie in wait for their own blood, they set an ambush for their own lives.

Ry. ii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing

to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. – Give me. – Glory. – But feed me.

Monday MATINS

From the Proverbs of Solomon

Lesson i Chapter 6

There are six things which the Lord hates, seven which are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and a man who sows discord among brothers. My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not your mother's teaching.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water,

before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. – Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

Bind them upon your heart always; tie them about your neck. When you walk, they will lead you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk with you. For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life, to preserve you from the evil woman, from the smooth tongue of the adventuress. Do not desire her beauty in your heart, and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes.

Ry. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. – By my own.

Lesson iii

Do not men despise a thief if he steals to sat-

isfy his appetite when he is hungry? And if he is caught, he will pay sevenfold; he will give all the goods of his house. He who commits adultery has no sense; he who does it destroys himself. Wounds and dishonour will he get, and his disgrace will not be wiped away.

Ry. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn. – Glory. – At all times.

Tuesday MATINS

From the Proverbs of Solomon

Lesson i Chapter 9

Wisdom has built her house, she has set up her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her beasts, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. She has sent out her maids to call from the highest places in the town, "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" To him who is without sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed."

Ry. i. Give me, Lord,

the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. – For I.

Lesson ii

Leave simpleness, and live, and walk in the way of insight.” He who corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse, and he who reproveth a wicked man incurs injury. Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser.

Ry. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. – And do not surrender.

Lesson iii

Teach a righteous man and he will increase in learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. For by me your days will

be multiplied, and years will be added to your life. If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if you scoff, you alone will bear it.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light; * all good things came to me along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, “You are my sister”; I called insight my intimate friend. – All good. – Glory. – All good.

Wednesday

MATINS

From the Proverbs of Solomon

Lesson i Chapter 16

The plans of the mind belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit. Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established. The Lord has made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble. Everyone who is arrogant is an abomination to the Lord; be assured, he will not go unpunished.

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise

shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. – His praise.

Lesson ii

The beginning of a good life is to act righteously; it is more acceptable to God than the offering of sacrifices. By loyalty and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the Lord a man avoids evil. When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice.

Ry. ii. Great are your judgments, Lord, and hard to describe. * You have exalted and glorified your people. **V.** You guided your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron. – You have exalted.

Lesson iii

A man's mind plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps. Inspired decisions are on the lips of a king; his mouth does not sin in judgment. A just balance and scales are the Lord's; all the weights in the bag are his work. It is an abomination to kings to do evil, for the throne is established by righteous-

ness. Righteous lips are the delight of a king, and he loves him who speaks what is right.

Ry. iii. Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. – Give me neither. – Glory. – But feed me.

Thursday

MATINS

From the Proverbs of Solomon

Lesson i Chapter 18

He who is estranged seeks pretexts to break out against all sound judgment. A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion. When wickedness comes, contempt comes also; and with dishonour comes disgrace. The words of a man's mouth are deep waters; the fountain of wisdom is a gushing stream.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot

me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. – Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

It is not good to be partial to a wicked man, or to deprive a righteous man of justice. A fool's lips bring strife and his mouth invites a flogging. A fool's mouth is his ruin, and his lips are a snare to himself. The words of a whisperer are like delicious morsels; they go down into the inner parts of the body. Fear casts down the slothful, and the effeminate shall go hungry.

Ry. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. – By my own.

Lesson iii

He who is slack in his work is a brother to him who destroys. The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe. A rich man's wealth is his strong city,

and like a high wall protecting him. Before destruction a man's heart is haughty, but humility goes before honour. If one gives answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.

Ry. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn. – Glory. – At all times.

Friday MATINS

From the Proverbs of Solomon

Lesson i Chapter 22

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favour is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor meet together; the Lord is the maker of them all. A prudent man sees danger and hides himself; but the simple go on, and suffer for it. The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honour and life.

Ry. i. Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your

servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. – For I.

Lesson ii

Thorns and snares are in the way of the perverse; he who guards himself will keep far from them. Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender. He who sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of his fury will fail.

Ry. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. – And do not surrender.

Lesson iii

He who has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor. Drive out a scoffer, and strife will go out, and quarrelling and abuse will cease. He who loves purity of heart, and whose speech

is gracious, will have the king as his friend.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light; * all good things came to me along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, "You are my sister"; I called insight my intimate friend. – All good. – Glory. – All good.

Saturday MATINS

From the Proverbs of Solomon

Lesson i Chapter 23

Hear, my son, and be wise, and direct your mind in the way. Be not among winebibbers, or among gluttonous eaters of meat; for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and drowsiness will clothe a man with rags. Harken to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. – His praise.

The second responsory to be said on vigils:

Ry. (ii.) Great are your judgments, Lord, and hard to describe. * You have exalted and glorified your people. **V.** You guided your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron. – You have exalted.

Lesson ii

Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding. The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; he who begets a wise son will be glad in him. Let your father and mother be glad, let her who bore you rejoice. My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways. For a harlot is a deep pit; an adventuress is a narrow well. She lies in wait like a robber and increases the faithless among men. Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who tarry long over wine, those who go to try mixed wine. Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly. At the last it bites like a serpent, and stings like an adder.

Ry. ii. (iii.) Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me

neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. – Give me neither. – (Glory. – But feed me.)

II SUNDAY OF AUGUST

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Wisdom has built her house, she has set up her seven pillars, she has conquered nations, by her own power she has trodden on the neck of the proud and haughty.

MATINS

Here begins the book of Ecclesiastes

Lesson i Chapter 1

The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun? A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains for ever. The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hastens to the

place where it rises. The wind blows to the south, and goes round to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. – Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again. All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing. What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; and there is nothing new under the sun. Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has been already, in the ages before us. There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to happen among those who come after. I the Preacher have been

king over Israel in Jerusalem. And I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to the sons of men to be busy with. I have seen everything that is done under the sun; and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

Ry. ii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity, * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

Monday

From the book of Ecclesiastes

Lesson i Chapter 3

I have seen the business that God has given to the sons of men to be busy with. He has made every-

thing beautiful in its time ; also he has put eternity into man's mind, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place,* before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. – Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

It is also God's gift to man that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil. I know that whatever God does endures for ever ; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it ; God has made it so, in order that men should fear before him. That which is, already has been ; that which is to be, already has been ; and God seeks what has been driven away.

Ry. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea ; in every people and nation I have got a possession ; *

by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. – By my own.

Lesson iii

Isaw under the sun that in the place of justice, even there was wickedness, and in the place of righteousness, even there was wickedness. I said in my heart, God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for he has appointed a time for every matter, and for every work. I said in my heart with regard to the sons of men that God is testing them to show them that they are but beasts. For the fate of the sons of men and the fate of beasts is the same ; as one dies, so dies the other.

Ry. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn. – Glory. – At all times.

Tuesday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiastes

Lesson i Chapter 4

Better is a poor and wise youth than an old and

foolish king, who will no longer take advice, even though he had gone from prison to the throne or in his own kingdom had been born poor. I saw all the living who move about under the sun, as well as that youth, who was to stand in his place.

Ry. i. Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. – For I.

Lesson ii

There was no end of all the people ; he was over all of them. Yet those who come later will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and a striving after wind. Guard your steps when you go to the house of God ; to draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools ; for they do not know that they are doing evil.

Ry. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire ; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon

me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. – And do not surrender.

Lesson iii

Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven, and you upon earth, therefore let your words be few. For a dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words. When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it ; for he has no pleasure in fools.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light ; * all good things came to me along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, " You are my sister " ; I called insight, my intimate friend. – All good. – Glory. – All good.

Wednesday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiastes

Lesson i Chapter 7

Why must a man seek things that are beyond him ? For who knows what is good for man while he lives the few days of his vain life, which he passes

like a shadow? For who can tell man what will be after him under the sun? A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death, than the day of birth.

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. – His praise.

Lesson ii.

It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting; for this is the end of all men, and the living will lay it to heart. Sorrow is better than laughter, for by sadness of countenance the heart is made glad. The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

Ry. ii. Great are your judgments, Lord, and hard to describe. * You have exalted and glorified your people. **V.** You guided your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron. – You have exalted.

Lesson iii

It is better for a man to hear the rebuke of the wise than to hear the song of fools. For as the crack-

ling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fools; this also is vanity. Surely oppression makes the wise man foolish, and a bribe corrupts the mind. Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

Ry. iii. Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. – Give me neither. – Glory. – But feed me.

Thursday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiastes

Lesson i Chapter 9

There are righteous men and wise men, and their deeds are in the hand of God; whether it is love or hate man does not know. Everything before them is vanity since one fate comes to all, to the righteous and the wicked, to the good and the evil, to the clean and the unclean, to him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth,

before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. – Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

As is the good man, so is the sinner; and he who swears is as he who shuns an oath. This is an evil in all that is done under the sun, that one fate comes to all; also the hearts of men are full of evil, and madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead. But he who is joined with all the living has hope.

Ry. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. – By my own.

Lesson iii

A living dog is better than a dead lion. For the living know that they will die, but the dead know

nothing, and they have no more reward; but the memory of them is lost. Their love and their hate and their envy have already perished, and they have no more for ever any share in all that is done under the sun.

Ry. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn. – Glory. – At all times.

Friday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiastes

Lesson i Chapter 10

Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, and your princes feast in the morning! Happy are you, O land, when your king is the son of free men, and your princes feast at the proper time, for strength, and not for drunkenness! Through sloth the roof sinks in and through indolence the house leaks. Bread is made for laughter, and wine gladdens life, and money answers everything.

Ry. i. Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. – For I.

Lesson ii Chapters 10 & 11

Even in your thought, do not curse the king, nor in your bedchamber curse the rich; for a bird of the air will carry your voice, or some winged creature tell the matter. Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days. Give a portion to seven, or even to eight, for you know not what evil may happen on earth.

Ry. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. – And do not surrender.

Lesson iii

If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves on the earth; and if a tree falls to the south or

to the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie. He who observes the wind will not sow; and he who regards the clouds will not reap. As you do not know how the spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a woman with child, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light; * all good things came to me along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, “You are my sister”; I called insight my intimate friend. – All good. – Glory. – All good.

Saturday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiastes

Lesson i Chapter 12

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come, and the years draw nigh, when you will say, “I have no pleasure in them”; before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return after the rain; in the day when the keepers of the house

tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look through the windows are dimmed—

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. – His praise.

The second responsory to be said on vigils:

Ry. (ii.) Great are your judgments, Lord, and hard to describe. * You have exalted and glorified your people. **V.** You guided your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron. – You have exalted.

Lesson ii

And the doors on the street are shut; when the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the voice of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low; they are afraid also of what is high, and terrors are in the way; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along and desire fails; because man goes to his eternal home, and the mourners go about the streets; before the silver

cord is snapped, or the golden bowl is broken, or the pitcher is broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern, and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, all is vanity. Besides being wise, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging proverbs with great care.

Ry. ii. (iii.) Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. – Give me neither. – (Glory - But feed.)

III SUNDAY OF AUGUST

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Wisdom cries aloud in the streets: “If anyone loves wisdom let him come to me and he will find it. And when he has found it he will be blessed if he holds it fast.”

MATINS

Here begins the book
of Wisdom

Lesson i Chapter 1

Love righteousness, you rulers of the earth, think of the Lord with uprightness, and seek him with sincerity of heart; because he is found by those who do not put him to the test, and manifests himself to those who do not distrust him. For perverse thoughts separate men from God, and when his power is tested, it convicts the foolish; because wisdom will not enter a deceitful soul, nor dwell in a body enslaved to sin.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. – Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

For a holy and disciplined spirit will flee from deceit, and will rise and depart from foolish thoughts, and will be ashamed at the approach of unrighteousness. For wis-

dom is a kindly spirit and will not free a blasphemer from the guilt of his words; because God is witness of his inmost feelings, and a true observer of his heart, and a hearer of his tongue. Because the Spirit of the Lord has filled the world, and that which holds all things together knows what is said; therefore no one who utters unrighteous things will escape notice, and justice, when it punishes, will not pass him by. For inquiry will be made into the counsels of an ungodly man, and a report of his words will come to the Lord, to convict him of his lawless deeds; because a jealous ear hears all things, and the sound of murmurings does not go unheard. Beware then of useless murmuring, and keep your tongue from slander.

Ry. ii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn.

The third lesson is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost:

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to

the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

**Monday
MATINS**

From the book of Wisdom

Lesson i Chapter 2

For the wicked reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves, “Short and sorrowful is our life, and there is no remedy when a man comes to his end, and no one has been known to return from Hades. Because we were born by mere chance, and hereafter we shall be as though we had never been; because the breath in our nostrils is smoke, and reason is a spark kindled by the beating of our hearts. When it is extinguished, the body will turn to ashes, and the spirit will dissolve like empty air.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was

there beside him like a master workman. – Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

Our life will pass away like the traces of a cloud, and be scattered like mist that is chased by the rays of the sun and overcome by its heat. For our allotted time is the passing of a shadow, and there is no return from our death, because it is sealed up and no one turns back.

Ry. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. – By my own.

Lesson iii

Come, therefore, let us enjoy the good things that exist, and make use of the creation to the full as in youth. Let us take our fill of costly wine and perfumes, and let no flower of spring pass by us. Let us crown ourselves with rosebuds before they wither. Let none of us fail to share in our revelry, everywhere let us leave signs of enjoyment, because this is our portion, and this our lot.

Ry. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn. – Glory. – At all times.

Tuesday MATINS

From the book of Wisdom

Lesson i Chapter 9

Send wisdom forth from the holy heavens, and from the throne of your glory send her, that she may be with me and toil, and that I may learn what is pleasing to you. For she knows and understands all things, and she will guide me wisely in my actions and guard me with her glory. Then my works will be acceptable, and I shall judge your people justly, and shall be worthy of the throne of my father.

Ry. i. Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. – For I.

Lesson ii

For what man can learn the counsel of God? Or who can discern what the Lord wills? For the reasoning of mortals is worthless, and our designs are likely to fail, for a perishable body weighs down the soul, and this earthly tent burdens the thoughtful mind.

Ry. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. – And do not surrender.

Lesson iii

We can hardly guess at what is on earth, and what is at hand we find with labour; but who has traced out what is in the heavens? Who has learned your counsel, unless you have given wisdom and sent your holy Spirit from on high? And thus the paths of those on earth were set right, and men were taught what pleases you.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light; * all good

things came to me along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, “You are my sister”; I called insight my intimate friend. – All good. – Glory. – All good.

Wednesday MATINS

From the book of Wisdom

Lesson i Chapters 9 & 10

It was wisdom that saved all those who pleased you, Lord, from the beginning of time. Wisdom protected the first-formed father of the world, when he alone had been created; she delivered him from his transgression, and gave him strength to rule all things, but when an unrighteous man departed from her in his anger, he perished because in rage he slew his brother. When the earth was flooded because of him, wisdom again saved it, steering the righteous man by a paltry piece of wood.

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. – His praise.

Lesson ii

Wisdom also, when the nations in wicked

agreement had been confounded, recognised the righteous man and preserved him blameless before God, and kept him strong in the face of his compassion for his child. Wisdom rescued a righteous man when the ungodly were perishing; he escaped the fire that descended on the Five Cities. Evidence of their wickedness still remains: a continually smoking wasteland, plants bearing fruit that does not ripen, and a pillar of salt standing as a monument to an unbelieving soul.

Ry. ii. Great are your judgments, Lord, and hard to describe. * You have exalted and glorified your people. **V.** You guided your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron. – You have exalted.

Lesson iii

For because they passed wisdom by, they not only were hindered from recognising the good, but also left for mankind a reminder of their folly, so that their failures could never go unnoticed. Wisdom rescued from troubles those who served her. When a righteous man fled from his brother's wrath, she guided him on straight paths; she showed him the kingdom of God.

Ry. iii. Remove far from

me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. — Give me neither. — Glory. — But feed me.

Thursday
MATINS

From the book of Wisdom

Lesson i **Chapter 10**

A holy people and blameless race wisdom delivered from a nation of oppressors. She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, and withstood dread kings with wonders and signs. She gave to holy men the reward of their labours; she guided them along a marvellous way, and became a shelter to them by day, and a starry flame through the night.

R. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a

master workman. — Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

She brought them over the Red Sea, and led them through deep waters; but she drowned their enemies, and cast them up from the depth of the sea. Therefore the righteous plundered the ungodly; they sang hymns, O Lord, to your holy name, and praised with one accord your defending hand—

R. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. — By my own.

Lesson iii **Chapters 10, 11**

Because wisdom opened the mouth of the dumb, and made the tongues of babes speak clearly. Wisdom prospered their works by the hand of a holy prophet. They journeyed through an uninhabited wilderness, and pitched their tents in untrodden places. They withstood their enemies and fought off their foes. When they thirsted they called upon

you, and water was given them out of flinty rock, and slaking of thirst from hard stone.

R. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. — That I may learn. — Glory. — At all times.

Friday
MATINS

From the book of Wisdom

Lesson i **Chapter 11**

You have arranged all things by measure and number and weight. For it is always in your power to show great strength, and who can withstand the might of your arm? Because the whole world before you is like a speck that tips the scales, and like a drop of morning dew that falls upon the ground. But you are merciful to all, for you can do all things, and you overlook men's sins, that they may repent.

R. i. Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your

maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. — For I.

Lesson ii

For you love all things that exist, and have loathing for none of the things which you have made, for you would not have made anything if you had hated it. How would anything have endured if you had not willed it? Or how would anything not called forth by you have been preserved? You spare all things, for they are yours, O Lord, who love the living.

R. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. — And do not surrender.

Lesson iii **Chapter 12**

For your immortal spirit is in all things. Therefore you correct little by little those who trespass, and remind and warn them of the things wherein they sin, that they may be freed from wickedness and put

their trust in you, O Lord. You are righteous and rule all things righteously, deeming it alien to your power to condemn him who does not deserve to be punished.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light; * all good things came to me along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, "You are my sister"; I called insight my intimate friend. — All good. — Glory. — All good.

Saturday MATINS

From the book of Wisdom

Lesson i Chapter 16

For you have power over life and death; you lead men down to the gates of Hades and back again. A man in his wickedness kills another, but he cannot bring back the departed spirit, nor set free the imprisoned soul. To escape from your hand is impossible; for the ungodly, refusing to know you, were scourged by the strength of your arm, pursued by unusual rains and hail and relentless storms, and utterly consumed by fire.

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove them-

selves wise. * His praise shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. — His praise.

Lesson ii

For—most incredible of all—in the water, which quenches all things, the fire had still greater effect, for the universe defends the righteous. At one time the flame was restrained, so that it might not consume the creatures sent against the ungodly, but that seeing this they might know that they were being pursued by the judgment of God; and at another time even in the midst of water it burned more intensely than fire, to destroy the crops of the unrighteous land. Instead of these things you gave your people the food of angels, and without their toil you supplied them from heaven with bread ready to eat, providing every pleasure and suited to every taste.

Ry. ii. Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. — Give me neither.

IV SUNDAY OF AUGUST

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of old; when there were no depths I was brought forth; when he established the heavens I was there beside him, like a master workman.

MATINS

Here begins the book of Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 1

All wisdom comes from the Lord and is with him for ever. The sand of the sea, the drops of rain, and the days of eternity—who can count them? The height of heaven, the breadth of the earth, the abyss, and wisdom—who can search them out? Wisdom was created before all things, and prudent understanding from eternity. The root of wisdom—to whom has it been revealed? Her clever devices—who knows them? The source of wisdom is God's word in the highest heaven, and her ways are the eternal commandments.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. — Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

The root of wisdom—to whom has it been revealed? Her clever devices—who knows them? The knowledge of wisdom—to whom was it manifested? And her abundant experience—who has understood it? There is One who is wise, greatly to be feared, sitting upon his throne. The Lord himself created wisdom; he saw her and apportioned her, he poured her out upon all his works. She dwells with all flesh according to his gift, and he supplied her to those who love him. The fear of the Lord is glory and exultation, and gladness and a crown of rejoicing. The fear of the Lord delights the heart, and gives gladness and joy and long life. With him who fears the Lord it will go well at the end; on the day of his death he will be blessed.

The love of God is worthy wisdom.

Ry. ii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn.

The third lesson is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 1

To fear the Lord is the root of wisdom, and her branches are long life. In the treasuries of wisdom is understanding and godly use of knowledge, but wisdom is an abomination to a sinner. The fear of the

Lord drives away sin. Unrighteous anger cannot be justified, for a man's anger tips the scale to his ruin.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. – Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

A patient man will endure until the right moment, and then joy will burst forth for him. He will hide his words until the right moment, and the lips of many will tell of his good sense. In the treasuries of wisdom are wise sayings, but godliness is an abomination to a sinner. If you desire wisdom, keep the commandments, and the Lord will supply it for you.

Ry. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. – By my own.

Lesson iii

For the fear of the Lord is wisdom and instruction, and he delights in fidelity and meekness. Do not disobey the fear of the Lord; do not approach him with a divided mind. Be not a hypocrite in men's sight, and keep watch over your lips. Do not exalt yourself lest you fall, and thus bring dishonour upon yourself.

Ry. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn. – Glory. – At all times.

Tuesday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 2

You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; and turn not aside, lest you fall. You who fear the Lord, trust in him, and your reward will not fail; you who fear the Lord, hope for good things, for everlasting joy and mercy. You who fear the Lord, love him and your hearts will be enlightened.

Ry. i. Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. – For I.

Lesson ii

Consider the ancient generations and see: who ever trusted in the Lord and was put to shame? Or who ever persevered in the fear of the Lord and was forsaken? Or who ever called upon him and was overlooked? For the Lord is compassionate and merciful; he forgives sins and saves in time of affliction. He protects all who seek him sincerely.

Ry. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. – And do not surrender.

Lesson iii

Woe to timid hearts and to slack hands, and to the sinner who walks along

two ways! Woe to the faint heart, for it has no trust! Therefore it will not be sheltered. Woe to you who have lost your endurance! You who have left the right road for the wrong.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light; * all good things came to me along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, "You are my sister"; I called insight my intimate friend. - All good. - Glory. - All good.

Wednesday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 3

The children of wisdom form the assembly of the righteous. Listen to me, your father, O children; and act accordingly, that you may be kept in safety. For the Lord honoured the father above the children, and he confirmed the right of the mother over her sons. He who loves God atones for his sins, and keeps himself from them, and when he prays he will be heard.

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove them-

selves wise. * His praise shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. - His praise.

Lesson ii

And whoever glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure. Whoever honours his father will be gladdened by his own children, and when he prays he will be heard. Whoever glorifies his father will have long life; and whoever obeys the Lord will refresh his mother. Whoever fears the Lord will honour his father; he will serve his parents as his masters.

Ry. ii. Great are your judgments, Lord, and hard to describe. * You have exalted and glorified your people. **V.** You guided your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron. - You have exalted.

Lesson iii

Honour your father by word and deed, that a blessing from him may come upon you. For a father's blessing strengthens the houses of the children, but a mother's curse uproots their foundations. Do not glorify yourself by dishonouring your father, for your father's dishonour is necessary to you.

Ry. iii. Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. - Give me neither. - Glory. - But feed me.

Thursday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 3

A stubborn mind will be afflicted at the end, and whoever loves danger will perish by it. A double-dealing mind will have no success, and an evil mind will be brought low. A stubborn mind will be burdened by troubles, and the sinner will heap sin upon sin. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness has taken root in him.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. - Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

The mind of an intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man's desire. The wise and understanding man will keep himself from sin, and in the works of righteousness he will have success. Water extinguishes a blazing fire: so almsgiving atones for sin. Whoever requites favours gives thought to the future; at the moment of his falling he will find support.

Ry. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. - By my own.

Lesson iii Chapter 4

My son, deprive not the poor of his living, and do not keep needy eyes waiting. Do not grieve the one who is hungry, nor anger a man in want. Do not add to the troubles of an angry mind, nor delay your gift to a beggar. Do not reject an afflicted suppliant, nor turn your face away from the poor.

Ry. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne

of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn. – Glory. – At all times.

Friday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 4

Wisdom exalts her sons and gives help to those who seek her. Whoever loves her loves life, and those who seek her early will be filled with joy. Whoever holds her fast will obtain glory, and the Lord will bless the place she enters. Those who serve her will minister to the Holy One; the Lord loves those who love her.

Ry. i. Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. – For I.

Lesson ii

He who obeys her will judge the nations, and

whoever gives heed to her will dwell secure. If he has faith in her he will obtain her; and his descendants will remain in possession of her. For at first she will walk with him on tortuous paths, she will bring fear and cowardice upon him, and will torment him by her discipline until she trusts him, and she will test him with her ordinances.

Ry. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. – And do not surrender.

Lesson iii

Then she will come straight back to him and gladden him, and will reveal her secrets to him. She will make him rich with store of true knowledge, and will enable him to discern the right. If he goes astray she will forsake him, and hand him over to his ruin.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light; * all good things came to me

along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, “You are my sister”; I called insight my intimate friend. – All good. – Glory. – All good.

Saturday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 4

My son, observe the right time, and beware of evil; and do not bring shame on yourself. For there is a shame which brings sin, and there is a shame which is glory and favour. Do not show partiality, to your own harm, or deference, to your downfall. Do not refrain from speaking at the crucial time, and do not hide your wisdom.

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. – His praise.

Lesson ii

For wisdom is known through speech, and education through the words of the tongue. Never speak against the truth, but

be mindful of your ignorance. Do not be ashamed to confess your sins, and do not try to stop the current of a river. Do not subject yourself to a foolish fellow, nor show partiality to a ruler. Strive even to death for the truth and the Lord God will fight for you. Do not be reckless in your speech, or sluggish and remiss in your deeds. Do not be like a lion in your home, nor be a faultfinder with your servants. Let not your hand be extended to receive, but withdrawn when it is time to repay.

Ry. ii. Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. – Give me neither.

V SUNDAY OF AUGUST

II class

If there is not room for this Sunday in the month of August it is omitted, along with the accompanying weekdays.

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.**

And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud.

MATINS

From the book of Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 5

Do not set your heart on your wealth, nor say "I have enough." Do not follow your inclination and strength, walking according to the desires of your heart. Do not say, "Who will have power over me?" for the Lord will surely punish you. Do not say, "I sinned, and what happened to me?" for the Lord is slow to anger. Do not be so confident of atonement that you add sin to sin.

R. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. - Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

Do not say, "His mercy is great, he will forgive the multitude of my sins,"

for both mercy and wrath are with him, and his anger rests on sinners. Do not delay to turn to the Lord, nor postpone it from day to day; for suddenly the wrath of the Lord will go forth, and at the time of punishment you will perish. Do not depend on dishonest wealth, for it will not benefit you in the day of calamity. Do not winnow with every wind, nor follow every path: the double-tongued sinner does that. Be steadfast in your understanding, and let your speech be consistent. Be quick to hear, and be deliberate in answering. If you have understanding, answer your neighbour; but if not, put your hand on your mouth. Glory and dishonour come from speaking, and a man's tongue is his downfall. Do not be called a slanderer, and do not lie in ambush with your tongue.

R. ii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. - That I may learn.

The third lesson is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

R. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity* for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. - For endless ages. - Glory. - For endless ages.

Monday

MATINS

From the book of Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 7

Do no evil, and evil will never befall you. Stay away from wrong, and it will turn away from you. My son, do not sow the furrows of injustice, and you will not reap a sevenfold crop. Do not seek from the Lord the highest office, nor the seat of honour from the king. Do not assert your righteousness before the Lord, nor display your wisdom before the king.

R. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I

was there beside him like a master workman. - Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

Do not seek to become a judge, lest you be unable to remove iniquity, lest you be partial to a powerful man, and thus put a blot on your integrity. Do not offend against the public, and do not disgrace yourself among the people. Do not commit a sin twice; even for one you will not go unpunished. Do not be fainthearted in your prayer, nor neglect to give alms.

R. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. - By my own.

Lesson iii

Do not say, "He will consider the multitude of my gifts, and when I make an offering to the Most High God he will accept it." Do not ridicule a man who is bitter in soul, for there is One who abases and exalts. Do not devise a lie against your brother,

nor do the like to a friend. Refuse to utter any lie, for the habit of lying serves no good. Do not prattle in the assembly of the elders, nor repeat yourself in your prayer.

Ry. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn. – Glory. – At all times.

Tuesday

MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 10

A wise magistrate will educate his people, and the rule of an understanding man will be well ordered. Like the magistrate of the people, so are his officials; and like the ruler of the city, so are all its inhabitants. An undisciplined king will ruin his people, but a city will grow through the understanding of its rulers. The government of the earth is in the hands of the Lord, and over it he will raise up the right man for the time. The

success of a man is in the hands of the Lord, and he confers his honour upon the person of the scribe.

Ry. i. Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. – For I.

Lesson ii

Do not be angry with your neighbour for any injury, and do not attempt anything by acts of insolence. Arrogance is hateful before the Lord and before men, and injustice is outrageous to both. Sovereignty passes from nation to nation on account of injustice and insolence and wealth. How can he who is dust and ashes be proud? For even in life his bowels decay.

Ry. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. – And do not surrender.

Lesson iii

A long illness baffles the physician; the king of today will die tomorrow. For when a man is dead, he will inherit creeping things, and wild beasts, and worms. The beginning of man's pride is to depart from the Lord; his heart has forsaken his Maker. For the beginning of pride is sin and the man who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brought upon them extraordinary afflictions, and destroyed them utterly.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light; * all good things came to me along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, "You are my sister"; I called insight my intimate friend. – All good. – Glory. – All good.

Wednesday

MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 13

Whoever touches pitch will be defiled, and whoever associates with a proud man will become like him. Do not lift a weight

beyond your strength, nor associate with a man mightier and richer than you. How can the clay pot associate with the iron kettle? The pot will strike against it, and will itself be broken. A rich man does wrong, and he even adds reproaches; a poor man suffers wrong, and he must add apologies. A rich man will exploit you if you can be of use to him, but if you are in need he will forsake you. If you own something, he will live with you; he will drain your resources and he will not care.

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. – His praise.

Lesson ii

Take care not to be led astray, and not to be humiliated in your feasting. When a powerful man invites you, be reserved; and he will invite you the more often. Do not push forward, lest you be repulsed; and do not remain at a distance, lest you be forgotten. Do not try to treat him as an equal, nor trust his abundance of words; for he will test you through much talk, and while he

smiles he will be examining you. Cruel is he who does not keep words to himself; he will not hesitate to injure or to imprison.

Ry. ii. Great are your judgments, Lord, and hard to describe. * You have exalted and glorified your people. **V.** You guided your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron. – You have exalted.

Lesson iii

KeeP words to yourself and be very watchful, for you are walking about with your own downfall. When you hear these things, wake from sleep. All your life love God, and call on him for your salvation. Every creature loves its like, and every person his neighbour; all living beings associate by species, and a man clings to one like himself. What fellowship has a wolf with a lamb? No more has a sinner with a godly man. What peace is there between a hyena and a dog? And what peace between a rich man and a poor man?

Ry. iii. Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I

die. – Give me neither. – Glory. – But feed me.

Thursday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 14

Blessed is the man who does not blunder with his lips and need not suffer grief for sin. Blessed is he whose heart does not condemn him, and who has not given up his hope. Riches are not seemly for a stingy man; and of what use is property to an envious man? Whoever accumulates by depriving himself, accumulates for others; and others will live in luxury on his goods. If a man is mean to himself, to whom will he be generous? He will not enjoy his own riches.

Ry. i. In the beginning, before God made the earth, before he established the depths, before he brought forth the springs of water, before the mountains were set in place, * before all the hills, he, the Lord, begot me. **V.** When he established the heavens I was there beside him like a master workman. – Before all the hills.

Lesson ii

No one is meaner than the man who is grudging to himself, and this is the retribution for his baseness; even if he does good, he does it unintentionally, and betrays his baseness in the end. Evil is the man with a grudging eye; he averts his face and disregards people. A greedy man's eye is not satisfied with a portion, and mean injustice withers the soul. A stingy man's eye begrudges bread, and it is lacking at his table.

Ry. ii. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven, and have walked in the waves of the sea; in every people and nation I have got a possession; * by my own power I trod on the neck of the proud and haughty. **V.** I dwell in high places and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. – By my own.

Lesson iii

My son, treat yourself well, according to your means, and present worthy offerings to the Lord. Remember that death will not delay, and the decree of Hades has not been shown to you. Do good to a friend before you die, and reach out and give to him as much as you can. Do not deprive yourself of

a happy day; let not your share of desired good pass by you. Will you not leave the fruit of your labours to another, and what you acquired by toil to be divided by lot? Give, and take, and beguile yourself, because in Hades one cannot look for luxury.

Ry. iii. Send forth wisdom, Lord, from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil, * that I may learn what is pleasing to you at all times. **V.** Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne. – That I may learn. – Glory. – At all times.

Friday

MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 21

Have you sinned, my son? Do so no more, but pray about your former sins. Flee from sin as from a snake; for if you approach sin, it will bite you. Its teeth are lion's teeth, and destroy the souls of men. All lawlessness is like a two-edged sword; there is no healing for its wound. Terror and violence will lay waste riches; thus the house of the proud will be laid waste.

Ry. i. Give me, Lord, the wisdom that sits by your throne, and do not reject me from among your servants, * for I am your servant and the son of your maidservant. **V.** Send her from the throne of your glory that she may be with me and toil. – For I.

Lesson ii

The prayer of a poor man goes from his lips to the ears of God, and his judgment comes speedily. Whoever hates reproof walks in the steps of the sinner, but he that fears the Lord will repent in his heart. He who is mighty in speech is known from afar; but the sensible man, when he slips, is aware of it. A man who builds his house with other people's money is like one who gathers stones for his burial mound. An assembly of the wicked is like tow gathered together, and their end is a flame of fire.

Ry. ii. Lord, Father and God of my life, abandon me not to evil designs, do not give me haughty eyes, and remove from me evil desire; take away lust from me, * and do not surrender me to a shameless soul. **V.** Do not abandon me, Lord, lest my mistakes should be multiplied and my sins abound. – And do not surrender.

Lesson iii

The way of sinners is smoothly paved with stones, but at its end is the pit of Hades. Whoever keeps the law controls his thoughts, and wisdom is the fulfilment of the fear of the Lord. He who is not clever cannot be taught, but there is a cleverness which increases bitterness. The knowledge of a wise man will increase like a flood, and his counsel like a flowing spring.

Ry. iii. I loved wisdom more than health or beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light; * all good things came to me along with her. **V.** I said to wisdom, "You are my sister"; I called insight my intimate friend. All good. – Glory. – All good.

Saturday MATINS

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 32

If they make you master of the feast, do not exalt yourself; be among them as one of them; take good care of them and then be seated; when you have fulfilled your duties, take your place, that you may be merry on their account and receive a wreath for

your excellent leadership. Speak, you who are older, for it is fitting that you should, but with accurate knowledge, and do not interrupt the music.

Ry. i. To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise shall last for ever. **V.** Love of wisdom is the keeping of her laws, for all wisdom is the fear of the Lord. – His praise.

Lesson ii

Where there is entertainment, do not pour out talk; do not display your cleverness out of season. A ruby seal in a setting of gold is a concert of music at a banquet of wine. A seal of emerald in a rich setting of gold is the melody of music with good wine. Speak, young man, if there is need of you, but no more than twice, and only if asked. Speak concisely, say much in few words; be as one who knows and yet holds his tongue. Among the great do not act as their equal; and when another is speaking, do not babble. Lightning speeds before the thunder, and approval precedes a modest man. Leave in good time and do not be the last; go home quickly and do not linger. Amuse your-

self there, and do what you have in mind, but do not sin through proud speech. And for these things bless him who made you and satisfies you with his good gifts.

Ry. ii. Remove far from me, Lord, falsehood and lying; * give me neither poverty nor riches, but feed me with the food that is needful for me. **V.** Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die. – Give me neither.

I SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER

II class

If the first Sunday falls on September 1 or 2, the month has five Sundays, and the entire current Scripture is read as it is found in the Breviary.

If, however, the first Sunday falls on a day from 3 to 7 September, the month has only four Sundays, and that part of current Scripture assigned to the fifth week is omitted.

I VESPERS

Little Chapter 2 Cor. 1

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction.

Ry. My sighing comes as

my bread, and my groanings are poured out like water. For the thing that I fear comes upon me, and what I dread befalls me. I am not at ease, nor am I quiet, I have no rest, * but your indignation comes upon me, Lord. *℣.* In truth I have no help in me, and any resource is driven from me. - But your indignation. - Glory. - But your.

Hymn

O Trinity of blessed light,
O Unity of princely might,
As fiery sun now goes its way,
O spread within our hearts
your ray.

To you our morning song
of praise,
To you our evening prayer
we raise ;
O may our suppliant glory
be
To sing your praise eternally.

To God the Father glory
true,
The same, eternal Son, to
you,
To Counsellor Spirit, glory
be
Both now and for eternity.
Amen.

℣. May evening prayer
rise up to you, Lord. *℣.*
And may your mercy come
down to us.

Magnif. ant. When Job had heard what the messengers had to say he bore it patiently and said, "Shall we receive good at the hand of the Lord, and shall we not receive evil?" In all this Job did not sin, or charge God with wrong.

MATINS

Here begins the book
of Job

Lesson i Chapter 1

There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job: and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God, and turned away from evil. There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. He had seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she-asses, and very many servants ; so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east.

℣. i. Shall we receive good at the hand of the Lord and shall we not receive evil? The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away: * blessed be the name of the Lord. *℣.* Naked I came from my mother's womb and naked shall I return. - Blessed.

This series Shall we receive is read until the third Sunday of September.

Lesson ii

His sons used to go and hold a feast in the house of each on his day ; and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. And when the days of the feast had run their course, Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all ; for Job said, " It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did continually. Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. The Lord said to Satan, " Whence have you come?" Satan answered the Lord, " From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." And the Lord said to Satan, " Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?" Then Satan answered the Lord, " Does Job fear God for naught? Have you not put a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side?"

℣. ii. O that my vexation were weighed, and all

my calamity laid * in the balances. *℣.* For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea. - In the balances.

The third lesson is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

℣. iii. The night racks my bones, and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest ; with violence it siezes my garment. * God has cast me into the mire, and I have become like dust and ashes. *℣.* O watcher of men, why have you made me your mark, why have I become a burden to you? Let me alone, Lord, for my days are a breath. - God has cast. - Glory. - And I have become.

Monday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 2

Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. And the Lord said to Satan, " Whence have you come?" Satan answered the Lord, " From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." And

the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil? He still holds fast his integrity although you moved me against him, to destroy him without cause."

Ry. i. Shall we receive good at the hand of the Lord and shall we not receive evil? The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away: * blessed be the name of the Lord. **R.** Naked I came from my mother's womb and naked shall I return. - Blessed.

Lesson ii

Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that a man has he will give for his life. But put forth your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." And the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your power; only spare his life."

Ry. ii. My sighing comes as my bread, and my groanings are poured out like water. For the thing that I fear comes upon me, and what I dread befalls me. I am not at ease, nor am I quiet, I have no rest, * but your indignation comes upon me, Lord. **V.** In

truth I have no help in me, and any resource is driven from me. - But your indignation.

Lesson iii

So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord, and afflicted Job with loathsome sores from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. And he took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women would speak. Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?"

Ry. iii. O that my vexation were weighed, and all my calamity laid * in the balances. **V.** For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea. - In the balances. - Glory. - In the balances.

Tuesday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 3

After this, Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth. And Job said: "Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night which said, 'A

man-child is conceived.' Let that day be darkness! May God above not seek it, nor light shine upon it. Let gloom and deep darkness claim it. Let clouds dwell upon it; let the blackness of the day terrify it."

Ry. i. How forceful are honest words! Do you think that you can reprove words and bargain over your friend? * But now be pleased to look at me. **V.** My vindication is at hand. Is there any wrong on my tongue? - But now.

Lesson ii

That night—let thick darkness seize it! let it not rejoice among the days of the year, let it not come into the number of the months. Yes, let that night be barren; let no joyful cry be heard in it. Let those curse it who curse the day, who are skilled to rouse up Levi'athan. Let the stars of its dawn be dark; let it hope for light, but have none, nor see the eyelids of the morning; because it did not shut the doors of my mother's womb, nor hide trouble from my eyes."

Ry. ii. My flesh is clothed with worms and dirt; my skin hardens, then breaks out afresh. * Remember me, Lord, that my life is a

breath. **V.** My days are like a passing shadow, and I wither away like the grass. - Remember me, Lord.

Lesson iii

Why did I not die at birth, come forth from the womb and expire? Why did the knees receive me? Or why the breasts, that I should suck? For then I should have lain down and been quiet; I should have slept; then I should have been at rest, with kings and counsellors of the earth who rebuilt ruins for themselves, or with princes who had gold, who filled their houses with silver."

Ry. iii. The days of my life are few; let me alone, Lord, that I may find a little comfort before I go * to the land of gloom and deep darkness. **V.** Look away that I may breathe again before I depart. - To the land. - Glory. - To the land.

Wednesday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 4

Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered: "If one ventures a word with you, will you be offended? Yet who can keep from speaking? Behold, you

have instructed many, and you have strengthened the weak hands. Your words have upheld him who was stumbling, and you have made firm the feeble knees. But now it has come to you, and you are impatient; it touches you, and you are dismayed."

Ry. i. Remember me, God, that my life is a breath; * the eye of him who sees me will behold me no more. **V.** My eye will never again see good. – The eye.

Lesson ii

Is not your fear of God your confidence, and the integrity of your ways your hope? Think now, who that was innocent ever perished? Or where were the upright cut off? As I have seen, those who plough iniquity and sow trouble reap the same. By the breath of God they perish, and by the blast of his anger they are consumed."

Ry. ii. Hide me not, Lord, from your face; withdraw your hand from me, * and let not dread of you terrify me. **V.** Correct me, Lord, in just measure, not in your anger, lest you bring me to nothing. – And let not dread.

Lesson iii

The roar of the lion, the voice of the fierce lion,

the teeth of the young lions, are broken. The strong lion perishes for lack of prey, and the whelps of the lioness are scattered. Now a word was brought to me stealthily, my ear received the whisper of it."

Ry. iii. The night racks my bones, and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest; with violence it seizes my garment. * God has cast me into the mire, and I have become like dust and ashes. **V.** O watcher of men, why have you made me your mark, why have I become a burden to you? Let me alone, Lord, for my days are a breath. – God has cast. – Glory. – And I have become.

Thursday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 6

Then Job answered: "O that my vexation were weighed, and all my calamity laid in the balances! For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea; therefore my words have been rash. For the arrows of the Almighty are in me; my spirit drinks their poison; the terrors of God are arrayed against me."

Ry. i. Shall we receive good at the hand of the

Lord and shall we not receive evil? The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away: * blessed be the name of the Lord. **V.** Naked I came from my mother's womb and naked shall I return. – Blessed.

Lesson ii

Does the wild ass bray when he has grass, or the ox low over his fodder? Can that which is tasteless be eaten without salt, or is there any taste in the slime of the purslane? My appetite refuses to touch them; they are as food that is loathsome to me."

Ry. ii. My sighing comes as my bread, and my groanings are poured out like water. For the thing that I fear comes upon me, and what I dread befalls me. I am not at ease, nor am I quiet, I have no rest, * but your indignation comes upon me, Lord. **V.** In truth I have no help in me, and any resource is driven from me. – But your indignation.

Lesson iii

O that I might have my request, and that God would grant my desire; that it would please God to crush me, that he would let loose his hand and cut me off! This would be my consolation; I would even exult in pain unsparing;

for I have not denied the words of the Holy One. What is my strength, that I should wait? And what is my end, that I should be patient?"

Ry. iii. O that my vexation were weighed, and all my calamity laid * in the balances. **V.** For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea. – In the balances. – Glory. – In the balances.

Friday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 7

Has not man a hard service upon earth, and are not his days like the days of a hireling? Like a slave who longs for the shadow, and like a hireling who looks for his wages, so I am allotted months of emptiness, and nights of misery are apportioned to me. When I lie down I say, "When shall I arise?" But the night is long, and I am full of tossing till the dawn.

Ry. i. How forceful are honest words! Do you think that you can reprove words and bargain over your friend? * But now be pleased to look at me. **V.** My vindication is at hand. Is there any wrong on my tongue? – But now.

Lesson ii

My flesh is clothed with worms and dirt ; my skin hardens, then breaks out afresh. My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, and come to their end without hope. Remember that my life is a breath ; my eye will never again see good. The eye of him who sees me will behold me no more ; while your eyes are upon me, I shall be gone.

Ry. ii. My flesh is clothed with worms and dirt ; my skin hardens, then breaks out afresh. * Remember me, Lord, that my life is a breath. **V.** My days are like a passing shadow, and I wither away like the grass. - Remember me, Lord.

Lesson iii

As the cloud fades and vanishes, so he who goes down to Sheol does not come up ; he returns no more to his house, nor does his place know him any more. Therefore I will not restrain my mouth ; I will speak in the anguish of my spirit ; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.

Ry. iii. The days of my life are few ; let me alone, Lord, that I may find a little comfort before I go * to the land of gloom and deep darkness. **V.** Look away that I may breathe

again before I depart. - To the land. - Glory. - To the land.

Saturday

MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 9

Then Job answered : " Truly I know that it is so: But how can a man be just before God ? If one wished to contend with him, one could not answer him once in a thousand times. He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength - who has hardened himself against him, and succeeded ? - he who removes mountains, and they know it not, when he overturns them in his anger."

Ry. i. Remember me, God, that my life is a breath, * the eye of him who sees me will behold me no more. **V.** My eyes will never again see good. - The eye.

Lesson ii

He who shakes the earth out of its place, and its pillars tremble ; who commands the sun, and it does not rise ; who seals up the stars ; who alone stretched out the heavens, and trampled the waves of the sea ; who made the Bear and Orion, the Plei-

ades and the chambers of the south ; who does great things beyond understanding, and marvellous things without number. Lo, he passes by me, and I see him not ; he moves on, but I do not perceive him. Behold, he snatches away ; who can hinder him ? Who will say to him, " What do you ? " God will not turn back his anger ; beneath him bowed the helpers of Rahab. How then can I answer him, choosing my words with him ? Though I am innocent, I cannot answer him ; I must appeal for mercy to my accuser."

Ry. ii. The night racks my bones, and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest ; with violence it seizes my garment. * God has cast me into the mire, and I have become like dust and ashes. **V.** O watcher of men, why have you made me your mark, why have I become a burden to you ? Let me alone, Lord, for my days are a breath. - God has cast.

II SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER

II class

I VESPERS

V. Let evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And let your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. In all this Job did not sin, or charge God with wrong.

MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 27

And Job again took up his discourse, and said : " As God lives, who has taken away my right, and the Almighty, who has made my soul bitter ; as long as my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils ; my lips will not speak falsehood, and my tongue will not utter deceit. Far be it from me to say that you are right ; till I die I will not put away my integrity from me."

Ry. i. Shall we receive good at the hand of the Lord and shall we not receive evil ? The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away: * blessed be the name of the Lord. **V.** Naked I came from my mother's womb and naked shall I return. - Blessed.

Lesson ii

I hold fast my righteousness, and will not let it go ; my heart does not reproach me for any of my days. Let my enemy be as the wicked, and let him that rises up against me be as the unrighteous. For what is the hope of the godless

when God cuts him off, when God takes away his life? Will God hear his cry, when trouble comes upon him? Will he take delight in the Almighty? Will he call upon God at all times? I will teach you concerning the hand of God; what is with the Almighty I will not conceal. Behold, all of you have seen it yourselves; why then have you become altogether vain? This is the portion of a wicked man with God, and the heritage which oppressors receive from the Almighty: If his children are multiplied, it is for the sword; and his offspring have not enough to eat. Those who survive him, the pestilence buries, and their widows make no lamentation.

Ry. ii. O that my vexation were weighed, and all my calamity laid * in the balances. **V.** For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea. — In the balances.

The third lesson is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light ending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the

One. — For endless ages. — Glory. — For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 38

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?”

Ry. i. Shall we receive good at the hand of the Lord and shall we not receive evil? The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away: * blessed be the name of the Lord. **V.** Naked I came from my mother’s womb and naked shall I return. — Blessed.

Lesson ii

On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Or who shut in the sea with doors, when it burst forth from the womb; when I made

Tuesday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 39

Do you know when the mountain goats bring forth? Do you observe the calving of the hinds? Can you number the months that they fulfil, and do you know the time when they bring forth, when they crouch, bring forth their offspring, and are delivered of their young? Their young ones become strong; they grow up in the open, they go forth, and do not return to them.”

Ry. i. How forceful are honest words! Do you think that you can reprove words and bargain over your friend? * But now be pleased to look at me. **V.** My vindication is at hand. Is there any wrong on my tongue? — But now.

Lesson ii

Who has let the wild ass go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass, to whom I have given the steppe for his home, and the salt land for his dwelling place? He scorns the tumult of the city; he hears not the shouts of the driver. He ranges the mountains as his pasture, and he searches after every green thing.”

clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band?”

Ry. ii. My sighing comes as my bread, and my groanings are poured out like water. For the thing that I fear comes upon me, and what I dread befalls me. I am not at ease, nor am I quiet, I have no rest, * but your indignation comes upon me, Lord. **V.** In truth I have no help in me, and any resource is driven from me. — But your indignation.

Lesson iii

I prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed.’ Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it?”

Ry. iii. O that my vexation were weighed, and all my calamity laid * in the balances. **V.** For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea. — In the balances. — Glory. — In the balances.



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Ry. ii. My flesh is clothed with worms and dirt; my skin hardens, then breaks out afresh. * Remember me, Lord, that my life is a breath. **V.** My days are like a passing shadow, and I wither away like the grass. – Remember me, Lord.

Lesson iii

Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will he spend the night at your crib? Can you bind him in the furrow with ropes, or will he harrow the valleys after you? Will you depend on him because his strength is great, and will you leave to him your labour? Do you have faith in him that he will return, and bring your grain to your threshing floor?"

Ry. iii. The days of my life are few; let me alone, Lord, that I may find a little comfort before I go * to the land of gloom and deep darkness. **V.** Look away that I may breathe again before I depart. – To the land. – Glory. – To the land.

Wednesday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 39

Do you give the horse his might? Do you clothe his neck with strength?

Do you make him leap like the locust? His majestic snorting is terrible. He paws in the valley, and exults in his strength; he goes out to meet the weapons. He laughs at fear, and is not dismayed; he does not turn back from the sword. Upon him rattle the quiver, the flashing spear and the javelin."

Ry. Remember me, God, that my life is a breath; * the eye of him who sees me will behold me no more. **V.** My eye will never again see good. – The eye.

Lesson ii

With fierceness and rage he swallows the ground; he cannot stand still at the sound of the trumpet. When the trumpet sounds, he says, "Aha!" He smells the battle from afar, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting. Is it by your wisdom that the hawk soars, and spreads his wings toward the south? Is it at your command that the eagle mounts up and makes his nest on high?"

Ry. ii. Hide me not, Lord, from your face; withdraw your hand from me, * and let not dread of you terrify me. **V.** Correct me, Lord, in just measure, not in your anger, lest you bring me to nothing. – And let not dread.

Lesson iii

On the rock he dwells and makes his home in the fastness of the rocky crag. Thence he spies out the prey; his eyes behold it afar off. His young ones suck up blood; and where the slain are, there is he." And the Lord said to Job: "Shall a fault-finder contend with the Almighty? He who argues with God, let him answer it."

Ry. iii. The night racks my bones, and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest; with violence it seizes my garment. * God has cast me into the mire, and I have become like dust and ashes. **V.** O watcher of men, why have you made me your mark, why have I become a burden to you? Let me alone, Lord, for my days are a breath. – God has cast. – Glory. – And I have become.

Thursday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 40

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Gird up your loins like a man; I will question you, and you declare to me. Will you even put me in the wrong? Will you condemn me that you may be justified? Have you an arm

like God, and can you thunder with a voice like his? Deck yourself with majesty and dignity; clothe yourself with glory and splendour."

Ry. i. Shall we receive good at the hand of the Lord and shall we not receive evil? The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away: * blessed be the name of the Lord. **V.** Naked I came from my mother's womb and naked shall I return. – Blessed.

Lesson ii

Pour forth the overflowings of your anger, and look on everyone that is proud, and abase him. Look on everyone that is proud, and bring him low; and tread down the wicked where they stand. Hide them all in the dust together; bind their faces in the world below. Then will I also acknowledge to you, that your own right hand can give you victory. Be hold, Be'hemoth, which I made as I made you; he eats grass like an ox."

Ry. ii. My sighing comes as my bread, and my groanings are poured out like water. For the thing that I fear comes upon me, and what I dread befalls me. I am not at ease, nor am I quiet, I have no rest, * but your indignation comes

upon me, Lord. **V.** In truth I have no help in me, and any recourse is driven from me. – But your indignation.

Lesson iii

Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook, or press down his tongue with a cord? Can you put a rope in his nose, or pierce his jaw with a hook? Will he make many supplications to you? Will he speak to you soft words? Will he make a covenant with you to take him for your servant for ever? Will you play with him as with a bird, or will you put him on leash for your maidens?”

Ry. iii. O that my vexation were weighed, and all my calamity laid * in the balances. **V.** For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea. – In the balances. – Glory. – In the balances.

Friday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 42

Then Job answered the Lord: “I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. ‘Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?’ Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,

things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. ‘Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.’ I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.”

Ry. i. How forceful are honest words! Do you think that you can reprove words and bargain over your friend? * But now be pleased to look at me. **V.** My vindication is at hand. Is there any wrong on my tongue? – But now.

Lesson ii

After the Lord had spoken these words to Job, the Lord said to Eliphaz the Temanite: “My wrath is kindled against you and against your two friends; for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has. Now therefore take seven bulls and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering.”

Ry. ii. My flesh is clothed with worms and dirt; my skin hardens, then breaks out afresh. * Remember me, Lord, that my life is a breath. **V.** My days are like a passing shadow, and I wither away like the grass. – Remember me, Lord.

Lesson iii

And my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your folly; for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has.” So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Na’amathite went and did what the Lord had told them; and the Lord accepted Job’s prayer.

Ry. iii. The days of my life are few; let me alone, Lord, that I may find a little comfort before I go * to the land of gloom and deep darkness. **V.** Look away that I may breathe again before I depart. – To the land. – Glory. – To the land.

Saturday MATINS

From the book of Job

Lesson i Chapter 42

And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job, when he had prayed for his friends; and the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and ate bread with him in his house; and they showed him sympathy and comforted him

for all the evil that the Lord had brought upon him.

Ry. i. Remember me, God, that my life is a breath; * the eye of him who sees me will behold me no more. **V.** My eye will never again see good. – The eye.

Lesson ii

And each of them gave him a piece of money and a ring of gold. And the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand and yoke of oxen, and a thousand she-asses. He had also seven sons and three daughters. And he called the name of the first Jemi’mah; and the name of the second Kezi’ah; and the name of the third Ker’enhap’puch. And in all the land there were no women so fair as Job’s daughters; and their father gave them inheritance among their brothers. And after this Job lived a hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons’ sons, four generations. And Job died, an old man, and full of days.

Ry. ii. The night racks my bones, and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest; with violence it siezes my garment. * God has cast me into the mire, and I

have become like dust and ashes. **V.** O watcher of men, why have you made me your mark, why have I become a burden to you? Let me alone, Lord, for my days are a breath. – God has cast.

III SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER

II class

I VESPERS

Little Chapter 2 Cor. 1

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction.

Ry. Bless God on every occasion; ask him that your ways may be made straight, * and that your paths and plans may always prosper. **V.** Strive to do the things that please him, sincerely and with all your strength – And that. – Glory. – And that.

Hymn

O Trinity of blessed light,
O Unity of princely might,
As fiery sun now goes its way,
O spread within our hearts
your ray.

To you our morning song
of praise,
To you our evening prayer
we raise;

O may our suppliant glory
be
To sing your praise eternally.

To God the Father glory
true,

The same, eternal Son, to
you

To Counsellor Spirit, glory
be

Both now and for eternity.
Amen.

V. May evening prayer
rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.**
And may your mercy come
down to us.

Magnif. ant. Raphael, the angel, went in and saluted Tobias thus: “May happiness be always with you.” Tobias answered him, “What happiness is there for me who lives in darkness and never sees the light of day?” The angel said to him, “Have courage; you will soon be cured by God.”

MATINS

Here begins the book
of Tobias

Lesson 1 Chapter 1

Tobias of the tribe and city of Nephtali (which is in the upper parts of Galilee above Naasson, beyond the way that leads to the west, having on the right hand the city of Sephet), when he was made captive in the days of Salmanasar, king of the Assyrians, even in his captivity

forsook not the way of truth, but every day gave all he could get to his brethren, his fellow-captives, that were of his kindred. And when he was younger than any of the tribe of Nephtali, yet did he no childish thing in his work.

Ry. i. I beg, Lord, that you loose me from the bond of this reproach, or else take me away from the earth. Do not recall my offences nor those of my parents, and do not take vengeance because of my sins; * for you deliver those who wait for you, Lord. **V.** All your judgments are just and all your ways mercy and truth; and now, Lord, think of me. – For you deliver.

This series I beg, Lord, is read until the first Sunday of October.

Lesson ii

Moreover, when all went to the golden calves which Jeroboam king of Israel had made, he alone fled the company of all, and went to Jerusalem to the temple of the Lord, and there adored the Lord God of Israel, offering faithfully all his first fruits and tithes, so that in the third year he gave all his tithes to the proselytes, and strangers. These and such

like things did he observe when but a boy according to the law of God. But when he was a man, he took to wife Anna of his own tribe, and had a son by her, whom he called after his own name, and from his infancy he taught him to fear God, and to abstain from all sin. And when by the captivity, he with his wife and his son and all his tribe was come to the city of Ninive, when all ate of the meats of the Gentiles, he kept his soul and never was defiled with their meats.

Ry. ii. It is time for me to return to him who sent me; but you, bless God * and proclaim all his wonderful works. **V.** Praise him in the sight of all living things, for he has treated you with mercy. – And proclaim.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Lord, almighty King, who rules over all things, the universe is in your power and there is no one who can oppose your will; deliver us * for the sake of your name. **V.** Hear our prayer, Lord, and turn our mourning into feasting. – For the sake. – Glory. – For the sake.

Monday
MATINS

From the book of Tobias

Lesson i **Chapter 2**

But after this, when there was a festival of the Lord, and a good dinner was prepared in Tobias's house, he said to his son, "Go, and bring some of our tribe that fear God, to feast with us." And when he had gone, returning he told him that one of the children of Israel lay slain in the street. And he forthwith leaped up from his place at the table, and left his dinner and came fasting to the body. And taking it up he carried it privately to his house, that after the sun was down, he might bury him cautiously.

Ry. i. I beg, Lord, that you loose me from the bond of this reproach, or else take me away from the earth. Do not recall my offences nor those of my parents, and do not take vengeance because of my sins; * for you deliver those who wait for you, Lord. **V.** All your judgments are just and all your ways mercy and truth; and now, Lord, think of me. - For you deliver.

Lesson ii

And when he had hidden the body, he ate bread with mourning and fear,

remembering the word which the Lord spoke by Amos the prophet: "Your festival days shall be turned into lamentation and mourning." So when the sun was down, he went and buried him. Now all his neighbours blamed him, saying, "Once already commandment was given for you to be slain because of this matter, and you did scarce escape the sentence of death, and do you again bury the dead?"

Ry. ii. Bless God: on every occasion; ask him that your ways may be made straight, * and that your paths and plans may always prosper. **V.** Strive to do the things that please him, sincerely and with all your strength. - And that.

Lesson iii

But Tobias, fearing God more than the king, carried off the bodies of them that were slain, and hid them in his house, and at midnight buried them. Now it happened one day, that being wearied with burying, he came to his house, and cast himself down by the wall and slept. And as he was sleeping, hot dung out of a swallow's nest fell upon his eyes, and he was made blind.

Ry. iii. It is time for me to return to him who sent me; but you, bless God *

and proclaim all his wonderful works. **V.** Praise him in the sight of all living things for he has treated you with mercy. - And proclaim. - Glory. - And proclaim.

Tuesday
MATINS

From the book of Tobias

Lesson i **Chapter 4**

Therefore, when Tobias thought that his prayer was heard that he might die, he called to him Tobias his son, and said to him, "Hear, my son, the words of my mouth, and lay them as a foundation in your heart. When God shall take my soul, you shall bury my body: and you shall honour your mother all the days of her life: for you must be mindful what and how great perils she suffered for you in her womb."

Ry. i. Adonai, Lord, great and wonderful God, who saved us by the hand of a woman; * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** Blessed are you, Lord. You do not abandon those who rely on you; and you bring low those who glory in their own strength.-Hear.

Lesson ii

And when she also shall have ended the

time of her life, bury her by me. And all the days of your life have God in your mind: and take heed you never consent to sin, nor transgress the commandments of the Lord our God. Give alms out of your substance, and turn not away your face from any poor person: for so it shall come to pass that the face of the Lord shall not be turned from you."

Ry. ii. Master, Lord of heaven and earth, creator of the waters, king of all your creation, * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** The prayer of the meek and humble has always pleased you, Lord. - Hear the prayers.

Lesson iii

According to your ability be merciful. If you have much, give abundantly: if you have little, take care even so to bestow willingly a little. For thus you store up to yourself a good reward for the day of necessity. For alms deliver from all sin and from death, and will not suffer the soul to go into darkness."

Ry. iii. My hope I have never put in anyone but you, God of Israel. * Your anger gives way to mercy, and in time of affliction you forgive men all their sins. **V.** Lord, God of heaven and earth,

have pity on the humiliation of our people. – Your anger. – Glory. – And in time.

Wednesday

QUARTER TENSE

II class

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Lesson i Chapter 9

At that time, one of the crowd answered Jesus, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit.” Etc.

Homily from St. Bede, the Venerable, Priest

On Mark 9, bk. 3, ch. 38

Mark recalls that this possessed boy was deaf and dumb, while Matthew adds that he was a lunatic. He typifies those of whom it is written: “The fool changes like the moon.” Such people never remain constant, but are always waxing and waning, as they change from one vice to another. They are dumb, in the sense that they do not confess the faith; deaf, since they do not even listen to the word of truth. They foam, dissolved, as it were, by their stupidity. They grind their teeth, as

they flare up with anger and rage. They waste away, in the sense that they languish in numbing idleness; for they live flabbily, never hardened by the training of virtue.

Ry. i. Strengthen me, King and Ruler of the saints; * inspire in me right and well-spoken words. V. Give us, Lord, time to repent; do not destroy the mouth of those who praise you. – Inspire in me.

Lesson ii

The saying “It has often cast him into the fire and into the water” designates the major crimes of human folly. For the burning of fire must be taken to refer to the heat of anger, and water to the gross pleasures of the flesh which tend to swamp the mind with their delights. Or again, the possessed boy is thrown into that fire by which the hearts of adulterers are set alight, and into those waters which tend to quench charity. It is significant that when the Lord drives out the evil spirit from the man, he, at the same time, commands him never to return. A man is only really delivered from the tyranny of the devil when he avoids returning, by evil living, to the sins from which he has

once been cleansed through penance.

Ry. ii. Praise the Lord our God, * for he did not forsake those who trusted in him; he accomplished through me the mercy which he promised to the house of Israel. V. Praise the Lord all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples. – For he did not.

Lesson iii

And he said to them: “This kind of devil cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting.” While teaching the apostles how the most evil of all demons is to be cast out, he, at the same time, instructs all of us how to live. He wants us to know that the most serious temptations from evil spirits or from men, are to be conquered by fasting and prayer; also that the anger of God, when it is stirred up to vengeance by our crimes, can be soothed by this special remedy. Fasting, however, is to be taken in a broad sense. It includes abstinence, not alone from food, but from every allurements of the flesh; indeed, it means restraining oneself from all sinful passions.

Ry. iii. Lord, almighty King, who rules over all things, the universe is in your power and there is no

one who can oppose your will; deliver us * for the sake of your name. V. Hear our prayer, Lord, and turn our mourning into feasting. – For the sake. – Glory. – For the sake.

Prayer

Grant to your servants who pray to you, we beseech you, Lord, that, as we abstain from food for our bodies, we may likewise abstain from evil in our souls. Through.

This prayer is said at Lauds and Vespers. At the other Hours the prayer is that of the Sunday.

Thursday MATINS

From the book of Tobias

Lesson i Chapter 6

And Tobias went forward, and the dog followed him, and he lodged the first night by the river Tigris. And he went out to wash his feet, and behold a monstrous fish came up to devour him. And Tobias, being afraid of him, cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Sir, he comes upon me.” And the angel said to him, “Take him by the gill, and draw him to you.”

Ry. i. I beg, Lord, that you loose me from the bond of this reproach, or else take me away from the earth. Do not recall my offences, nor those of my parents, and do not take vengeance because of my sins; * for you deliver those who wait for you, Lord. **V.** All your judgments are just, and all your ways mercy and truth; and now, Lord, think of me. – For you deliver.

Lesson ii

And when he had done so, he drew him out upon the land, and he began to pant before his feet. Then the angel said to him, “Take out the entrails of this fish, and lay up his heart, and his gall, and his liver for you: for these are necessary for useful medicines.” And when he had done so, he roasted the flesh thereof, and they took it with them in the way: the rest they salted, as much as might serve them till they came to Rages and the city of the Medes.

Ry. ii. Bless God on every occasion; ask him that your ways may be made straight, * and that your paths and plans may always prosper. **V.** Strive to do the things that please him, sincerely and with all your strength. – And that.

Lesson iii

Then Tobias asked the angel, and said to him, “I beseech you, brother Azarias, tell me what remedies are these things good for, which you have bidden me keep of the fish?” And the angel, answering, said to him, “If you put a little piece of its heart upon coals, the smoke thereof drives away all kind of devils either from man or from woman, so that they come no more to them. And the gall is good for anointing the eyes, in which there is a white speck, and they shall be cured.”

Ry. iii. It is time for me to return to him who sent me; but you, bless God * and proclaim all his wonderful works. **V.** Praise him in the sight of all living things, for he has treated you with mercy. – And proclaim. – Glory. – And proclaim.

Friday

QUARTER TENSE II class MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson i Chapter 7

At that time, one of the Pharisees asked him to

eat with him, and he went to the Pharisee's house, and sat at table. And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was sitting at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment. Etc.

Homily of St. Gregory,
Pope

Homily 33 on the Gospels

It is clear, brethren, that, since this woman had formerly been involved in sinful pursuits, she had used ointment as a perfume for her body. What she had, then, to her shame, lavished on herself, she now, to her credit, offers God. Her eyes had lusted after earthly pleasures, but now those same eyes smart with repentance, and she weeps. She had arranged her hair to set off her features, but now she dries the tears with it. She had spoken vain things with her lips, but now, as she kisses the Lord's feet, those lips are set to follow the footsteps of her Redeemer. For every delight which she took in herself, she now finds a corresponding sacrifice of herself. She transforms a list of crimes into a list of virtues. Everything in her life of guilt which slighted God, would now,

in her life of repentance, serve him.

Ry. i. Adonai, Lord, great and wonderful God, who saved us by the hand of a woman; * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** Blessed are you, Lord. You do not abandon those who rely on you; and you bring low those who glory in their own strength.—Hear.

Lesson ii

Who is symbolized by this sinful woman, who comes to weep at the feet of the Lord, if not the converted gentile world? She came with an alabaster flask, poured out the ointment, stood close behind the Lord, wet his feet with tears and wiped them with her hair; and all the while she kept kissing those feet which she had moistened and dried. It is we, therefore, we ourselves who are typified by this woman—provided we return to the Lord with all our heart if we should have committed sin, and provided we imitate her sorrowing repentance. For what is expressed by ointment if not the fragrance of a good reputation? When, therefore, we perform good works, which scatter abroad in the church the fragrance of good reputation, we are, in fact, pouring ointment on the body of the Lord.

Ry. ii. Master, Lord of heaven and earth, creator of the waters, king of all your creation, * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** The prayer of the meek and humble has always pleased you, Lord. – Hear the prayers.

Lesson iii

The woman stood by the feet of Jesus. We stood aside from the footsteps of the Lord when, as sinners, we refused to follow in his path. But when, after having sinned, we are converted to a true state of repentance, we begin to stand, like this woman, close by the feet of Jesus. For we follow in his footsteps, rather than resist him. The woman moistened his feet with her tears. We ourselves really do this when we are moved to compassion towards the less fortunate members of the Lord, when we share the sufferings of the saints, treating their sorrows as our own. With her hair the woman dried the feet which she had moistened with her tears. We dry the feet of the Lord with our hair when, from our superfluous goods, we show charity to the saints. She kissed the feet which she has dried. We, also, do this in the fullest sense if we resolutely

love those whom we support by our alms.

Ry. iii. My hope I have never put in anyone but you, God of Israel. * Your anger gives way to mercy, and in time of affliction you forgive men all their sins. **V.** Lord, God of heaven and earth, have pity on the humiliation of our people. – Your anger. – Glory. – And in time.

Prayer

Almighty God, we devotedly celebrate these holy rites each year; grant, we beseech you, that we may be pleasing to you in body and mind. Through.

This prayer is said at Lauds and Vespers. At the other Hours the prayer is that of Sunday.

Saturday

QUARTER TENSE

II class

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson i Chapter 13

At that time Jesus told this parable to the crowd: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came seeking fruit on it and found none.” Etc.

Homily of St. Gregory, Pope

Homily 31 on the Gospels

In his gospel our Lord and Redeemer sometimes speaks by words, at other times by deeds. Sometimes the words refer to one thing, the deeds to another; but it may also happen that words and deeds refer to the same thing. You have heard in the gospel, brethren, about two objects, the barren fig tree and the deformed woman; and both of them are treated with loving care. But the Lord simply told about the fig tree in a parable; whereas he performed the cure of the woman as an actual demonstration. However, both the barren fig tree and the deformed woman signify the same thing. And the sparing of the fig tree signifies the same thing as the cure of the woman.

Ry. i. Strengthen me, King and Ruler of the saints; * inspire in me right and well-spoken words. **V.** Give us, Lord, time to repent; do not destroy the mouth of those who praise you. – Inspire in me.

Lesson ii

What does the fig tree symbolize if not human nature? And is not the same thing suggested by

the deformed woman? Human nature was well rooted, like the fig tree, and well formed, like the woman. But once it fell into sin, by its own free choice it ceased to produce the fruit of good works, and lost the state of moral righteousness. Indeed, it was because it plunged wilfully into sin and would not bear the fruit of obedience, that human nature lost its state of righteousness. It was made in the likeness of God. But, failing to respect its own dignity, it showed no interest in preserving what God had planted or created. This was the third time the Lord of the vineyard came to inspect the fig tree. That is to say, he sought out mankind before the Mosaic Law, under the Law, and in the era of grace. In the first age he waited, in the second he warned, and in the third he came in person.

Ry. ii. Praise the Lord our God, * for he did not forsake those who trusted in him: he accomplished through me the mercy which he promised to the house of Israel. **V.** Praise the Lord all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples. – For he did not.

Lesson iii

He came before the Law, in the sense that each

man knew, through the exercise of his natural intelligence, how to act in accordance with his own nature, and how to behave towards his neighbour. He came in the Law, in the sense that he taught through his commands. He came after the Law, by grace, for he showed his gracious presence by actual manifestation. The lord of the vineyard complains that in each of the three years he failed to find fruit. That is to say, there were always some evil-minded men whom the inner law of nature did not correct; nor did the precepts of the law educate them; nor did the miracle of his Incarnation convert them. What is represented by the vinedresser if not the hierarchy? By presiding over the church they, indeed, take care of the Lord's vineyard.

Ry. iii. Lord, almighty King, who rules over all things, the universe is in your power and there is no one who can oppose your will; deliver us * for the sake of your name. **V.** Hear our prayer, Lord, and turn our mourning into feasting. – For the sake. – Glory. – For the sake.

Prayer

Grant, we beseech you, Lord, that, as we deny

food to our bodies, so may we abstain from the vices that beset us. Through.

This prayer is said only at Lauds. At the other Hours the prayer is that of the preceding Sunday.

IV SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Do not recall my offences, Lord, nor those of my parents; and do not take vengeance because of my sins.

MATINS

Here begins the book of Judith

Lesson i Chapter 1

Now Arphaxad, king of the Medes, had brought many nations under his dominion, and he built a very strong city, which he called Ecbatana, of stones squared and hewed. He made the walls thereof seventy cubits broad, and thirty cubits high: and the towers thereof he made a hundred cubits high. But on the square of them, each side was extended the space of twenty feet. And he

made the gates thereof according to the height of the towers.

Ry. i. I beg, Lord, that you loose me from the bond of this reproach, or else take me away from the earth. Do not recall my offences nor those of my parents, and do not take vengeance because of my sins; * for you deliver those who wait for you, Lord. **V.** All your judgments are just and all your ways mercy and truth; and now, Lord, think of me. – For you deliver.

Lesson ii Chapters 1 & 2

Now in the twelfth year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar king of the Assyrians, who reigned in Ninive the great city, fought against Arphaxad and overcame him, in the great plain which is called Ragua, about the Euphrates, and the Tigris, and the Jadason, in the plain of Erioch the king of the Elicians. Then was the kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar exalted, and his heart was elevated. And he called all the ancients, and all the governors, and his officers of war, and communicated to them the secret of his counsel: and he said that his thoughts were to bring all the earth under his empire. And when this saying pleased them all, Nebuchadnezzar, the king, called Holofernes

the general of his armies, and said to him, "Go out against all the kingdoms of the west, and against them especially that despised my commandment."

Ry. ii. It is time for me to return to him who sent me; but you, bless God * and proclaim all his wonderful works. **V.** Praise him in the sight of all living things, for he has treated you with mercy. – And proclaim.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

From the book of Judith

Lesson i Chapter 3

For Nebuchadnezzar the king had commanded him (Holofernes) to destroy all the gods of the earth, that he only might be called god by those nations which could be brought under

him by the power of Holofernes. And when he had passed through all Syria Sobal, and all Apamea, and all Mesopotamia, he came to the Idumeans into the land of Gabaa, and he took possession of their cities, and stayed there for thirty days.

Ry. i. I beg, Lord, that you loose me from the bond of this reproach, or else take me away from the earth. Do not recall my offences nor those of my parents, and do not take vengeance because of my sins; * for you deliver those who wait for you, Lord. **V.** All your judgments are just, and all your ways mercy and truth; and now, Lord, think of me. – For you deliver.

Lesson ii Chapter 4

Then the children of Israel, who dwelt in the land of Juda, hearing these things, were exceedingly afraid of him. Dread and horror seized upon their minds, lest he should do the same to Jerusalem and to the temple of the Lord, that he had done to other cities and their temples. And they sent into all Samar'ia round about, as far as Jericho, and seized upon all the tops of the mountains: and they compassed their towns with walls, and gathered together corn for provision for war.

Ry. ii. Bless God on every occasion; ask him that your ways may be made straight, * and that your paths and plans may always prosper. **V.** Strive to do the things that please him, sincerely and with all your strength. – And that.

Lesson iii

And all the people cried to the Lord with great earnestness, and they humbled their souls in fastings and prayers, both they and their wives. And the priests put on haircloths, and they caused the little children to lie prostrate before the temple of the Lord, and the altar of the Lord they covered with haircloth. And they cried to the Lord the God of Israel with one accord.

Ry. iii. It is time for me to return to him who sent me; but you, bless God * and proclaim all his wonderful works. **V.** Praise him in the sight of all living things, for he has treated you with mercy. – And proclaim. – Glory. – And proclaim.

Tuesday MATINS

From the book of Judith

Lesson i Chapter 7

But Holofernes on the next day gave orders to

his army to go up against Bethulia. Now there were in his troops a hundred and twenty thousand footmen, and two and twenty thousand horsemen, besides the preparations of those men who had been taken, and who had been brought away out of the provinces and cities of all the youth. All these prepared themselves to fight against the children of Israel.

Ry. i. Adonai, Lord, great and wonderful God, who saved us by the hand of a woman; * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** Blessed are you, Lord. You do not abandon those who rely on you; and you bring low those who glory in their own strength. – Hear.

Lesson ii

But the children of Israel, when they saw the multitude of them, prostrated themselves upon the ground, putting ashes upon their heads, praying with one accord that the God of Israel would show his mercy upon his people. And taking their arms of war, they posted themselves at the places, which by a narrow pathway lead directly between the mountains: and they guarded them all day and all night.

Ry. ii. Master, Lord of heaven and earth, creator of the waters, king of all

your creation, * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** The prayer of the meek and humble has always pleased you, Lord. – Hear the prayers.

Lesson iii

Now Holofernes, in going round about, found that the fountain which supplied them with water ran through an aqueduct without the city on the south side, and he commanded their aqueduct to be cut off. Nevertheless there were springs not far from the walls, out of which they were seen secretly to draw water, to refresh themselves a little rather than to drink their fill.

Ry. iii. My hope I have never put in anyone but you, God of Israel. * Your anger gives way to mercy, and in time of affliction you forgive men all their sins. **V.** Lord, God of heaven and earth, have pity on the humiliation of our people. – Your anger. – Glory. – And in time.

Wednesday MATINS

From the book of Judith

Lesson i Chapter 8

Judith his (Manasses's) relict was a widow now three years and six months. And she made herself a

private chamber in the upper part of her house, in which she abode shut up with her maids. And she wore haircloth upon her loins, and fasted all the days of her life, except the sabbaths, and new moons, and the feasts of the house of Israel. And she was exceedingly beautiful, and her husband left her great riches, and very many servants.

Ry. i. Strengthen me, King and Ruler of the saints; * inspire in me right and well-spoken words. **V.** Give us, Lord, time to repent; do not destroy the mouth of those who praise you. – Inspire in me.

Lesson ii

When therefore she had heard that Ozias had promised that he would deliver up the city after the fifth day, she sent to the ancients Chabri and Charmi. And they came to her, and she said to them, “What is this word, by which Ozias has consented to give up the city to the Assyrians, if within five days there come no aid to us? And who are you that tempt the Lord?”

Ry. ii. Praise the Lord our God, * for he did not forsake those who trusted in him: he accomplished through me the mercy

which he promised to the house of Israel. **V.** Praise the Lord all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples. – For he did not.

Lesson iii

This is not a word that may draw down mercy, but rather that may stir up wrath, and enkindle indignation. And therefore let us humble our souls before him, and continuing in a humble spirit in his service, let us ask the Lord with tears that according to his will so he would show his mercy to us: that as our heart is troubled by their pride, so also we may glorify in our humility.”

Ry. iii. Lord, almighty King, who rules over all things, the universe is in your power and there is no one who can oppose your will; deliver us * for the sake of your name. **V.** Hear our prayer, Lord, and turn our mourning into feasting. – For the sake. – Glory. – For the sake.

Thursday MATINS

From the book of Judith

Lesson i Chapter 10

And it came to pass, when she had ceased to cry to the Lord, that she rose from the place where-in she lay prostrate before

the Lord. And she called her maid, and going into her house she took off her haircloth, and put away the garments of her widowhood, and she washed her body, and anointed herself with the best ointment, and plaited the hair of her head, and put a bonnet upon her head, and clothed herself with the garments of her gladness.

Ry. i. I beg, Lord, that you loose me from the bond of this reproach, or else take me away from the earth. Do not recall my offences, nor those of my parents, and do not take vengeance because of my sins; * for you deliver those who wait for you, Lord. **V.** All your judgments are just, and all your ways mercy and truth; and now, Lord, think of me. – For you deliver.

Lesson ii

And she put sandals on her feet, and took her bracelets and lilies and earlets and rings, and adorned herself with all her ornaments. And the Lord also gave her more beauty: because all this dressing up did not proceed from sensuality, but from virtue: and therefore the Lord increased this her beauty, so that she appeared to all men's eyes incomparably lovely.

Ry. ii. Bless God on every occasion; ask him that your ways may be made straight, * and that your paths and plans may always prosper. **V.** Strive to do the things that please him, sincerely and with all your strength. – And that.

Lesson iii

And she gave to her maid a bottle of wine to carry, and a vessel of oil, and parched corn, and dry figs, and bread and cheese, and went out. And when they came to the gates of the city, they found Ozias and the ancients of the city waiting. And when they saw her they were astonished, and admired her beauty exceedingly. But they asked her no question, only they let her pass.

Ry. iii. It is time for me to return to him who sent me; but you, bless God * and proclaim all his wonderful works. **V.** Praise him in the sight of all living things, for he has treated you with mercy. – And proclaim. – Glory. – And proclaim.

Friday MATINS

From the book of Judith

Lesson i Chapter 10

And it came to pass, when she went down the

hill, about break of day, that the watchmen of the Assyrians met her and stopped her, saying, "Whence come you or whither go you?" And she answered, "I am a daughter of the Hebrews, and I am fled from them, because I knew they would be made a prey to you, because they despised you, and would not of their own accord yield themselves, that they might find mercy in your sight."

Ry. i. Adonai, Lord, great and wonderful God, who saved us by the hand of a woman; * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** Blessed are you, Lord. You do not abandon those who rely on you; and you bring low those who glory in their own strength. - Hear.

Lesson ii

"For this reason I thought with myself saying; I will go to the presence of the prince Holofernes, that I may tell him their secrets and show him by what way he may take them, without the loss of one man of his army." And when the men had heard her words they beheld her face, and their eyes were amazed, for they wondered exceedingly at her beauty.

Ry. ii. Master, Lord of heaven and earth, creator

of the waters, king of all your creation, * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** The prayer of the meek and humble has always pleased you, Lord. - Hear the prayers.

Lesson iii

And they said to her, "You have saved your life by taking this resolution to come down to our lord. And be assured of this, that when you shall stand before him, he will treat you well and you will be most acceptable to his heart." And they brought her to the tent of Holofernes, telling him of her. And when she was come into his presence, forthwith Holofernes was caught by his eyes.

Ry. iii. My hope I have never put in anyone but you, God of Israel. * Your anger gives way to mercy, and in time of affliction you forgive men all their sins.

V. Lord, God of heaven and earth, have pity on the humiliation of our people. - Your anger. - Glory. - And in time.

Saturday MATINS

From the book of Judith

Lesson i Chapter 13

And Judith was alone in the chamber. But

Holofernes lay on his bed, fast asleep, being exceedingly drunk. And Judith spoke to her maid to stand without before the chamber, and to watch. And Judith stood before the bed praying with tears and the motion of her lips in silence, saying, "Strengthen me, O Lord, God of Israel, and in this hour look on the works of my hands, that as you have promised, you may raise up Jerusalem your city: and that I may bring to pass that which I have purposed, having a belief that it might be done by you."

Ry. i. Strengthen me, King and Ruler of the saints; * inspire in me right and well-spoken words. **V.** Give us, Lord, time to repent; do not destroy the mouth of those who praise you. - Inspire in me.

Lesson ii

And when she had said this, she went to the pillar that was at his bed's head, and loosed his sword that hung tied upon it. And when she had drawn it out, she took him by the hair of his head, and said, "Strengthen me, O Lord God, at this hour." And she struck twice upon his neck, and cut off his head, and took off his canopy from the pillars, and rolled away his headless body.

And after a while, she went out and delivered the head of Holofernes to her maid and bade her put it into her wallet. And they two went out according to their custom, as it were to prayer. And they passed the camp, and having compassed the valley, they came to the gate of the city. And Judith from afar off cried to the watchmen upon the walls, "Open the gates, for God is with us, who hath shown his power in Israel."

Ry. ii. Lord, almighty King, who rules over all things, the universe is in your power and there is no one who can oppose your will; deliver us * for the sake of your name. **V.** Hear our prayer, Lord, and turn our mourning into feasting. - For the sake.

V SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER

II class

If room for this Sunday is unavailable, then it and its week are omitted.

II VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Adonai, Lord, great and wonderful God, who saved us by the

hand of a woman, hear the prayers of your servants.

MATINS

Here begins the book of Esther

Lesson i Chapter 1

In the days of Ahasue'rus, the Ahasue'rus who reigned from India to Ethiopia over one hundred and twenty-seven provinces, in those days when King Ahasue'rus sat on his royal throne in Susa the capital, in the third year of his reign he gave a banquet for all his princes and servants, the army chiefs of Persia and Media and the nobles and governors of the provinces being before him, while he showed the riches of his royal glory and the splendour and pomp of his majesty.

Ry. i. I beg, Lord, that you loose me from the bond of this reproach, or else take me away from the earth. Do not recall my offences nor those of my parents, and do not take vengeance because of my sins; * for you deliver those who wait for you, Lord. **V.** All your judgments are just and all your ways mercy and truth; and now, Lord, think of me. — For you deliver.

Lesson ii

Queen Vashti also gave a banquet for the

women in the palace which belonged to King Ahasue'rus. On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehu'man, Biztha, Harbo'na, Bigtha and Abag'tha, Zethar and Carkas, the seven eunuchs who served King Ahasue'rus as chamberlains, to bring Queen Vashti before the king with her royal crown, in order to show the peoples and the princes her beauty; for she was fair to behold. But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command conveyed by the eunuchs. At this the king was enraged, and his anger burned within him. Then the king said to the wise men who knew the times—for this was the king's procedure toward all who were versed in law and judgment—"According to the law, what is to be done to Queen Vashti, because she has not performed the command of King Ahasue'rus conveyed by the eunuchs?"

Ry. ii. It is time for me to return to him who sent me; but you, bless God * and proclaim all his wonderful works. **V.** Praise him in the sight of all living things, for he has treated you with mercy. — And proclaim.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the gospel of the current Sunday after Peter-cost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. — For endless ages. — Glory. — For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

From the book of Esther

Lesson i Chapter 2

After these things, when the anger of King Ahasue'rus had abated, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what had been decreed against her. Then the king's servants who attended him said, "Let beautiful young virgins be sought out for the king. And let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom to gather all the beautiful young virgins to the harem in Susa the capital."

Ry. i. I beg, Lord, that you loose me from the bond of this reproach, or else take me away from the earth. Do not recall my offences nor those of my parents, and do not take

vengeance because of my sins; * for you deliver those who wait for you, Lord. **V.** All your judgments are just and all your ways mercy and truth; and now, Lord, think of me. — For you deliver.

Lesson ii

Now there was a Jew in Susa the capital whose name was Mor'decai, the son of Ja'ir, the son of Shim'ei, son of Kish, a Benjaminite, who had been carried away from Jerusalem among the captives carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, had carried away. He had brought up Hadas' **sah**, that is Esther, the daughter of his uncle, for she had neither father nor mother; the maiden was beautiful and lovely.

Ry. ii. Bless God on every occasion; ask him that your ways may be made straight, * and that your paths and plans may always prosper. **V.** Strive to do the things that please him, sincerely and with all your strength. — And that.

Lesson iii

When her father and her mother died, Mor'decai adopted her as his own daughter. So when the king's order and his edict

were proclaimed, and when many maidens were gathered in Susa, the capital, in custody of Hegai, Esther also was taken into the king's palace and put in custody of Hegai who had charge of the women. And the maiden pleased him and won his favour.

Ry. iii. It is time for me to return to him who sent me ; but you, bless God * and proclaim all his wonderful works. **V.** Praise him in the sight of all living things, for he has treated you with mercy. – And proclaim. – Glory. – And proclaim.

Tuesday MATINS

From the book of Esther

Lesson i Chapter 2

When the turn came for Esther the daughter of Ab'ihail the uncle of Mor'decai, who had adopted her as his own daughter, to go in to the king, she asked for nothing except what Hegai the king's eunuch, who had charge of the women, advised. Now Esther found favour in the eyes of all who saw her because of her great beauty.

Ry. i. Adonai, Lord, great and wonderful God, who saved us by the hand of a woman ; * hear the

prayers of your servants. **V.** Blessed are you, Lord. You do not abandon those who rely on you ; and you bring low those who glory in their own strength. – Hear.

Lesson ii

And when Esther was taken to King Ahasue'rus into his royal palace in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign, the king loved Esther more than all the women, and she found grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

Ry. ii. Master, Lord of heaven and earth, creator of the waters, king of all your creation * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** The prayer of the meek and humble has always pleased you, Lord. – Hear the prayers.

Lesson iii

And in those days, as Mor'decai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, who guarded the threshold, became angry and sought to lay hands on King Ahasue'rus. And this came to the knowledge of Mor'decai, and he told it to Queen Esther, and

Esther told the king in the name of Mor'decai.

Ry. iii. My hope I have never put in anyone but you, God of Israel. * Your anger gives way to mercy, and in time of affliction you forgive men all their sins.

V. Lord, God of heaven and earth, have pity on the humiliation of our people. – Your anger. – Glory. – And in time.

Wednesday MATINS

From the book of Esther

Lesson i Chapter 3

After these things King Ahasue'rus promoted Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammeda'tha, and advanced him and set his seat above all the princes who were with him. And all the king's servants who were at the king's gate bowed down and did obeisance to Haman ; for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mor'decai did not bow down or do obeisance. Then the king's servants who were at the king's gate said to Mor'decai, "Why do you transgress the king's command ?"

Ry. i. Strengthen me, King and Ruler of the saints ; * inspire in me right and well-spoken

words. **V.** Give us, Lord, time to repent ; do not destroy the mouth of those who praise you. – Inspire in me.

Lesson ii

And when they spoke to him day after day and he would not listen to them, they told Haman, in order to see whether Mor'decai's words would avail ; for he had told them that he was a Jew. And when Haman saw that Mor'decai did not bow down or do obeisance to him, Haman was filled with fury. But he disdained to lay hands on Mor'decai alone.

Ry. ii. Praise the Lord our God, * for he did not forsake those who trusted in him: he accomplished through me the mercy which he promised to the house of Israel. **V.** Praise the Lord all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples. – For he did not.

Lesson iii

So, as they had made known to him the people of Mor'decai, Haman sought to destroy all the Jews, the people of Mor'decai, throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasue'rus. In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasue'rus, they cast Pur, that is the lot, before Haman

day after day; and they cast it month after month till the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar.

Ry. iii. Lord, almighty King, who rules over all things, the universe is in your power and there is no one who can oppose your will; deliver us * for the sake of your name. **V.** Hear our prayer, Lord, and turn our mourning into feasting. - For the sake. - Glory. - For the sake.

Thursday MATINS

From the book of Esther

Lesson i Chapter 5

On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, opposite the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne inside the palace opposite the entrance to the palace; and when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she found favour in his sight and he held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. Then Esther approached and touched the top of the sceptre.

Ry. i. I beg, Lord, that you loose me from the bond of this reproach, or else take me away from the

earth. Do not recall my offences nor those of my parents, and do not take vengeance because of my sins; * for you deliver those who wait for you, Lord. **V.** All your judgments are just and all your ways mercy and truth; and now, Lord, think of me. - For you deliver.

Lesson ii

And the king said to her, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given you, even to the half of my kingdom." And Esther said, "If it please the king, let the king and Haman come this day to a dinner that I have prepared for the king." Then said the king, "Bring Haman quickly, that we may do as Esther desires." So the king and Haman came to the dinner that Esther had prepared.

Ry. ii. Bless God on every occasion; ask him that your ways may be made straight, * and that your paths and plans may always prosper. **V.** Strive to do the things that please him, sincerely and with all your strength. - And that.

Lesson iii

And as they were drinking wine, the king said to Esther, "What is your petition? It shall be granted you. And what is your

request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." But Esther said, "My petition and my request is: If I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition and fulfil my request, let the king and Haman come tomorrow to the dinner which I will prepare for them, and tomorrow I will do as the king has said."

Ry. iii. It is time for me to return to him who sent me; but you, bless God, * and proclaim all his wonderful works. **V.** Praise him in the sight of all living things, for he has treated you with mercy. - And proclaim. - Glory. - And proclaim.

Friday MATINS

From the book of Esther

Lesson i Chapter 6

On that night the king could not sleep; and he gave orders to bring the book of memorable deeds, the chronicles, and they were read before the king. And it was found written how Mor'decai had told about Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, who guarded the threshold,

and who had sought to lay hands upon King Ahasuerus. And the king said, "What honour or dignity has been bestowed on Mor'decai for this?" The king's servants who attended him said, "Nothing has been done for him."

Ry. i. Adonai, Lord, great and wonderful God, who saved us by the hand of a woman; * hear the prayers of your servants. **V.** Blessed are you, Lord. You do not abandon those who rely on you; and you bring low those who glory in their own strength. - Hear.

Lesson ii

And the king said, "Who is in the court?" Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the king's palace to speak to the king about having Mor'decai hanged on the gallows that he had prepared for him. So the king's servants told him, "Haman is there, standing in the court." And the king said, "Let him come in." So Haman came in, and the king said to him, "What shall be done to the man whom the king delights to honour?"

Ry. ii. Master, Lord of heaven and earth, creator of the waters, king of all your creation, * hear the prayers of your servants.

V. The prayer of the meek and humble has always pleased you, Lord. – Hear the prayers.

Lesson iii

And Haman said to himself, “Whom would the king delight to honour more than me?” And Haman said to the king, “For the man whom the king delights to honour, let royal robes be brought, which the king has worn, and the horse which the king has ridden, and on whose head a royal crown is set; and let the robes and the horse be handed over to one of the king’s most noble princes; let him array the man whom the king delights to honour, and let him conduct the man on horseback through the open square of the city, proclaiming before him: ‘Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honour.’”

Ry. iii. My hope I have never put in anyone but you, God of Israel. * Your anger gives way to mercy, and in time of affliction you forgive men all their sins. **V.** Lord, God of heaven and earth, have pity on the humiliation of our people. – Your anger. – Glory. – And in time.

Saturday MATINS

From the book of Esther

Lesson i Chapter 7

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. And on the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have found favour in your sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request.”

Ry. i. Strengthen me, King and Ruler of the saints; * inspire in me right and well-spoken words. **V.** Give us, Lord, time to repent; do not destroy the mouth of those who praise you. – Inspire in me.

Lesson ii

For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; for our affliction is not to be compared with the loss to

the king.” Then King Ahasue’rus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, that would presume to do this?” And Esther said, “A foe and enemy! This wicked Haman!” Then said Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, “Moreover, the gallows which Haman has prepared for Mor’decai, whose word saved the king, is standing in Haman’s house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows which he had prepared for Mor’decai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Ry. ii. Lord, almighty King, who rules over all things, the universe is in your power and there is no one who can oppose your will; deliver us * for the sake of your name. **V.** Hear our prayer, Lord, and turn our mourning into feasting. – For the sake.

I SUNDAY OF OCTOBER

II class

If the first Sunday falls on a day from October 1 to 3, the month has five Sundays, and the current Scripture is read in its entirety

as it is found in the Breviary.

If, however, the first Sunday falls on a day from October 4 to 7, the month has only four Sundays, and that part of current Scripture which is assigned to the fifth week is omitted.

I VESPERS

Little Chapter 2 Cor. 1

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction.

Ry. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days.

V. O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. – Give peace. – Glory. – In our days.

Hymn

O Trinity of blessed light,
O Unity of princely might,
As fiery sun now goes its way,
O spread within our hearts
your ray.

To you our morning
song of praise,
To you our evening prayer
we raise;
O may our suppliant glory
be

To sing your praise eternally.

To God the Father glory true,
The same, eternal Son, to you.
To Counsellor Spirit, glory be
Both now and for eternity.
Amen.

¶. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. *R.* And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace.

MATINS

Here begins the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 1

After Alexander son of Philip, the Macedonian, who came from the land of Kittim, had defeated Darius, king of the Persians and the Medes, he succeeded him as king. (He had previously become king of Greece). He fought many battles, conquered strongholds, and put to death the kings of the earth. He advanced to the ends of the earth, and plundered many nations: and the earth became quiet before him.

R. i. May the Lord open

your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. ¶. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. – May he grant.

¶ This series May the Lord is read until the first Sunday of November.

Lesson ii

He was exalted, and his heart was lifted up. He gathered a very strong army and ruled over countries, nations, and princes, and they became tributary to him. After this he fell sick and perceived that he was dying. So he summoned his most honoured officers, who had been brought up with him from youth, and divided his kingdom among them while he was still alive. And after Alexander had reigned twelve years, he died. Then his officers began to rule, each in his own place. They all put on crowns after his death, and so did their sons after them for many years; and they caused many evils on the earth. From them came forth a sinful root, Antiochus Epiphanes, son of Antiochus the king; he had been a hostage in

Rome. He began to reign in the one hundred and thirty-seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks.

R. ii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. ¶. O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. – Give peace.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

R. iii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord: * and there was very great gladness among the people. ¶. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. – And there was. – Glory. – Among the people,

Monday

MATINS

From the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 1

When Antiochus saw that his kingdom was established, he determined to become king of the land of Egypt, that he might reign over both kingdoms. So he

invaded Egypt with a strong force, with chariots and elephants and cavalry and with a large fleet. He engaged Ptolemy king of Egypt in battle, and Ptolemy turned and fled before him, and many were wounded and fell.

R. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. *R.* May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. – May he grant.

Lesson ii

And they captured the fortified cities in the land of Egypt, and he plundered the land of Egypt. After subduing Egypt, Antiochus returned in the one hundred and forty-third year. He went up against Israel and came to Jerusalem with a strong force and arrogantly entered the sanctuary.

R. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; * and may he not forsake you in time of evil. ¶. May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will. – And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

And he took the golden altar, the lampstand for the light, and all its utensils. He took also the table for the bread of the Presence, the cups for drink offerings, the bowls, the golden censers, the curtain, the crowns, and the gold decoration on the front of the temple; he stripped it all off. He took the silver and the gold, and the costly vessels; he took also the hidden treasures which he found. Taking them all, he departed to his own land.

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. - Give peace. - Glory. - In our days.

Tuesday
MATINS

From the first book of
Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 1

Two years later the king sent to the cities of Judah a chief collector of tribute, and he came to Jerusalem with a large force. Deceitfully he spoke peaceable words to them, and they believed him; but he

suddenly fell upon the city, dealt it a severe blow, and destroyed many people of Israel. He plundered the city, burned it with fire, and tore down its houses and its surrounding walls.

Ry. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power; break their strength, Lord, and scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low; it is you, O Lord, who are our shield. - That they may know.

Lesson ii

And they took captive the women and children, and seized the cattle. And they fortified the city of David with a great strong wall and strong towers, and it became their citadel. And they stationed there a sinful people, lawless men. These strengthened their position; they stored up arms and food, and collecting the spoils of Jerusalem they stored them there, and became a great snare.

Ry. ii. Do not fear the assault of the enemy; remember how our fathers were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did

to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. - And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

It became an ambush against the sanctuary, an evil adversary of Israel continually. On every side of the sanctuary they shed innocent blood; they even defiled the sanctuary. Because of them the residents of Jerusalem fled; she became a dwelling of strangers; she became strange to her offspring, and her children forsook her. Her sanctuary became desolate as a desert.

Ry. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them: * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But Judas and his army advanced to the battle. - And the strength. - Glory. - And the strength.

Wednesday
MATINS

From the first book of
Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 1

And the king sent letters by messengers to Jerusalem and the cities of Judah; he directed them to follow customs strange to the land, to forbid burnt

offerings and sacrifices and drink offerings in the sanctuary, to profane sabbaths and feasts, to defile the sanctuary and the priests.

Ry. i. Judas said to Simon his brother, "Choose your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird yourselves and be valiant: for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. - As his will.

Lesson ii

And he ordered them to build altars and sacred precincts and shrines for idols, to sacrifice swine and unclean animals, and to leave their sons uncircumcised. They were to make themselves abominable by everything unclean and profane, so that they should forget the law and change all the ordinances. "And whoever does not obey the command of the king shall die."

Ry. ii. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord, * the Lord almighty who shows great kindness to Israel and gives them victory. **V.** They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns and dedicated the altar to

the Lord. - The Lord almighty.

Lesson iii

In such words he wrote to his whole kingdom. And he appointed inspectors over all the people and commanded the cities of Judah to offer sacrifice, city by city. Many of the people, everyone who forsook the law, joined them, and they did evil in the land; they drove Israel into hiding in every place of refuge they had.

Ry. iii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord: * and there was very great gladness among the people.

V. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. - And there was. - Glory. - Among the people.

Thursday

MATINS

From the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 2

In those days Mattathi'as the son of John, son of Simeon, a priest of the sons of Jo'arib, moved from Jerusalem and settled in Mo'dein. He had five sons, John surnamed Gaddi, Simon called Thassi, Judas called Maccabe'us, Elea'zar

called Av'aran, and Jonathan called Apphus.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil - May he grant.

Lesson ii

He saw the blasphemies being committed in Judah and Jerusalem, and said, "Alas! Why was I born to see this, the ruin of my people, the ruin of the holy city, and to dwell there when it was given over to the enemy, the sanctuary given over to aliens? Her temple has become like a man without honour."

Ry. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; * and may he not forsake you in time of evil. **V.** May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will. - And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

Her glorious vessels have been carried into captivity. Her babes have been killed in her streets, her youths by the sword of the foe. What

nation has not inherited her palaces and has not seized her spoils? All her adornment has been taken away; no longer free, she has become a slave."

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. - Give peace. - Glory. - In our days.

Friday MATINS

From the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 2

Then the king's officers spoke to Mattathi'as as follows: "You are a leader, honoured and great in this city, and supported by sons and brothers. Now be the first to come and do what the king commands, as all the Gentiles and the men of Judah and those that are left in Jerusalem have done. Then you and your sons will be numbered among the friends of the king, and you and your sons will be honoured with silver and gold and many gifts."

Ry. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power; break their strength, Lord, and

scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low; it is you, O Lord, who are our shield. - That they may know.

Lesson ii

But Mattathi'as answered and said in a loud voice: "Even if all the nations that live under the rule of the king obey him, and have chosen to do his commandments, departing each one from the religion of his fathers, yet I and my sons and my brothers will live by the covenant of our fathers. God be merciful to us. Far be it from us to desert the law and the ordinances."

Ry. ii. Do not fear the assault of the enemy; remember how our fathers were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. - And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

We will not obey the king's words by turning aside from our religion to the right hand or to the left." When he had finished speaking these

words, a Jew came forward in the sight of all to offer sacrifice upon the altar in Mo'dein, according to the king's command. When Mattathi'as saw it, he burned with zeal and his heart was stirred. He gave vent to righteous anger; he ran and killed him upon the altar.

Ry. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them; * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But Judas and his army advanced to the battle. – And the strength. – Glory. – And the strength.

Saturday MATINS

From the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 2

Then many who were seeking righteousness and justice went down to the wilderness to dwell there, they, their sons, their wives, and their cattle, because evils pressed heavily upon them. And it was reported to the king's officers, and to the troops in Jerusalem, the city of David, that men who had rejected the king's command had gone down to the hiding places in the

wilderness. And many pursued them.

Ry. i. Judas said to Simon, his brother, "Choose your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird yourselves and be valiant; for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. – As his will.

Lesson ii

They overtook them; and they encamped opposite them and prepared for battle against them on the sabbath day. And they said to them, "Enough of this! Come out and do what the king commands, and you will live." But they said, "We will not come out, nor will we do what the king commands and so profane the sabbath day." Then the enemy hastened to attack them. But they did not answer them or hurl a stone at them or block up their hiding places, for they said, "Let us all die in our innocence; heaven and earth testify for us that you are killing us unjustly." So they attacked them on the sabbath, and they died, with their wives and children

and cattle, to the number of a thousand persons.

Ry. ii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord: * and there was very great gladness among the people. **V.** With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. – And there was.

II SUNDAY OF OCTOBER

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Give peace, Lord, in our days; for it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us.

MATINS

From the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 2

Then there united with them a company of Hasidae'ans, mighty warriors of Israel, every one who offered himself willingly for the law. And all who became fugitives to escape their troubles joined them and reinforced them. They organised an army, and struck down sinners in their anger and lawless men in their wrath; the sur-

vivors fled to the Gentiles for safety.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. – May he grant.

Lesson ii

And Mattathi'as and his friends went about and tore down the altars; they forcibly circumcised all the uncircumcised boys that they found within the borders of Israel. They hunted down the arrogant men, and the work prospered in their hands. They rescued the law out of the hands of the Gentiles and kings, and they never let the sinner gain the upper hand. Now the days drew near for Mattathi'as to die, and he said to his sons: "Arrogance and reproach have now become strong; it is a time of ruin and furious anger. Now, my children, show zeal for the law, and give your lives for the covenant of our fathers. Remember the deeds of the fathers, which they did in their generations; and receive great honour and an everlasting name."

Ry. ii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. – Give peace.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

From the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapters 2 & 3

Then Mattathi'as blessed them, and was gathered to his fathers. He died in the one hundred and forty-sixth year and was buried in the tomb of his fathers at Mo'dein. And all Israel mourned for him with great lamentation. Then Judas his son, who was called Maccabe'us, took command in his place. All his brothers and all who had joined his father helped him; they gladly fought for Israel.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. – May he grant.

Lesson ii

He extended the glory of his people. Like a giant he put on his breastplate; he girded on his armour of war and waged battles, protecting the host by his sword. He was like a lion in his deeds, like a lion's cub roaring for prey. He searched out and pursued the lawless; he burned those who troubled his people.

Ry. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; * and may he not forsake you in time of evil. **V.** May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will. – And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

Lawless men shrank back for fear of him; all the evildoers were confounded; and deliverance prospered by his hand. He embittered many kings, but he made Jacob glad by his deeds,

and his memory is blessed for ever. He went through the cities of Judah; he destroyed the ungodly out of the land; thus he turned away wrath from Israel.

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. – Give peace. – Glory. – In our days.

Tuesday MATINS

From the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 3

But Apollo'nus gathered together Gentiles and a large force from Samar'ia to fight against Israel. When Judas learned of it, he went out to meet him, and he defeated and killed him. Many were wounded and fell, and the rest fled. Then they seized their spoils; and Judas took the sword of Apollo'nus, and used it in battle the rest of his life.

Ry. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power; break their strength, Lord, and scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God,

who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low; it is you, O Lord, who are our shield. – That they may know.

Lesson ii

Now when Seron, the commander of the Syrian army, heard that Judas had gathered a large company, including a body of faithful men who stayed with him and went out to battle, he said, "I will make a name for myself and win honour in the kingdom. I will make war on Judas and his companions, who scorn the king's command." And again a strong army of ungodly men went up with him to help him, to take vengeance on the sons of Israel.

Ry. ii. Do not fear the assault of the enemy; remember how our fathers were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. – And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

When he approached the ascent of Beth-ho'ron, Judas went out to meet him with a small company. But when they saw the army coming to meet them, they

said to Judas, "How can we, few as we are, fight against so great and strong a multitude? And we are faint, for we have eaten nothing today." Judas replied, "It is easy for many to be hemmed in by few, for in the sight of Heaven there is no difference between saving by many or by few."

Ry. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them: * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But Judas and his army advanced to the battle. - And the strength. - Glory. - And the strength.

Wednesday

MATINS

From the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 3

And the congregation assembled to be ready for battle, and to pray and ask for mercy and compassion. Jerusalem was uninhabited like a wilderness; not one of her children went in or out. The sanctuary was trampled down, and the sons of aliens held the citadel; it was a lodging place for the Gentiles. Joy was taken

from Jacob; the flute and the harp ceased to play.

Ry. i. Judas said to Simon, his brother, "Choose your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird yourselves and be valiant: for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. - As his will.

Lesson ii

So they assembled and went to Mizpah, opposite Jerusalem, because Israel formerly had a place of prayer in Mizpah. They fasted that day, put on sackcloth and sprinkled ashes on their heads, and rent their clothes. And they opened the book of the law to inquire into those matters about which the Gentiles were consulting the images of their idols.

Ry. ii. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord, * the Lord almighty who shows great kindness to Israel and gives them victory. **V.** They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns and dedicated the altar to the Lord. - The Lord almighty.

Lesson iii

They also brought the garments of the priesthood and the first fruits and the tithes, and they stirred up the Naz'irites who had completed their days; and they cried aloud to Heaven saying, "What shall we do with these? Where shall we take them? Your sanctuary is trampled down and profaned, and your priests mourn in humiliation."

Ry. iii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord; * and there was very great gladness among the people. **V.** With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. - And there was. Glory. - Among the people.

Thursday

MATINS

From the first book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 4

Lysias mustered sixty thousand picked infantrymen and five thousand cavalry to subdue them. They came into Judea and encamped at Beth-hor'on, and Judas met them with ten thousand men. When he saw that the army was strong, he prayed, saying,

"Blessed are you, O Saviour of Israel, who crushed the attack of the mighty warrior by the hand of your servant David, and gave the camp of the Philistines into the hands of Jonathan, the son of Saul and of the man who carried his armour."

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil - May he grant.

Lesson ii

So do you hem in this army by the hand of your people Israel, and let them be ashamed of their troops and their cavalry. Fill them with cowardice; melt the boldness of their strength; let them tremble in their destruction. Strike them down with the sword of those who love you, and let all who know your name praise you with hymns." Then both sides attacked, and there fell of the army of Lysias five thousand men.

Ry. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; * and may he not forsake you in time of evil. **V.** May he give you all a heart to worship

him and to do his will. -
And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

And when Lysias saw the rout of his troops and observed the boldness which inspired those of Judas, and how ready they were either to live or to die nobly, he departed to Antioch and enlisted mercenaries, to invade Judea again with an even larger army. Then said Judas and his brothers, "Behold, our enemies are crushed; let us go up to cleanse the sanctuary and dedicate it."

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. - Give peace. - Glory. - In our days.

Friday MATINS

From the first book of
Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 4

Then Judas detailed men to fight against those in the citadel until he had cleansed the sanctuary. He chose blameless priests devoted to the law, and they cleansed the sanctuary and

removed the defiled stones to an unclean place. They deliberated what to do about the altar of burnt offering, which had been profaned.

Ry. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power; break their strength, Lord, and scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low; it is you, O Lord, who are our shield. - That they may know.

Lesson ii

And they thought it best to tear it down, lest it bring reproach upon them, for the Gentiles had defiled it. So they tore down the altar, and stored the stones in a convenient place on the temple hill until there should come a prophet to tell what to do with them. Then they took unhewn stones, as the law directs, and built a new altar like the former one.

Ry. ii. Do not fear the assault of the enemy; remember how our fathers were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. - And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

They also rebuilt the sanctuary and the interior of the temple, and consecrated the courts. They made new holy vessels, and brought the lampstand, the altar of incense, and the table into the temple. Then they burned incense on the altar and lighted the lamps on the lampstand, and these gave light in the temple.

Ry. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them: * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But Judas and his army advanced to the battle. - And the strength. - Glory. - And the strength.

Saturday MATINS

From the first book of
Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 4

They offered sacrifice, as the law directs, on the new altar of burnt offering which they had built. At the very season and on the very day that the Gentiles had profaned it, it was dedicated with songs and harps and lutes and cymbals. All the people fell on their faces and worshipped and blessed Heaven, who had prospered them.

Ry. i. Judas said to Simon his brother, "Choose your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird yourselves and be valiant: for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. - As his will.

Lesson ii

So they celebrated the dedication of the altar for eight days, and offered burnt offerings with gladness; they offered a sacrifice of deliverance and praise. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns and small shields; they restored the gates and the chambers for the priests, and furnished them with doors. There was very great gladness among the people, and the reproach of the Gentiles was removed. Then Judas and his brothers and all the assembly of Israel determined that every year at that season the days of the dedication of the altar should be observed with gladness and joy for eight days, beginning with the twenty-fifth day of the month of Chislev. At that time they fortified Mount Sion with high walls and

strong towers round about, to keep the Gentiles from coming and trampling them down as they had done before.

Ry. ii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord: * and there was very great gladness among the people. **V.** With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. — And there was.

III SUNDAY OF OCTOBER

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom. Lord, and you are exalted as head above all: give peace, Lord, in our days.

MATINS

Here begins the second book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 1

The Jewish brethren in Jerusalem and those in the land of Judea, to their Jewish brethren in Egypt, greeting and good peace. May God do good to you and may he remember his covenant with Abraham

and Isaac and Jacob, his faithful servants. May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will with a strong heart and a willing spirit. May he open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace. May he hear your prayers and be reconciled to you, and may he not forsake you in time of evil. We are now praying for you here.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. — May he grant.

Lesson ii

In the reign of Demetrius, in the one hundred and sixty-ninth year, we Jews wrote to you, in the critical distress which came upon us in those years after Jason and his company revolted from the holy land and the kingdom and burned the gate and shed innocent blood. We besought the Lord and we were heard. In the one hundred and eighty-eighth year, those in Jerusalem and those in Judea and the senate and Judas, to the Jews in

Monday

MATINS

From the second book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 1

And while the sacrifice was being consumed, the priests offered prayer—the priests and everyone. Jonathan led, and the rest responded, as did Nehemi'ah. The prayer was to this effect: “O Lord, Lord God, Creator of all things, who are awe-inspiring and strong and just and merciful, who alone are King and are kind, who alone are bountiful, who alone are just and almighty and eternal, who rescues Israel from every evil, who chose the fathers and consecrated them, accept this sacrifice on behalf of all your people Israel and preserve your portion and make it holy.”

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. — May he grant.

Lesson ii

Gather together our scattered people, set free those who are slaves

Egypt, greeting and good health. Having been saved by God out of grave dangers we thank him greatly for taking our side against the king. Blessed in every way be our God, who has brought judgment upon those who have behaved impiously. Since on the twenty-fifth day of Chislew we shall celebrate the purification of the temple, we thought it necessary to notify you, in order that you also may celebrate the feast of booths and the feast of the fire given when Nehemi'ah, who built the temple and the altar, offered sacrifices.

Ry. ii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. — Give peace.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. — For endless ages. — Glory. — For endless ages.

among the Gentiles, look upon those who are rejected and despised, and let the Gentiles know that you are our God. Afflict those who oppress and are insolent with pride. Plant your people in your holy place, as Moses said." Then the priests sang hymns until the sacrifice was completed.

Ry. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; * and may he not forsake you in time of evil. **V.** May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will. - And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

And when the materials of the sacrifice were consumed Nehemi'ah ordered that the liquid that was left should be poured upon large stones. When this was done, a flame blazed up; but when the light from the altar shone back, it went out. When this matter became known, it was reported to the king of the Persians that, in the place where the exiled priests had hidden the fire, the liquid had appeared with which Nehemi'ah and his associates had burned the materials of the sacrifice.

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord,

and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. - Give peace. - Glory. - In our days.

Tuesday MATINS

From the second book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 2

One finds in the records that Jeremiah the prophet ordered those who were being deported to take some of the fire, as has been told, and that the prophet after giving them the law instructed those who were being deported not to forget the commandments of the Lord, nor to be led astray in their thoughts upon seeing the gold and silver statues and their adornment. And with other similar words he exhorted them that the law should not depart from their hearts.

Ry. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power; break their strength, Lord, and scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low; it is you, O Lord, who are our shield. - That they may know.

Lesson ii

It was also in the writing that the prophet, having received an oracle, ordered that the tent and the ark should follow with him, and that he went out to the mountain where Moses had gone up and had seen the inheritance of God. And Jeremiah came and found a cave, and he brought there the tent and the ark and the altar of incense, and he sealed up the entrance.

Ry. ii. Do not fear the assault of the enemy; remember how our fathers were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. - And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

Some of those who followed him came up to mark the way, but could not find it. When Jeremiah learned of it, he rebuked them and declared: "The place shall be unknown until God gathers his people together again and shows his mercy. And then the Lord will disclose these things, and the glory of the Lord and the cloud will appear, as they were shown in the case of Moses, and as Solomon asked that the

place should be specially consecrated."

Ry. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them: * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But Judas and his army advanced to the battle.- And the strength. - Glory. - And the strength.

Wednesday MATINS

From the second book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 3

While the holy city was inhabited in unbroken peace and the laws were very well observed because of the piety of the high priest Oni'as and his hatred of wickedness, it came about that the kings themselves honoured the place and glorified the temple with the finest presents, so that even Seleu'cus, the king of Asia, defrayed from his own revenues all the expenses connected with the service of the sacrifices.

Ry. i. Judas said to Simon his brother, "Choose your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird

yourselves and be valiant: for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. – As his will.

Lesson ii

But a man named Simon, of the tribe of Benjamin, who had been made captain of the temple, had a disagreement with the high priest about the administration of the city market; and when he could not prevail over Oni'as he went to Apollo'nus of Tarsus, who at that time was governor of Coelesyria and Phoenicia. He reported to him that the treasury in Jerusalem was full of untold sums of money, so that the amount of the funds could not be reckoned, and that they did not belong to the account of the sacrifices, but that it was possible for them to fall under the control of the king.

Ry. ii. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord, * the Lord almighty who shows great kindness to Israel and gives them victory. **V.** They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns and dedicated the altar to the Lord. – The Lord almighty.

Lesson iii

When Apollonius met the king, he told him

of the money about which he had been informed. The king chose Heliodor'us, who was in charge of his affairs, and sent him with commands to effect the removal of the aforesaid money. Heliodor'us at once set out on his journey ostensibly to make a tour of inspection of the cities of Coelesyria and Phoenicia, but in fact to carry out the king's purpose.

Ry. iii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord: * and there was very great gladness among the people.

V. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. – And there was. – Glory. – Among the people.

Thursday MATINS

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 3

Heliodor'us set a day and went in, to direct the inspection of the temple funds. There was no little distress throughout the whole city. The priests prostrated themselves before the altar in their priestly garments and called toward heaven upon him who had given the law about deposits, that he should keep them safe for those who

had deposited them. To see the appearance of the high priest was to be wounded at heart, for his face and the change in his colour disclosed the anguish of his soul.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. – May he grant.

Lesson ii

For terror and bodily trembling had come over the man, which plainly showed to those who looked at him the pain lodged in his heart. People also hurried out of their houses in crowds to make a general supplication because the holy place was about to be brought into contempt. Women, girded with sackcloth under their breasts, thronged the streets.

Ry. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; * and may he not forsake you in time of evil. **V.** May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will. – And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

Some of the maidens who were kept indoors ran together to the gates, and some to the walls, while others peered out of the windows. And holding up their hands to heaven, they all made entreaty. There was something pitiable in the prostration of the whole populace and the anxiety of the high priest in his great anguish.

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. – Give peace. – Glory. – In our days.

Friday MATINS

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 3

Heliodor'us went on with what had been decided. But when he arrived at the treasury with his bodyguard, then and there the Sovereign of spirits and of all authority caused so great a manifestation that all who had been so bold as to accompany him were astounded by the power of God, and became faint with terror.

Ry. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power ; break their strength, Lord, and scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low ; it is you, O Lord, who are our shield. - That they may know.

Lesson ii

For there appeared to them a magnificently caparisoned horse, with a rider of frightening mien, and it rushed furiously at Heliodor'us and struck at him with its front hoofs. Its rider was seen to have armour and weapons of gold. Two young men also appeared to him, remarkably strong, gloriously beautiful and splendidly dressed, who stood on each side of him and scourged him continuously, inflicting many blows on him.

Ry. ii. Do not fear the assault of the enemy ; remember how our fathers were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. - And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

Heliodor'us suddenly fell to the ground and deep darkness came over him ; his men took him up and put him on a stretcher and carried him away, this man who had just entered the aforesaid treasury with a great retinue and all his bodyguard but was now unable to help himself ; and they recognised clearly the sovereign power of God ; while he lay prostrate, speechless, because of the divine intervention, and deprived of any hope of recovery.

Ry. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them : * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But Judas and his army advanced to the battle. - And the strength. - Glory. - And the strength.

Saturday MATINS

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 5

About this time Antiochus made his second invasion of Egypt. And it happened that over all the city, for almost forty days, there appeared golden-clad

horsemen charging through the air, in companies fully armed with lances and drawn swords—troops of horsemen drawn up, attacks and counter-attacks made on this side and on that, brandishing of shields, massing of spears, hurling of missiles, the flash of golden trappings, and armour of all sorts.

Ry. i. Judas said to Simon his brother, "Choose your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee ; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird yourselves and be valiant : for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. - As his will.

Lesson ii

Therefore all men prayed that the apparition might prove to have been a good omen. When a false rumour arose that Antiochus was dead, Jason took no less than a thousand men and suddenly made an assault upon the city. When the troops upon the wall had been forced back and at last the city was being taken, Menela'us took refuge in the citadel. But Jason kept relentlessly slaughtering his fellow citizens, not realising

that success at the cost of one's kindred is the greatest misfortune, but imagining that he was setting up trophies of victory over enemies and not over fellow countrymen. He did not gain control of the government, however ; and in the end got only disgrace from his conspiracy, and fled again into the country of the Ammonites. Finally he met a miserable end. Accused before Ar'etas the ruler of the Arabs, fleeing from city to city, pursued by all men, hated as a rebel against the laws, and abhorred as the executioner of his country and his fellow citizens, he was cast ashore in Egypt.

Ry. ii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord : * and there was very great gladness among the people. **V.** With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. - And there was.

IV SUNDAY OF OCTOBER

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Gird yourselves and be valiant: for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. As his will in heaven may be, so he will do.

MATINS

From the second book
Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 6

Not long after this, the king (Antiochus) sent an Athenian senator to compel the Jews to forsake the laws of their fathers and cease to live by the laws of God, and also to pollute the temple in Jerusalem and call it the temple of Olympian Zeus, and to call the one in Geri'zim the temple of Zeus the Friend of Strangers, as did the people who dwelt in that place. Harsh and utterly grievous was the onslaught of evil. For the temple was filled with debauchery and reveling by the Gentiles, who dallied with harlots and had intercourse with women within the sacred precincts, and besides brought in things for sacrifice that were unfit.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you

salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. – May he grant.

Lesson ii

The altar was covered with abominable offerings which were forbidden by the laws. A man could neither keep the sabbath, nor observe the feasts of his fathers, nor as much as confess himself to be a Jew. On the monthly celebration of the king's birthday, the Jews were taken, under bitter constraint, to partake of the sacrifices; and when the feast of Diony'sus came, they were compelled to walk in the procession in honour of Diony'sus, wearing wreaths of ivy. At the suggestion of Ptol'emy a decree was issued to the neighbouring Greek cities, that they should adopt the same policy toward the Jews and make them partake of the sacrifices, and should slay those who did not choose to change over to Greek customs. One could see, therefore, the misery that had come upon them. For example, two women were brought in for having circumcised their children. These women they publicly paraded about the city, with their babies

hung at their breasts, then hurled them down headlong from the wall.

Ry. ii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. – Give peace.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

Monday

MATINS

From the second book of
Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 6

Elea'zar, one of the scribes in high position, a man now advanced in age and of noble presence, was being forced to open his mouth to eat swine's flesh. But he, welcoming death with honour rather than life with pollution, went up to the rack of his own accord, spitting out the flesh, as

men ought to go who have the courage to refuse things that it is not right to taste, even for the natural love of life.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. – May he grant.

Lesson ii

Those who were in charge of that unlawful sacrifice took the man aside, because of their long acquaintance with him, and privately urged him to bring meat of his own providing, proper for him to use, and pretend that he was eating the flesh of the sacrificial meal which had been commanded by the king, so that by doing this he might be saved from death, and be treated kindly on account of his old friendship with them.

Ry. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; * and may he not forsake you in time of evil. **V.** May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will. – And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

But making a high resolve, worthy of his years and the dignity of his old age and the grey hairs which he had reached with distinction and his excellent life even from childhood, and moreover according to the holy God-given law, he declared himself quickly, telling them to send him to Hades. "Such pretence is not worthy of our time of life," he said, "lest many of the young should suppose that Eleazar in his ninetieth year has gone over to an alien religion, and through my pretence, for the sake of living a brief moment longer, they should be led astray because of me."

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. - Give peace. - Glory. - In our days.

Tuesday
MATINS

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 7

It happened also that seven brothers and their mother were arrested and

were being compelled by the king, under torture with whips and cords, to partake of unlawful swine's flesh. One of them, acting as their spokesman, said, "What do you intend to ask and learn from us? For we are ready to die rather than transgress the laws of our fathers." The king fell into a rage, and gave orders that pans and cauldrons be heated. These were heated immediately, and he commanded that the tongue of their spokesman be cut out and that they scalp him and cut off his hands and feet, while the rest of the brothers and the mother looked on.

Ry. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power; break their strength, Lord, and scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low; it is you, O Lord, who are our shield. - That they may know.

Lesson ii

When he was utterly helpless, the king ordered them to take him to the fire, still breathing, and to fry him in a pan. The smoke from the pan spread widely, but the brothers and their mother encouraged one another to

die nobly, saying, "The Lord God is watching over us and in truth has compassion on us, as Moses declared in his song which bore witness against the people to their faces, when he said, 'And he will have compassion on his servants.'" **Ry. ii.** Do not fear the assault of the enemy; remember how our fathers were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. - And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

After the first brother had died in this way, they brought forward the second for their sport. They tore off the skin of his head with the hair, and asked him, "Will you eat rather than have your body punished limb by limb?" He replied in the language of his fathers, and said to them, "No." Therefore he in turn underwent tortures as the first brother had done.

Ry. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them: * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But Judas and his

army advanced to the battle. - And the strength. - Glory. - And the strength.

Wednesday
MATINS

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 7

After him the third was the victim of their sport. When it was demanded, he quickly put out his tongue and courageously stretched forth his hands, and said nobly, "I got these from heaven, and because of his laws I disdain them, and from him I hope to get them back again." As a result the king himself and those with him were astonished at the young man's spirit, for he regarded his sufferings as nothing.

Ry. i. Judas said to Simon his brother, "Choose your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird yourselves and be valiant: for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. - As his will.

Lesson ii

When he too had died, they maltreated and tortured the fourth in the same way. And when he was near death, he said, "One cannot but choose to die at the hands of men and to cherish the hope that God gives of being raised again by him. But for you there will be no resurrection to life!" Next they brought forward the fifth and maltreated him. But he looked at the king, and said, "Because you have authority among men, mortal though you are, you do what you please. But do not think that God has forsaken our people. Keep on, and see how his mighty power will torture you and your descendants!"

Ry. ii. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord, * the Lord almighty who shows great kindness to Israel and gives them victory. **V.** They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns and dedicated the altar to the Lord. - The Lord almighty.

Lesson iii

After him they brought forward the sixth. And when he was about to die, he said, "Do not deceive yourself in vain. For we are suffering these things

on our own account, because of our sins against our own God. Therefore astounding things have happened. But do not think that you will go unpunished for having tried to fight against God!" The mother was especially admirable and worthy of honourable memory. Though she saw her seven sons perish within a single day, she bore it with good courage because of her hope in the Lord. She encouraged each of them in the language of their fathers. She was filled with a noble spirit and with wisdom.

Ry. iii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord: * and there was very great gladness among the people.

V. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. - And there was. - Glory. - Among the people.

**Thursday
MATINS**

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 7

Antiochus felt that he was being treated with contempt, and he was suspicious of her reproachful

tone. The youngest brother being still alive, Antiochus not only appealed to him in words, but promised with oaths that he would make him rich and enviable if he would turn from the ways of his fathers, and that he would take him for his friend and entrust him with public affairs. Since the young man would not listen to him at all, the king called the mother to him and urged her to advise the youth to save himself.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. - May he grant.

Lesson ii

After much urging on his part, she undertook to persuade her son. But, leaning close to him, she spoke in their native tongue as follows, deriding the cruel tyrant: "My son, have pity on me. I carried you nine months in my womb, and nursed you for three years, and have reared you and brought you up to this point in your life, and have taken care of you. I beseech you, my child, to

look at the heaven and the earth and see everything that is in them, and recognise that God did not make them out of things that existed. Thus also mankind comes into being."

Ry. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; * and may he not forsake you in time of evil. **V.** May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will. - And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

"Do not fear this butcher, but prove worthy of your brothers. Accept death, so that in God's mercy I may get you back again with your brothers." While she was still speaking the young man said, "What are you waiting for? I will not obey the king's command, but I obey the command of the law that was given to our fathers through Moses. But you, who have contrived all sorts of evil against the Hebrews, will certainly not escape the hands of God. For we are suffering because of our own sins."

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and

strong, just and merciful. – Lord, who are our shield.
Give peace. – Glory. – In – That they may know.
our days.

Friday

MATINS

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 8

But Judas, who was also called Maccabe'us, and his companions secretly entered the villages and summoned their kinsmen and enlisted those who had continued in the Jewish faith, and so they gathered about six thousand men. They besought the Lord to look upon the people who were oppressed by all, and to have pity on the temple which had been profaned by ungodly men, and to have mercy on the city which was being destroyed and about to be levelled to the ground, and to hearken to the blood that cried out to him.

R. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power; break their strength, Lord, and scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low; it is you, O

Lord, who are our shield.
– That they may know.

Lesson ii

And soon as Maccabe'us got his army organised the Gentiles could not withstand him, for the wrath of the Lord had turned to mercy. Coming without warning, he would set fire to towns and villages. He captured strategic positions and put to flight not a few of the enemy. He found the nights most advantageous for such attacks. And talk of his valour spread everywhere.

R. ii. Do not fear the assault of the enemy; remember how our fathers were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. – And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

When Philip saw that the man was gaining ground little by little, and that he was pushing ahead with more frequent successes, he wrote to Ptol'emy, the Governor of Coelesyria and Phoenic'ia, for aid to the king's government. And Ptol'emy promptly appointed Nica'nor the son of Patroc'lus, one of the king's chief friends, and

sent him, in command of no fewer than twenty thousand Gentiles of all nations, to wipe out the whole race of Judea.

R. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them: * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But Judas and his army advanced to the battle. – And the strength. – Glory. – And the strength.

Saturday

MATINS

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 8

But Maccabe'us gathered his men together, to the number of six thousand, and exhorted them not to be frightened by the enemy and not to fear the great multitude of Gentiles who were wickedly coming against them, but to fight nobly, keeping before their eyes the lawless outrage which the Gentiles had committed against the holy place, and the torture of the derided city, and besides, the overthrow of their ancestral way of life.

R. i. Judas said to Simon his brother, "Choose

your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird yourselves and be valiant: for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. – As his will.

Lesson ii

Moreover he told them of the times when help came to their ancestors; both the time of Sennacherib, when one hundred and eighty-five thousand perished, and the time of the battle with the Galatians that took place in Babylonia, when eight thousand in all went into the affair, with four thousand Macedonians; and when the Macedonians were hard pressed, the eight thousand, by the help that came to them from heaven, destroyed one hundred and twenty thousand and took much booty. Besides, he appointed Elea'zar to read aloud from the holy book, and gave the watchword, "God's Help"; then, leading the first division himself, he joined battle with Nica'nor. With the Almighty as their ally, they slew more than nine thousand of the enemy and wounded and disabled

most of Nica'nor's army, and forced them all to flee.

Ry. ii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord: * and there was very great gladness among the people. **V.** With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. — And there was.

V SUNDAY OF OCTOBER

On the Sunday falling between October 25 and 31 inclusive, the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King, as given in the Proper of the Saints, is celebrated.

Monday

This week is omitted if there is no room for it in October.

MATINS

From the second book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 9

About that time, Antiochus had retreated in disorder from the region of Persia. For he had entered the city called Persepolis, and attempted to rob the temples and control the city. Therefore the people rushed to the

rescue with arms, and Antiochus and his men were defeated, with the result that Antiochus was put to flight by the inhabitants and beat a shameful retreat. While he was in Ecbat'ana, news came to him of what had happened to Nica'nor and the forces of Timothy.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. — May he grant.

Lesson ii

Transported with rage, he conceived the idea of turning upon the Jews the injury done by those who had put him to flight; so he ordered his charioteer to drive without stopping until he completed the journey. But the judgment of heaven rode with him! For in his arrogance he said, "When I get there I will make Jerusalem a cemetery of Jews." But the all-seeing Lord, the God of Israel, struck him an incurable and unseen blow.

Ry. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you; * and

may he not forsake you in time of evil. **V.** May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will. — And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

As soon as he had ceased speaking he was seized with a pain in his bowels for which there was no relief and with sharp internal tortures—and that very justly, for he had tortured the bowels of others with many and strange afflictions. Yet he did not in any way stop his insolence, but was even more filled with arrogance, breathing fire in his rage against the Jews, and giving orders to hasten the journey. And so it came about that he fell out of his chariot as it was rushing along, and the fall was so hard as to torture every limb of his body.

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. — Give peace. — Glory. — In our days.

Tuesday MATINS

From the second book of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 9

Thus Antiochus who had just been thinking that he could command the waves of the sea, in his superhuman arrogance, and imagining that he could weigh the high mountains in a balance, was brought down to earth and carried in a litter, making the power of God manifest to all. And so the ungodly man's body swarmed with worms, and while he was still living in anguish and pain, his flesh rotted away, and because of his stench the whole army felt revulsion at his decay.

Ry. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power; break their strength, Lord, and scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low; it is you, O Lord, who are our shield. — That they may know.

Lesson ii

Because of his intolerable stench no one was able to carry the man who a little while before had thought that he could touch the stars of heaven. Then it was that, broken in spirit, he began to lose much of his arrogance and to come to his senses under the scourge of God,

for he was tortured with pain every moment. And when he could not endure his own stench, he uttered these words: "It is right to be subject to God, and no mortal should think that he is equal to God."

Ry. ii. Do not fear the assault of the enemy; remember how our fathers were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. - And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

Then the abominable fellow made a vow to the Lord, who would no longer have mercy on him, stating that the holy city, which he was hastening to level to the ground and to make a cemetery, he was now declaring to be free; and the Jews, whom he had not considered worth burying but had planned to throw out with their children to the beasts, for the birds to pick, he would make, all of them, equal to citizens of Athens.

Ry. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them: * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But

Judas and his army advanced to the battle. - And the strength. - Glory. - And the strength.

Wednesday MATINS

For the second book
Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 9

But when his sufferings did not in any way abate, for the judgment of God had justly come upon him, he gave up all hope for himself and wrote to the Jews the following letter, in the form of supplication. This was its content: "To his worthy Jewish citizens, Antiochus their king and general sends hearty greetings and good wishes for their health and prosperity. If you and your children are well and your affairs are as you wish, I am glad."

Ry. i. Judas said to Simon his brother, "Choose your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird yourselves and be valiant: for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. - As his will.

Lesson ii

On my way back from the region of Persia I suffered an annoying illness, and I have deemed it necessary to take thought for the general security of all. I do not despair of my condition, for I have good hope of recovering from my illness."

Ry. ii. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord, * the Lord almighty who shows great kindness to Israel and gives them victory. **V.** They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns and dedicated the altar to the Lord. - The Lord almighty.

Lesson iii

But I observed that my father, on the occasions when he made expeditions into the upper country, appointed his successor, so that, if anything unexpected happened or any unwelcome news came, the people throughout the realm would not be troubled, for they would know to whom the government was left. Moreover, I understand how the princes along the borders and the neighbours to my kingdom keep watching for opportunities and waiting to see what will happen. So I have appointed my son Antiochus to be king."

Ry. iii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord: * and there was very great gladness among the people. **V.** With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. - And there was. - Glory. - Among the people.

Thursday MATINS

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 15

When Nica'nor heard that Judas and his men were in the region of Samar'ia, he made plans to attack them with complete safety on the day of rest. And when the Jews who were compelled to follow him said, "Do not destroy so savagely and barbarously but show respect for the day which he who sees all things has honoured and hallowed above other days," the thrice-accursed wretch asked if there were a sovereign in heaven who had commanded the keeping of the sabbath day.

Ry. i. May the Lord open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace in your days; * may he grant you salvation and deliver you

from evil. **V.** May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you ; and may he not forsake you in time of evil. – May he grant.

Lesson ii

And when they declared, “It is the living Lord himself, the Sovereign in heaven, who ordered us to observe the seventh day,” he replied, “And I am a sovereign also, on earth, and I command you to take up arms and finish the king’s business.” Nevertheless, he did not succeed in carrying out his abominable design. This Nica’nor in his utter boastfulness and arrogance had determined to erect a public monument of victory over Judas and his men.

Ry. ii. May the Lord hear your prayers and be reconciled to you ; * and may he not forsake you in time of evil. **V.** May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will. – And may he not forsake.

Lesson iii

But Maccabe’us did not cease to trust with all confidence that he would get help from the Lord. And he exhorted his men not to fear the attack of the Gentiles, but to keep in mind the former times

when help had come to them from heaven, and now to look for the victory which the Almighty would give them. Encouraging them from the law and the prophets, and reminding them also of the struggles they had won, he made them the more eager.

Ry. iii. Might is yours, yours is the kingdom, Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. * Give peace, Lord, in our days. **V.** O God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong, just and merciful. – Give peace. – Glory. – In our days.

Friday MATINS

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 15

What he saw was this: Oni’as, who had been high priest, a noble and good man, of modest bearing and gentle manner, one who spoke fittingly and had been trained from childhood in all that belongs to excellence, was praying with outstretched hands for the whole body of the Jews. Then likewise a man appeared, distinguished by his grey hair and dignity, and of marvellous majesty

and authority. And Oni’as spoke, saying, “This is a man who loves the brethren and prays much for the people and the holy city, Jeremiah, the prophet of God.”

Ry. i. Our enemies are come together and they boast of their power ; break their strength, Lord, and scatter them, * that they may know that it is none other than you, our God, who fights for us. **V.** Rout them by your power, lay them low ; it is you, O Lord, who are our shield. – That they may know.

Lesson ii

Jeremiah stretched out his right hand and gave to Judas a golden sword, and as he gave it he addressed him thus: “Take this holy sword, a gift from God, with which you will strike down your adversaries.” Encouraged by the words of Judas, so noble and so effective in arousing valour and awaking manliness in the souls of the young, they determined not to carry on a campaign but to attack bravely, and to decide the matter, by fighting hand to hand with all courage, because the city and the sanctuary and the temple were in danger.

Ry. ii. Do not fear the assault of the enemy ; remember how our fathers

were saved. * And now let us cry to heaven, and our God will have pity on us. **V.** Remember the awe-inspiring things he did to Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. – And now let us cry.

Lesson iii

When all were now looking forward to the coming decision, and the enemy was already close at hand with their army drawn up for battle, the elephants strategically stationed and the cavalry deployed on the flanks, Maccabe’us, perceiving the hosts that were before him and the varied supply of arms and the savagery of the elephants, stretched out his hands towards heaven and called upon the Lord who works wonders ; for he knew that it is not by arms, but as the Lord decides, that he gains the victory for those who deserve it.

Ry. iii. The sun shone upon the shields of gold and the hills were ablaze with them: * and the strength of the nations was destroyed. **V.** For the army was very large and strong. But Judas and his army advanced to the battle. – And the strength. – Glory. – And the strength.

**Saturday
MATINS**

From the second book
of Maccabees

Lesson i Chapter 15

Nica'nor and his men advanced with trumpets and battle songs; and Judas and his men met the enemy in battle with invocation to God and prayers. So, fighting with their hands and praying to God in their hearts, they laid low no less than thirty-five thousand men, and were greatly gladdened by God's manifestation. When the action was over and they were returning with joy, they recognised Nica'nor, lying dead, in full armour.

Ry. i. Judas said to Simon his brother, "Choose your men and go and rescue your brethren in Galilee; I and Jonathan my brother will go to Gil'ead. * As his will in heaven may be, so he will do." **V.** Gird yourselves and be valiant: for it is better for us to die in battle than to see the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. - As his will.

Lesson ii

Then there was shouting and tumult, and they blessed the Sovereign Lord in the language of their

fathers. And the man who was ever in body and soul the defender of his fellow citizens, the man who maintained his youthful goodwill toward his countrymen, ordered them to cut off Nica'nor's head and arm and carry them to Jerusalem. And when he arrived there and had called his countrymen together and stationed the priests before the altar, he sent for those who were in the citadel. He showed them the vile Nica'nor's head and that profane man's arm, which had been boastfully stretched out against the holy house of the Almighty; and he cut out the tongue of the ungodly Nica'nor and said that he would give it piecemeal to the birds and hang up these rewards of his folly opposite the sanctuary. And they all, looking to heaven, blessed the Lord who had manifested himself, saying, "Blessed is he who has kept his own place undefiled."

Ry. ii. They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns, and dedicated the altar to the Lord: * and there was very great gladness among the people.

V. With hymns and thanksgivings they blessed the Lord. - And there was.

**I SUNDAY OF
NOVEMBER**

II class

If the first Sunday falls on the 1 or 2 of November, the month has five Sundays, but the last one is the first Sunday of Advent so that there are only four weeks for Current Scripture. Likewise the month has only four Sundays if the first falls on the 3, 4, or 5 of November. In these cases the Current Scripture assigned for the second week is omitted.

If, however, the first Sunday falls on the 6 or 7 of November, the month has four Sundays, but the last is the first of Advent so that there are only three weeks for Current Scripture. In this case the Current Scripture assigned for the first and second week is omitted.

I VESPERS

Little Chapter 2 Cor. 1

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction.

Ry. Observe, Lord, from your holy throne and think of us; O my God, incline your ear, and hear; * open your eyes and see our distress. **V.** Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead

Joseph's flock. - Open your eyes. - Glory. - Open your eyes.

Hymn

O Trinity of blessed light,
O Unity of princely
might,
As fiery sun now goes its
way,
O spread within our hearts
your ray.

To you our morning song
of praise,
To you our evening prayer
we raise;
O may our suppliant glory
be
To sing your praise eternally.

To God the Father glory
true,
The same, eternal Son, to
you,
To Counsellor Spirit glory
be
Both now and for eternity.
Amen.

V. May evening prayer
rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.**
And may your mercy come
down to us.

Magnif. ant. I saw the
Lord sitting upon a high
throne: the whole earth
was full of his glory and his
train filled the temple.

MATINS

Here begins the book of the Prophet Ezekiel

Lesson i Chapter 1

In the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the exiles by the river Chebar, the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. On the fifth day of the month (it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin), the word of the Lord came to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the Lord was upon him there. As I looked, behold, a stormy wind came out of the north, and a great cloud, with brightness round about it, and fire flashing forth continually, and in the midst of the fire, as it were gleaming bronze. – Indeed Lord.

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory * and his train filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. – And his train.

¶ **This series** I saw the Lord is read until the first Sunday of Advent.

Lesson ii

And from the midst of it came the likeness of

four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had the form of men, but each had four faces, and each of them had four wings. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the sole of a calf's foot; and they sparkled like burnished bronze. Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands. And the four had their faces and their wings thus: their wings touched one another; they went everyone straight forward, without turning as they went. As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man in front; the four had the face of a lion on the right side, the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and the four had the face of an eagle at the back. Such were their faces. And their wings were spread out above; each creature had two wings, each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies; and each went straight forward without turning as they went. – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night,

tears on her cheeks. – She has none.

Lesson iii is from the homily of the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed, saying, "You are my handiwork: * Israel, you are my heritage." **V.** They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. – Israel, you are. – Glory. – Israel, you are.

**Monday
MATINS**

From Ezekiel the Prophet

Lesson i Chapter 2

And when I saw it I fell upon my face, and I heard the voice of one speaking. And he said to me, "Son of man, stand upon your feet, and I will speak with you." And when he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me upon my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. And he said to me, "Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels, who have rebelled against me." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory * and his train

filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. – And his train.

Lesson ii

They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. The people also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them; and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that there has been a prophet among them." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, from your holy throne and think of us; O my God, incline your ear and hear, * open your eyes and see our distress. **V.** Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph's flock. – Open your eyes.

Lesson iii

And you, son of man, be not afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns are with you and you sit upon scorpions; be not afraid of their words nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house. And you shall speak my words to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear; for they are a rebellious

house." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. - She has none. - Glory. - She has none.

Tuesday

MATINS

From Ezekiel the Prophet

Lesson i Chapter 3

And he said to me, "Son of man, eat what is offered to you; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel." So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat. And he said to me, "Son of man, eat this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it." Then I ate it; and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. Upon your walls, Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent, * praising the name of the Lord. **V.** They shall proclaim my power to the peoples, and

they shall declare my glory among the nations. - Praising.

Lesson ii

And he said to me, "Son of man, go, get you to the house of Israel, and speak with my words to them. For you are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel—not to many peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. But the house of Israel will not listen to you; for they are not willing to listen to me."— Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Surround us, Lord, with the impregnable wall of your protection, and guard us always with the weapons of your power; * save those who cry to you, Lord, God of Israel. **V.** Deliver us in accordance with your marvellous works and give glory to your name. - Save those.

Lesson iii

Because all the house of Israel are of a hard forehead and of a stubborn heart. Behold, I have made your face hard against their faces, and your forehead hard against their fore-

heads. Like adamant harder than flint have I made your forehead; fear them not, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house." Moreover he said to me, "Son of man, all my words that I shall speak to you receive in your heart, and hear with your ears." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. We longed for peace but it did not come; we looked for good but behold terror; we acknowledge our sins, Lord, * do not forget us for ever.

V. Our sin is the sin of our fathers; we have done wrong, our deeds have been evil. - Do not. - Glory. - Do not.

Wednesday

MATINS

From the Prophet Ezekiel

Lesson i Chapter 3

Then the Spirit lifted me up, and as the glory of the Lord arose from its place, I heard behind me the sound of a great earthquake; it was the sound of the wings of the living creatures as they touched one another, and the sound of the wheels beside them, that sounded like a great earthquake. The Spirit lifted me up and took me

away, and I went in bitterness in the heat of my spirit, the hand of the Lord being strong upon me:—" Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. I am hemmed in on every side and do not know what choice to make. * It is better for me to fall into the hands of men than to forsake the law of my God. **V.** For if I do this thing, it is death for me; and if I do not I shall not escape your hands. - It is better.

Lesson ii

And I came to the exiles at Tela'bib, who dwelt by the river Chebar. And I sat there overwhelmed among them seven days. And at the end of seven days, the word of the Lord came to me: 'Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.' " Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. The Lord sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not touched me, * because I was found blameless before him. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from

among lions. – Because I was found.

Lesson iii

If I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, in order to save his life, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, or from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you will have saved your life.” Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed, saying, “You are my handiwork, * Israel, you are my heritage.” **V.** They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. – Israel, you are. – Glory. – Israel, you are.

Thursday MATINS

From the Prophet Ezekiel

Lesson i Chapter 4

And you, O son of man, take a brick and lay it before you, and portray upon it a city, even Jerusalem; and put siegeworks

against it, and build a siege wall against it, and cast up a mound against it; set camps also against it, and plant battering rams against it round about. And take an iron plate, and place it as an iron wall between you and the city; and set your face toward it, and let it be in a state of siege, and press the siege against it. This is a sign for the house of Israel.” Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory * and his train filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. – And his train.

Lesson ii

Then lie upon your left side, and I will lay the punishment of the house of Israel upon you; for the number of the days that you lie upon it, you shall bear their punishment. For I assign to you a number of days, three hundred and ninety days, equal to the number of the years of their punishment; so long shall you bear the punishment of the house of Israel.” Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, from your holy throne and

think of us; O my God, incline your ear and hear, * open your eyes and see our distress. **V.** Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph’s flock. – Open your eyes.

Lesson iii

And when you have completed these, you shall lie down a second time, but on your right side, and bear the punishment of the house of Judah; forty days I assign you, a day for each year. And you shall set your face toward the siege of Jerusalem, with your arm bared; and you shall prophesy against the city. And, behold, I will put cords upon you, so that you cannot turn from one side to the other, till you have completed the days of your siege.” Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. iii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. – She has none. – Glory. – She has none.

Friday MATINS

From the Prophet Ezekiel

Lesson i Chapter 5

And you, O son of man, take a sharp sword; use it as a barber’s razor and pass it over your head and your beard; then take balances for weighing, and divide the hair. A third part you shall burn in the fire in the midst of the city, when the days of the siege are completed; and a third part you shall take and strike with the sword round about the city; and a third part you shall scatter to the wind, and I will unsheathe the sword after them.” Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. i. Upon your walls, Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent, * praising the name of the Lord. **V.** They shall proclaim my power to the peoples, and they shall declare my glory among the nations. – Praising.

Lesson ii

And you shall take from these a small number, and bind them in the skirts of your robe. And of these again you shall take some, and cast them into the fire, and burn them in the fire;

from there a fire will come forth into all the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord God: This is Jerusalem; I have set her in the centre of the nations, with countries round about her. And she has wickedly rebelled against my ordinances more than the nations, and against my statutes more than the countries round about her." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Surround us, Lord, with the impregnable wall of your protection, and guard us always with the weapons of your power; * save those who cry to you, Lord God of Israel. **V.** Deliver us in accordance with your marvellous works, and give glory to your name. – Save those.

Lesson iii

For she had rejected my ordinances and did not walk in my statutes. Therefore thus says the Lord God: Because you are more turbulent than the nations that are round about you, and have not walked in my statutes or kept my ordinances, but have acted according to the ordinances of the nations that are round about you; therefore thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, even I, am against you;

and I will execute judgments in the midst of you in the sight of the nations." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. We longed for peace but it did not come; we looked for good, but behold terror; we acknowledge our sins, Lord, * do not forget us for ever.

V. Our sin is the sin of our fathers; we have done wrong, our deeds have been evil. – Do not. – Glory. – Do not.

Saturday MATINS

From the Prophet Ezekiel

Lesson i Chapter 6

The word of the Lord came to me: "Son of man, set your face toward the mountains of Israel, and prophesy against them, and say, You mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord God! Thus says the Lord God to the mountains and the hills, to the ravines and the valleys: Behold, I, even I, will bring a sword upon you, and I will destroy your high places. Your altars shall become desolate, and your incense altars shall be broken; and I will cast down your slain before your idols." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. I am hemmed in on every side and do not know what choice to make. * It is better for me to fall into the hands of men than to forsake the law of my God. **V.** For if I do this thing, it is death for me; and if I do not I shall not escape your hands. – It is better.

Lesson ii

And I will lay the dead bodies of the people of Israel before their idols; and I will scatter your bones round about your altars. Wherever you dwell your cities shall be waste and your high places ruined so that your altars will be waste and ruined, your idols broken and destroyed, your incense altars cut down, and your works wiped out. And the slain shall fall in the midst of you, and you shall know that I am the Lord. Yet I will leave some of you alive. When you have among the nations some who escape the sword, and when you are scattered through the countries, then those of you who escape will remember me among the nations where they are carried captive, when I have broken their wanton heart which has departed from me, and blinded their eyes which turn wantonly

after their idols." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed saying, "You are my handiwork: * Israel, you are my heritage." **V.** They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. – Israel, you are.

II SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER

This Sunday and week are always omitted as there is no room for them, in accordance with the rubrics given above, on p. 477.

III SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Lord, King of kings, you hold together the thrones of the heavens and look upon the deeps; you weigh the mountains and enclose the earth in the palm of your hand; hear us, Lord, as we groan.

MATINS

Here begins the book of the Prophet Daniel

Lesson i Chapter 1

In the third year of the reign of Jehoi'akim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoi'akim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his god. Then the king commanded Ash'penaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility, youths without blemish, handsome and skilful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to serve in the king's palace, and to teach them the letters and language of the Chalde'ans. - Indeed, Lord.

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory; * and his train filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. - And his train.

Lesson ii

The king assigned them a daily portion of the rich

food which the king ate and of the wine which he drank. They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king. Among these were Daniel, Hanani'ah, Mish'ael, and Azari'ah of the tribe of Judah. And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hanani'ah he called Shadrach, Mish'ael he called Meshach, and Azari'ah he called Abednego. But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's rich food, or with the wine which he drank; therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself. And God gave Daniel favour and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs; and the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, "I fear lest my lord the king, who appointed your food and your drink, should see that you were in poorer condition than the youths who are of your own age. So you would endanger my head with the king." - Indeed, Lord.

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.**

She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. - She has none.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. - For endless ages. - Glory. - For endless ages.

Monday
MATINS

From the Prophet Daniel
Lesson i Chapter 7

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, and told the sum of the matter. Daniel said, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. And four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another." - Indeed, Lord.

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory * and his train filled the temple. **V.**

Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. - And his train.

Lesson ii

The first was like a lion and had eagle's wings. Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand upon two feet like a man; and the mind of a man was given to it. And behold, another beast, a second one, like a bear. It was raised up on one side; it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, 'Arise, devour much flesh.' - Indeed, Lord.

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, from your holy throne and think of us; O my God, incline your ear and hear, * open your eyes and see our distress. **V.** Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph's flock. - Open your eyes.

Lesson iii

After this I looked, and lo, another, like a leopard, with four wings of a bird on its back; and the beast had four heads; and dominion was given to it. After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, terrible and dreadful and exceedingly strong; and it had great iron teeth; it devoured and

broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet." – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. iii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. – She has none. – Glory. – She has none.

Tuesday

MATINS

From the Prophet Daniel

Lesson i Chapter 7

I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed." – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. i. Upon your walls, Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent, * praising the name of the Lord. **V.**

They shall proclaim my power to the peoples, and they shall declare my glory among the nations. – Praising.

Lesson ii

As for me, Daniel, my spirit within me was anxious and the visions of my head alarmed me. I approached one of those who stood there and asked him the truth concerning all this. So he told me, and made known to me the interpretation of the things. 'These four great beasts are four kings who shall arise out of the earth.' "

– Indeed, Lord.

Ry. ii. Surround us, Lord, with the impregnable wall of your protection, and guard us always with the weapons of your power; * save those who cry to you, Lord, God of Israel. **V.** Deliver us in accordance with your marvellous works, and give glory to your name. – Save those.

Lesson iii

But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, for ever and ever.' Then I desired to know the truth concerning the fourth beast, which was different from all the rest, exceed-

ingly terrible, with its teeth of iron and claws of bronze; and which devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet; and concerning the ten horns that were on its head." – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. iii. We longed for peace but it did not come; we looked for good, but behold terror; we acknowledge our sins, Lord, * do not forget us for ever. **V.** Our sin is the sin of our fathers; we have done wrong, our deeds have been evil. – Do not. – Glory. – Do not.

Wednesday

MATINS

From the Prophet Daniel

Lesson i Chapter 8

In the third year of the reign of King Belshaz'zar a vision appeared to me, Daniel, after that which appeared to me at the first. And I saw in the vision; and when I saw, I was in Susa the capital, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in the vision, and I was at the river U'lai. I raised my eyes and saw, and behold, a ram standing on the bank of the river. It had two horns; and both horns were high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last. – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. i. I am hemmed in on every side and do not know what choice to make. * It is better for me to fall into the hands of men than to forsake the law of my God.

V. For if I do this thing, it is death for me; and if I do not I shall not escape your hands. – It is better.

Lesson ii

I saw the ram charging westward and northward and southward; no beast could stand before him, and there was no one who could rescue from his power; he did as he pleased and magnified himself. As I was considering, behold, a he-goat came from the west across the face of the whole earth, without touching the ground. – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. ii. The Lord sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not touched me, * because I was found blameless before him. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – Because I was found.

Lesson iii

And the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes. He came to the ram with the two horns, which I had seen standing on the bank of the river, and he ran at him in his

mighty wrath. I saw him come close to the ram, and he was enraged against him and struck the ram and broke his two horns; and the ram had no power to stand before him. – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. iii. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed, saying, “You are my handiwork: * Israel, you are my heritage.” **V.** They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. – Israel, you are. – Glory. – Israel, you are.

Thursday MATINS

From the Prophet Daniel

Lesson i Chapter 9

While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy hill of my God; while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the first, came to me in swift flight at the time of the evening sacrifice. He came and he said to me, “O Daniel, I have now come out to give you wisdom and understanding.” – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. i. I saw the Lord

sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory * and his train filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. – And his train.

Lesson ii

“**A**t the beginning of your supplications a word went forth, and I have come to tell it to you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the word and understand the vision. Seventy weeks of years are decreed concerning your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.” – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, from your holy throne and think of us; O my God, incline your ear and hear, * open your eyes and see our distress. **V.** Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph’s flock. – Open our eyes.

Lesson iii

“**I** know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there

shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off, and shall have nothing.” – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. iii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. – She has none. – Glory. – She has none.

Friday MATINS

From the Prophet Daniel

Lesson i Chapter 10

In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a word was revealed to Daniel, who was named Belteshaz’zar. And the word was true, and it was a great conflict. And he understood the word and had understanding of the vision. In those days, I, Daniel, was mourning for three weeks. I ate no delicacies, no meat or wine entered my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, for the full three weeks. – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. i. Upon your walls, Jerusalem, I have set

watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent, * praising the name of the Lord. **V.** They shall proclaim my power to the peoples, and they shall declare my glory among the nations. – Praising.

Lesson ii

On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river, that is, the Tigris, I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with gold of Uphaz. His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like a gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the noise of a multitude. – Indeed, Lord.

Ry. ii. Surround us, Lord, with the impregnable wall of your protection, and guard us always with the weapons of your power; * save those who cry to you, Lord, God of Israel. **V.** Deliver us in accordance with your marvellous works, and give glory to your name. – Save those.

Lesson iii

And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men

who were with me did not see the vision, but a great trembling fell upon them, and they fled to hide themselves. So I was left alone and saw this great vision, and no strength was left in me; my radiant appearance was fearfully changed, and I retained no strength. - Indeed, Lord.

Ry. iii. We longed for peace but it did not come; we looked for good, but behold terror; we acknowledge our sins, Lord, * do not forget us for ever. **V.** Our sin is the sin of our fathers; we have done wrong, our deeds have been evil. - Do not. - Glory. - Do not.

Saturday

MATINS

From the Prophet Daniel

Lesson i Chapter 12

At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time; but at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and

some to shame and everlasting contempt." - Indeed, Lord.

Ry. i. I am hemmed in on every side and do not know what choice to make. * It is better for me to fall into the hands of men than to forsake the law of my God. **V.** For if I do this thing, it is death for me; and if I do not I shall not escape your hands. - It is better.

Lesson ii

And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, until the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase." Then I, Daniel, looked, and behold, two others stood, one on this bank of the stream and one on that bank of the stream. And I said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream, "How long shall it be till the end of these wonders?" The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream, raised his right hand and his left hand toward heaven; and I heard him swear by him who lives for ever that it

would be for a time, two times, and half a time; and that when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to an end all these things would be accomplished. - Indeed, Lord.

Ry. ii. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed saying, "You are my handiwork: * Israel, you are my heritage." **V.** They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. - Israel, you are.

IV SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER

II class

I VESPERS

V. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. **Ry.** And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. We longed for peace, Lord, but it did not come: we sought blessings but, behold, terror; we acknowledge our sins, Lord, do not forget us for ever, God of Israel.

MATINS

Here begins the book of the Prophet Hose'a

Lesson i Chapter 1

The word of the Lord that came to Hose'a the son of Bee'ri, in the days of Uzzi'ah, Jotham, Ahaz, and

Hezeki'ah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jerobo'am the son of Jo'ash, king of Israel. When the Lord first spoke through Hose'a, the Lord said to Hose'a, "Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry and have children of harlotry, for the land commits great harlotry by forsaking the Lord." So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Dibla'im, and she conceived and bore him a son. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory; * and his train filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim, each had six wings. - And his train.

Lesson ii

And the Lord said to him, "Call his name Jezre'el; for yet a little while, and I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezre'el, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. And on that day, I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezre'el." She conceived again and bore a daughter. And the Lord said to him, "Call her name Not pitied, for I will no more have pity on the house of Israel, to forgive them at all. But I

will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will deliver them by the Lord their God; I will not deliver them by bow, nor by sword, nor by war, nor by horses, nor by horsemen." When she had weaned Not pitied, she conceived and bore a son. And the Lord said, "Call his name Not my people, for you are not my people and I am not your God." Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. - She has none.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. - For endless ages. -

Glory. - For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

From the Prophet Hose'a

Lesson i Chapter 2

Say to your brother, 'My people,' and to your sister, 'She has obtained pity.' Plead with your mother, plead—for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband—that she put away her harlotry from her face, and her adultery from between her breasts; lest I strip her naked and make her as in the day she was born, and make her like a wilderness, and set her like a parched land, and slay her with thirst." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory * and his train filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. - And his train.

Lesson ii

Upon her children also I will have no pity, because they are children of harlotry. For their mother has played the harlot; she that conceived

them has acted shamefully. For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.' Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns; and I will build a wall against her, so that she cannot find her paths." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, from your holy throne and think of us; O my God, incline your ear and hear, * open your eyes and see our distress. **V.** Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph's flock. - Open your eyes.

Lesson iii

She shall pursue her lovers, but not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find them. Then she shall say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, for it was better with me than now.' And she did not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the wine, and the oil, and who lavished upon her silver and gold which they used for Ba'al." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate;

she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. - She has none. - Glory. - She has none.

Tuesday MATINS

From the Prophet Hose'a

Lesson i Chapter 4

Hear the word of the Lord, O people of Israel; for the Lord has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land. There is no faithfulness or kindness, and no knowledge of God in the land; there is swearing, lying, killing, stealing, and committing adultery; they break all bounds and murder follows murder. Therefore the land mourns, and all who dwell in it languish, and also the beasts of the field, and the birds of the air; and even the fish of the sea are taken away. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. Upon your walls, Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent, * praising the name of the Lord. **V.** They shall proclaim my power to the peoples, and

they shall declare my glory among the nations. – Praising.

Lesson ii

“**Y**et let no one contend, and let none accuse, for with you is my contention, O priest. You shall stumble by day, the prophet also shall stumble with you by night; and I will destroy your mother. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge, I reject you from being a priest to me. And since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children. Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. ii. Surround us, Lord, with the impregnable wall of your protection, and guard us always with the weapons of your power; * save those who cry to you, Lord, God of Israel. **V.** Deliver us in accordance with your marvellous works, and give glory to your name. – Save those.

Lesson iii

The more they increased, the more they sinned against me; I will change their glory into shame. They feed on the sin of my people; they are greedy for their iniquity. And it

shall be like people, like priest; I will punish them for their ways, and requite them for their deeds. They shall eat, but not be satisfied. Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. iii. We longed for peace but it did not come; we looked for good, but behold terror; we acknowledge our sins, Lord, * do not forget us for ever.

V. Our sin is the sin of our fathers; we have done wrong, our deeds have been evil – Do not. – Glory. – Do not.

Wednesday

MATINS

Here begins the book of the Prophet Joel

Lesson i Chapter 1

The word of the Lord that came to Joel, the son of Pethu'el: Hear this, you aged men, give ear, all inhabitants of the land! Has such a thing happened in your days, or in the days of your fathers? Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation. What the cutting locust left, the swarming locust has eaten. What the swarming locust left, the hopping locust has

eaten, and what the hopping locust left, the destroying locust has eaten. Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. i. I am hemmed in on every side and do not know what choice to make. * It is better for me to fall into the hands of men than to forsake the law of my God. **V.** For if I do this thing, it is death for me; and if I do not I shall not escape your hands. – It is better.

Lesson ii

Awake, you drunkards, and weep; and wail, all you drinkers of wine, because of the sweet wine, for it is cut off from your mouth. For a nation has come up against my land, powerful and without number; its teeth are lions' teeth, and it has the fangs of a lioness. It has laid waste my vines, and splintered my fig trees; it has stripped off their bark and thrown it down; their branches are made white. Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. ii. The Lord sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not touched me, * because I was found blameless before him. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from

among lions. – Because I was found.

Lesson iii

Lament like a virgin girded with sack-cloth for the bridegroom of her youth. The cereal offering and the drink offering are cut off from the house of the Lord. The priests mourn, the ministers of the Lord. The fields are laid waste, the ground mourns; because the grain is destroyed, the wine fails, the oil languishes. Be confounded, O tillers of the soil, wail, O vinedressers, for the wheat and the barley; because the harvest of the field has perished. Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. iii. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed, saying, “You are my handiwork: * Israel, you are my heritage.” **V.** They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. – Israel, you are. – Glory. – Israel, you are.

Thursday

MATINS

Here begins the book of the Prophet Amos

Lesson i Chapter 1

The words of Amos, who was among the shep-

herds of Teko'a, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzzi'ah king of Judah and in the days of Jerobo'am the son of Jo'ash, king of Israel, two years before the earthquake. And he said: "The Lord roars from Sion, and utters his voice from Jerusalem; the pastures of the shepherds mourn, and the top of Carmel withers." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory * and his train filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. - And his train.

Lesson ii

Thus says the Lord: "For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment; because they have threshed Gil'ead with threshing sledges of iron. So I will send a fire upon the house of Haz'ael, and it shall devour the strongholds of Benha'dad. I will break the bar of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitants from the Valley of Aven, and him that holds the sceptre from Beth'e'den; and the people of Syria shall go into exile to Kir,"

says the Lord. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, from your holy throne and think of us; O my God, incline your ear and hear, * open your eyes and see our distress. **V.** Shepherd of Israel hear us, you who lead Joseph's flock. - Open your eyes.

Lesson iii

Thus says the Lord: "For three transgressions of Gaza, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment; because they carried into exile a whole people to deliver them up to Edom. So I will send a fire upon the wall of Gaza, and it shall devour her strongholds. I will cut off the inhabitants from Ashdod, and him that holds the sceptre from Ash'kelon. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. - She has none. - Glory. - She has none.

Friday MATINS

Here begins the book of the Prophet Obadiah

Lesson i Chapter 1

The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Lord God concerning Edom: We have heard tidings from the Lord, and a messenger has been sent among the nations: "Rise up! let us rise against her for battle!" Behold, I will make you small among the nations, you shall be utterly despised. The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rock, whose dwelling is high:—Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. Upon your walls, Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent, * praising the name of the Lord. **V.** They shall proclaim my power to the peoples, and they shall declare my glory among the nations. - Praising.

Lesson ii

You who say in your heart, "Who will bring me down to the ground?" Though you soar aloft like the eagle, though your nest is set among the stars, thence I will bring you

down, says the Lord. If thieves came to you, if plunderers by night—how you have been destroyed!—would they not steal only enough for themselves? If grape gatherers came to you, would they not leave gleanings? Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Surround us, Lord, with the impregnable wall of your protection, and guard us always with the weapons of your power; * save those who cry to you, Lord, God of Israel. **V.** Deliver us in accordance with your marvellous works, and give glory to your name. - Save those.

Lesson iii

How Esau has been pillaged, his treasures sought out! All your allies have deceived you, they have driven you to the border; your confederates have prevailed against you; your trusted friends have set a trap under you—there is no understanding of it. Will I not on that day, says the Lord, destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of Mount Esau? Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. We longed for peace but it did not come; we looked for good, but

behold terror ; we acknowledge our sins, Lord, * do not forget us for ever.

∇ Our sin is the sin of our fathers ; we have done wrong, our deeds have been evil. – Do not. – Glory. – Do not.

Saturday

MATINS

From the Prophet Jonah

Lesson i Chapter 2

And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah ; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, saying, “ I called to the Lord, out of my distress, and he answered me ; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood was round about me ; all your waves and your billows passed over me.” Thus says the Lord God: “ Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. i. I am hemmed in on every side and do not know what choice to make. * It is better for me to fall into the hands of men than to forsake the law of my God.

∇. For if I do this thing, it is death for me ; and if I

do not I shall not escape your hands. – It is better.

Lesson ii Chapter 3

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, “ Arise, go to Nin’evéh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah arose and went to Nin’evéh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nin’evéh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he cried, “ Yet forty days, and Nin’evéh shall be overthrown !” And the people of Nin’evéh believed God ; they proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. Then tidings reached the king of Nin’evéh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, and covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Thus says the Lord God: “ Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. ii. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed saying, “ You are my handiwork : * Israel, you are my heritage.” ∇. They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. – Israel, you are.

V SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER

II class

I VESPERS

∇. May evening prayer rise up to you, Lord. Ry. And may your mercy come down to us.

Magnif. ant. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate ; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness ; she has none to comfort her but you, our God.

MATINS

Here begins the book of the Prophet Micah

Lesson i Chapter 1

The word of the Lord that came to Micah of Mo’resheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samar’ia and Jerusalem. Hear, you peoples, all of you ; hearken O earth, and all that is in it ; and let the Lord God be a witness against you, the Lord from his holy temple. For behold, the Lord is coming forth out of his place, and will come down and tread upon the high places of the earth. Thus says the Lord God: “ Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the

whole earth was full of his glory ; * and his train filled the temple. ∇. Above him stood the seraphim ; each had six wings. – And his train.

Lesson ii

And the mountains will melt under him and the valleys will be cleft, like wax before the fire, like waters poured down a steep place. All this is for the transgression of Jacob and for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob ? Is it not Samar’ia ? And what is the sin of the house of Judah ? Is it not Jerusalem ? Therefore I will make Samar’ia a heap in the open country, a place for planting vineyards ; and I will pour down her stones into the valley, and uncover her foundations. All her images shall be beaten to pieces, all her hires shall be burned with fire, and all her idols I will lay waste ; for from the hire of a harlot she gathered them, and to the hire of a harlot they shall return. For this I will lament and wail ; I will go stripped and naked ; I will make lamentation like the jackals, and mourning like the ostriches. Thus says the Lord God: “ Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of

riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. - She has none.

Lesson iii is from the homily on the Gospel of the current Sunday after Pentecost.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. - For endless ages. - Glory. - For endless ages.

Monday MATINS

Here begins the book of Nahum the Prophet

Lesson i Chapter 1

An oracle concerning Nin'evéh. The book of the vision of Nahum of Elkosh. The Lord is a jealous God and avenging, the Lord is avenging and wrathful; the Lord takes vengeance on his adversaries and keeps wrath for his enemies. The Lord is slow to anger and of great might, and the Lord will by no means clear the guilty. His way is in a

whirlwind and storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory * and his train filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. - And his train.

Lesson ii

He rebukes the sea and makes it dry, he dries up all the rivers; Bashan and Carmel wither, the bloom of Lebanon fades. The mountains quake before him, the hills melt; the earth is laid waste before him, the world and all that dwell therein. Who can stand before his indignation? Who can endure the heat of his anger? Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, from your holy throne and think of us; O my God, incline your ear and hear, * open your eyes and see our distress. **V.** Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph's flock. - Open your eyes.

Lesson iii

His wrath is poured out like fire, and the rocks are broken asunder by him.

The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him. But with an overflowing flood he will make a full end of his adversaries, and will pursue his enemies into darkness. What do you plot against the Lord? He will make a full end; he will not take vengeance twice on his foes. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. - She has none. - Glory. - She has none.

Tuesday MATINS

Here begins the book of Hab'akkuk the Prophet

Lesson i Chapter 1

The oracle of God which Hab'akkuk the prophet saw. O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongs and look upon trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and

contention arise. So the law is slacked and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous, so justice goes forth perverted. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. Upon your walls, Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent, * praising the name of the Lord. **V.** They shall proclaim my power to the peoples, and they shall declare my glory among the nations. - Praising.

Lesson ii

Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. For lo, I am rousing the Chalde'ans, that bitter and hasty nation, who march through the breadth of the earth, to seize habitations not their own. Dread and terrible are they; their justice and dignity proceed from themselves. Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Surround us, Lord, with the impregnable wall of your protection, and guard us always with the weapons of your power; * save those who cry to you, Lord, God of Israel. **V.**

Deliver us in accordance with your marvellous works and give glory to your name. – Save those.

Lesson iii

Their horses are swifter than leopards, more fierce than the evening wolves; their horsemen press proudly on. Yes, their horsemen come from afar; they fly like an eagle swift to devour. They all come for violence; terror of them goes before them. They gather captives like sand. At kings they scoff, and of rulers they make sport. Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. iii. We longed for peace but it did not come; we looked for good, but behold terror; we acknowledge our sins, Lord, * do not forget us for ever.

V. Our sin is the sin of our fathers; we have done wrong, our deeds have been evil. – Do not. – Glory. – Do not.

Wednesday

MATINS

Here begins the book of the Prophet Zephani'ah

Lesson i Chapter 1

The word of the Lord which came to Zephani'ah the son of Cushi, son of Gedali'ah, son of Amar-

i'ah, son of Hezeki'ah, in the days of Josi'ah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

“I will utterly sweep away everything from the face of the earth,” says the Lord. “I will sweep away man and beast; I will sweep away the birds of the air and the fish of the sea. I will overthrow the wicked. I will cut off mankind from the face of the earth,” says the Lord. Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. i. I am hemmed in on every side and do not know what choice to make. * It is better for me to fall into the hands of men than to forsake the law of my God. **V.** For if I do this thing, it is death for me; and if I do not I shall not escape your hands. – It is better.

Lesson ii

I will stretch out my hand against Judah, and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off from this place the remnant of Ba'al and the name of the idolatrous priests; those who bow down on the roofs to the host of the heavens; those who bow down and swear to the Lord and yet swear by Milcom; those who have turned back from following the Lord, who do not seek the Lord or

inquire of him.” Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. ii. The Lord sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not touched me, * because I was found blameless before him. **V.** May God send his truth and his love. He delivered my soul from among lions. – Because I was found.

Lesson iii

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—“I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.” Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. iii. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed, saying, “You are my handiwork: * Israel, you are my heritage.” **V.** They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. – Israel, you are. – Glory. – Israel, you are.

Thursday

MATINS

Here begins the book of Haggai the Prophet

Lesson i Chapter 1

In the second year of Dari'us the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet to Zerub'abel the son of Sheal'tiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jeho'zadak, the high priest, “Thus says the Lord of hosts: This people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the Lord.” Thus says the Lord God: “Turn to me and be saved.”

Ry. i. I saw the Lord sitting upon a high throne, the whole earth was full of his glory * and his train filled the temple. **V.** Above him stood the seraphim; each had six wings. – And his train.

Lesson ii

Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, “Is it a time for yourselves to dwell in your panelled houses, while this house lies in ruins? Now therefore thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider how you have fared. You have sown much, and harvested little; you eat,

but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill; you clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; and he who earns wages earns wages to put them into a bag with holes." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Observe, Lord, from your holy throne and think of us; O my God, incline your ear and hear, * open your eyes and see our distress. **V.** Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph's flock. - Open your eyes.

Lesson iii

Thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider how you have fared. Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may appear in my glory, says the Lord. You have looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. Observe, Lord, how a city that was full of riches has become desolate; she that was great among the nations sits in sadness: * she has none to comfort her but you, God. **V.** She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks. - She

has none. - Glory. - She has none.

Friday MATINS

Here begins the book of Zechari'ah the Prophet

Lesson i Chapter 1

In the eighth month, in the second year of Dari'us, the word of the Lord came to Zechari'ah the son of Berechi'ah, son of Iddo, the prophet, saying, "The Lord was very angry with your fathers. Therefore say to them, Thus says the Lord of hosts: Return to me, says the Lord of hosts, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. Upon your walls, Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent, * praising the name of the Lord. **V.** They shall proclaim my power to the peoples, and they shall declare my glory among the nations. - Praising.

Lesson ii

Be not like your fathers to whom the former prophets cried out, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts,

Return from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.' But they did not hear or heed me, says the Lord. Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live for ever?" Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Surround us, Lord, with the impregnable wall of your protection, and guard us always with the weapons of your power; * save those who cry to you, Lord, God of Israel. **V.** Deliver us in accordance with your marvellous works, and give glory to your name. - Save those.

Lesson iii

But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not overtake your fathers? So they repented and said, As the Lord of hosts purposed to deal with us for our ways and deeds, so has he dealt with us." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. iii. We longed for peace but it did not come; we looked for good, but behold terror; we acknowledge our sins, Lord, * do not forget us for ever. **V.** Our sin is the sin of our fathers; we have done wrong, our deeds have been

evil. - Do not. - Glory. - Do not.

Saturday MATINS

Here begins the book of Mal'achi the Prophet

Lesson i Chapter 1

The oracle of the word of the Lord to Israel by Mal'achi. "I have loved you," says the Lord. But you say, "How have you loved us?" "Is not Esau Jacob's brother?" says the Lord. "Yet I loved Jacob but I have hated Esau; I have laid waste his hill country and left his heritage to jackals of the desert." Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. i. I am hemmed in on every side and do not know what choice to make. * It is better for me to fall into the hands of men than to forsake the law of my God. **V.** For if I do this thing, it is death for me; and if I do not I shall not escape your hands. - It is better.

Lesson ii

If Edom, says, "We are shattered but we will rebuild the ruins," the Lord of hosts says, "They may build, but I will tear down, till they are called the

wicked country, the people with whom the Lord is angry for ever." Your own eyes shall see this, and you shall say, "Great is the Lord, beyond the border of Israel!" "A son honours his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is my honour? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says the Lord of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. You say, 'How have we despised your name?' By offering polluted food upon

my altar. And you say, 'How have we polluted it?'" Thus says the Lord God: "Turn to me and be saved."

Ry. ii. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed, saying, "You are my handiwork: * Israel, you are my heritage." **V.** They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. - Israel, you are.

PRAYERS AND HOMILIES for the Sundays after Pentecost

From the Seventh to the Last Sunday

VII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class
Prayer

O God, whose providence arranges all things without any error, we earnestly beg you to take away all that is harmful and to bestow everything that will be for our good. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy
Gospel according to
Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 7

At that time, Jesus said to his disciples: "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves." Etc.

Homily of St. Hilary,
Bishop

Commentary on Matthew,
ch. 6

The Lord warns that smooth words and a suave manner must be weighed against results in

the field of action. We must see a man, not as he would have us believe he is, but as he proves himself by his deeds. For, in many cases, a ravenous wolf is concealed under the guise of a sheep. Thorns do not produce grapes, nor thistles figs, bad trees do not bear good fruit. Likewise, he teaches that the fruit of good works is not to be found in these evil men. All, then, are to be judged by their fruits.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.

Prayer O God, whose providence as above.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven, he it is who shall enter the kingdom of heaven, alleluia.

Prayer

O God, whose providence arranges all things without any error, we earnestly beg you to take away all that is harmful and to bestow everything that will be for our good. Through.

VIII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

We ask you, Lord, to grant us the spirit always to think and do what is right. May we, who cannot exist without you, be able to live according to your will. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson iii Chapter 16

At that time, Jesus told his disciples this parable: "There was a rich man who had a steward, and charges were brought

to him that this man was wasting his goods." Etc.

Homily of St. Jerome,
Priest

Letter 151, to Algasia,
q. 6, t. 3

Properly speaking, the one who runs the farm is called a farmer. But a steward is one who manages money, produce, and indeed all the possessions of his master. It is this administrator who is accused before his master of wasting his goods. The master summons him and says, "What is this that I hear about you? Turn-in the account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward." And the steward said to himself, "What shall I do, since my master is taking the stewardship away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg."

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

R. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. The master said to the steward, "What is this that I hear about you? Turn-in the account of your stewardship," alleluia.

Prayer We ask you as above.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord.
R. Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. What shall I do, since my master is taking the stewardship away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that people may receive me into their houses when I am put out of the stewardship.

IX SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

Open, Lord, the ears of your mercy to our prayers; and that you may grant the petitions of those who ask, make them seek only that which is pleasing to you. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson iii Chapter 19

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jerusalem 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." Etc.

Homily of St. Gregory, Pope

Homily 39 on the Gospels

No one who has read the history of the destruction of Jerusalem can fail to see that the ruin described in tears by our Lord is precisely that which was carried out by the Roman princes, Vespasian and Titus. The Roman princes are indicated where it is said, "For the days shall come upon you, when your enemies will cast up a bank about you and surround you." The following phrase, "They will not leave one stone upon another in you," is now verified in the re-siting of the city. For, the city has been reconstructed in that area "outside the gate" where the Lord was crucified. In that sense, the original city has been overthrown from its very foundations.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

R. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. When the Lord drew near Jerusalem and saw the city he wept over it saying, "Would that you knew: for the days shall come upon you, and they will surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to the ground; because you did

not know the time of your visitation," alleluia.

Prayer Open, Lord, the ears, as above.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord, **R.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. 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.

Prayer

Open, Lord, the ears of your mercy to our prayers; and that you may grant the petitions of those who ask, make them seek only that which is pleasing to you. Through.

X SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

O God, you show your almighty power chiefly by being forgiving and merciful. Increase your mercy towards us, so that as we hasten towards those things that you have promised, you may make us to share in the heavenly treasures. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson iii Chapter 18

At that time, Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and despised others: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector." Etc.

Homily of St. Augustine, Bishop

Sermon 36 On the Words of the Lord, from near the middle

God, I thank you that I am not like other men." He might at least have said "like many other men." What does "like other men" mean if not all men except himself? What he says, in effect, is: "I am a just man; all the rest are sinners. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get." If you want to know what he might be asking of God, examine his words and you will not get any information. He went up to the temple to pray. But he did not want to ask God for anything, but simply to praise himself. And as if it were not enough to praise himself instead of beseeching God he insults

the tax collector who really is praying.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

R. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector; the latter went down to his house justified rather than the other, alleluia.

Prayer O God, you show, as above.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **R.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. The tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, "God, be merciful to me a sinner."

XI SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

Almighty, eternal God, your infinite goodness surpasses anything that we might deserve or even desire. Pour out your mercy upon us, forgiving us those things that trouble conscience, and giving us the grace for which we would

not presume to ask. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Lesson iii Chapter 7

At that time, Jesus returned from the region of Tyre, and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, through the region of the Decap'olis. Etc.

Homily of St. Gregory, Pope

Homily 10, Bk. 1, on Ezechiel, towards the middle

Why was it that God, the creator of all things, when he wanted to cure the deaf and dumb man, put his fingers into his ears, and spat and touched his tongue? What is meant by the fingers of the Redeemer if not the gifts of the Holy Spirit? Thus, elsewhere in the Gospel, when he had cast out a demon, he said, "If it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you." Of the same event another evangelist reports that he said, "If it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you."

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. Jesus returned from the region of Tyre, and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, through the region of the Decap'olis, alleluia.

Prayer Almighty, eternal God, **as above.**

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. He has done all things well; he even makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

XII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

Almighty and merciful God, your faithful people serve you worthily and well only because they have the gift of your grace. Grant us, we beg you, to hasten without hindrance towards those things that you have promised. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson iii Chapter 10

At that time, Jesus said to his disciples: "Blessed are the eyes which see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it." Etc.

Homily of St. Ambrose, Bishop

Bk. 7 on Luke, ch. 10

A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers." Jericho is a figure of this present world. Adam went down there when, on account of his fall, he was cast out of paradise, that is to say, out of the heavenly Jerusalem. He went from the sources of life, down to the place of death. But it was by a change of heart rather than by a change of location that he condemned his nature to banishment. He became very different from that earlier Adam who had enjoyed flawless happiness. When he lowered himself to sinful profanities he fell among thieves. This would never have happened if he had not strayed from the divine command and put himself in their power.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

Prayer

Almighty and merciful God, your faithful people serve you worthily and well only because they have the gift of your grace. Grant us, we beg you, to hasten without hindrance towards those things that you have promised. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. "Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." "Go and do likewise," alleluia.

XIII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

Almighty, everlasting God, increase our

faith, hope and charity. Make us love what you command, so that we may deserve to gain what you promise. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson iii Chapter 17

At that time, on the way to Jerusalem Jesus was passing along between Samar'ia and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers. Etc.

Homily of St. Augustine, Bishop

Questions on the Gospels, bk. 2, c. 40

A question arises about the ten lepers whom the Lord cleansed with the words, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." Why did he send them to the priests, and let their cure take place on the way? Among all the people to whom our Lord granted physical cures we find no one sent to the priests except lepers. It was also from leprosy that he had cleansed the man to whom he said: "Go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to the people." The question to be asked, then, is what

In Masses for the Dead, the following may be added:

REMEMBER your servant **N.**, | whom you have called
[today] | from this world to yourself. Grant that
he [she] who was united with your Son in death like his, |
may also be one with him in his Resurrection.

REMEMBER ALSO brothers and sisters | who
have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, |
and all who have died in your mercy: | welcome
them into the light of your mercy. | Have mercy on us all, we pray, |
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, | with Blessed
Joseph, her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles, | and all the Saints
who have pleased you throughout the ages, | we may merit to be
coheirs to eternal life, | and may praise and glorify you | *He joins his hands,*
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

At this point, please turn to page 305.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER III

YOU ARE INDEED HOLY, O Lord, | and all
you have created | rightly gives you praise, | for
through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, | by the
power and working of the Holy Spirit, | you give
life to all things and make them holy, | and you never cease to gather
a people to yourself, | so that from the rising of the sun to its setting |
a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

He joins his hands and, holding them extended over the offerings, says:

THEREFORE, O LORD, we humbly implore you: | by the same
Spirit graciously make holy | these gifts we have brought to you
for consecration, | *He joins his hands and makes the Sign of the Cross once over the bread
and chalice together, saying:* that they may become the Body and \times Blood |
of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, | *He joins his hands,* at whose command
we celebrate these mysteries.



THE PRIEST EXTENDS HIS HANDS OVER THE OBLATA AT THE EPIKLESIS

leprosy itself symbolizes. Those from whom it is taken away are said to have been cleansed rather than healed. For, the symptom of leprosy is a discoloration of the skin, rather than any weakening of general health, or any crippling of limbs or senses.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

R. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. As Jesus entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us."

Prayer Almighty, everlasting God, as above.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **R.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner? Go your way; your faith has made you well, alleluia.

XIV SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

Guard your church, we beg you, Lord, by your

everlasting mercy. Since human frailty cannot survive without you, may your grace be always with it, to rescue it from danger and to direct it along the way of salvation. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 6

At that time, Jesus said to his disciples: "No one can serve two masters." Etc.

Homily of St. Jerome, Priest

Comm. on Matthew, bk. 1, ch. 6

You cannot serve God and mammon. In the Syriac language riches are called mammon. Let the grasping man take note: let the man who is reckoned a christian know that he cannot pledge himself at the same time to riches and to Christ. Yet Christ was not speaking of one who has riches, but of one who serves riches. The one who is a slave to riches hoards them, as a slave might; but the man who has cast off the yoke of slavery gives freely from his riches, as a master.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

R. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. Do not be anxious, saying: "What shall we eat, or what shall we drink?" Your heavenly Father knows what you need, alleluia.

Prayer

Guard your church, we beg you, Lord, by your everlasting mercy. Since human frailty cannot survive without you, may your grace be always with it, to rescue it from danger and to direct it along the way of salvation. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **R.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well, alleluia.

XV SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

May your enduring mercy, Lord, cleanse and fortify your church. Since it cannot stand firm without you, let it always

be guided by your grace. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson iii Chapter 7

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Na'in, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. Etc.

Homily of St. Augustine, Bishop

Sermon 44, On the Words of the Lord, near the beginning

The widowed mother rejoices that her son has been brought back to life. Similarly, mother Church rejoices when, day after day, men are brought back to spiritual life. The widow's son was dead as far as bodily life is concerned; but these were dead in the spiritual sense. His death was plain to see, and he was publicly mourned; but their hidden death was neither investigated, nor noticed. However, he who knew them to be dead sought after them. He alone recognised them to be dead who was able to make them live.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

R. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. Jesus went to a city called Na'in, and behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother.

Prayer May your enduring mercy **as above.**

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us," and "God has visited his people!"

XVI SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

May your grace first move us, Lord, and then support us always; may it keep us constantly intent on doing good. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson iii Chapter 14

At that time, one sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler who belonged to the Pharisees, they were watching him. And behold, there

was a man before him who had dropsy. Etc.

Homily of St. Bede the Venerable, Priest

On Luke, ch. 14

The disease of dropsy is named from the watery fluid which characterises it. The word is derived from the Greek for water. The disease consists of an accumulation of fluid under the skin, arising from a fault in the bladder; there is also swelling and bad breath. It is peculiar to the disease that the more the patient accumulates this unwanted fluid, the more thirsty he becomes. And so the man who is afflicted by the swelling tide of carnal lust is rightly compared to one suffering from dropsy. He is also compared to a rich miser. The more he stores up riches, failing to use them well, the more intensely does he long for them.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.
Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. Jesus spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath, or not?" But they were silent. Then he took the man who had dropsy, and healed him, and let him go.

Prayer

May your grace first move us, Lord, and then support us always; may it keep us constantly intent on doing good. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. When you are invited to a marriage feast, go and sit in the lowest place, so that your host may say to you, "Friend, go up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you, alleluia.

XVII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

Lord, we beg you, grant that your people may avoid the evil influence of the devil, and, with pure minds, follow you, the only God. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 22

At that time, the Pharisees came to Jesus,

and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Etc.

Homily of St. John Chrysostom

On Matt., Hom. 16

They came together, hoping to overcome him by force of numbers since they could not do it by argument. In having resort to numbers they admitted that they were destitute of truth. They said among themselves, "Let one of us speak on behalf of all, and all speak through one. Thus, if he succeeds we will all emerge as victors; if he is defeated he alone will seem to have been disgraced." O Pharisees, how you scheme and act always to keep up appearances before men! First coming with one man, you are to be overthrown by one man.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.
Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. "Teacher, which is the great commandment of the law?" And Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart," alleluia.

Prayer Lord, we beg you, **as above.**

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." Jesus said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand?'"

XVIII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**II class****Prayer**

Guide our hearts, we beg you, Lord, by your merciful action; for without you, we cannot be pleasing to you. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 9

At that time, Jesus, getting into a boat, crossed over and came to his own city. Etc.

Homily of St. Peter Chrysologus

Sermon 50

Today's reading has shown that Christ was accom-

plishing divine mysteries through his human actions, that he was carrying out invisible deeds under visible realities. "He got into a boat," it says, "crossed over, and came to his own city." Is not he the one who driving back the waves, exposed the bed of the sea, so that the Israelite people could pass dryshod between the captive waves, as through a valley in the hills? Is it not he who levelled the swirling seas under Peter's feet, so that a liquid surface might provide solid support for human steps?

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. The Lord said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven."

Prayer

Guide our hearts, we beg you, Lord, by your merciful action; for without you, we cannot be pleasing to you. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. When the crowds saw it, they were

afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

XIX SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**II class****Prayer**

Almighty and merciful God, be pleased to drive away everything that is hostile to us, so that, unhampered both in soul and body, we may, in liberty of spirit, be zealous for what is yours. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 22

At that time, Jesus spoke to the chief priests and the Pharisees in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son." Etc.

Homily of St. Gregory, Pope

Hom. 38 on the Gospels, near the beginning

Irecall having told you many times that in the holy Gospels, the church on earth is often referred to as the kingdom of heaven. The assembly of the righteous is, indeed, the kingdom

of heaven. For, the Lord says through his prophet, "Heaven is my throne." And Solomon says, "The soul of a righteous man is a throne of wisdom." Paul also speaks of Christ as the power of God and the wisdom of God. From all this we should clearly gather that, if God is wisdom, and the soul of the righteous man is a throne of wisdom, and if heaven is the throne of God, then the soul of the righteous man is also heaven. Hence the Psalmist says of holy preachers, "The heavens proclaim the glory of God."

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. "Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner; come to the marriage feast," says the Lord.

Prayer

Almighty and merciful God, be pleased to drive away everything that is hostile to us, so that, unhampered both in soul and body, we may, in liberty of spirit, be zealous for what is yours. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O

Lord. *Ry.* Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find," says the Lord.

XX SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

Graciously grant your faithful people, we beg you, Lord, pardon and peace, that they may both be cleansed from all sin and may serve you with tranquil mind. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Lesson iii Chapter 4

At that time, at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. Etc.

Homily of St. Gregory,
Pope

Hom. 28 on the Gospels

It seems to us that the only point needing explanation in this Gospel reading is why the man who came to ask for the cure of his son

should have heard the words, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." The man who sought the cure of his son surely believed already. He would not have asked the well-being of his son from one whom he did not believe to be the Saviour. Why therefore is he told, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe," when he had already believed before seeing any sign?

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.
Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. At Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. When he heard that Jesus had come to Galilee, he begged him to come down and heal his son.

Prayer Graciously grant, as above.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. *Ry.* Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household.

XXI SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

Guard your household, we beg you, Lord, with constant kindness. Through your protection may it be free from all evil, and may it be wholehearted in good works to the glory of your name. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 18

At that time, Jesus spoke to his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants." Etc.

Homily of St. Jerome,
Priest

*Comm. on Matt., bk. 3,
ch. 18*

It is customary for the Syrians, and particularly for Palestinians, to introduce parables into all their discourses. A lesson that their hearers cannot grasp in the form of a simple precept will be more easily grasped by means of comparisons and examples. Thus our Lord uses the comparison of the king and

lord, and the servant who, owing ten thousand talents, implored his lord for pardon. He uses it to command Peter that he, too, must forgive his fellow-servants whose sins are much more trivial.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.
Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. The lord said to the servant, "Pay what you owe." But the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, "Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything."

Prayer

Guard your household, we beg you, Lord, with constant kindness. Through your protection may it be free from all evil, and may it be wholehearted in good works to the glory of your name. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. *Ry.* Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. "You wicked servant. I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" says the Lord.

XXII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**II class****Prayer**

O God, our refuge and our strength, you are yourself the source of all our prayer. Listen now to the prayer of your church, and grant that what we ask with faith we may receive to the full. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 22

At that time, the Pharisees went and took counsel how to entangle him in his talk. Etc.

Homily of Saint Hilary, Bishop

Comm. in Matt., ch. 23

The Pharisees have been frequently upset already, and they cannot find any incident in the past which would serve as an excuse for making charges against him. For no fault could be found with any of his words or deeds. But, moved as they are by malice, they extend their search for a charge to every possible subject. He had been calling people away from the vices of this world and the superstitions of man-made

religions, towards the hope of a heavenly kingdom. They attempt, then, by the terms of the question they frame, to get him to violate secular authority: they ask him if the tax should be paid to Caesar.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.
Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, alleluia.

Prayer

O God, our refuge and our strength, you are yourself the source of all our prayer. Listen now to the prayer of your church and grant that what we ask with faith we may receive to the full. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's, alleluia.

If the following Sunday is the last after Pentecost the office of the twenty-fourth Sunday is put in its

place (as below, p. 529) and the office of the twenty-third Sunday is omitted.

XXIII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**II class****Prayer**

Forgive, we beg you, Lord, the faults of your people. By your kindness may we be released from the bonds of sin that we have contracted through our own weakness. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 9

At that time, while Jesus was speaking to the crowds, behold, a ruler came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died." Etc.

Homily of Saint Hilary, Bishop

Comm. on Matt., ch. 9

The ruler here is taken to represent the Law, which asks the Lord to give life to what is dead. For we do not read of any ruler who believed. Hence, this person—the ruler who prays the Lord—may legitimately be taken as personifying the Law. The

Lord promised to help him, and went to do what he had promised. But first the multitude of sinners is saved along with the apostles.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.
Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. While Jesus was speaking to the crowd, behold, a ruler came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live," alleluia.

Prayer

Forgive, we beg you, Lord, the faults of your people. By your kindness may we be released from the bonds of sin that we have contracted through our own weakness. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord, **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well, alleluia.

¶ The Sundays after Pentecost cannot be fewer than 23, nor more than 28. When there are more than

24, then, after the twenty-third Sunday, the prayer, homily, antiphons for Benedictus and Magnificat of the Sundays which remained over after the Epiphany are taken in this order:

If there are 25 Sundays after Pentecost, the twenty-fourth will be the one described as the Sixth Sunday after Epiphany.

If there are 26, the twenty-fourth will be the Fifth after Epiphany, and the twenty-fifth will be the Sixth after Epiphany.

If there are 27, the twenty-fourth will be the Fourth after Epiphany, the twenty-fifth will be the Fifth after Epiphany, and the twenty-sixth will be the Sixth after Epiphany.

If there are 28, the twenty-fourth will be the Third after Epiphany, the twenty-fifth will be the Fourth after Epiphany, the twenty-sixth will be the Fifth after Epiphany, and the twenty-seventh will be the Sixth after Epiphany.

However, the last place is always taken by the Sunday that is numbered the Twenty-fourth after Pentecost. The intervening Sundays are omitted, if necessary, when there is no room for them.

III SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

II class

Prayer

Almighty, eternal God, mercifully look upon our weakness, and stretch out the right hand of your majesty to protect us. Through.

The remaining proper parts of this Sunday are omitted since, if it is to be taken after Pentecost, it always falls on the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King.

IV SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

II class

Prayer

O God, you know that we are beset by perils greater than our human weakness can withstand; grant us health of soul and body, that, by your help, we may overcome those things that we suffer as a result of our sins. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 8

At that time, when Jesus got into the boat, his disciples followed him. And behold, there arose a great

storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. Etc.

Homily of St. Jerome,
Priest

Book 1, Commentary on Ch. 8 of Matthew

He worked a fifth miracle, when he entered the boat at Capernaum and controlled the wind and the sea: a sixth in the country of the Gerasenes, when he gave the demons power over the swine. A seventh took place when, on entering his own city, he cured a second paralytic who was lying on a bed. The first paralytic is the centurion's servant.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

Or if this should be the first Sunday of November.

Ry. iii. Worthy of praise is the people whom the Lord of hosts has blessed saying, "You are my handiwork: * Israel, you are my heritage." **V.** They are happy whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own.

Israel, you are. – Glory. – Israel, you are.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. When Jesus got into the boat, behold there arose a great storm on the sea: and his disciples woke him, saying, "Lord, save us, we are perishing."

Prayer

O God, you know that we are beset by perils greater than our human weakness can withstand; grant us health of soul and body, that, by your help, we may overcome those things that we suffer as a result of our sins. Through.

II VESPER

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. Lord, save us, we are perishing. Give the command, O God, and create calm.

V SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

II class

Prayer

Keep your household, we beseech you, Lord, in your unceasing love, that since it depends solely on the help of your grace it

may ever be shielded by your protection. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 13

At that time, Jesus spoke this parable to the crowds. The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. Etc.

Homily of St. Augustine, Bishop

Book of 17 Questions on the Gospel of Matthew, ch. 11

When the church's leaders became negligent, or when the apostles had died, the devil came and implanted those whom our Lord describes as wicked sons. One might ask whether heretics are meant, or evil-living catholics. For heretics can also be called wicked sons: begotten in the name of Christ from the same gospel seed, yet by wrong conjectures they are swung over to false doctrines.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the

One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. “Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then has it weeds?” He said to them, “An enemy has done this.” **Prayer** Keep your household, as on p. 527.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn,” says the Lord.

VI SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

II class Prayer

Grant, we beseech you, almighty God, that ever bearing in mind what is in accordance with reason, we may carry out both in word and deed whatever is pleasing to you. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 13

At that time, Jesus spoke this parable to the crowds. “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of

mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field.” Etc.

Homily of St. Jerome, Priest

Book 2, Commentary on ch. 13 of Matthew

The preaching of the Gospel and a knowledge of the Scriptures that leads to life, is the kingdom of heaven concerning which it was said to the Jews, “The kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing the fruits of it.” This type of kingdom, then, is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. The man who sows in his field is understood by many to be the Saviour, since he sows in the souls of believers; others understand the sower as man himself sowing in his own field, that is, in himself, in his own heart.

Ry. iii. Honour, power, might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. – For endless ages. – Glory. – For endless ages.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs.

Prayer

Grant, we beseech you, almighty God, that ever bearing in mind what is in accordance with reason, we may carry out, both in word and deed, whatever is pleasing to you. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. The kingdom of heaven is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till it was all leavened.

XXIV SUNDAY

and last

AFTER PENTECOST

II class

Prayer

Rouse up, we beg you, Lord, the resolution of your faithful people. As they more readily seek the fruit of the divine work, may they receive from your goodness even greater helps. Through.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson iii Chapter 24

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, "When you see the desolating sacrilege spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand)." Etc.

Homily of St. Hilary, Bishop

In Matt., ch., 25

Our Lord Jesus Christ gave, as a sign of his future coming, that they would see the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place. Since the blessed Daniel and Paul have preached about this subject, I think it is unnecessary for us to say much more. Our Lord was speaking of the time of Antichrist. He is called an abomination because he will come as the enemy of God, claiming for himself the honour due to God. He is called the abomination of desolation because, through his blasphemy, he will make the earth desolate with wars and slaughter.

Ry. iii. Honour, power,

might and dominion be to the Trinity in One, to the One in Trinity * for endless ages. **V.** Light unending to the Trinity, everlasting splendour to the One. - For endless ages. - Glory. - For endless ages.

LAUDS

V. The Lord is king.

Ry. He is robed in majesty.

Bened. ant. When you see the desolating sacrilege spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand).

Prayer

Rouse up, we beg you, Lord, the resolution of your faithful people. As they more readily seek the fruit of the divine work may they receive from your goodness even greater helps. Through.

II VESPERS

V. Let my prayer, O Lord. **Ry.** Come before you like incense.

Magnif. ant. "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away," says the Lord.

PROPER OF THE SAINTS

18 May

St. Venantius

Martyr

III class

MATINS**Lesson iii**

Venantius of Camerino, when fifteen years old, was denounced as a christian to Antiochus, governor of Camerino under the Emperor Decius. Venantius surrendered himself to him at the city gate, where, for a long time, the governor tried to influence him by promises and threats. He then ordered him to be scourged and bound in chains, but from these he was miraculously released by an angel. Torches were then applied to his body and he was suspended, head downwards, over a smoking fire. After this he was again interviewed by the governor. His teeth and jaws were broken, and in this condition Venantius was thrown on a dunghill. Rescued by the angel a

second time, he was, once more, brought before the judge who, as Venantius was speaking to him, fell from the judgment seat, crying out, "The God of Venantius is the true God. Destroy our gods." With these words he expired. Finally, after further excruciating torments, Venantius was beheaded, with ten others, and thus successfully completed the glorious contest. The christians buried their bodies in a place of honour. They now rest at Camerino, in the church dedicated to Venantius.

Ry. iii. Venantius, glorious friend of God, strong in the faith of the Lord Jesus, stood undaunted in the midst of agonising tortures. * Finally, distinguished by a triumphant death, decorated with blood, he took flight to heaven. **V.** By a profitable transaction, gaining the heavenly in exchange for the earthly and the eternal for that which would perish. - Finally. - Glory. - Decorated.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you have consecrated this day by the victory of the blessed Venantius, your martyr; graciously hear the prayers of your people and grant that as we honour his holy life we may imitate his courageous faith. Through.

19 May

St. Peter Celestine
Pope and Confessor

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Peter, called Celestine from the name he chose as pontiff, was born of good catholic parents at Isernia in the Abruzzi. When scarcely adolescent, he retired to a place of solitude to protect himself from worldly allurements. There he nourished his soul with contemplation, and, to bring his body into subjection, wore an iron chain next to his skin. He founded under the rule of St. Benedict, a congregation, later known as Celestines. Hence, when, as a shining lamp upon a lampstand, he could not remain hidden—the Roman church being long bereaved of its pastor—he was, without his knowledge and in his absence, elected to the

Chair of Peter. The news of this event caused everywhere immediate rejoicing as well as great surprise. But, on assuming the high office of supreme pontiff, he found that, occupied as he was with so many responsibilities, he could scarcely maintain his accustomed manner of prayer. Hence he voluntarily relinquished both the burden and the honour of the pontificate. Thereafter, he resumed his former way of life to the end. His glorious death was made more glorious still by the appearance of a glowing cross suspended in the air over the door of his cell. Both in life and in death he was renowned for many miracles. These having been duly examined, eleven years after his death Clement V numbered him among the saints.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. **V.** Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you raised the blessed Peter Celestine

Hymn

to the honour of supreme pontiff and taught him to count it less than humility; mercifully grant us, like him, to scorn all worldly things and to be worthy happily to reach the rewards promised to the humble. Through.

Commemoration of St. Pudentiana, Virgin:

Ant. Come, my chosen one, and I will set my throne in you, for the king has desired your beauty.

V. She is led to the king with her maiden companions. **Ry.** Her destined companions are escorted in.

Prayer

Graciously hear us, God, our salvation, that as we rejoice on the feast of the blessed Pudentiana, your virgin, we may be imbued with her spirit of holy earnestness. Through.

24 May

Transfer of Our Holy
Father, Dominic

III class

MATINS

Invit. The glad solemnities of Dominic are begun. * Let the church applaud with abundant praise.

Applaud the Lord's own champion new,
Praise Dominic, sing loud his fame.
His work, the Lord's, his preaching, true;
His life befits his Master's name.

Virginity in highest fame,
All lily-white he kept unstained;
His zeal burned like a torch aflame
For souls that Satan else had gained.

The world he trod beneath his feet,
And on to rugged toil he pressed;
Unarmed he runs the foe to meet,
By Christ's strong grace upheld and blessed.

He sends his brethren through the sphere,
His weapons are the gospel true,
Unceasing prayer and frequent tear,
While miracles his path bestrew.

May God the Three and One be praised,
In glory, honour, might and love;
And we to heavenly joy be raised
At Dominic's prayer for us above.
Amen.

Nocturn

Ant. 1 Foreshadowed in the likeness of a hound, a new and heaven-sent herald in these latter times, Dominic, a poor man, shone afar.

Psalms from the Common of a Confessor [100].

Ant. 2 Preserving unstained the flower of purity, he attained the freedom of the perfect life.

Ant. 3 Sufficiently instructed in the literature of the Arts, he passed to the pursuit of the supreme Truth.

Ant. 4 Diligently applying himself, he made progress under the rule of Augustine. At last, the Canon Regular is transformed into an apostle.

Ant. 5 Labouring for the name of Christ, he fills the world with divine seed, living all the time under the protection of poverty.

Ant. 6 He had no bed of his own but spent all night with Christ. After profuse weeping, he scarcely allowed his worn-out body to rest upon the ground.

Ant. 7 The servant of Christ thirsted for martyrdom as the deer yearns for running streams.

Ant. 8 The humble Father, when about to die, leaves to his followers a

support of life, a legacy of poverty.

Ant. 9 Free from the trammels of the flesh he entered heaven, where, drinking deeply, he savours that for which he had thirsted.

V. The just will flourish like the palm tree in the house of the Lord. **Ry.** He shall grow like a Lebanon cedar.

From the book of Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 48

The prophet Eli 'jah arose like a fire, and his word burned like a torch. He brought a famine upon them, and by his zeal he made them few in number. By the word of the Lord he shut up the heavens, and also three times brought down fire. How glorious you were, O Eli 'jah, in your wondrous deeds! And who has the right to boast which you have? You have raised a corpse from death and from Hades, by the word of the Most High.

Ry. i. O happy vine, from whose shoot so great a growth spreads over the world, * giving mankind to drink of the wine of heaven from the life-giving cup.

V. With an abundance of branches it already encircles the world. — Giving mankind.

Lesson ii

It was you who brought kings down to destruction, and famous men from their beds; who heard rebuke in Sinai and judgments of vengeance at Horeb; who anointed kings to inflict retribution, and prophets to succeed you. You who were taken up by a whirlwind of fire, in a chariot with horses of fire; you who are ready at the appointed time, it is written, to calm the wrath of God before it breaks out in fury, to turn the heart of the father to the son, and to restore the tribes of Jacob. Blessed are those who saw you, and those who have been adorned in love; for we also shall surely live. It was Eli 'jah who was covered by the whirlwind, and Eli 'sha was filled with his spirit; in all his days he did not tremble before any ruler, and no one brought him into subjection. Nothing was too hard for him, and when he was dead his body prophesied. As in his life he did wonders, so in death his deeds were marvellous.

Ry. ii. Choirs of angels meet him as he goes up from the valley of this uncertain world. * O good Jesus, at the prayer of Dominic, grant that we may be pleasing to you.

V. On account of him, through whom you raised many from the dead, remit to us the punishment we have incurred. — O good Jesus.

Lesson iii

On the twenty-fourth of May in the year twelve hundred and thirty-three, when the brethren had gathered for the general chapter at Bologna, the first transfer took place of the blessed father's remains, which, for twelve years, had been interred in obscurity. When, at the appointed time, the tombstone was removed, there came from the tomb a delightful perfume which, when the casket was opened, issued forth to gladden the people of Bologna with its all-pervading fragrance. The remains were then placed in a marble tomb and pontifical Mass was celebrated by the papal legate, the archbishop of Ravenna. On the morning of the Tuesday after Pentecost, as the choir intoned the Introit, "Receive the joy of your glory," the brethren, in their jubilation, took these words as though coming from heaven. Then the trumpets sounded, the people raised aloft countless candles, and from all sides arose the cry, "Blessed be Christ."

Ry. iii. O wonderful hope which you gave to those who wept for you at the hour of your death, promising that after your decease you would be helpful to your brethren! * Fulfil, Father, what you have said, and help us by your prayers.

Y. You shone on the bodies of the sick by so many miracles. Bring us the help of Christ to heal our sick souls. — Fulfil. — Glory. — Fulfil.

Remainder as on the principal feast of our holy Father, Dominic, August 4, p. 661 keeping the feast as III class.

25 May

St. Urban I
Pope and Martyr
Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. Let him who would come after me deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.

Y. A gold crown upon his head. **Ry.** Inscribed like a signet with "Holiness."

Prayer

Grant, we ask you, almighty God, that we who keep the feast of the blessed Urban, your martyr and bishop, may be helped by his intercession with you. Through.

26 May

St. Philip Neri
Confessor
III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Philip Neri was born in Florence of devout and exemplary parents. Renouncing a substantial inheritance, he went to Rome where he studied philosophy and theology and where he dedicated himself wholly to Christ. Ordained priest, out of obedience, he laboured indefatigably for the salvation of souls. Through hearing confessions, a duty he performed to the last day of his life, he gained very many souls for Christ. Desirous that they should be nourished with the daily bread of God's word, with the frequent reception of the sacraments, with assiduous prayer and other good works, he founded the Congregation of the Oratory. When his heart, wounded by divine charity, became so inflamed with love that it expanded beyond its normal limits, God miraculously enlarged his breast by breaking and displacing two ribs. Philip was remarkable for the gift of prophecy and for his extraordinary power of reading the secrets of the heart.

He maintained perpetual virginity and so cherished the virtue of purity that he could recognise, by their fragrance, those who possessed it and, by their offensive odour, those who lacked it. He died in the year 1595 at the age of eighty.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. **Y.** Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you have raised up the blessed Philip, your confessor, to the glory of the saints; mercifully grant that, as we rejoice in his feast, we may make progress by the example of his virtues. Through.

27 May

St. Bede the Venerable
Confessor and Doctor
of the Church

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Bede, the priest, was born at Jarrow on the border

of England and Scotland. When he became a monk, he so arranged his life that, while devoting himself assiduously to the study of the arts and doctrine, he never curtailed his monastic practices. There was no branch of learning in which he was not thoroughly versed. But he was chiefly devoted to the study of the sacred scriptures, so that, after ordination to the priesthood, he applied himself to the task of commenting on the sacred books. In this work he adhered so scrupulously to the teaching of the holy Fathers, that he never expressed an opinion contrary to their judgment and used almost their very expressions. Always an enemy of idleness, he was accustomed to go from study to prayer and then from prayer to study. To raise the moral standards of the faithful and to explain and defend the faith, he wrote many books which caused him to be so highly esteemed by all, that his writings were read publicly in the churches even during his lifetime. At length, worn out by old age and labours, he died a holy death. Leo XIII declared him a Doctor of the universal Church.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps

burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. *V.* Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you have glorified your church by the learning of the blessed Bede, your confessor and doctor; grant, in your mercy, that your servants may ever be enlightened by his wisdom and aided by his merits. Through.

29 May

BB. William O. P. and Companions
Martyrs
Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. These are the holy ones, who for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord and are not parted from one another.

V. God is to be feared.
R. In his holy place.

Prayer

O God, for whose love and for zeal in keeping the faith, blessed William and his companions fell by the swords of wicked men; grant, by their prayers, that we may be firm in the faith and ever love you with all our hearts. Through.

31 May

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen

II class

At I VESPERS where the feast is celebrated with I class rank:

Ant. to psalms This is the Queen of virgins, the virgin, beautiful as a rose, who bore the King. **O** Mother of God, through whom we gain God and man, gracious Virgin, intercede for us all.

Psalm Praise, **O** servants, etc. [1].

Little Chapter **Ecclus. 24**

I came forth from the mouth of the Most High, the first born before all creatures. I dwelt in high places, and my throne was in a pillar of cloud.

R. Let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, * that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *V.* To you, Virgin,

we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. — That we may. — Glory. — That we may.

Hymn and versicle as in II Vespers, p. 547.

Magnif. ant. Blessed are you who have believed what was spoken to you from the Lord; with Christ you reign for ever.

Prayer

Grant, we beseech you, Lord, that we who celebrate the feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Queen, may, under her protection, be worthy to enjoy peace now, and glory in the time to come. Through.

Compline of the Blessed Virgin Mary p. 548.

MATINS

Invit. Christ the King, who crowned his mother, * come, let us adore.

Hymn

O'er all creation's realm you reign
As Queen, **O** Virgin without stain;
In grace abounding, you appear
Endowed with beauty of the sphere.

Before the Word, who all things made,
You shine supreme, with light arrayed,

Predestined God the Son to bear,
Who fashioned you with tender care.

In Christ raised high upon the tree,
Our blood-bespattered King we see;
And you, who in his passion shared,
Are Mother of mankind declared.

Endowed with privileges rare,
Protect us in your loving care;
Accept the grateful hymn we raise,
To offer you our heartfelt praise.

All glory be to you, **O** Lord,
The Virgin's Son, by all adored;
With Father and the Spirit be.
All glory yours eternally. Amen.

I Nocturn

Psalms and antiphons as in feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary [22].

V. Hail, Queen of mercy. *R.* Of whom was born Christ, our King.

Blessing May the gracious Virgin of Virgins intercede for us with the Lord. *R.* Amen.

From the book of
Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 24

I came forth from the mouth of the Most High, the first-born before all creatures. Through me, light rose in the heavens, inexhaustible, and I covered the earth like a mist. I dwelt in high places, and my throne was in a pillar of cloud. Alone I have made the circuit of the vault of heaven and have walked in the depths of the abyss. In the waves of the sea, in the whole earth, and in every people and nation I have got a possession, high and low my power ruled over men's hearts. Among all these I sought a resting place; I sought in whose territory I might lodge.

R̄. i. Blessed are you, Mary, who believed in the Lord. Those things that were spoken to you are fulfilled in you. * Behold, you have been exalted, above the choirs of angels, to the heavenly throne. **V.** Hail, Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you. — Behold.

Blessing May the holy Mother of God be a benefactress to us. **R̄. Amen.**

Lesson ii

From eternity, in the beginning, he created

me, and for eternity I shall not cease to exist. In the holy tabernacle I ministered before him, and so I was established in Sion. In the beloved city likewise he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my dominion. So I took root in an honoured people, in the portion of the Lord, who is their inheritance. Where his faithful servants are gathered I love to linger.

R̄. ii. Let us contemplate the royal dignity of the Virgin Mary, * because she reigns for ever with Christ. **V.** Let us celebrate the glory of our queen. — Because.

Blessing May the Virgin Mary, with her loving Child, bless us. **R̄. Amen.**

Lesson iii

I am the mother of noble love, of reverence, of knowledge, and of holy hope. In me is all grace of the way and of the truth, in me all hope of life and of strength. “Come to me, you who desire me, and eat your fill of my produce. For the remembrance of me is sweeter than honey, and my inheritance sweeter than the honeycomb. Mine is a renown that endures age after age. Those who eat me will hunger for more, and those who drink me will thirst for more. Whoever obeys me will not

be put to shame, and those who work with my help will not sin. He who reads my lesson aright will find in it life eternal.”

R̄. iii. God has chosen her and has given her preference. * He has placed on her head a crown of glory. **V.** He gives her his home to dwell in. — He has placed. — Glory. — He has placed.

II Nocturn

V. Standing by the cross of Jesus was his mother. **R̄.** Sharer in his suffering; Queen of the universe.

Blessing May the virgin mother of God rescue us from the evil enemy. **R̄. Amen.**

Sermon of St. Peter
Canisius, Priest

**On Mary the Mother of
God, Virgin incomparable,
book 15 ch. 13**

Lesson iv

Why should we not address the most blessed Virgin Mary by the name of Queen, as Damascene, Athanasius and others did? Her father, the renowned king, David, and her Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords who reigns for ever, receive the most glowing tributes in the Scriptures. She is a

queen, moreover, if she is compared with those, who as kings, share the heavenly kingdom together with Christ the high king; co-heirs with him and, as the Scripture puts it, sharing his throne, as it were. She is a queen, second to none of the elect, but worthily made so much superior both to angels and to men that there can be no one more exalted or holier than she, who alone has the same Son in common with God the Father. Only God and Christ does she see above her; below her is everything else.

R̄. iv. Virgin Mary, receive the word sent to you by the Lord: * “Behold, you will conceive and will bring forth him who is equally God and man.” **V.** And you shall be named Queen over all peoples. — Behold.

Blessing May Jesus, Son of Mary, be gentle and kind to us. **R̄. Amen.**

Lesson v

The great Athanasius penetratingly points out; “Mary must be considered not only Mother of God but also formally and truly Queen and Sovereign Lady, since Christ, born of this Virgin Mother, remains God and Lord and King as well.” Therefore of this Queen is understood the

saying of the psalmist: "On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir." Mary, therefore, is rightly called not only Queen of heaven but Queen of the heavens, for she is mother of the King of angels, and friend and spouse of the King of the heavens. To you, most august queen, and most faithful mother, Mary, whom no one ever lovingly implores without success and to whom all mortals are bound by the lasting memory of benefits received, I respectfully pray you, again and again, and earnestly beg that you would find pleasing and approve of this token, such as it is, of my devotedness to you. May you be pleased to measure the smallness of the gift by the earnest love of the giver, and recommend it to your all-powerful Son.

Ry. v. Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many, * and a sword will pierce through your own soul also. **V.** Hail, Mother of Christ, sharer in his suffering, Queen of the universe. — And.

Blessing May most loving Mary, Star of the Sea, come to our aid. **Ry.** Amen.

From the Encyclical Letter of Pope Pius XII
Ad caeli Reginam,
October 11, 1954

Lesson vi

From the records of christian antiquity, from the prayers of the liturgy, from the innate religious sense of christian peoples, from works of art, from all sides, we have gathered evidence declaring that the Virgin Mother of God is endowed with royal dignity. We have shown that the same truth is fully confirmed by the inferences which Sacred Theology draws from the treasury of divine faith. The depositions which we have cited form a chorus, which echoes far and wide and enthusiastically extols the lofty rank of royalty held by the Mother of God and of men, to whom all creation is subject and who "has been raised up above all the choirs of angels to the kingdom of heaven." After mature and thoughtful counsel we are convinced that great things will arise for the church if this well-proven truth is made to shine more conspicuously for all to see, like a light shining in a chandelier. By our apostolic authority we decree and establish the feast of Mary the Queen, to be celebrated throughout the world each year on the thirty-first day of May.

Ry. vi. A great portent appeared in heaven, * a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. **V.** Her son reigns for ever. — A woman clothed. — Glory. — A woman.

III Nocturn

V. All ages will call me blessed. **Ry.** The Almighty works marvels for me.

Blessing May the gospel lesson be to us well-being and protection. **Ry.** Amen.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson vii Chapter 1

At that time, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. Etc.

Homily of
St. Bonaventure, Bishop

Sermon on the Royal Dignity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Blessed Virgin Mary is the Mother of the Most High by a noble conception, according to the word spoken to her by the angel. "Behold," he said, "you will conceive and

bear a son." And later: "The Lord will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end." It was as though he said, "You will conceive and bear a son, the King, who occupies the royal throne for all eternity. For this reason, you will reign as the King's mother and occupy, as Queen, a royal throne." For if it is fitting that the son should honour his mother, it is also fitting that he should share with her the royal throne. Hence it is, since the Virgin Mary conceived him on whose thigh is inscribed, "King of kings and Lord of lords," from that moment when she conceived the Son of God, she was Queen, not only of the earth, but also of heaven. This is indicated in the Revelation, where it is written, "A great portent appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars."

Ry. vii. Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and he will be called * Wonderful, Mighty God. **V.** He will sit upon the throne of David and will reign over his kingdom for ever. — Wonderful.

Blessing May the loving Virgin Mary come to our aid in every trouble and hardship. **Ry.** Amen.

Lesson viii

Mary, the Queen, surpasses all others in glory, as the prophet aptly shows in a psalm which particularly concerns Christ and the Virgin. In the first place, it is there said of Christ, "Your throne, O God, shall endure for ever." Then, a little later, is said of the Virgin, "On your right stands the queen," thereby signifying the superior qualities she possessed, for the saying refers to the glory of her soul. Next come the words: "In gold of Ophir," referring to the robe of glorious immortality which it was proper for the Virgin to wear at her Assumption. For it is unthinkable that the robe with which Christ was clothed, which, moreover, was perfectly sanctified on earth by the Word incarnate, could become the food of worms. As it was fitting that Christ should bestow on his mother the fullness of grace at her Conception, so also it was fitting that he should grant her the fullness of glory at her Assumption. It is to be maintained, then, that the Virgin, glorious in soul and body, reigns next to her Son.

Ry. viii. You have been exalted, holy Mother of God, * above the choirs of angels, to the heavenly throne. **V.** Intercede for us with the Lord Jesus Christ. — Above the choirs.

Blessing May the Queen of Angels bring us to the company of the heavenly citizens. **Ry.** Amen.

Lesson ix

Mary, the Queen, is also the dispenser of grace, as was indicated in the book of Esther, where it is said: "The tiny spring which became a river, and there was light and the sun." The Virgin Mary, typified by Esther, is likened to the diffusion of a spring and of light, because of the diffusion of grace for a two-fold purpose, namely, for action and for contemplation. For the grace of God, which is curative for the human race, descends on us through her as through an aqueduct, since to the Virgin herself belongs the dispensing of grace, not as though she were the source of grace, but by reason of her merit. Rightly, then, the Virgin Mary is the peerless Queen of all mankind, since she sues for mercy, overcomes strife, dispenses graces and, as a result, leads us to glory.

Ry. ix. Let us with confidence draw near to the

throne of grace, * that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. **V.** To you, Virgin, we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. — That we may. — Glory. — That we may.

Before Lauds: **V.** You have been exalted, holy Mother of God. **Ry.** Above the choirs of angels, to the heavenly throne.

LAUDS

Antiphons

1. This is the festival of the glorious Virgin Mary, of the breed of Abraham, sprung from the tribe of Judah, of the noble stock of David.

Psalm The Lord is king, etc. p. 29.

2. To-day is the festival of the holy Virgin Mary, whose illustrious life casts splendour on all the churches.

3. Mary is resplendent, born of kingly line; through her prayers we most devoutly beg to be strengthened in mind and spirit.

4. With heart and mind let us sing glory to Christ on this sacred festival of the illustrious Mary, mother of God.

5. Let us celebrate, with joy, the festival of holy

Mary, that she may intercede for us with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Little Chapter Ecclus. 24

I came forth from the mouth of the Most High, the first-born before all creatures; I dwell in high places, and my throne was in a pillar of cloud.

Hymn

O Lady, crowned with glory bright,
Sublime above the starry height;
Your arms the great Creator pressed,
A suckling at your sacred breast.

What weak, unhappy Eve withdrew
You through your gracious Son renew;
Of heaven you are the entrance fair
That all afflicted may go there.

You are the great King's portal bright,
The gate by which came forth the Light;
Come then, you ransomed nations, sing
The Life divine, that she did bring.

O Mary, mother of all grace,
True mercy's mother to our race;

Protect us now from
Satan's power,
And own us at life's closing
hour.

All glory be to you, O Lord,
The Virgin's Son, by all
adored;
With Father and the
Spirit be
All glory yours eternally.
Amen.

∇. The Virgin Mary
ascended the heavens. *R.*
With Christ she reigns for
ever.

Bened. ant. Most honour-
able Queen of the world,
Mary ever virgin, who
bore Christ the Lord,
Saviour of mankind, inter-
cede for our peace and well-
being.

Prayer

Grant, we beseech you,
Lord, that we who
celebrate the feast of the
Blessed Virgin Mary, our
Queen, may, under her
protection, be worthy to
enjoy peace now, and glory
in the time to come.
Through.

Commemoration of St. Petronilla, Virgin

Ant. Come, my chosen
one, and I will set my
throne in you, for the king
has desired your beauty.

∇. She is led to the king
with her maiden com-
panions. *R.* Her destined
companions are escorted in.

Prayer

Graciously hear us, God,
our salvation, that as
we rejoice on the feast of
the blessed Petronilla, your
virgin, we may be imbued
with her spirit of holy
earnestness. Through.

*At the Hours psalms and
antiphon from weekday.*

TERCE

Little Chapter as in Vespers:

R. Hail, * Queen of
mercy. — Hail. ∇. Of
whom was born Christ,
our King. — Hail. — Glory. —
Hail.

∇. Standing by the
cross of Jesus was his
mother. *R.* Sharer in his
suffering; Queen of the
universe.

SEXT

Little Chapter Ecclus. 24

In the whole earth, and in
every people and nation,
I have got a possession;
high and low, my power
ruled over men's hearts.

∇. Standing by the
cross of Jesus * was his
mother. — Standing. ∇.
Sharer in his suffering;
Queen of the universe. —
Was his mother. — Glory. —
Standing.

∇. All ages will call me
blessed. *R.* The Almighty
works marvels for me.

NONE

Little Chapter Ecclus. 24

Whoever obeys me will
not be put to shame
and those who work with
my help will not sin. He
who reads my lesson aright,
will find in it life eternal.

R. All ages * will call
me blessed. — All ages. ∇.
The Almighty works mar-
vels for me. — Will call me
blessed. — Glory. — All ages.

∇. The Virgin Mary
ascended the heavens. *R.*
With Christ she reigns for
ever.

VESPERS

Ant. to psalms This is
the festival of the glorious
Virgin Mary, of the breed
of Abraham, sprung from
the tribe of Judah, of the
renowned stock of David.

*Psalms as in Feasts of the
Blessed Virgin Mary* [35].

Little Chapter Ecclus. 24

I came forth from the
mouth of the Most High,
the first-born before all
creatures; I dwelt in high
places, and my throne was
in a pillar of cloud.

Hymn

*A genuflexion is made here
until* Taking that great Ave.

Hail, O Star of Ocean,
Gate to joy supernal,
Ever-virgin Mother,
Of the Lord eternal!

Taking that great Ave,
Once by Gabriel spoken,
Eva's name reversing,
Be of peace our token.

Break the sinner's fetters,
Light to blind restoring,
Every ill drive from us,
All things good imploring.

Show yourself a mother.
May the One all holy,
Born for us, your infant,
Grant, through you, prayer
lowly.

Virgin all excelling
Ever meek and holy,
Freed from sin preserve us,
Make us pure and lowly.

Keep our life all spotless,
All our ways defending,
Till we gaze on Jesus
With a joy unending.

Praise, then, God the
Father,
With Christ's worship
blending,
And the Holy Spirit,
In one praise unending.

Amen.

∇. Hail, Queen of
mercy. *R.* Of whom was
born Christ our King.

Magnif. ant. Blessed
mother and inviolate Vir-
gin Mary, glorious Queen
of the world, intercede for
us with the Lord.

COMPLINE

Ant. to psalms No woman born is your equal, Virgin Mary. Blossoming like the rose, fragrant as the lily! Pray for us, holy Mother of God.

Psalms from Sunday.

Nunc dimittis ant. We fly to your patronage, holy Mother of God. Do not despise our prayers in our needs, but, ever deliver us from all dangers, O blessed Virgin.

1 June

**St. Angela Merici
Virgin**

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. Come, my chosen one, and I will set my throne in you, for the king has desired your beauty.

V. She is led to the king with her maiden companions. **R.** Her destined companions are escorted in.

Prayer

O God, who willed that a new company of holy virgins should, through the blessed Angela, grow up within your church, grant us, by her intercession, to lead angelic lives, so that putting aside all earthly things, we may be worthy to lay hold on eternal joys. Through.

2 June

**Blessed Sadoc and
Companions**

**Martyrs O. P.
Commemoration**

LAUDS

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

V. God is to be feared.
R. In his holy place.

Prayer

After this exile may the merciful and loving virgin Mary show you to us, Lord Jesus, whom the blessed Sadoc and his companions hailed amid the fierce attacks of the foe, and thereby deserved to receive from you the longed-for palm of martyrdom. For you live and reign.

**Commemoration of SS.
Marcellinus, Priest, and
Peter, Exorcist, Martyrs**

Ant. Bearing the palm branch the saints have come to the kingdom; they have merited to receive crowns of beauty from the hand of the Lord.

V. But the righteous live for ever. **R.** And their reward is with the Lord.

Prayer

O God, you gladden us by the annual solemnity of your blessed martyrs, Marcellinus and Peter; grant, we pray, that we may be stirred up by the examples of those in whose merits we rejoice. Through.

3 June

**BB. Peter Sanz, Bishop,
and Companions**

Martyrs O. P.

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

In the years seventeen hundred and forty-seven and seventeen hundred and forty-eight, Peter Sanz, bishop, Francis Serrano, bishop-elect, John Alcober, Joachim Royo and Francis Diaz of the Dominican province of the Philippine Islands, laid down their lives for the Lord. When a persecution of the faithful broke out in the town of Fogan in China, these champions of the faith were led captive to the city of Fuciau and subjected to extreme torture. Yet with great tenacity of spirit they remained steadfast in con-

fessing the faith. By imperial edict, Peter Sanz was beheaded; the others, while in prison, awaiting sentence, were secretly put to death by night. Francis Serrano and Joachim Royo were suffocated, while Francis Diaz and John Alcober were garrotted. All these martyrs, glorious in the Lord, were beatified by Leo XIII.

R. iii. They washed their robes and made them spotless * in the blood of the Lamb. **V.** These are they who have come out of the great tribulation, and have washed their robes. — In the. — Glory. — In the.

**Before Lauds and at
Vespers:**

V. Blessed Peter and your companions, pray for us. **R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you endowed your blessed martyrs, bishop Peter and his companions, with equal steadfastness and charity that they might preach the faith to the Gentiles; grant, we beseech you, by their example and intercession, that we may stand firm in your faith. Through.

4 June

St. Francis Caracciolo
Confessor

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Francis, originally called Ascanio, belonged to the noble Caracciolo family of the town of Villa Santa Maria in the Abruzzi. In his youth, while labouring under a severe illness, he determined to give himself wholly to the service of God and of his neighbour. He went to Naples and was ordained priest. Thenceforward Francis devoted himself completely to contemplation and the salvation of souls and proved a constant source of comfort to those condemned to death. Meeting, through the wonderful designs of God, with John Augustine Adorno and Fabriccio Caracciolo, he founded the order of Minor Clerks Regular, adding to the usual three vows another, not to seek offices of dignity. After Adorno's death, Francis ruled the order most devotedly and, with the greatest enterprise, fostered its growth throughout Spain and Italy. He burned with such love for the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist that he used

to spend almost complete nights in adoration before it, and decreed that this pious practice should be perpetuated in his order as its special characteristic. He possessed the spirit of prophecy and the gift of reading hearts. In his forty-fourth year Francis was seized with a fatal illness in the town of Agnone in the Abruzzi, and died on the fourth of June in the year 1608. His sacred remains were conveyed to Naples, where they were buried in the church of his order.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning: * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. **V.** Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, who bestowed a zeal for prayer and a love of penance on the blessed Francis, founder of a new order, grant to your servants so to follow his example that, by praying always, and bringing the body into subjection, we may deserve to reach the glory of heaven. Through.

6 June

St. Norbert
Bishop and Confessor

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Norbert was born of most illustrious parents and received a liberal education as a youth. Later, while serving at the emperor's court, he came to despise worldly vanities and decided to enlist in the army of the church. On receiving Holy Orders, he devoted himself wholeheartedly to preaching the word of God and won innumerable heretics to the faith, sinners to repentance and quarrelsome to peace and concord. Selecting a desert spot called Premontre in the diocese of Laon, he gathered around him thirteen companions and there established the Premonstratensian order which spread with marvellous success. Appointed archbishop of Magdeburg against his wishes, he firmly defended church discipline and in particular the law of celibacy. At the Council of Rheims he staunchly supported Innocent II and, on going to Rome with other bishops, crushed the schism of Peter de Leone. He died at Magdeburg on the sixth of June in the year 1134.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. **V.** Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you made the blessed Norbert, your confessor and bishop, a wondrous herald of your word, and bestowed through him a new order on your church; grant, we beseech you, through his prayers and merits, that what he taught by word and work, your help may enable us to perform. Through.

8 June

St. Medard
Bishop and Confessor
Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. "Well done, good and faithful servant, you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much," says the Lord. **V.** The just man will blossom as the lily. **Ry.** And he will flourish before the Lord for ever.

Prayer

Graciously hear, we beseech you, Lord, the prayers we make on the feast of the blessed Medard, your confessor and bishop. By the merits and intercession of him who so worthily served you, free us from all sin. Through.

9 June

BB. Diana, Cecilia and Amata
Virgins O. P.

Commemoration
LAUDS

Ant. The kingdom of heaven shall be compared to ten maidens who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.

℣. She is led to the king with her maiden companions. **℟.** Her destined companions are escorted in.

Prayer

O God, you endowed the blessed Diana, your virgin, with wonderful steadfastness of soul and gave her the blessed Cecilia and Amata as companions on the way of evangelical perfection; mercifully grant that we too, through their example, may be strengthened in all trials, and by their help be shielded against all foes. Through.

Commemoration of SS.
Primus and Felician,
Martyrs

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

℣. God is to be feared.
℟. In his holy place.

Prayer

We beseech you, Lord, grant us always to keep the feast of your holy martyrs Primus and Felician, and, through their prayers, to experience the benefits of your protection. Through.

10 June

Bl. John Dominici
Bishop and Confessor
O. P.

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. "Well done, good and faithful servant, you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much," says the Lord.

℣. The just man will blossom as the lily. **℟.** And he will flourish before the Lord for ever.

Prayer

O God, giver of love, you strengthened the blessed confessor and bishop, John, to keep the church's unity and renew regular discipline; grant us, through his prayers, to be of the same mind with him and to act like him in Christ Jesus our Lord: who lives and reigns with you.

11 June

St. Barnabas, Apostle

III class
MATINS

From the Acts of the
Apostles

Lesson i Chapter 13

When the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts of Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to continue in the grace of God. The next sabbath almost the whole city gathered together to hear the word of God. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with jealousy, and contradicted what was spoken by Paul, and reviled him.

℟. i. "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves," says the Lord, * "so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. **℣.** For they will

deliver you up to councils, and flog you in their synagogues." – So be wise.

Lesson ii

And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, 'I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the uttermost parts of the earth.'" And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of God; and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord spread throughout all the region. But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, and stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. But they shook off the dust from their feet against them, and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

℟. ii. When you stand before kings and governors, do not be anxious how you are to speak, or what you

are to say: * for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. *℣.* For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. — For what.

Lesson iii

Barnabas, a Levite and a native of Cyprus, was commissioned to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ with Paul the apostle. He sold a field that he owned and gave the proceeds to the apostles. Having been sent to Antioch to preach, by his exhortations there he encouraged many already converted to belief in the christian faith. From there he set out with Paul and journeyed through many cities and countries, to the great benefit of those who heard him. Finally, leaving Paul, he sailed with John, surnamed Mark, to Cyprus, and there, in the seventh year of Nero's reign, added the crown of martyrdom to the glory of the apostolic office.

℣. iii. Do not forsake your flock, eternal Shepherd, but, through your blessed apostles, * guard it with unflinching vigilance.

℣. Lord, protect your people which trusts in the patronage of your apostles.—Guard it. — Glory. — Guard it.

LAUDS

Prayer

Almighty God, we beg that the blessed Barnabas, your apostle, may implore your aid for us; that being loosed from our sins we may also be freed from all dangers. Through.

12 June

**SS. Basilides, Cyrinus,
Nabor and Nazarius,
Martyrs**

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

℣. God is to be feared.
℣. In his holy place.

Prayer

O Lord, may the celebration of the feast of your martyrs, Basilides, Cyrinus, Nabor and Nazarius, shed brightness on our lives, and may that which eternal goodness has conferred on them be increased from the fruits of our devotion. Through.

13 June

**St. Anthony of Padua
Confessor and Doctor of
the Church**

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Anthony was born in Lisbon, Portugal, of good and holy parents. As a young man he joined an institute of Canons Regular, but, inflamed with the desire for martyrdom, changed to the Franciscan Order. He was sent to the Saracens, but, owing to ill health, was forced to return. Due to a storm at sea, he landed at Sicily, and soon afterwards was ordained. While exercising the office of preaching, he aroused so much admiration that he was called on to expound Sacred Scripture at Bologna and elsewhere. He was put in charge of the studies of his brethren and was deservedly called Ark of the Testament and Hammer of Heresies. Having travelled in many provinces, he came to Padua in the year before his death. Here he left remarkable evidence of his sanctity. Renowned for his holiness and miracles, he died, aged thirty-six, on the thirteenth of June in the year 1231. He was proclaimed Doctor of the

Universal Church by Pope Pius XII.

℣. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. *℣.* Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

Let this solemn feast of the blessed Anthony, your confessor, gladden your church, O God; may it ever be strengthened by spiritual helps and be found worthy to enjoy unending gladness. Through.

14 June

**St. Basil the Great
Bishop, Confessor, and
Doctor of the Church**

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Basil, a nobleman of Capadocia, together with his close friend, Gregory of Nazianzen, studied literature at Athens. Later, in a monastery, he became wonderfully proficient in sacred studies. In a short space of time, Basil became so eminent for learning and

for the excellence of his behaviour that he was called, the Great. Summoned to Pontus to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, he converted that province to the faith. Very soon he was called by Eusebius, bishop of Caesarea, to help in the apostolate in that city, where he later succeeded Eusebius as bishop. Basil especially upheld the doctrine that the Son is consubstantial with the Father. This aroused the anger of Valens, the Emperor, who threatened him with exile. Basil, however, dissuaded him by miracles and prevailed upon him to change his mind. Remarkable for abstinence and purity, Basil was constant in prayer, often spending the whole night in it. He built monasteries and arranged the rule so that the advantages of the contemplative and active life were combined. He wrote many learned works and, according to Gregory of Nazianzen, no one explained more truly or more fruitfully the books of Sacred Scripture than did Basil. He died on the first of January.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. *Ps.*

Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you gave to your people the blessed Basil as a minister of eternal salvation; grant, we beseech you, that we may be worthy to have him as an advocate in heaven, whom we had on earth as a teacher of life. Through.

15 June

SS. Vitus, Modestus and Crescentia

Martyrs

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

Ps. God is to be feared,
Ry. In his holy place.

Prayer

We beg you, Lord, through the intercession of your holy martyrs, Vitus, Modestus, and Crescentia, grant that your church may not act haughtily but may please you by growing in humility, and, despising what is base, may, with unhindered charity, do what is right. Through.

16 June

SS. Quiricus and Julitta Martyrs

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

Ps. God is to be feared.
Ry. In his holy place.

Prayer

O God, as you allow us to keep the feast of your holy martyrs, Quiricus and Julitta, grant that we may enjoy their company in everlasting happiness. Through.

18 June

St. Ephrem the Syrian Deacon

Confessor and Doctor of the Church

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Ephrem, whose father was from Nisibis, was of Syrian origin. While still a young man, he went to St. James, the bishop, who baptized him. In a short time he made such progress in holiness and learning that he was appointed master of the flourishing school of Nisibis, a city in Mesopotamia. He was ordained deacon and attached to the church of Edessa, but, through humility, refused ordination to the priesthood. Ephrem was a shining light in the practice of all the virtues and sought to acquire piety and religion by the practice of true wisdom. His works were so filled with the splendour of doctrine that, while still alive, he was highly esteemed as a Doctor of the Church. Above all, he excelled in a wonderful and tender devotion to the Immaculate Virgin. Full of merits, Ephrem died in Edessa in Mesopotamia, in the reign of the Emperor Valens, on the eighteenth of June. Pope Benedict XV

after consultation with the Sacred Congregation of Rites, declared him Doctor of the universal Church.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. **V.** Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you willed to illumine your church by the wondrous learning and glorious merits of the blessed Ephrem, your confessor and doctor; we humbly entreat you, to defend it, by his intercession and your continual power, against the wiles of heresy and wickedness. Through.

Commemoration of SS. Mark and Marcellian, Martyrs.

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are

not parted from one another.

V. God is to be feared.

Ry. In his holy place.

Prayer

Grant, we beseech you, almighty God, that we who keep the feast of your holy martyrs, Mark and Marcellian, may by their intercession be delivered from all the evils that threaten us. Through.

19 June

SS. Gervase and Protase Martyrs

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

V. God is to be feared.

Ry. In his holy place.

Prayer

O God, you gladden us by the annual feast of your holy martyrs Gervase and Protase; mercifully grant that we, who rejoice in their merits, may

be inspired by their example. Through.

22 June

Bl. Innocent V

Pope and Confessor, O.P.

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. “Well done good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much,” says the Lord.

V. The just man will blossom as the lily. **Ry.** And he will flourish before the Lord for ever.

Prayer

O God, you enriched your bishop and confessor, the blessed Innocent, with the gifts of knowledge and prudence, and made him a promotor of peace and unity; grant, through his prayers, that we may relish what is heavenly, and in perfect concord follow what is right. Through.

23 June

Vigil of the feast of St. John the Baptist

II class

The ferial Office is said as in the Ordinary and in the Psalter, with the exception of the lessons which are given here.

The prayer of the preceding Sunday is said.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson i Chapter 1

In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechari'ah, of the division of Abi'jah; and he had a wife of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Etc.

Homily of St. Ambrose,
Bishop

Book 1 on Luke

Sacred scripture teaches us that praise should be given not only to the good works but also to the forbears of those worthy of honour, so that the heritage of spotless virtue transmitted to them may shine forth in those whom we wish to praise. For what intention had the evangelist here, other than that of praising Saint John the Baptist because of his parents, his miracles, his works, his endowments and his sufferings?

The responsories of the current weekday are said, as in the Office of the Season.

Lesson ii

Thus was Hannah, the mother of the holy Samuel, praised, and thus did Isaac inherit from his

parents that exalted piety which he bequeathed to his posterity. Zechari'ah, then, was not only a priest, but a priest of the division of Abi'jah, which held a high place among the most noble families. "And he had a wife of the daughters of Aaron," says the evangelist. John's nobility, then, derived not only from his parents, but also from his ancestors; it was not illustrious by reason of worldly greatness, but it was venerable because it sprang from a religious heritage.

Lesson iii

It was fitting that Christ's forerunner should have such ancestors. In this way it would be seen that he preached belief in the Lord's coming, not as something suddenly conceived, but as something that he had received from his ancestors and which was infused into him as though by a law of nature. "They were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless." What answer can be given to this text by those who would excuse their own guilt by saying that a man cannot live without frequently sinning, and who try to justify their contention with a quotation from the Book of Job, "No

one is clean from stain, even though his life on earth be but for a day"?

24 June

Birthday of St. John the Baptist

I class

I VESPERS

Ant. to psalms When Zechari'ah entered the temple of the Lord, the angel Gabriel appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

Psalm Praise, O servants, etc. [1].

Little Chapter Jer. 1

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Ry. Among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist, * who prepared the way for the Lord in the desert. **V.** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. — Who prepared. — Glory. — Who prepared.

Hymn

That your own servants may proclaim your wonders
With tongue untrammelled
and with lips unsullied,

Prayer

Free them, we pray you, from all sinful blemish, John, ever holy.

Messenger coming from the highest heaven
Tells to your father, all in rightful order,
Of your great future and, with birth, disclosing
Name and behaviour.

Since he had doubted the celestial promise,
Then was he stricken, losing power of converse.
But you, his offspring, after birth, restored him
Lost vocal powers.

While you were hidden in the bosom's cradle,
You sensed the Monarch in his dwelling resting.
Then both the mothers, by each child's own merit,
Told of great secrets.

Let every member of the heavenly kingdom
Tell of your praises, God-head one and trinal.
Prayerfully pleading, we implore your pardon.
Spare your redeemed ones.
Amen.

V. There was a man sent from God. **Ry.** Whose name was John.
Magnif. ant. You will be silent and unable to speak until the day of his birth, because you did not believe my words.

Grant, we beseech you, almighty God, that your people may walk in the way of salvation, and by following the exhortations of the blessed John, your forerunner, may safely come to him whom he foretold, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you.

If this feast is transferred or celebrated on a Monday, the prayer at I Vespers is as follows:

Prayer

O God, who has made this day full of honour for us by the birth of the blessed John, give to your people the grace of spiritual joys, and guide the souls of all the faithful into the way of everlasting salvation.
Through.

Compline from Sunday.

MATINS

Invit. The King, the Lord of the forerunner, * come, let us adore.

Hymn

You, in your childhood, to the desert caverns
Fled for a refuge from the crowded city,
Lest it should happen you should mar your life-work
By a word thoughtless.

Hair from the camel clothed
your saintly members.
And from the sheep-fold
came your humble cincture.

Fresh fountain-water was
your drink, while eating
Honey and locusts.

All other prophets sang but
of the future ;
Spirit prophetic glimpsed
the Light far distant.
You, alone, pointing, show
him here in person,
Cleansing earth's evil.

Through all the wide world
no man born of woman
Had been found greater, no
man found more holy.
John then baptizes, fitly,
him whose cleansing
Cancels earth's evil.

Let every member of the
heavenly kingdom
Tell of your praises, God-
head one and trinal.
Prayerfully pleading, we
implore your pardon.
Spare your redeemed ones.
Amen.

I Nocturn

Ant. 1 Before I formed
you in the womb I knew
you, and before you were
born I consecrated you.

**Psalms from the Com-
mon of a Martyr** [54].

Ant. 2 "To all to whom
I send you," says the Lord,

"you shall go : be not
afraid. And whatever I
command you, you shall
speak."

Ant. 3 "Do not be
afraid of them, for I am
with you," says the Lord.

V. With glory and
honour you crowned him,
Lord. **R.** You gave him
power over the works of
your hand.

From Jeremiah the
Prophet

Lesson i Chapter 1

Now the word of the Lord
came to me, saying,
"Before I formed you in
the womb I knew you, and
before you were born I con-
secrated you ; I appointed
you a prophet to the
nations." Then I said,
"Ah, Lord God ! Behold,
I do not know how to
speak, for I am only a
youth." But the Lord said
to me, "Do not say, 'I am
only a youth' ; for to all
to whom I send you you
shall go, and whatever I
command you you shall
speak. Be not afraid of
them, for I am with you to
deliver you, says the Lord."

R. i. There was a man
sent from God, whose name
was John. * He came for
testimony, to bear witness
to the light and to prepare
for the Lord a perfect
people. **V.** John was in
the desert, preaching a

baptism of repentance. -
He came.

From Isaiah the Prophet

Lesson ii Chapter 49

Listen to me, O coastlands,
and hear, you peoples
from afar. The Lord called
me from the womb, from
the body of my mother he
named my name. He made
my mouth like a sharp
sword, in the shadow of his
hand he hid me ; he made
me a polished arrow, in his
quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me, "You
are my servant, Israel, in
whom I will be glorified."
And now the Lord says,
who formed me from the
womb to be his servant, to
bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be
gathered to him, for I am
honoured in the eyes of the
Lord, and my God has
become my strength.

R. ii. Elizabeth, wife of
Zechari'ah, gave birth to a
great man, John the Baptist,
the forerunner of the
Lord, * who prepared
a way for the Lord in the
desert. **V.** She had been
barren, indeed, in body,
but was reserved for a
mysterious destiny and
freed from the reproach of
barrenness by bringing
forth the son promised
from heaven. - Who pre-
pared.

Lesson iii Chapter 40

Comfort, comfort my
people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jeru-
salem, and cry to her that
her warfare is ended, that
her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from
the Lord's hand double for
all her sins. A voice cries:
"In the wilderness prepare
the way of the Lord, make
straight in the desert a
highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted
up, and every mountain
and hill be made low ; the
uneven ground shall be-
come level, and the rough
places a plain."

R. iii. Before I formed
you in the womb I knew
you, and before you were
born I consecrated you ; *
I appointed you a prophet
to the nations. **V.** Behold,
I have put my words in
your mouth ; see, I have
set you over nations and
over kingdoms. - I ap-
pointed. - Glory. - I
appointed.

II Nocturn

Ant. 4 The Lord put
forth his hand and touched
my mouth, and appointed
me a prophet to the nations.

Ant. 5 Behold, I have
put my words in your
mouth ; see, I have set you
over nations and over king-
doms.

Ant. 6 The Lord called

me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name.

V. You have set, Lord, on his head. **R.** A crown of pure gold.

Sermon of St. Augustine,
Bishop

Sermon 20 on the Saints
Lesson iv

Apart from that most sacred birthday of our Lord, we do not read of anyone's birthday being celebrated, except that of the blessed John the Baptist. As regards the other saints and elect of God, that day, as we know, is honoured on which their labours were completed, when they had conquered and overcome the world and were borne from this life to life eternal. In others, I say, the accumulated merits of their last day are honoured, but with John, his first day, the very beginning of his existence, is sanctified. Doubtless this is so because the Lord wished that his own coming should be made known by this man, lest, if he came suddenly and unexpectedly men might fail to recognise him.

R. **iv.** The angel of the Lord went down to Zechari'ah, saying, "Receive a son in your old age,* and he shall be called John

the Baptist." **V.** Do not be afraid, Zechari'ah, for your prayer is heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son. — And he shall be called John the Baptist.

Lesson v

John was a figure of the Old Testament and typified the law; hence he preceded the Saviour, as the Law preceded Grace. Before his birth he prophesied, hidden in his mother's womb, and, bereft of light, he bore witness to the truth. This signifies that John, hidden beneath the veil and flesh of the letter, announced, by the spirit, the Redeemer of the world and proclaimed to us the Lord our God, as it were from the womb of the Law.

R. **v.** This is the beloved forerunner, a shining light before the Lord; for this is John who prepared a way for the Lord in the desert. He pointed out the Lamb of God,* and he enlightened men's minds. **V.** John was in the desert, baptizing and preaching a baptism of repentance. — And he enlightened.

Lesson vi

John "came for testimony, to bear witness to the light," because the Jews went astray from the womb,

that is, from the Law which was pregnant with Christ. "They wandered among lies as soon as they were born." John in prison, sending his disciples to Christ, represents the Law leading men to the Gospel, and this Law, typified by John, lay veiled and obscure, closed, as it were, in the prison of ignorance, its meaning hidden beneath the letter of Jewish blindness.

R. **vi.** They made signs to his father, inquiring what he would have him called. * And he asked for a writing tablet, and wrote, "His name is John."

V. The neighbours also and kinsfolk came to circumcise the child, and they asked him what name he would be called. — And he asked. — Glory. — His name is John.

III Nocturn

Ant. 7 The Lord made my mouth a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me.

Ant. 8 The Lord formed me from the womb to be his servant that, by me, his salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Ant. 9 Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves before the Lord your God who has chosen you.

V. Your saving help has given him glory. **R.** You have laid upon him majesty and splendour.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson vii Chapter 1

Now the time came for Elizabeth to be delivered, and she gave birth to a son. And her neighbours and kinsfolk heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. Etc.

Homily of St. Ambrose,
Bishop

Book 2 on Luke

Elizabeth gave birth to a son and her neighbours rejoiced with her. The birth of saints brings joy to many, because it is beneficial to all. Justice is a social virtue, and so, at the birth of this just man, his future life is signally foreshadowed, and the grace of coming virtue is indicated by the prophetic joy of his neighbours. Rightly is the period of the prophet's sojourn in his mother's womb described, so that Mary's presence might not be passed over; but the days of his infancy receive no mention, because he did not experience the disabilities of childhood.

R. **vii.** The forerunner of the Lord has come, to

whom he bears witness, * "Among those born of women none is greater than John the Baptist."

V. For he is a prophet, and more than a prophet, of whom the Lord said. — Among those born.

Lesson viii

Thus in the gospel we read nothing about him except the account of his coming, the prophecy concerning him, his leaping in the womb and his preaching in the wilderness. He knew no immaturity, for he transcended nature and age in his mother's womb and attained to "mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." It is remarkable that the holy evangelist considered it worthy of note that many thought the child should be called by his father's name, Zechari'ah. He did so that we might understand that the child's mother was not opposed to his being called by his father's name, but that the name foretold by the angel to Zechari'ah had been revealed to her by the Holy Spirit.

Ry. viii. The angel Gabriel appeared to Zechari'ah, saying, "A son shall be born to you; you shall call his name John. * And many will rejoice at his birth. **V.** For he will be

great before the Lord, and he shall drink no wine nor strong drink." — And many.

Lesson ix

Zechari'ah being dumb could not have told his wife the name of his son, but Elizabeth learnt through revelation what she had not learnt from her husband. "His name is John," she said, as if to say, "We do not give him a name, for he has already received a name from God. He has his name which we know, but which we did not choose for him." It is the privilege of the saints to receive a name from God.

Ry. ix. Among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist, * who prepared the way for the Lord in the desert. **V.** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. — Who prepared. — Glory. — Who prepared.

Before Lauds V. There was a man sent from God. **Ry.** Whose name was John.

LAUDS

Antiphons and also at the Hours

1. Elizabeth, wife of Zechari'ah, gave birth to a great man, John the Baptist, the forerunner of the Lord.

Psalm The Lord is king, etc. p. 29.

2. They made signs to his father, inquiring what he would have him called. And he wrote, saying "His name is John."

3. His name is John; he shall drink no wine nor strong drink, and many will rejoice at his birth.

4. You shall call his name John, and many will rejoice at his birth.

5. This child is great before the Lord, for his hand is with him.

Little Chapter Jer. 1

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Hymn

Great is your happiness, high is your merit, Bright as the snowflake your purity stainless; Eminent martyr who tills the wild desert, Noblest of prophets!

Some wear a garland, thirty-fold in brilliance, Double this trophy shows reward of others; Triple your laurels, holy John, displaying Hundred-fold harvest.

Now, through the power of your honoured merits, Drive from the bosom every stony hardness; Smooth all the rough ways and the paths so crooked Straighten, we pray you.

Thus the Creator and Redeemer loving, Minds freed from evil, pure and wholly spotless, May please to honour with his sacred presence, Coming among us.

Let every member of the heavenly kingdom Tell of your praises, God-head one and trinal. Prayerfully pleading, we implore your pardon, Spare your redeemed ones. Amen.

V. A gold crown upon his head. **Ry.** Inscribed like a signet with "Holiness."

Bened. ant. Zechari'ah's mouth was opened and he prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the God of Israel."

Prayer

O God, who has made this day full of honour for us by the birth of the blessed John, give to your people the grace of spiritual joys, and guide the souls of all the faithful into the way of everlasting salvation. Through.

At the Hours psalms from Sunday. have laid upon him majesty and splendour.

TERCE

Ant. They made signs to his father, inquiring what he would have him called. And he wrote, saying, "His name is John."

Little Chapter as in Lauds.

R. With glory and honour you crowned him, Lord, * alleluia, alleluia. - With glory and honour.

V. You gave him power over the works of your hand. - Alleluia. - Glory. - With glory and honour.

V. You have set, Lord, on his head. **R.** A crown of pure gold.

SEXT

Ant. His name is John; he shall drink no wine nor strong drink, and many will rejoice at his birth.

Little Chapter Is. 49

Listen to me, O coastlands, and hear, you peoples from afar. The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name.

R. You have set, Lord, on his head, * alleluia, alleluia. - You have set. **V.** A crown of pure gold. - Alleluia. - Glory. - You have set.

V. Your saving help has given him glory. **R.** You

Prayer

O God, who has made this day full of honour for us by the birth of the blessed John, give to your people the grace of spiritual joys, and guide the souls of all the faithful into the way of everlasting salvation. Through.

NONE

Ant. This child is great before the Lord, for his hand is with him.

Little Chapter Is. 49

He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow.

R. Your saving help has given him glory, * alleluia, alleluia. - Your. **V.** You have laid upon him majesty and splendour. - Alleluia. - Glory. - Your.

V. A gold crown upon his head. **R.** Inscribed like a signet with "Holiness."

II VESPERS

Ant. to psalms Elizabeth, the wife of Zechari'ah, gave birth to a great man, John the Baptist, the forerunner of the Lord.

Psalms from the Common of a Martyr [65].

Little Chapter Jer. 1

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Hymn

That your own servants may proclaim your wonders

With tongue untrammelled and with lips unsullied, Free them, we pray you, from all sinful blemish, John, ever holy.

Messenger coming from the highest heaven Tells to your father, all in rightful order, Of your great future and, with birth, disclosing Name and behaviour.

Since he had doubted the celestial promise, Then was he stricken, losing power of converse. But you, his offspring, after birth, restored him Lost vocal powers.

While you were hidden in the bosom's cradle, You sensed the Monarch in his dwelling resting. Then both the mothers, by each child's own merit, Told of great secrets.

Let every member of the heavenly kingdom Tell of your praises, God-head one and trinal.

Prayerfully pleading, we implore your pardon. Spare your redeemed ones. Amen.

V. There was a man sent from God. **R.** Whose name was John.

Magnif. ant. And all who heard these things laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him. And his father Zechari'ah was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel. He has visited his people and redeemed them."

Compline from Sunday.

26 June

SS. John and Paul

Martyrs

III class

MATINS

Lessons i and ii are taken from the current Scripture with the following responses:

R. i. The blessed martyrs of Christ, John and Paul, said to Julian, "For us there is but one God, * the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit." **V.** One faith, one baptism, one spirit was in them. - The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Ry. ii. This is a true brotherhood which could never be broken by strife; by shedding their blood, they followed the Lord. * Despising the royal court, they reached the heavenly kingdom. **V.** How good and how pleasant it is, brothers dwelling in unity! — Despising.

Lesson iii

John and Paul were brothers and natives of Rome. They distributed to the poor of Christ the wealth bequeathed to them by Constantine's daughter, Constantina, whom they served faithfully and honestly. They were then asked by Julian the Apostate to become members of his household, but boldly declared that they did not want to serve one who had turned away from Jesus Christ. Accordingly they were given ten days during which they might be persuaded to sacrifice to Jove, but, as they steadfastly refused to commit this sacrilege, they were beheaded at their home, by order of Terentian, the judge. In this way they won the palm of martyrdom. The tidings of their glorious death was noised abroad by unclean spirits who tormented the bodies of many people, including the son of Terentian. The

latter, however, was cured at the tomb of the martyrs. Because of this miracle, both he and his father, Terentian, believed in Christ. Furthermore, it is said that Terentian wrote a life of the blessed martyrs.

Ry. iii. These are two olive trees and two shining lampstands before the Lord. * They have power to shut the sky against the clouds, and also to open its gates, for their tongues have become keys of heaven. **V.** These are two sons of glory, who stand before the Lord of all the earth. — They have power.—Glory.—For their tongues.

Before Lauds V. Let the faithful rejoice in their glory. **Ry.** Let them shout for joy and take their rest.

LAUDS

Antiphons

1. Paul and John said to Julian, "We worship the one God who made heaven and earth."

Psalm The Lord is king, etc. p. 29.

2. Paul and John said to Terentian, "If your lord is Julian, be at peace with him; for us there is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ."

3. John and Paul, knowing Julian to be a tyrant,

began to distribute their goods to the poor.

4. Holy spirits and souls of the righteous, sing a hymn to God for ever.

5. John and Paul said to Gallican, "Make a vow to the God of heaven, and you will be a greater conquerer than you have ever been."

Little Chapter Hebr. 11

Through faith, the saints conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hymn

Eternal gifts of Christ the King,
With martyrs' victories let us sing,
And high today our voices raise,
In due and joyful songs of praise.

They vanquished every worldly fear,
Made light of pain and anguish here;
And, death's brief struggle o'er, possess
The life of perfect blessedness.

By savage beasts are martyrs riven,
A death by fire to them is given;
On them hook-torn and torment rent
The rage of torturer is spent.

Their entrails hang from body gashed,
Their sacred blood the earth has splashed;
Yet firm and dauntless they remain,
The prize of endless life to gain.

We pray you, now, Redeemer King,
Your lowly suppliants to bring
To join that martyr company
And be with them eternally.
Amen.

V. God is to be feared.
Ry. In his holy place.

Bened. ant. The holy martyrs of Christ, John and Paul, said to Julian, "For us there is but one God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, alleluia."

Prayer

We beseech you, almighty God, that on this feast we may receive a twofold joy in the triumph of the blessed John and Paul, whom the same faith and the same martyrdom truly united as brothers. Through.

At the Hours psalms and antiphon are from weekday.

VESPERS

Ant. to psalms Paul and John said to Julian, "We

worship the one God who made heaven and earth.”

Psalms from the Common of many Martyrs [89].

The Little chapter, hymn and V. are taken from the same Common [91].

Magnif. ant. These are two olive trees and two shining lampstands before the Lord. They have power to shut the sky against the clouds, and also to open its gates, for their tongues have become keys of heaven alleluia.

Compline from weekday.

28 June

Vigil of the feast of SS. Peter and Paul

II class

The ferial Office is said, as in the Ordinary and in the Psalter, with the exception of the lessons which are given here.

The prayer of the previous Sunday is said.

MATINS

Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Lesson i Chapter 21

At that time, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” Etc.

Homily of St. Augustine, Bishop

Treatise 123 on John, no. 5

The threefold confession makes up for the threefold denial, lest his tongue should seem slower now in expressing sentiments of love than it had previously been in voicing words prompted by fear, and lest imminent death should seem to evoke more vehement speech than Life who is present. If denial of the Shepherd was a sign of fear, then to feed the Lord’s flock should be a work of love. Those who feed Christ’s flock so as to make them their own, rather than Christ’s, show that they love themselves and not Christ. Their motives are ambition, power and wealth, not those of obedience, service and the desire to please God in charity.

The responsories of the current weekday are said, as in the Office of the Season.

Lesson ii

This command, emphasised by Christ, serves as a warning against those of whom the apostle speaks as looking after their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. For what else does this mean, “If you love

me, feed my sheep,” but: “If you love me, do not be solicitous about feeding yourself, but feed my sheep because they are mine and not yours. Seek my glory in them and not your own, my domination and not your own, my gain and not your own, lest you be numbered with those who belong to perilous times and who love themselves and all else that springs from that source of evil, self-love”?

Lesson iii

Rightly, then, is Peter asked, “Do you care for me?” And when he answers, “I love you”, he is given the command, “Feed my lambs.” This is repeated a second and a third time. Here it is shown that loving and caring-for are one and the same thing. For our Lord does not ask finally, “Do you care for me?” but, “Do you love me?” We should, therefore love him, not ourselves, and in tending to his flock we should seek his interests, not our own. Indeed I cannot explain how it comes about that he who loves himself rather than God, does not love himself, while he who loves God rather than himself, loves himself. For he who cannot live of himself, really

who by self-love destroys his life, obviously, does not really love himself.

29 June

SS. Peter and Paul, Apostles

I class

I VESPERS

Ant. to psalms “Who do men say that the Son of man is?” said Jesus to his disciples. Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” “And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church.”

Psalm Praise, O servants. etc. [1].

Little Chapter Acts 12

Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Ry. Cornelius, a centurion, a devout man who feared God, saw clearly an angel of God who said to him, * “Cornelius, send, and bring one Simon who is called Peter. He will tell you what to do.” **V.** As Cornelius, still unbaptized, was praying, an angel appeared to him, saying. — Cornelius. — Glory. — He will tell you.

Hymn

Rays that are golden, roselike in their loveliness,

Light of light shining, you
diffused through every
age,
Heavens adorning by the
noble martyrdom
Which, on this day, brings
pardon to the guilty ones.

Warden of heaven. Teacher
of the Gentiles, too.
These are earth's judges;
true lights of the uni-
verse.

Cross brings one triumph;
sword brings one the
victory.

So are they laurelled, Life's
immortal senators.

Two olives standing, single
in your loyalty,
Pray we be faithful, earnest,
strong in hopefulness,
Filled from that fountain
giving twofold charity,
And, body lifeless, that we
live eternally.

Glory eternal be unto the
Trinity,
Honour and power, joyful-
ness in Unity.

His the dominion that re-
mains unchangingly,
Now and for ever, through
the years eternally.

Amen.

V. You are Peter. **Ry.**
And on this rock I will
build my church.

R. **Magnif. ant.** The blessed
apostle Peter saw Christ
coming towards him, and

adoring him, said, "Lord,
where are you going?"
"I go to Rome to be
crucified again."

Prayer

Grant, we beseech you,
almighty God, that
no troubles may be per-
mitted to shake us whom
you have firmly fixed on
the rock of apostolic con-
fession. Through.

**If this feast is transferred
or celebrated on a Monday,
the prayer at I Vespers is as
follows:**

Prayer

O God, you sanctified
this day by the martyr-
dom of your apostles Peter
and Paul; grant that your
church may follow in all
things the precepts of those
through whom she received
the fundamentals of our
religion. Through.

Sunday Compline.

MATINS

Invit. Let us adore
Christ the Lord, the King
of kings. * He glorified
the blessed apostle Peter by
martyrdom on the cross.

Hymn

Rays that are golden,
roselike in their love-
liness,
Light of light shining, you
diffused through every
age,

Heavens adorning by the
noble martyrdom
Which, on this day, brings
pardon to the guilty
ones.

Warden of heaven. Teacher
of the Gentiles, too.

These are earth's judges;
true lights of the uni-
verse.

Cross brings one triumph;
sword brings one the
victory.

So are they laurelled, Life's
immortal senators.

Two olives standing, single
in your loyalty,

Pray we be faithful, earnest,
strong in hopefulness,

Filled from that fountain
giving twofold charity,

And, body lifeless, that we
live eternally.

Glory eternal be unto the
Trinity,

Honour and power, joyful-
ness in Unity.

His the dominion that re-
mains unchangingly,

Now and for ever, through
the years eternally.

Amen.

I Nocturn

Ant. 1 The sick were
placed in beds in the streets
that, as Peter came by, at
least his shadow might fall
on some of them, and they
might be healed.

**Psalms from the Common
of Apostles** [39].

Ant. 2 Peter said to the
chief priests, "Jesus, whom
you killed by hanging him
upon a tree, God has raised
up, and has exalted him as
Leader and Saviour to give
repentance unto forgive-
ness."

Ant. 3 The apostle Peter
said to the paralytic,
"Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals
you; rise and make your
bed." And immediately he
rose, and all who saw him
turned to the Lord.

V. Their span goes forth
through all the earth. **Ry.**
And their words to the ut-
most bounds of the world.

From the Acts of the
Apostles

Lesson i Chapter 3

Now Peter and John were
going up to the temple
at the hour of prayer, the
ninth hour. And a man
lame from birth was being
carried, whom they laid
daily at that gate of the
temple which is called
Beautiful to ask alms of
those who entered the
temple. Seeing Peter and
John about to go into the
temple, he asked for alms.
And Peter directed his gaze
at him, with John, and said,
"Look at us." And he
fixed his attention upon
them, expecting to receive
something from them.

Ry. i. Simon Peter, be-
fore I called you from the

ship, I knew you. I have appointed you prince over my people, * and I have given you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. **V.** Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. — And I have given.

Lesson ii

But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but I give you what I have; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. And leaping up he stood and walked and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. And all the people saw him walking and praising God, and recognised him as the one who sat for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Ry. ii. “If you love me, Simon Peter, feed my sheep.” “Lord, you know that I love you, * and I will lay down my life for you. **V.** Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you.” — And I will lay down.

Lesson iii

While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon’s, astounded. And when Peter saw it he addressed the people, “Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate when he had decided to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And his name, by faith in his name, has made this man strong whom you see and know; and the faith which is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.”

Ry. iii. Cornelius, a centurion, a devout man who feared God, saw clearly an angel of God who said to him, * “Cornelius, send, and bring one Simon who is called Peter. He will tell you what to do.” **V.** As Cornelius, still unbap-

tized, was praying, an angel appeared to him, saying. — Cornelius. — Glory. — He will tell you.

II Nocturn

Ant. 4 Now there was a disciple named Tabitha, full of good works and acts of charity, who fell sick and died; the disciples sent to Peter entreating him, “Please come to us without delay.”

Ant. 5 When Peter had come, all the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing coats and garments which Dorcas made while she was with them.

Ant. 6 Peter knelt down and prayed, and turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, rise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive.

V. You will make them princes over all the earth. **Ry.** May this song make your name remembered, Lord.

Sermon of St. Leo, Pope

Sermon I on the birthday of the apostles Peter and Paul

Lesson iv

Dearest beloved, the whole world shares in all

sacred functions, and adherence to a common faith requires that the commemoration of an event, conducive to the salvation of all, should be celebrated by all with universal joy. But today’s feast, apart from the honour it merits throughout the world, should be celebrated with a special, personal joy here in our own city of Rome. Since it was here that the glorious death of the chief apostles took place, here also, on the anniversary of their martyrdom, should be the greatest rejoicing. These are they through whom you, Rome, received the light of the gospel of Christ, and you who had been a teacher of error have become a disciple of truth.

Ry. iv. “Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water.” And he reached out his hand and caught him. * And Jesus said, “O man of little faith, why did you doubt?” **V.** But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” — And Jesus said.

Lesson v

These are your fathers and your true shepherds; they have opened to you the heavenly kingdom and have built far better and much more

happily than those by whose endeavour the first foundations of your walls were laid. Indeed one of those, the one whose name you bear, outraged you by fratricide. But these apostles raised you to such eminence that you became a holy nation, a chosen race, the city of the royal priesthood and capital of the world, because of the holy See of the blessed Peter. Your rule became more extensive, by reason of divine faith, than it had been through earthly domination. Though you extended your imperial sway over land and sea by many telling victories, yet warlike campaigns gained less for you than that which christian peace brought under your rule.

Ry. v. You are the shepherd of the sheep, the prince of the apostles; to you the Lord has given all the kingdoms of the world.* And therefore the keys of the kingdom of heaven have been given to you. **V.** For to you was given, by the Lord, authority to bind and to loose. — And therefore.

Lesson vi

It was altogether in conformity with the divine plan that many nations should be joined together under one rule. In this way

the universal preaching of the word of God becomes more quickly accessible to peoples governed by one city. This city, while ruling almost every nation, accepted the false teachings of all, unaware of the Author of her own well-being. She thought she had established an all-embracing religion, because she rejected no falsehood. Thus, the more firmly she was bound by the devil, the more wonderfully was she freed by Christ.

Ry. vi. Get up, Peter, and dress yourself; receive strength to save the nations, * for the chains have fallen off your hands. **V.** An angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter, on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." — For the chains. — Glory. — For the chains.

III Nocturn

Ant. 7 Cornelius, a centurion, a devout man who feared God, saw clearly an angel of God who said to him, "Cornelius, send, and bring one Simon who is called Peter. He will tell you what to do."

Ant. 8 Peter opened his mouth and said, "Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation any one who fears

him and does what is right is acceptable to him."

Ant. 9 While Peter was still saying this, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word, and they were speaking in tongues and extolling God. And Peter commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

V. To me, how mysterious are your thoughts, O God! **Ry.** The sum of them is not to be numbered.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson viii Chapter 16

At that time, when Jesus came into the district of Caesare'a Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" Etc.

Homily of St. Jerome, Priest

Book 3 Commentary on Matthew, ch. 16

Fittingly does he ask, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" For those who speak of the Son of man are men, but those who are aware of his divinity are not called men but gods. And his disciples answered, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Eli'jah." I am amazed

that some commentators should inquire into the reasons for all the errors, and discuss at great length why our Lord Jesus Christ was thought by some to be John and by others to be Eli'jah or Jeremiah or one of the prophets, since these could be mistaken about Eli'jah and Jeremiah, as was Herod about John, when he said, "This is John the Baptist, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him."

Ry. vii. "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" Jesus asked his disciples. Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." * "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church. **V.** Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven." — And I tell you.

Lesson viii

But who do you say that I am?" Notice, attentive reader, from what follows as well as from the context of the discourse, that the apostles are called not men but gods. For when he asked, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" he added, "But who do you say that I am?"

His meaning is, "Those others, being men, think in human terms, but you who are gods, who do you say that I am?" Peter, on behalf of all the apostles, professed, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." He calls God "living" in contrast to those who were considered gods, but who are dead.

Ry. viii. I have prayed for you, Peter, * that your faith may not fail; and when you have turned again, strengthen your brethren. **V.** Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you. — That your faith.

Lesson ix

And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona!" In return for the apostle's testimony of him, Jesus now testifies to the apostle. Peter had said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." This truthful avowal received its reward, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona." Why? "For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but the Father has revealed it." What flesh and blood could not reveal has been revealed by the grace of the Holy Spirit. The apostle's name is vindicated by his testi-

mony. He received a revelation from the Holy Spirit whose son he is called, for in our language Bar-Jona means the Son of the dove.

Ry. ix. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, * and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. **V.** And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church. — And whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. — Glory. — In heaven.

Before Lauds V. You are Peter. **Ry.** And on this rock I will build my church.

LAUDS

Antiphons (and at the Hours)

1. Peter and John went up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

Psalm The Lord is king, p. 29.

2. I have no silver and gold, but I give you what I have.

3. The angel said to Peter, "Dress yourself and follow me."

4. "Do you love me, Peter? Tend my sheep." "Lord, you know that I love you."

5. You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church.

Little Chapter Acts 12
Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Hymn

Two olives standing,
Single in your loyalty,
Pray we be faithful, earnest,
strong in hopefulness,
Filled from that fountain
giving twofold charity,
And, body lifeless, that we
live eternally.

Glory eternal be unto the
Trinity,
Honour and power, joyfulness
in Unity.
His the dominion that remains
unchangingly,
Now and for ever through
the years eternally.
Amen.

V. They will tell what
God has done. **Ry.** They
will understand God's
deeds.

Bened. ant. "Whatever
you bind on earth shall be
bound in heaven, and what-
ever you loose on earth
shall be loosed in heaven,"
said the Lord to Simon
Peter.

Prayer

O God, you sanctified
this day by the martyr-
dom of your apostles Peter
and Paul; grant that your

church may follow in all
things the precepts of those
through whom she received
the fundamentals of our
religion. Through.

**At the Hours psalms
from Sunday.**

TERCE

Ant. I have no silver
and gold, but I give you
what I have.

Little Chapter as in Lauds.

Ry. Their span goes
forth through all the earth,*
alleluia, alleluia. — Their
span. **V.** Their words to
the utmost bounds of the
world. — Alleluia. — Glory.
— Their span.

V. You will make them
princes over all the earth.
Ry. May this song make
your name remembered,
Lord.

SEXT

Ant. The angel said to
Peter, "Dress yourself and
follow me."

Little Chapter Acts 12

An angel of the Lord
appeared, and a light
shone in the cell; and he
struck Peter on the side
and woke him, saying, "Get
up quickly." And the
chains fell off his hands.

Ry. You will make them
princes over all the earth,*
alleluia, alleluia. — You will.

℣. May this song make your name remembered, Lord. — Alleluia. — Glory. — You will.

℣. Come, how mysterious are your thoughts, O God!
℞. The sum of them is not to be numbered.

NONE

Ant. You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church.

Little Chapter Acts 12

Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.

℣. To me, how mysterious are your thoughts, O God, * alleluia, alleluia. — To me. ℣. The sum of them is not to be numbered. — Alleluia. — Glory. — To me.

℣. They will tell what God has done. ℞. They will understand God's deeds.

II VESPERS

Ant. to psalms Peter and John went up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

Psalms from the Common of Apostles [49].

Little Chapter Ephes. 2

So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow

citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

Hymn

Rays that are golden, roselike in their loveliness,
Light of light shining, you diffused through every age,

Heavens adorning by the noble martyrdom
Which, on this day, brings pardon to the guilty ones.

Warden of heaven. Teacher of the Gentiles, too.

These are earth's judges; true lights of the universe.

Cross brings one triumph; sword brings one the victory.

So are they lauelled, Life's immortal senators.

Two olives standing, single in your loyalty,

Pray we be faithful, earnest, strong in hopefulness,

Filled from that fountain giving twofold charity,

And, body lifeless, that we live eternally.

Glory eternal be unto the Trinity,

Honour and power, joyfulness in Unity.

His the dominion that remains unchangingly,
Now and for ever, through the years eternally.
Amen.

℣. Their span goes forth through all the earth.
℞. Their words to the utmost bounds of the world.

Magnif. ant. As the glorious princes of the earth loved each other in life, in death they were not divided.

Prayer

O God, you sanctified this day by the martyrdom of your apostles Peter and Paul; grant that your church may follow in all things the precepts of those through whom she received the fundamentals of our religion. Through.

Compline from Sunday.

30 June

Commemoration of St. Paul, Apostle

III class

MATINS

Invit. Let us praise our God * on the festival of the apostle Paul.

Hymn

Doctor excelling, teach us, Paul, to live aright. With best endeavour, strive to raise our minds aloft,

Till that perfection fully shall be granted us,
When partial knowledge wholly shall have passed from us.

Glory eternal be unto the Trinity,
Honour and power, joyfulness in Unity.

His the dominion that remains unchangingly,
Now and for ever, through the years eternally.
Amen.

Nocturn

Ant. 1 He who worked through Peter for the mission to the circumcised, worked through me also for the Gentiles, and they perceived the grace that was given to me by Christ the Lord.

Psalms from the Common of Apostles [39].

Ant. 2 I know whom I have believed, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.

Ant. 3 To me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain; my glory must be in the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ant. 4 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Ant. 5 You are a chosen instrument, holy apostle

Paul, the preacher of truth throughout the whole world.

Ant. 6 The great Saint Paul, a chosen instrument, is indeed rightly honoured; for he was found worthy to possess the twelfth throne.

Ant. 7 Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I have been shipwrecked for Christ the Lord.

Ant. 8 There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day.

Ant. 9 To keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace, Paul, is sufficient for you."

℣. To me, how mysterious are your thoughts, O God! **℟.** The sum of them is not to be numbered.

From the Acts of the Apostles

Lesson i Chapter 13

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Symeon who was

called Niger, Lucius of Cyre'ne, Man'a-en a member of the court of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleu'cia; and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

℟. i. He who worked through Peter for the mission to the circumcised worked through me also for the Gentiles, and they perceived the grace of God * that was given to me. **℣.** God's grace toward me was not in vain, and his grace ever abides in me. — That was given to me.

Lesson ii

When they arrived at Sal'amis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet, named Bar-Jesus. He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man

of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. But El'ymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) withstood them, seeking to turn away the proconsul from the faith. But Saul, who is also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord. Now Paul and his company set sail from Paphos, and came to Perga in Pamphyl'ia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem.

℟. ii. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. * Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness. **℣.** By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward

me was not in vain. — Henceforth.

Sermon of St. John Chrysostom

Homily 8 in praise of Paul Lesson iii

It often happens that the eye, captivated by the brightness of the sun, forces itself to look directly at that object of light shining on high. Though the vision is unequal to the strain of gazing at the sun's rays, yet, since it wishes to behold this fascinating light, it strives to contend with the brilliance of the radiant orb. I experience something akin to this, when I find my mental vision impaired by the rays of the apostle Paul's splendour, but I strive, nevertheless, to view, as from afar, the spirit of Paul, shining with the brilliant light of virtue, and make a determined effort to gaze upon the insupportable rays of this sun. For, in truth, Paul is a sun to mankind; he has shed light over almost all the earth by the shining radiance of his word and, in travelling through every nation, has traced a course like that of the sun.

℟. iii. Holy apostle, Paul, preacher of truth and teacher of the Gentiles, intercede for us with God, * who has chosen you. **℣.**

That we may be made worthy by the grace of God. — Who has chosen you. — Glory. — Who has chosen you.

Before Lauds *V.* You grant me the heritage. *R.* Of those who fear you, Lord.

LAUDS

Antiphons

1. I planted, Apol'os watered, but God gave the growth, alleluia.

Psalm The Lord is king, etc. p. 29.

2. I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

3. God's grace toward me was not in vain, and his grace ever abides in me.

4. At Damascus, the governor under King Ar'etas tried to seize me, but I was let down in a basket, by the brethren, through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands, in the name of the Lord.

5. Holy apostle, Paul, preacher of truth and teacher of the Gentiles, intercede for us with God, who has chosen you.

Little Chapter *Phil. 1*

Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Hymn

Eternal gifts of Christ the King,
Apostles' glory, let us sing;
And all with hearts of gladness raise
Due hymns of thankful love and praise.

For, rulers of the churches they,
Triumphant leaders in the fray;
The heavenly King's own warrior band,
True lights to lighten every land.

They kept the steadfast faith of saints,
The hope that never yields nor faints,
The love of Christ in perfect glow,
That lays the prince of this world low.

In them the Father's glory bright,
In them the Spirit's true delight;
In them the Son with joy abounds,
In exultation heaven resounds.

We pray you now, Redeemer King,
Your lowly suppliants to bring
To join that blessed company,
And be with them eternally.
Amen.

V. They will tell what God has done. *R.* They will understand God's deeds.

Bened. ant. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day.

Prayer

O God, you taught the multitudes of Gentiles by the preaching of the blessed apostle Paul; grant us, we pray, that we who keep his feast may experience the effect of his prayers to you. Through.

At the Hours psalms and antiphon are from the weekday.

TERCE

Little Chapter *Phil. 1*

Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

R. Their span goes forth * through all the earth. — Their span. *V.* Their words to the utmost bounds of the world. — Through all. — Glory. — Their span.

V. You will make them princes over all the earth. *R.* May this song make your name remembered. Lord.

SEXT

Little Chapter *2 Tim. 1*

I know whom I have believed, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.

R. You will make them princes * over all the earth. — You will. *V.* May this song make your name remembered, Lord. — Over all. — Glory. — You will.

V. To me, how mysterious are your thoughts, O God! *R.* The sum of them is not to be numbered.

NONE

Little Chapter *2 Tim. 4*

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day.

R. To me, how mysterious are * your thoughts, O God! — To me. *V.* The sum of them is not to be numbered. — Your thoughts. — Glory. — To me.

V. They will tell what God has done. *R.* They will understand God's deeds.

1 July

The Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ

I class

I VESPERS

Ant. to psalms Who is this that comes from Edom, in crimsoned garments from Bozrah? He that is glorious in his apparel?

Psalm Praise, O servants, etc. [1].

Little Chapter Hebr. 9

When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

R. Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain and have ransomed men for God * by your blood. **V.** For you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God. — By your blood — Glory. — By your blood.

Hymn

Gladly, with joyful voice,
let every street re-
sound.
Ardent each countenance,
telling of joyousness,
Let young and old go forth,
bearing their torches
bright;
All being done in good
order.

While we adore that blood
which Christ, from many
wounds,
Shed as he, dying, lay on
the rough cross of wood,
We are reminded well of his
great sacrifice.
Surely, at least, we should
mourn him.

Injury grievous befell the
whole human race
As a result of the first
Adam's sinfulness.
But the new Adam's in-
tegrity, faithfulness,
Gives again life to all
peoples.

Since that strong cry, of
the Son in his frailty,
Went not unheard by his
Father in Paradise,
Much more, indeed, ought
Christ's life-blood appeal
to him,
So that he grant us his
pardon.

He, whosoever, his robe in
this blood shall wash,
Straightway will make
himself like to the angels
blest,
Cleansed from all blem-
ishes, roselike and beauti-
ful,
Pleasing, indeed, to the
Monarch.

Let no unstable one hence-
forth withdraw himself.
From the straight pathway
ere reaching the winning
post.
God, who assists us to
finish this race of life,
Gives to each one the great
trophy.

Show us your mercy, O
Father, all powerful,
For by the blood of your
Son you have purchased
us,
And by the Spirit so kind
renew life in us.
Bring us on high, then, to
heaven.
Amen.

V. By your blood, Lord,
you have ransomed men.
R. And have made them a

kingdom to our God.

Magnif. ant. You have
come to Mount Sion and to
the city of the living God,
the heavenly Jerusalem,
and to Jesus, the mediator
of a new covenant, and to
the sprinkled blood that
speaks more graciously than
the blood of Abel.

Prayer

Almighty, everlasting
God, you appointed
your only-begotten Son to
be redeemer of the world,
and willed to be appeased
by his blood. Grant us, we
pray, so to venerate with
solemn rite the price of our
salvation, and so to be de-
fended against the evils of
this life by its might, that
we may enjoy its fruit for
ever in heaven. Through
the same.

Compline from Sunday MATINS

Invit. Christ the Son of
God, who ransomed us by
his blood, * come, let us
adore.

Hymn

Rightful wrath of the
Creator
In avenging waters flood,
Plunged a world of godless
sinners,
Noah safe in ark of wood,
But, at last, love's wondrous
power
Washed the earth in
streams of blood.

Moistened by a rain so
wholesome,
Happy earth its joy must
show.
Where the thorn had once
abounded,
Flowers in profusion grow.
And instead of bitter worm-
wood,
All men sweetest nectar
know.

Straightway, then, the
deadly serpent
Harmful poison laid aside,
While the fierceness of the
wild beasts
And bloodthirstiness sub-
side.
This, indeed, was noble
conquest
By the gentle Lamb who
died.

O the depth of heavenly
wisdom
That no man can ever
sound!
O delightful, heartfelt
kindness
That shall ever be re-
nowned!
King supreme the death
did suffer
For the servant guilty
found.

When by sin we bring upon
us
Rightful Judge's sentence
grim,
Then may we be well
defended

By this blood that pleads
with him.
May accusing hosts of evil
Then depart to regions
dim.

Keeping well your gifts
most gracious
Let the ransomed world
adore;
Noble leader, source eternal,
Who salvation did restore,
With the Father and the
Spirit
Reigning blessed for ever-
more.
Amen.

I Nocturn

Psalm 2

Why this tumult among
nations, * among
peoples this useless mur-
muring?

They arise, the kings of
the earth, * princes plot
against the Lord and his
Anointed.

"Come, let us break
their fetters, * come, let us
cast off their yoke."

He who sits in the
heavens laughs; * the Lord
is laughing them to scorn.

Then he will speak in his
anger, * his rage will strike
them with terror.

"It is I who have set up
my king * on Sion, my holy
mountain."

(I will announce the
decree of the Lord:) ⁂ The
Lord said to me: "You are

my Son. * It is I who have
begotten you this day.

Ask and I shall bequeath
you the nations, * put the
ends of the earth in your
possession.

With a rod of iron you
will break them, * shatter
them like a potter's jar."

Now, O kings, under-
stand, * take warning,
rulers of the earth;

Serve the Lord with
awe * and trembling, pay
him your homage

Lest he be angry and you
perish; ⁂ for suddenly his
anger will blaze. * Blessed
are they who put their trust
in God.

Ant. 1 At the end of
eight days, when he was
circumcised, he was called
Jesus.

Psalm 3

How many are my foes,
O Lord! * How many
are rising up against me!

How many are saying
about me: * "There is no
help for him in God."

But you, Lord, are a
shield about me, * my glory
who lift up my head.

I cry aloud to the Lord. *
He answers from his holy
mountain.

I lie down to rest and I
sleep. * I wake, for the
Lord upholds me.

I will not fear even
thousands of people * who
are ranged on every side
against me.

Arise, Lord; save me,
my God, ⁂ you who strike
all my foes on the mouth, *
you who break the teeth of
the wicked!

O Lord of salvation, *
bless your people!

Ant. 2 Being in an
agony he prayed more
earnestly: and his sweat
became like great drops of
blood falling down upon
the ground.

Psalm 15

Preserve me, God, * I
take refuge in you.

I say to the Lord: "You
are my God. * My happi-
ness 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 sor-
rows. * 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: * wel-
come 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 Judas, his betrayer, repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver, saying, "I have sinned in betraying innocent blood."

V. You have ransomed men, Lord. **R.** By your blood.

From the blessed apostle Paul's Letter to the Hebrews

Lesson i **Ch. 9**

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with

the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred which redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant.

R. i. Jesus suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. * Therefore, let us go forth to him outside the camp, bearing abuse for him. **V.** In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. - Therefore.

Lesson ii

For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. Hence even the first covenant was not ratified without blood. For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the

people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying "This is the blood of the covenant which God commanded you." And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the Law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

R. ii. Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it upon the people * and he said, "Behold the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you. **V.** By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the destroyer of the first-born might not touch them. - And he said.

Lesson iii **Chapter 10**

Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way which he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from

an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.

R. iii. You who once were far off have been brought near in the blood of Christ. * For he is our peace, who has made us both one. **V.** He was pleased, through him, to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. - For he is. - Glory. - For he is.

II Nocturn

Psalm 22

The Lord is my shepherd; * there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures * where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me, * to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path; * he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness * no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff; * with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me * in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil ; * my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me * all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell * for ever and ever.

Ant. 4 Pilate wishing to satisfy the crowd, having scourged Jesus, delivered him to them.

Psalm 29

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me * and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.

O Lord, I cried to you for help * and you, my God, have healed me.

O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead, * restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, * give thanks to his holy name.

His anger lasts but a moment ; his favour through life. * At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

I said to myself in my good fortune: * "Nothing will ever disturb me."

Your favour had set me on a mountain fastness, * then you hid your face and

I was put to confusion.

To you, Lord, I cried, * to my God I made appeal:

"What profit would my death be, my going to the grave? * Can dust give you praise or proclaim your truth?"

The Lord listened and had pity. * The Lord came to my help.

For me you have changed my mourning into dancing, * you removed my sackcloth and girded me with joy.

So my soul sings psalms to you unceasingly. * O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.

Ant. 5 When he saw that he was gaining nothing, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this righteous man's blood."

Psalm 63

Hear my voice, O God, as I complain, * guard my life from dread of the foe.

Hide me from the band of the wicked, * from the throng of those who do evil.

They sharpen their tongues like swords ; * they aim bitter words like arrows

To shoot at the innocent from ambush, * shooting suddenly and recklessly.

They scheme their evil

course ; * they conspire to lay secret snares.

They say: "Who will see us? * Who can search out our crimes?"

He will search who searches the mind * and knows the depths of the heart.

God has shot an arrow at them * and dealt them sudden wounds.

Their own tongue has brought them to ruin * and all who see them mock.

Then all men will fear ; * they will tell what God has done. They will understand God's deeds.

The just will rejoice in the Lord and fly to him for refuge. * All the upright hearts will glory.

Ant. 6 And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children."

V. The blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Ry. Cleanses us from all sin.

Sermon of St. John
Chrysostom

Homily to Neophytes

Lesson iv

Do you wish to hear of the power of the blood of Christ? Let us go back to that which prefigured

him. Let us recall the former type and re-tell the ancient Scripture.

In Egypt, at midnight, God threatened the Egyptians with a tenth plague that would destroy their first born, because they kept captive his first born people. But, lest the beloved Jewish people should also be in peril, since the one place harboured them all, a means of distinguishing them was found. Hence the wonderful portent from which you may truly learn this power. The vehemence of divine anger was awaited, and the bearer of death circled over every home. What, then, did Moses do? "Kill a yearling lamb," he said, "and mark the doors with its blood." What is that you say, Moses? Was it normal for sheep's blood to deliver a reasoning man? "Certainly," he replied, "not because it is blood, but because by it is clearly typified the blood of the Lord."

Ry. iv. Conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile. * You know that you were ransomed, not with perishable things such as silver or gold. **V.** But with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. - You know.

Lesson v

Indeed, statues of rulers, though lacking reason and speech, have sometimes been known to help men, endowed with reasoning soul, who had recourse to them. And this, not because they were made of bronze, but because they reproduced the likeness of the ruler. So, too, this blood, which lacked intelligence, delivered human beings who had souls; not because it was blood, but because it indicated that blood which was to come. Then, that destroying angel, when he saw the marked doorposts and lintels, passed over and did not dare to enter. Much more, therefore, will the enemy now withdraw if he sees, not the typifying blood placed on the doorposts, but the blood of Christ's truth shining on the lips of the faithful; that blood set apart for the doorposts of the temple. For if the angel drew back from the sign, how much will the enemy be terrified at the sight of the reality! Do you wish to consider a further quality of this blood? I would like you to study its source and the spring from which it flowed. It first came forth from the cross itself: its source was the very side of the Lord.

The soldier opened the side, he exposed the wall of that holy temple; and I have found the splendid treasure, I rejoice to discover the sparkling riches.

Ry. v. You were bought with a price. * So glorify God in your body. **V.** You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men. — So glorify.

Lesson vi

So, too, it was with regard to the lamb. The Jews killed the sheep and I have experienced the fruit of this sign. From the side flowed blood and water. I do not wish that you who listen should, in facile manner, pass over the inner meaning of so great a mystery. I have yet to speak of things that are hidden and that have a deeper meaning. I have said that the water and the blood display an image of Baptism and of the Sacraments, for from them the holy church was established by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit. Through Baptism, I say, and through the Sacraments, for these are seen to have been brought out from his side. From his side, therefore, Christ built the church, just as from Adam's side his wife, Eve, was brought into being. Indeed, Paul

III Nocturn

Psalm 73

testifies on this matter also, saying, "We are members of his body," referring obviously to his side. For as from Adam's side, God brought woman into existence, so also from his own side Christ gave us water and blood by which the church might be renewed. On the nineteenth centenary of the redemption of the human race, the Supreme Pontiff Pius XI, to bring to mind this benefit, so great that it baffles description, decreed that it should be celebrated by a most solemn Jubilee. That the fruits of the precious blood of Christ, the immaculate lamb, by which blood we were redeemed, might spread more abundantly among men and that this recollection might more vividly be brought home to the faithful, the same Supreme Pontiff raised the feast of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, to the rank of first class; as such to be celebrated each year by the universal church.

Ry. vi. God shows his love for us * in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. **V.** Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. — In that. — Glory. — In that.

Why, O God, have you cast us off for ever? * Why blaze with anger against the sheep of your pasture?

Remember your people whom you chose long ago, ζ the tribe you redeemed to be your own possession, * the mountain of Sion where you made your dwelling.

Turn your steps to these places that are utterly ruined! * The enemy has laid waste the whole of the sanctuary.

Your foes have made uproar in your house of prayer: ζ they have set up their emblems, their foreign emblems, * high above the entrance to the sanctuary.

Their axes have battered the wood of its doors. * They have struck together with hatchet and pickaxe.

O God, they have set your sanctuary on fire: * they have razed and profaned the place where you dwell.

They said in their hearts: "Let us utterly crush them: * let us burn every shrine of God in the land."

There is no sign from God, nor have we a prophet, * we have no one to tell us how long it will last.

How long, O God, is the enemy to scoff? * Is the foe

to insult your name for ever?

Why, O Lord, do you hold back your hand? * Why do you keep your right hand hidden?

Yet God is our king from time past, * the giver of help through all the land.

It was you who divided the sea by your might, * who shattered the heads of the monsters in the sea.

It was you who crushed Leviathan's heads * and gave him as food to the untamed beasts.

It was you who opened springs and torrents; * it was you who dried up ever-flowing rivers.

Yours is the day and yours is the night. * It was you who appointed the light and the sun:

It was you who fixed the bounds of the earth: * you who made both summer and winter.

Remember this, Lord, and see the enemy scoffing; * a senseless people insults your name.

Do not give Israel, your dove, to the hawk * nor forget the life of your poor servants for ever.

Remember your covenant; * every cave in the land is a place where violence makes its home.

Do not let the oppressed return disappointed; * let the poor and the needy bless your name.

Arise, O God, and defend your cause! * Remember how the senseless revile you all the day.

Do not forget the clamour of your foes, * the daily increasing uproar of your foes.

Ant. 7 So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And he said to them, "Here is the man."

Psalm 87

Lord, my God, I call for help by day; * I cry at night before you.

Let my prayer come into your presence. * O turn your ear to my cry.

For my soul is filled with evils; * my life is on the brink of the grave.

I am reckoned as one in the tomb: * I have reached the end of my strength,

Like one alone among the dead; * like the slain lying in their graves;

Like those you remember no more, * cut off, as they are, from your hand.

You have laid me in the depths of the tomb, * in places that are dark, in the depths.

Your anger weighs down upon me: * I am drowned beneath your waves.

You have taken away my friends * and made me hateful in their sight.

Imprisoned, I cannot

escape; * my eyes are sunken with grief.

I call to you, Lord, all the day long; * to you I stretch out my hands.

Will you work your wonders for the dead? * Will the shades stand and praise you?

Will your love be told in the grave * or your faithfulness among the dead?

Will your wonders be known in the dark * or your justice in the land of oblivion?

As for me, Lord, I call to you for help: * in the morning my prayer comes before you.

Lord, why do you reject me? * Why do you hide your face?

Wretched, close to death from my youth, * I have borne your trials; I am numb.

Your fury has swept down upon me; * your terrors have utterly destroyed me.

They surround me all the day like a flood, * they assail me all together.

Friend and neighbour you have taken away: * my one companion is darkness.

Ant. 8 And bearing his own cross, he went out to the place called the place of a skull. There they crucified him.

Psalm 93

O Lord, avenging God, * avenging God, appear! Judge of the earth, arise, * give the proud what they deserve!

How long, O Lord, shall the wicked, * how long shall the wicked triumph?

They bluster with arrogant speech; * the evil-doers boast to each other.

They crush your people, Lord, * they afflict the ones you have chosen.

They kill the widow and the stranger * and murder the fatherless child.

And they say: "The Lord does not see; * the God of Jacob pays no heed."

Mark this, most senseless of people; * fools, when will you understand?

Can he who made the ear, not hear? * Can he who formed the eye, not see?

Will he who trains nations, not punish? * Will he who teaches men, not have knowledge?

(The Lord knows the thoughts of men. * He knows they are no more than a breath.)

Happy the man whom you teach, O Lord, * whom you train by means of your law:

To him you give peace in evil days * while the pit is being dug for the wicked.

The Lord will not aban-

don his people * nor forsake those who are his own:

For judgment shall again be just * and all true hearts shall uphold it.

Who will stand up for me against the wicked? * Who will defend me against those who do evil?

If the Lord were not to help me, * I would soon go down into the silence.

When I think: "I have lost my foothold" * your mercy, Lord, holds me up.

When cares increase in my heart * your consolation calms my soul.

Can judges who do evil be your friends? * They do injustice under cover of law;

They attack the life of the just * and condemn innocent blood.

As for me, the Lord will be a stronghold; * my God will be the rock where I take refuge.

He will repay them for their wickedness, destroy them for their evil deeds. * The Lord, our God, will destroy them.

Ant. 9 As they saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water.

V. Christ loves us. **Ry.** And has freed us from our sins by his blood.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Lesson vii Chapter 19

At that time, when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. Etc.

Homily of
St. Augustine, Bishop

Treatise 120 on John

The evangelist picked his words carefully. He did not say, "He struck his side," or, "He wounded it," or anything else other than, "He pierced it." The door of life was thus, as it were, straightway opened wide. Through this flowed the church's sacraments, without which there is no entry into life, that is, true life. That blood which was shed was shed for the remission of sins. That water mingles with the life-giving drink; this provides both cleansing and refreshment. This is what was foreshadowed when Noah was ordered to make a door in the side of the ark, that through it might enter those animals that were not to perish in the flood: by them the church was prefigured. It was on account of this, too, that the first woman was made from the side of the sleeping man and was given

the name Life, and, Mother of the Living, which, before the great evil of the fall, signified a great good indeed. This second Adam, his head bowed, slept on the cross, so that, then, might be formed for him the bride who came out from his side as he slept. O Death by which the dead live again! Is anything more immaculate than this blood? Is anything more health-giving than this wound?

Ry. vii. This is he who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; * not with the water only, but with the water and the blood. **V.** On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin. — Not with the water.

Lesson viii

**Explanation of Psalm 95,
no. 5**

Men were held captive by the devil, and were slaves to evil spirits. But they have been redeemed from captivity. Though they could sell themselves, they could not redeem themselves. The Redeemer came and paid the price. He shed his blood and bought the whole world. Do you enquire what he bought? See what he paid,

and you will discover what he bought. Christ's blood was the price. What is worth so great a price? What, but the whole world? What, but all nations? Those people are very ungrateful for their ransom, or else very proud, who say either that it is so trifling as to have bought only the Africans, or that they themselves are so great that it was given only for them. Let them not boast or become conceited. What he gave, he gave for all.

Ry. viii. God destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ. * In him we have redemption through his blood. **V.** The forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us. — In him we have.

Lesson ix

Sermon 31 (otherwise 344)

He had blood by which he might redeem us. It was for this, precisely, that he received blood, that it should become that which he would shed to redeem us. If you so desire, your Lord's blood was given for you. If you do not so desire, it was not given for you. Perhaps you may say, "My God had

blood by which he might redeem me. But at his passion he already gave it all. What has he left that may be given for me?" The great thing is this, that he gave once and he gave for all. To him who desires it, Christ's blood is salvation; to him who does not desire it, it is punishment. Why, then, do you, who do not wish to die, hesitate to be freed from the second death? You are freed from that, if you are willing to take up your cross and to follow the Lord: for he took up his cross and sought the servant.

Ry. ix. Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain and have ransomed men for God * by your blood. **V.** For you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God. — By your blood. — Glory. — By your blood.

Before Lauds V. Therefore we beseech you to help your servants. **Ry.** Whom you have redeemed in your precious blood.

LAUDS

Antiphons (and at the Hours)

1. Who are these, clothed in white robes, and whence have they come?

Psalm The Lord is king etc. p. 29.

2. These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb.

3. Therefore are they before the throne of God and serve him day and night.

4. And they have conquered the dragon by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony.

5. Blessed are those who wash their robes in the blood of the lamb.

Little Chapter Hebr. 9

When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Hymn

We greet you, wounds of Christ above,
True tokens of his boundless love!
From which the streams of crimson blood
Pour forth in an unceasing flood.

In brightness, you the stars excel;
In fragrance, balm and rose as well;
In value, gems from Indies' home;
In sweetness, even honeycomb.

Through you, the refuge each one finds
That is all pleasing to our minds;
Here threatening foes shall never reach
Nor raging fury ever breach.

On Jesus stripped in judgment hall
How many blows are seen to fall!
What streams of blood flow all round
From broken flesh to splash the ground!

Alas! The graceful brow, in scorn
Is wounded by the crown of thorn;
With nails, their points unsharpened too,
Both hands and feet are pierced right through.

With love divine he welcomed death
And freely gave his final breath;
From heart then pierced by lance's blow
The double fluids start to flow.

That full redemption may be made
As in a winepress he is laid;
And Jesus, seeking selfless gains,
No drop of blood for self retains.

Let everyone of you draw near
On whom sin's dreadful stains appear;
In this, salvation's torrent, see,
The one who washes, clean shall be.

All thanks and grace be ever shown
To him who sits by Father's throne;
In blood, he ransomed us from hell,
And by the Spirit guides us well.
Amen.

V. Since we are justified by the blood of Christ.
Ry. We shall be saved by him from the wrath of God.
Bened. ant. "The blood of the lamb shall be a sign for you," says the Lord, "and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall fall upon you to destroy you."

Prayer

Almighty, everlasting God, you appointed your only-begotten Son to be redeemer of the world,

and willed to be appeased by his blood. Grant us, we pray, so to venerate with solemn rite the price of our salvation, and so to be defended against the evils of this life by its might, that we may enjoy its fruit for ever in heaven. Through the same.

At the Hours, psalms from Sunday.

TERCE

Ant. These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb.

Little Chapter Hebr. 9

When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Ry. You have ransomed men, Lord, by your blood,* alleluia, alleluia. - You have ransomed.

V. From every tribe and tongue and people and nation. - Alleluia, alleluia.

- Glory. - You have ransomed.

V. The blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. **Ry.** Cleanses us from all sin.

SEXT

Ant. Therefore are they before the throne of God and serve him day and night.

Little Chapter Hebr. 9

For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Ry. The blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, cleanses us,* alleluia, alleluia.- The blood. **V.** From all sin. - Alleluia, alleluia. - Glory. - The blood.

V. Christ loves us. **Ry.** And has freed us by his blood.

NONE

Ant. Blessed are those who wash their robes in the blood of the lamb.

Little Chapter Hebr. 9

Moses took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God commanded you."

Ry. Christ loves us and has freed us by his blood,* alleluia, alleluia. - Christ loves us. **V.** And he made us a kingdom and priests to his God and Father. - Alleluia. - Glory. - Christ. **V.** Since we are justified by the blood of Christ. **Ry.** We shall be saved by him from the wrath of God.

II VESPERS

Psalm 109

The Lord's revelation to my Master: * "Sit on my right: I will put your foes beneath your feet."

The Lord will send from Sion 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 daybreak 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, the Judge of the nations, will heap high the bodies; * heads shall be shattered far and wide.

He shall drink from the stream by the wayside * and therefore he shall lift up his head.

Psalm 110

I will thank the Lord with all my heart * in the meeting of the just and their assembly.

Great are the works of the Lord; * to be pondered by all who love them.

Majestic and glorious his work, * his justice stands firm for ever.

He makes us remember his wonders. * The Lord is compassion and love.

He gives food to those who fear him; * keeps his covenant ever in mind.

He has shown his might to his people * by giving them the lands of the nations.

His works are justice and truth: * his precepts are all of them sure,

Standing firm for ever and ever: * they are made in uprightness and truth.

He has sent deliverance to his people and established his covenant for ever. * Holy his name, to be feared.

To fear the Lord is the

beginning of wisdom ; all who do so prove themselves wise. * His praise shall last for ever !

Psalm 111

Happy the man who fears the Lord, * who takes delight in 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 honour.

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, gnashes his teeth and pines away ; * the desire of the wicked leads to doom.

Psalm 112

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 the dung-heap 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.

Psalm 147

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. Who are these, clothed in white robes, and whence have they come ?

Little Chapter Hebr. 9

When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Hymn

Gladly, with joyful voice,
let every street resound.
Ardent each countenance,
telling of joyousness,
Let young and old go forth,
bearing their torches bright ;
All being done in good order.

While we adore that blood which Christ, from many wounds,

Shed as he, dying, lay on the rough cross of wood,
We are reminded well of his great sacrifice.

Surely, at least, we should mourn him.

Injury, grievous, befell the whole human race

As a result of the first Adam's sinfulness.

But the new Adam's integrity, faithfulness,

Gives again life to all peoples.

Since that strong cry of the Son, in his frailty,

Went not unheard by his Father in Paradise,

Much more, indeed, ought Christ's life-blood appeal to him,

So that he grant us his pardon.

He, whosoever, his robe in this blood shall wash,

Straightway will make himself like to the angels blest,

Cleansed from all blemishes, roselike and beautiful,

Pleasing, indeed, to the Monarch.

Let no unstable one henceforth withdraw himself From the straight pathway ere reaching the winning post.

God, who assists us to finish this race of life, Gives to each one the great trophy.

Show us your mercy, O Father, all powerful, For by the blood of your Son you have purchased us, And by the Spirit so kind renew life in us. Bring us on high, then, to heaven. Amen.

¶. By your blood, Lord, you have ransomed men. R̄. And have made them a kingdom to our God.

Magnif. ant. You shall have this day for a memorial: and you shall celebrate it as a solemn feast to the Lord in all your generations with perpetual devotion.

Prayer

O almighty, everlasting God, you appointed your only-begotten Son to be redeemer of the world and willed to be appeased by his blood. Grant us, we pray, so to venerate with solemn rite the price of our salvation, and so to be defended against the evils

of this life by its might, that we may enjoy its fruit for ever in heaven. Through the same.

Compline from Sunday.

2 July

Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

II class

What is not given here will be found in Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary [20] the word Festival being changed to Visitation.

MATINS

I Nocturn

Blessing May the gracious Virgin of virgins intercede for us with the Lord. R̄. Amen.

From the Song of Songs

Lesson i Chapter 2

I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys. As a lily among brambles, so is my love among maidens. As an apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among young men. With great delight I sat in his shadow, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. Sustain me with raisins, refresh me with apples; for I am sick with love. O that his left

hand were under my head, and that his right hand embraced me!

R̄. i. Today Elizabeth is visited by the blessed Virgin Mary of the line of David, through whom the salvation of the world has been revealed to those who believe, * whose glorious life has given light to the world. ¶. With greatest reverence let us celebrate the Visitation of the most blessed Virgin Mary. — Whose glorious life.

Blessing May the holy Mother of God be a benefactress to us. R̄. Amen.

Lesson ii

I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or the hinds of the field, that you stir not up nor awaken love until it please. The voice of my beloved! Behold, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle, or a young stag. Behold, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.

R̄. i. Let us contemplate this most fitting Visitation of the glorious Virgin Mary. * The Lord looked on her nothingness; at the angels' message she conceived the Redeemer of the world.

¶. Today Elizabeth is visited by the blessed Virgin Mary of the line of David. — The Lord looked.

Blessing May the Virgin Mary with her loving child bless us. R̄. Amen.

Lesson iii

My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away. O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the covert of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet, and your face is comely.

R̄. iii. The stock of Jesse brought forth a shoot, and the shoot a branch, * and on this branch the Holy Spirit rests. ¶. The Virgin Mother of God is the shoot; her son, the branch. — And on. — Glory. — The Holy Spirit.

II Nocturn

Blessing May the Virgin Mother of God rescue us

from the evil enemy. *Ry.*
Amen.

Sermon of St. John
Chrysostom

At Metaphrastes in July

Lesson iv

When our Redeemer came to us, he came first to his friend John, while he was still in his mother's womb. When John in the womb had gazed on him in the womb, setting aside the restraints of nature, he cries out, "I see the Lord who has defined the bounds of nature, but I have not to wait until my birth; I have no need to remain silent for nine months, for he who is eternal is within me. I will go out from this dark resting-place and proclaim my stored-up knowledge of wonderful things."

Ry. iv. This is the Visitation of the glorious Virgin Mary, of the breed of Abraham, sprung from the tribe of Judah, of the renowned stock of David. * Her illustrious life casts splendour on all the churches. *V.* Mary is resplendent, born of kingly line. — Her illustrious life.

Blessing May Jesus, son of Mary, be gentle and kind to us. *Ry.* Amen.

Lesson v

I am a sign; I will indicate Christ's coming. I am a trumpet; I will make known the dispensation of the Son of God in the flesh. I will sound the trumpet and thus bless my father's tongue and loose it, that it may speak. I will sound the trumpet to quicken my mother's womb." You see, beloved, what a new and wonderful mystery is here. He has not yet been born and he speaks by leaping; he has not yet appeared and he sends forth warnings; he cannot cry out and he is heard by his actions; he has not yet drawn the breath of life and he preaches God; he has not yet seen the light and he points to the Sun.

Ry. v. Your Visitation, Virgin Mother of God, has proclaimed joy to the whole world; * for from you has risen the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, who, dispelling the curse gave us blessing, and overcoming death, gave us life everlasting. *V.* You are indeed happy, who alone obtained the dignity of motherhood without losing virginal purity. — For from you.

Blessing May most loving Mary, Star of the Sea, come to our aid. *Ry.* Amen.

Lesson vi

Though yet unborn, he hastens to prepare the way, for he cannot suffer restraint in the presence of the Lord. He will not await the time set by nature for his release, but strives to free himself from the prison-house of the womb in his eagerness to herald the Saviour to come. "He approaches," he says, "who loosens bonds. Why do I lie in prison; why do I remain here? The Word has come to establish all things, and am I still to linger in captivity? I will go forth; I will go before him and cry out to all, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.'"

Ry. vi. At the command of the Lord, who wished to increase our dignity, * as a bramble bringing forth a rose, so did Judea bring forth Mary. *V.* That virtue might overshadow vice and grace sin. — As a bramble. — Glory. — As a bramble.

III Nocturn

Blessing May the gospel lesson be to us well-being and protection. *Ry.* Amen.

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lesson vii Chapter 1

At that time, Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechari'ah and greeted Elizabeth. Etc.

Homily of St. Ambrose,
Bishop

Book 2 Commentary on
Luke, ch. 1

It is to be observed that the superior comes to the inferior, that the inferior may benefit thereby. Mary comes to Elizabeth; Christ comes to John. Later, the Lord went to John to be baptized that John's baptism might be sanctified. The blessings bestowed by Mary's coming and by the presence of the Lord are quickly shown. Notice the distinction and the aptness of each word. Elizabeth was the first to hear the voice of Mary, but John was the first to experience the grace. She heard in the natural way; he leaped by reason of the mystery. She was aware of Mary's coming; he was aware of the coming of the Lord.

Ry. vii. Mary is resplendent, born of kingly line. *

Through her prayers, we most earnestly beg to be strengthened in mind and spirit. **V.** With heart and mind let us sing glory to Christ on this sacred festival of the illustrious Mary, Mother of God. — Through her prayers.

Blessing May the loving Virgin Mary come to our aid in every trouble and hardship. **R.** Amen.

Lesson viii

These mothers speak of grace; their sons work inwardly and undertake a mysterious work of affection for the benefit of the mothers. By a twofold miracle, the mothers prophesy through the spirit of their children. The babe leaped and the mother is filled with the Holy Spirit. It was not the mother who was first filled with the Holy Spirit, but the son, and then the son filled his mother with the Holy Spirit. “And why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” Elizabeth is saying in effect, “What a blessing I have been granted! I perceive the miracle; I am conscious of the mystery that the mother of my Lord, bearing the Word in her womb, is indeed filled with God.”

R. viii. With heart and mind let us sing glory to

Christ * on this sacred festival of the illustrious Mary, Mother of God. **V.** Let us celebrate with joy the Visitation of holy Mary. — On this.

Blessing May the Queen of Angels bring us to the company of the heavenly citizens. **R.** Amen.

Lesson ix

“**A**nd Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her home.” It is aptly shown that she both rendered assistance and observed the mystic number. She stayed so long, not only out of friendship, but that her presence might also benefit so great a prophet. For if so much good resulted from her very approach that, at the sound of Mary’s greeting, the babe leaped in his mother’s womb, that the child’s mother was filled with the Holy Spirit, what great blessings, must we not suppose, resulted from her visit over such a long period? The prophet was anointed and, like a good athlete, was exercised in his mother’s womb. His strength was being provided for a most arduous contest.

R. ix. You are, indeed, happy, holy Virgin Mary, and most worthy of all

praise, * for, from you has risen the Sun of Justice Christ, our God. **V.** Pray for the people, plead for the clergy, intercede for the consecrated women; may all who celebrate your Visitation experience your assistance. — For. — Glory. — Christ, our God.

Before Lauds V. Pray for us, holy Mother of God. **R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LAUDS

Antiphons

1. This is the Visitation of the glorious Virgin Mary, of the breed of Abraham, sprung from the tribe of Judah, of the renowned stock of David.

Psalm The Lord is king, etc. p. 29.

2. Today is the Visitation of the holy Virgin Mary, whose illustrious life casts splendour on all the churches.

3. Mary is resplendent, born of kingly line; through her prayers we most devoutly beg to be strengthened in mind and spirit.

4. With heart and mind let us sing glory to Christ on this sacred festival of the illustrious Mary, Mother of God.

5. Let us celebrate with joy the Visitation of holy Mary that she may intercede for us with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Little Chapter Song. 2

Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for see, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth.

Hymn

OLady, crowned with glory bright,
Sublime above the starry height;
Your arms the great Creator pressed,
A suckling at your sacred breast.

What weak, unhappy Eve withdrew
You through your gracious Son renew;
Of heaven you are the entrance fair
That all afflicted may go there.

You are the Great King’s portal bright,
The gate by which came forth the Light:
Come, then, you ransomed nations, sing
The Life divine that she did bring.

O Mary, mother of all
grace,
True mercy's mother to our
race ;
Protect us now from
Satan's power,
And own us at life's closing
hour.

All glory be to you, O Lord,
The Virgin's Son, by all
adored ;
With Father and the Spirit
be
All glory yours eternally.
Amen.

∇. God has chosen
her, and has given her
preference. R̄. He gives
her his home to dwell in.

Bened. ant. Let us reverently
celebrate today's
Visitation of the Mother
of God, Mary ever-virgin,
by whom the supreme ruler
went forth, alleluia.

Prayer

Almighty and merciful
God, we humbly be-
seech your majesty, that as
you made known your only-
begotten Son through the
visit and greeting of your
mother to the child as yet
unborn, so likewise you
would grant to us, by the
merits and prayers of the
same mother, to see him
with unveiled face for all
eternity. Who lives and
reigns with you.

Commemoration of SS. Processus and Martinian, Martyrs.

Ant. These are the holy
ones who, for the love of
God, despised the threats
of men. The holy martyrs
rejoice with the angels in
the kingdom of heaven.
What a precious death is
that of the saints ! They
stand always in the pres-
ence of the Lord, and are
not parted from one an-
other.

∇. God is to be feared.
R̄. In his holy place.

Prayer

O God, you surround us
and protect us with
the glorious witness borne
by your holy martyrs Pro-
cessus and Martinian.
Grant that we may improve
by modelling ourselves on
them and that we may
rejoice in their intercession.
Through.

**At the Hours psalms
and antiphon from week-
day.**

TERCE

**Little Chapter as in
Vespers.**

R̄. Holy Mother of
God, * Mary ever virgin.
— Holy Mother of God. ∇.
Intercede for us with the
Lord our God. — Mary ever
virgin. — Glory. — Holy
Mother of God.

∇. After childbirth, O
Virgin, you remained in-
volute. R̄. Mother of
God, intercede for us.

SEXT

Little Chapter Song 2

Behold, my beloved
comes, leaping upon
the mountains, bounding
over the hills. My beloved
is like a gazelle, or a young
stag.

R̄. After childbirth, O
Virgin, * you remained
involute. — After child-
birth. ∇. Mother of God,
intercede for us. — You
remained. — Glory. — After
childbirth.

∇. You are beautiful
and pleasing. R̄. In your
winsomeness, O holy
Mother of God.

NONE

Little Chapter Song 2

Let me see your face, let
me hear your voice, for
your voice is sweet, and
your face is comely.

R̄. You are beautiful *
and pleasing. — You are. ∇.
In your winsomeness, O
holy Mother of God. — And
pleasing. — Glory. — You are.

∇. God has chosen
her, and has given her
preference. R̄. He gives
her his home to dwell in.

VESPERS

Little Chapter Song 2

Arise my love, my fair
one, and come away ;
for, see, the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the
earth.

Hymn

**A genuflexion is made
here until** Taking that
great Ave.

Hail, O Star of Ocean,
Gate of joy supernal,
Ever-virgin Mother
Of the Lord eternal.

Taking that great Ave
Once by Gabriel spoken,
Eva's name reversing,
Be of peace our token.

Break the sinners' fetters,
Light to blind restoring ;
Every ill drive from us,
All things good imploring,

Show yourself a mother,
May the one all holy,
Born for us your infant,
Grant, through you, prayer
lowly.

Virgin all excelling,
Ever meek and holy,
Freed from sin preserve
us,
Make us pure and lowly.

Keep our life all spotless,
All our ways defending,
Till we gaze on Jesus,
With a joy unending.

Praise then, God the Father
With Christ's worship
blending,
And the Holy Spirit,
In one praise unending.
Amen.

V. Pray for us, holy Mother of God. **R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Magnif. ant. Your Visitation, Virgin Mother of God, has proclaimed joy to the whole world. For from you has risen the Sun of Justice, Christ our God; who, dispelling the curse, gave us blessing, and overcoming death, gave us life everlasting.

COMPLINE

Ant. of psalms No woman born is your equal, Virgin Mary. Blossoming like the rose, fragrant as the lily! Pray for us, holy Mother of God.

Psalms from Sunday.

Nunc dimittis ant. With heart and mind let us sing glory to Christ on this sacred festival of the illustrious Mary, Mother of God.

3 July
St. Irenaeus
Bishop and Martyr
III class
MATINS

Lesson iii

Irenaeus was born a short distance from the city of

Smyrna. From boyhood he put himself under the direction of Polycarp, who was a disciple of Saint John and the bishop of Smyrna. After Polycarp's glorious martyrdom, Irenaeus laboured with incredible zeal to discover from others, who had been instructed by the apostles, what doctrine they had received to be preserved in the deposit of faith. To this end he called together as many as possible of such witnesses and committed to memory what he had learned from them, using it afterwards, as occasion required, to refute heresies. Going to France, he was appointed priest of the church at Lyons by Photinus the bishop, to whose office he succeeded. He discharged his episcopal duties so creditably, by his wisdom, his prayerfulness and his example, that, in a short time, he saw, not only the people of Lyons, but also many in other French towns, abandon superstition and error and enrol themselves in the christian army. He wrote many works, most of which have perished through the ravages of time, but his five books against heresies are extant. In the third of these he, above all, bears strong and outstanding witness to the church at Rome,

to its succession of bishops and to its faithful, constant and most sure guardianship of divine tradition. "It is necessary," he wrote, "that the whole church, that is, the faithful everywhere, should be in agreement with this church because of its greater authority." Irenaeus was crowned with martyrdom and passed to heaven in the year of salvation 202.

R. iii. Irenaeus, glorious friend of God, strong in the faith of the Lord Jesus, stood undaunted in the midst of agonising tortures. * Finally, distinguished by a triumphant death, decorated with blood, he took flight to heaven. **V.** By a profitable transaction, gaining the heavenly in exchange for the earthly, and the eternal for that which would perish. — Finally. — Glory. — Decorated.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you gave to the blessed Irenaeus, your martyr and bishop, power to overcome heresies by the truth of his teaching, and to establish peace successfully in the church; give to your people, we beseech you, steadfastness in holy religion, and grant your peace in these our times. Through.

5 July
St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria

Confessor
III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Anthony Mary Zaccaria was born at Cremona of noble parents. From boyhood he was remarkable for his purity of life and his kindness to the poor. During his studies of the humanities, philosophy and medicine, he far outstripped his fellow-students in virtue and intelligence. Under divine guidance he applied himself to the study of the sacred sciences and, after his ordination, became so renowned that he merited to be called, by his fellow-citizens, father and angel of his country. With Bartholomew Ferrario and James Morigia, two very holy men, he founded at Milan the congregation of Clerics Regular of Saint Paul and a society of pious women known as the Angelicals. He had an ardent devotion to the Blessed Eucharist and did much to promote the public exposition of the most holy Sacrament. Graced with heavenly gifts and weighed down by his heavy labours, he contracted a severe illness and died a very holy

death at Cremona on July 5 in the year 1539. Pope Leo XIII approved and confirmed the devotion shown him and enrolled him in the list of the saints.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast.

V. Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

Lord God, may we learn from the spirit of the apostle Paul that surpassing wisdom of Jesus Christ, in which the blessed Anthony Mary being wonderfully instructed gathered together within your church new families of clerks and virgins. Through.

7 July

Bl. Benedict XI

Pope and Confessor, O. P.
Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much,” says the Lord.

V. The just man will blossom as the lily. **Ry.**

And he will flourish before the Lord for ever.

Prayer

O God, by the grace of your blessing, you raised to heaven the blessed pontiff Benedict; sanctify your people, we pray, with a further blessing of your grace, and, by his merits and prayers, defend us, in your strength, from all threatening evils. Through.

9 July

SS. John, O. P. and Companions

Martyrs III class

MATINS

Invit. God, who has adorned his martyrs with everlasting crowns, * come, let us adore.

Hymn

As new and monstrous heresies are rising, Soldiers of Christ, too, grow in loyal fervour. Faith, all resistless, as a shield upholding, Firmly they counter.

“Bread come from heaven, that all men may savour, You, God, made ready,” cry they, bearing witness;

“You, Christ, appointed in the sound ark, Peter, Faith’s firm instructor.”

This band, most noble, now to death advances. One calls on Jesus, someone else on Mary; Thus, at death’s moment, with his breath expiring, Greeting his Mother.

So fell the heroes, on this day, life-crowning. Wild foe triumphant, lets brute strength make orgy;

Limbs, then, are scattered, having first been butchered:

Earth is blood-sodden.

Might, honour, power, be to God the Father; Give worship, likewise, to the Son for ever; And to the Spirit, sing, with voice unceasing, Hymns in his praises. Amen.

Nocturn

Ant. 1 They followed not the counsel of the wicked, but their delight was in the law of the Lord.

Psalms from the Common of Many Martyrs [78].

Ant. 2 On Sion, the holy mountain of the Lord, they announced the decree of the Lord.

Ant. 3 The eyes of the Lord look down on the poor, because the Lord is just and loves justice.

Ant. 4 They shall be admitted to the tent of God, and the victorious shall dwell on his holy mountain.

Ant. 5 The Lord is their portion and their cup; it is he himself who is their prize.

Ant. 6 They shall climb the mountain of the Lord and stand in his holy place, and they shall receive blessings from the Lord.

Ant. 7 The Lord looks on the just, to rescue their souls from death.

Ant. 8 The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; and those whose spirit is crushed he will save. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.

Ant. 9 The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

V. But the righteous live for ever. **Ry.** And their reward is with the Lord.

From the book of Wisdom

Lesson i Chapter 3

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be an affliction, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of men they were punished, their

hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever.

R. i. They continually offered up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. * Therefore, throughout all time they march crowned in triumph. **V.** The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day. — Therefore.

Lesson ii Chapter 5

Then the righteous man will stand with great confidence in the presence of those who have afflicted him, and those who make light of his labours. When they see him, they will be shaken with dreadful fear, and they will be amazed at his unexpected salvation. They will speak to one another in repentance, and in anguish of spirit they will groan, and say, "This

is the man whom we once held in derision and made a byword of reproach—we fools! We thought that his life was madness and that his end was without honour. Why has he been numbered among the sons of God? And why is his lot among the saints? So it was we who strayed from the way of truth, and the light of righteousness did not shine on us, and the sun did not rise upon us. We took our fill of the paths of lawlessness and destruction, and we journeyed through trackless deserts, but the way of the Lord we have not known." Such things as these the sinners said in hell, because the hope of the ungodly man is like chaff carried by the wind, and like a light hoar-frost driven away by a storm; it is dispersed like smoke before the wind, and it passes like the remembrance of a guest who stays but a day. But the righteous live for ever, and their reward is with the Lord; the Most High takes care of them. Therefore they will receive a glorious crown and a beautiful diadem from the hand of the Lord, because with his right hand he will cover them, and with his arm he will shield them.

R. ii. Your enemies, Lord, raise a tumult, and

those who hate you lift up their heads and conspire against those you love. * If God is for us, who is against us? **V.** We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks and recount your name. — If God.

Lesson iii

The sixteenth century, memorable for the disturbances of the error of Calvinism, provided in Holland a striking example of christian fortitude. The nineteen martyrs of Gorcum, as they are called, strove gloriously in defence of the Real Presence of Christ's body in the Eucharist and the Primacy of the Roman Pontiff. Among these was John, of the Order of Preachers, an alumnus of the house at Cologne. At the direction of his superiors, he had been administering the parish of Hoornaer in Holland. Having gone to the town of Gorcum to baptize an infant, he was taken by Calvinist followers and thrown into prison. There he shared the lot of other priests and religious already imprisoned for the faith. For several days and nights their constancy was tried by various forms of ridicule and ill-treatment. Then, half naked, they were taken by boat to Briel, and, on

the way, suffered incredible tortures at the hands of the soldiers, the sailors and the heretical mob. Finally they were hanged from a beam and strangled, thus receiving the palm of martyrdom on July 9 in the year 1572. Renowned for miracles, they were canonized by Pius IX.

R. iii. Then was heard what seemed to be the mighty voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying, "Alleluia! * Salvation and glory and power belong to our God for ever and ever. **V.** For his judgments are true and just; and he has avenged the blood of his servants." — Salvation. — Glory. — For ever and ever.

Before Lauds V. Blessed John and your companions, pray for us. **R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LAUDS

Antiphons

1. The Lord robed his saints with might; truly his decrees are to be trusted.

Psalm The Lord is king, etc. p. 29.

2. The sheep of the Lord's flock have gone within his gates, giving thanks; they have entered

his courts with songs of praise.

3. Their mouth shall praise the Lord with joy; the mouth of liars shall be silenced.

4. Bless the Lord, you priests of the Lord; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

5. Let the faithful rejoice in their glory, let them shout for joy and take their rest.

Little Chapter Rev. 12

The holy ones have conquered by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

Hymn

Night now is over, rising sun casts splendour Over the triumph of those valiant soldiers Fallen in battle on the field of Gorcum; Great in their courage!

Joyously rising, they ascend the heavens. God, himself, greets them in celestial mansions; There does he crown them with his light eternal: He is their glory.

Earth, too, applauding, tells the martyrs' story, Name of these victors flies through every nation;

Fame, then, resulting, in a praise most worthy, Sings of their merits.

O worthy offspring of Christ's holy martyrs, With brows encircled by triumphal garlands! Hear, and be mindful of your own who praise you:

By your prayer, save us.

Might, honour, power, be to God the Father; Give worship, likewise, to the Son for ever; And to the Spirit, sing, with voice unceasing, Hymns in his praises. Amen.

∴. God is to be feared. *Ry.* In his holy place.

Bened. ant. The Lord, the God of Israel, has visited his servants and redeemed them; he has glorified their name for ever, and has raised up for us a mighty saviour.

Prayer

O God, you crowned with the laurel of immortality the struggle made for the faith by your blessed martyrs, John and his companions; mercifully grant that, striving here on earth, we may likewise deserve, through their merits and following their example, to be crowned with them in heaven. Through.

At the Hours the psalms and antiphon are from the weekday.

TERCE

Little Chapter as at Vespers.

Ry. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord * exult, you just! - Rejoice. ∴. O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. - Exult. - Glory. - Rejoice.

∴. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God. *Ry.* They shall exult and dance for joy.

SEXT

Little Chapter Wisdom 5

The righteous will receive a glorious crown and a beautiful diadem from the hand of the Lord, because with his right hand he will cover them, and with his arm he will shield them.

Ry. The just shall rejoice * at the presence of God. - The just. ∴. They shall exult and dance for joy. - At the. - Glory. - The just.

∴. But the righteous live for ever. *Ry.* And their reward is with the Lord.

NONE

Little Chapter Hebr. 12

You have come to Mount Sion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innum-

erable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the first-born who are enrolled in heaven.

Ry. But the righteous * live for ever. - But the righteous. ∴. And their reward is with the Lord. - Live. - Glory. - But the righteous.

∴. God is to be feared. *Ry.* In his holy place.

VESPERS

Ant. to psalms The Lord robed his saints with might; truly his decrees are to be trusted.

Psalms from the Common of Many Martyrs [89].

Little Chapter Rev. 12

The holy ones have conquered by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

Hymn

Strength of the martyrs, sturdiness and courage, Prize of the victors, splendour and perfection, Christ, our King, hear us, calling to remembrance This wondrous triumph.

On this day, sacred, to that band unconquered God's faithful people joyfully do homage; Singing with reverence of Christ's noble soldiers, Faith's loyal pillars.

This joyful Order specially
now honours,
Midst band heroic, John's
most noble triumph;
Since that good pastor
sacrificed his life-blood
For his disciples.

These, then, aflame with
loyalty all holy,
Give to their people food
of life eternal:
No threat deters them;
God himself providing,
Kindles their spirit.

Might, honour, power, be
to God the Father;
Give worship, likewise, to
the Son for ever,
And to the Spirit, sing,
with voice unceasing,
Hymns in his praises.
Amen.

∇. Blessed John and your
companions, pray for us,
Ry. That we may be made
worthy of the promises of
Christ.

Magnif. ant. The Lord
raised up his humble serv-
ants and, remembering his
mercy, he received them
into his holy tabernacle.

Prayer

O God, you crowned with
the laurel of immortal-
ity the struggle made for
the faith by your blessed
martyrs, John and his com-
panions; mercifully grant
that, striving here on earth,
we may likewise deserve,

through their merits and
following their example, to
be crowned with them in
heaven. Through.

Compline from weekday.

10 July The Seven Brothers

Martyrs
III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

At Rome, during the per-
secution under Marcus
Aurelius, seven brothers,
the sons of Saint Felicitas,
were urged by Publius, the
prefect, first with promises
and later with threats, to
renounce Christ and to
worship the gods. But,
through their steadfastness
and their mother's en-
couragement, they perse-
vered in the faith and
suffered different forms of
death. Januarius was
flogged with scourges;
Felix and Philip were
beaten with clubs; Sil-
vanus was dashed headlong
from a great height, while
Alexander, Vitalis and
Martialis were beheaded.
They were put to death on
July 10. Four months later
their mother gained a like
palm of martyrdom.

Ry. iii. They washed
their robes and made them
spotless * in the blood of

the Lamb. ∇. These are
they who have come out
of the great tribulation, and
have washed their robes. -
In the. - Glory. - In the.

LAUDS

Prayer

Grant, we beseech you,
almighty God, that
we who know how strong
your glorious martyrs have
been in showing forth their
faith, may experience how
devoted they are in prayer
to you, on our behalf.
Through.

11 July BB. Ignatius and Dominic Bishops, O. P. and Companions

Martyrs
III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

During the fierce anti-
christian persecution
of Minh-Mang, king of
Annam, those imprisoned
at Nam-Dinh included,
from the Order of Preach-
ers, Bishop Ignatius Del-
gado, head of the mission,
and his assistants, Bishop
Dominic Henares and
Father Joseph Fernandez.
Together with twenty-three
natives, they were con-

demned to death. And so,
in the year 1838, they were
found worthy to receive
eternal glory. Francis
Chien, a catechist, and
Dominic Henares were be-
headed; Bishop Ignatius
perished from hardships in
a dungeon; the other
soldiers of Christ and
Dominic were hacked or
sawn to pieces, or died of
privation. These, with
some fifty others, among
them a Dominican tertiary,
Augustine Schoeffler of the
Paris Society for the Foreign
Missions, were beatified by
Leo XIII.

Ry. iii. They washed
their robes and made them
spotless * in the blood of
the Lamb. ∇. These are
they who have come out of
the great tribulation, and
have washed their robes. -
In the. - Glory. - In the.

Before Lauds and at
Vespers:

∇. Blessed Ignatius and
your companions, pray for
us. Ry. That we may be
worthy of the promises of
Christ.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you willed the
lands of Annam to be
moistened by the blood of
the blessed bishops, Igna-
tius and Dominic, and their
companions; through the

pleadings of these great martyrs let it blossom with the christian religion. Through.

12 July
St. John Gualbert

Abbot
III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

John Gualbert, who was born of a noble Florentine family, took up a military career in deference to his father's wishes. His only brother, Hugo, was murdered by a relative. On Good Friday John, accompanied by armed soldiers, met this man, who was alone, unarmed and unable to make his escape. The murderer, believing death was imminent, put his arms in the form of a cross and begged for mercy. Whereupon John, because of his reverence for that sacred sign, mercifully spared the murderer's life and accepted him as a brother. Later, John went to the church of Saint Minias and there he saw the figure of the crucified, before which he had worshipped, bow its head to him. Greatly moved by this, he abandoned his military career and, on the advice of Saint Romuald of the Camaldolese hermitage, put

on the monastic habit. He then founded an Order under the rule of Saint Benedict at Vallombrosa, its principal aims being to extirpate the crime of simony and to further the apostolic faith. Rich in virtue and merits, and blessed by converse with the angels, John died at Passignano at the age of seventy-eight on July 12 in the year 1073.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. **V.** Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

Let the intercession of the blessed abbot, John, commend us, we pray you, Lord, so that what we cannot gain by our own merits, we may obtain by his patronage. Through.

13 July
Bl. James of Voragine

Bishop and Confessor,
O. P.

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. "Well done, good and faithful servant; you

have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much," says the Lord.

V. The just man will blossom as the lily. **Ry.** And he will flourish before the Lord for ever.

Prayer

O God, you rendered your blessed confessor and bishop, James, a glorious herald of truth and an effective peacemaker; grant us, at his intercession, to love both peace and truth, and to reach you in whom peace is most perfect, and truth most pure. Through.

14 July
St. Bonaventure

Bishop, Confessor and
Doctor of the Church
III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Bonaventure, born at Bagnorea in Tuscany, entered the Franciscan Order while still in his youth. There he gave himself to study, making such progress under his teacher, Alexander of Hales, that after seven years, publicly at Paris, he interpreted with the greatest credit the Books of the Sentences. A man of unusual meekness and humility, he was in-

tensely devoted to the passion of Christ the Lord. When scarcely thirty-five years old, Bonaventure became Minister General of the whole Order, and fulfilled this office with such prudence that he became renowned, not only for his doctrine and holiness, but also for his ability and accomplishments. On this account, Pope Gregory X made him cardinal and bishop of Albano. He wrote many works of great scholarship, the finest being his commentaries on the Four Books of the Sentences. Bonaventure died, aged fifty-three, at Lyons, the Council being then in session. He was canonized by Sixtus IV and received the title of Seraphic Doctor from Sixtus V.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. **V.** Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you gave your people the blessed Bonaventure as a minister

of eternal salvation; grant, we beseech you, that we may be worthy to have him as an advocate in heaven whom we had on earth as a teacher of life. Through.

15 July
St. Henry, Emperor

Confessor
III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Henry, surnamed the Pious, who rose from duke of Bavaria to become king of Germany and later Holy Roman Emperor, gave himself unremittingly to the spread of religion. From his own resources he founded the bishopric of Bamberg and made it tributary to St. Peter and the Roman Pontiff. He gave asylum to the exiled Benedict VIII, whom he restored to his see, and then in defence of the church, undertook a war against the Greeks, recapturing Apulia which they had held for a long time. Henry was strengthened by divine aid in his campaigns against barbarian nations and relied more on the power of prayer than on force of arms. Hungary being still pagan, he gave his sister in marriage to

Stephen, king of that country, who after his baptism led it to the faith. Henry observed virginity in his married life and, before his death, restored his saintly wife, Cunegunda, inviolate to her family. At length, even more renowned for sanctity than for his kingly rule, he died in the year 1024. Pope Eugene III numbered him among the saints.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast. **V.** Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, today you transferred the blessed Henry, your confessor, from the height of earthly empire to the kingdom without end; we humbly ask that as you went beforehand with the abundance of your grace to make him overcome the allurements of the world, so too you would make us, like him, shun the enticements of this world and reach you in sinlessness of soul. Through.

16 July
Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. Let us reverently celebrate today's commemoration of the Mother of God, Mary ever virgin, by whom the supreme ruler went forth, alleluia.

V. God has chosen her, and has given her preference. **Ry.** He gives her his home to dwell in.

Prayer

O God, you have crowned the order of Carmel with the special title of the most blessed Mary, ever virgin and your mother; mercifully grant that we who today keep her feast with solemn rite, may be shielded by her protection and deserve to reach the joys that never end. For you live and reign.

If the commemoration of the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel occurs on Saturday, the Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday is said, but the above prayer is said at all the Hours.

17 July
Bl. Ceslaus
Confessor, O. P.
Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. "Well done, good and faithful servant; you

have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much," says the Lord.

V. The just man will blossom as the lily. **Ry.** And he will flourish before the Lord for ever.

Prayer

O God, you endowed the blessed Ceslaus with virginal purity of life and burning zeal for the salvation of souls, and made him wonderful to the people of different nations for his holy actions and the grace of propagating the faith; grant, we beseech you, that through his intercession we may always be steadfast in faith, and come to you, who alone are the author and giver of eternal salvation. Through.

18 July
St. Camillus de Lellis

Confessor
III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Camillus, of the noble Lelli family, was born at Bacchianico, a town in the diocese of Chieti. In his youth he served as a soldier and for a time led a disorderly life, but, moved to compunction for having offended God, he

went to the Friars Minor, known as Capuchins, and earnestly begged to be admitted among them. His wish was granted then and later, after he had left them for a time. But an infection of the leg, from which he had previously suffered, broke out once more, and, submitting himself humbly to the judgment of his superiors, he put off, for the second time, the habit which he had twice received. Camillus then went to Rome and was ordained priest. He founded the Congregation of Clerks Regular to minister to the sick, the members of the Congregation binding themselves by a fourth most difficult vow, to nurse even those sick who were suffering from plague. Worn out by constant fasting and labours, having patiently borne five long and troublesome illnesses, which he called the mercies of the Lord, he died on July 14 in the year 1614, aged sixty-five. Leo XIII declared him patron of all hospitals and of the sick, and ordered that his name be invoked in the litany of the dying.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast.

V. Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you endowed the blessed Camillus with an exceptional gift of love that he might be a help to souls struggling in their last agony; we ask you, by his merits, to pour out upon us your spirit of love whereby we may merit, in the hour of our death, to overcome the foe and gain the heavenly crown. Through.

19 July
St. Vincent de Paul

Confessor
III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Vincent de Paul was born at Pouy in Gascony. From childhood he was remarkable for his charity to the poor. Called from the task of herding his father's flocks to acquire a knowledge of letters, he was later ordained priest. Falling into the hands of the Turks, he was taken captive to Africa. From

there he escaped to France with his master whom he had brought back to the faith. Vincent dedicated himself to the salvation of souls, both in the parishes under his care and later in his apostolate on the galleys. For almost forty years he acted as spiritual director to the nuns of the Visitation, an office he fulfilled with the greatest prudence. Even in his declining years he laboured zealously in evangelizing the poor, especially those in country districts. By a perpetual vow, approved by the Holy See, he bound to that apostolic work both himself and the members of the Congregation which he founded under the name of Secular Priests of the Mission. Vincent established many associations to seek out and help the needy, and to educate girls. At length, in the year 1660, worn out by austerities, labour and old age, he slept peacefully in the Lord. Renowned for miracles, he was canonized by Clement XII, while Leo XIII declared and appointed him special patron of all those charitable societies in the catholic world which, in any way, owe their origin to him.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their

master to come home from the marriage feast. **V.** Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you strengthened the blessed Vincent with apostolic power to preach the gospel to the poor and to further worthiness in the ranks of the clergy; grant, we beseech you, that as we honour his good works we may be guided by the example of his virtues. Through.

20 July
St. Jerome Emiliani

Confessor
III Class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Jerome, who belonged to the patrician family of the Emiliani, was born at Venice. In early youth he took up a military career and was put in command of Castlenuovo, near Quero in the Treviso mountains, during the most difficult days of the republic. The fortress was taken by the

enemy and Jerome was thrown into a foul dungeon, from which he was rescued by the help of the Blessed Virgin. On his return to Venice, he gave himself wholeheartedly to the performance of works of mercy. Greatly moved with compassion for the children, especially the orphans, who wandered through the city, he provided them with shelter in houses he had rented, maintained them at his own expense and gave them a Christian education. It happened at that time that the blessed Cajetan, accompanied by Peter Carafa, later Paul IV, came to Venice. They approved of Jerome's activity and took him to a hospital for incurables, where he could, at the same time, train the orphans and tend the sick. Shortly afterwards, on their advice, he went to the adjoining mainland, first to Brescia and then to Bergamo and Como, establishing orphanages and other charitable institutions in these places. Finally he settled at Somascha, a hamlet near Bergamo, and here he laid the foundations of a new Order which was approved by Saint Pius V and which took its name from the hamlet. At last, while tending the sick, he contracted a contagious disease

and at the age of fifty-six in the year 1537 laid down his life for the brethren.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast.

V. Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, Father of mercies, through the merits and intercession of the blessed Jerome, whom you were pleased should be a helper and a father to the fatherless, grant that we may ever faithfully hold fast to the spirit of adoption whereby we are called, and are, your children. Through.

Commemoration of St. Margaret, Virgin and Martyr.

Ant. Come, my chosen one, and I will set my throne in you; for the king has desired your beauty.

V. She is led to the king with her maiden companions. **Ry.** Her destined companions are escorted in.

Prayer

We beseech you, Lord, that we may obtain pardon through the prayer of the blessed Margaret, your virgin and martyr, who was ever pleasing to you by reason of her chastity and practice of your virtues. Through.

21 July

**St. Praxedes
Virgin**

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. Come, my chosen one, and I will set my throne in you; for the king has desired your beauty.

V. She is led to the king with her maiden companions. **Ry.** Her destined companions are escorted in.

Prayer

Graciously hear us, God of our salvation, that as we rejoice in the feast of the blessed Praxedes, your virgin, we may be imbued with the spirit of holy earnestness. Through.

22 July

St. Mary Magdalen

III class

MATINS

Invit. Let us praise the eternal God, the three and

one. * He bore the saintly Mary to himself in heaven.

Hymn

O Mother Church, cry out and praise This clemency that Christ displays, Who, through the sevenfold power of grace, The sevenfold blemish does efface.

Of Lazarus a sister, too, This Mary much transgression knew; But at hell's mouth all sin she spurns, And to Life's threshold she returns.

The wanton life is given up, What was the sink is now the cup; From vessel held in scorn profound Comes vase of honour, high renowned.

Infirm to Healer then draws near, She brings the flask of perfumes dear; And, from disease of many kinds, At word of Healer, cure she finds.

In triumph coming, he who died, The risen Jesus, she espied; The first is she that joy to know Who more than others love did show.

For all his many favours done,
To God be glory, to the One
Who blots out penalties and sin,
And gives, instead, the prize we win.
Amen.

Nocturn

Ant. 1 When the Lord Jesus, the glory of the world, sat at table in Simon's house, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, brought forth sweet-smelling ointment of nard.

Psalms from the Common of a Virgin [130].

Ant. 2 Standing behind the Lord at his feet, with her hair unbound, weeping, she did not cease to kiss the divine feet.

Ant. 3 Then she washed the feet of the Lord Jesus and used her hair to dry them. When the alabaster flask was broken, the whole house was filled with the fragrance of the special perfumes.

Ant. 4 Now Simon said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner."

Ant. 5 And turning to him, the Lord said, "From the time I came into your house she has not ceased,

with hair unbound, to kiss my feet."

Ant. 6 Know that your sins are forgiven, for you loved much; and because your faith is great, I send you away in holy peace.

Ant. 7 Martha, the sister of Mary Magdalen, was distracted with serving, but Mary sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.

Ant. 8 Martha said, "Do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."

Ant. 9 But the Lord answered her, "One thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her."

V. God will help her through his watchful presence. **Ry.** God is within, she cannot be shaken.

From the Song of Songs

Lesson i Chapter 3

Upon my bed by night I sought him whom my soul loves; I sought him, but found him not. "I will rise now and go about the city, in the streets and in the squares; I will seek him whom my soul loves." I sought him, but found him not. The watchmen found me, as they went about in the city. "Have you seen him whom my soul loves?" Scarcely had

I passed them, when I found him whom my soul loves. I held him, and would not let him go until I brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me.

Ry. i. Let every age rejoice on the feastday of Saint Mary Magdalen, * whom Jesus, eternal love, loved much. **V.** This is that Mary who was most pleasing to the Lord, and who anointed the Lord's feet with precious ointment. — Whom Jesus.

Lesson ii Chapter 8

O that you were like a brother to me, that nursed at my mother's breast! If I met you outside, I would kiss you, and none would despise me. I would lead you and bring you into the house of my mother, and into the chamber of her that conceived me. I would give you spiced wine to drink, the juice of my pomegranates. O that his left hand were under my head, and that his right hand embraced me! I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, that you stir not up nor awaken love until it please. Who is that coming up from the wilderness, leaning upon her beloved? Under the apple tree I awakened you. There your

mother was in travail with you, there she who bore you was in travail. Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death, jealousy is cruel as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, a most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it.

Ry. ii. Happy was Mary who anointed the feet of the Lord Jesus, and wiped them with her hair; * and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. **V.** From the broken alabaster jar she poured the mixed perfume of balsam as she anointed the Lord's feet with the precious ointment. — And the house.

Sermon of St. Gregory,
Pope

Homily 25 on the Gospels

Lesson iii

Mary Magdalen, a sinner of the city, from her love of Truth, washed away with tears the stains of guilt. Then were the words of Truth verified, "Her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much." She who formerly, through sin, had been cool, later, through love, becomes fervent. She did not forsake the Lord's tomb, when even the disciples went

away. She sought him whom she did not find and, seeking him, she wept. Burning with love, she eagerly yearned for him who, she believed, had been taken away. And so it came about that she who stayed behind to seek him was the only one who found him at that time, for undoubtedly the perfection of a good work is perseverance.

Ry. iii. Let us all celebrate, fervently and reverently, the glorious solemnities of this day on which * the blessed Mary Magdalen merited to be taken up to heaven. **V.** Having finished her earthly course and having implored the divine goodness. — The blessed Mary Magdalen merited to be taken up to heaven. — Glory. — The blessed Mary Magdalen merited to be taken up to heaven.

Before Lauds V. Mary has chosen the good portion.

Ry. Which shall not be taken away from her.

LAUDS

Antiphons

1. Let all the earth sing out in highest praise on the feast of Saint Mary Magdalen.

Psalm The Lord is king, etc. p. 29.

2. She came with contrite heart and approached the feet of Jesus; she washed them with her tears, and wiped them with her hair.

3. Intercede for us, Mary Magdalen; pray always for us to the Lord Jesus.

4. Praise be to you, O good Jesus! You forgave the sinner many sins, because she loved much.

5. Mary, then, anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped them with her hair, and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment.

Little Chapter Prov. 31

A good wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.

Hymn

Eternal Father's only child.

On us look lovingly and mild;

Since Magdalen you call away

To glory and the throne, today.

Within the King's own treasure store

The coin, once lost, rests evermore;

The precious jewel sparkles bright,

Brought back from gutter to the light.

O Jesus, refuge, pleasing, sure,

The penitents' one hope secure;

Through sinner's worth, who fell so low,

Remit the debt of sin we owe.

O loving mother, kind and meek,

Be mindful of our nature weak;

Uplift your voice in prayer that we

Be guided in life's stormy sea.

For all his many favours done,

To God be glory, to the One

Who blots out penalties and sin,

And gives, instead, the prize we win.

Amen.

V. Her sins, which are many, are forgiven. **Ry.** For she loved much.

Bened. ant. O lamp of the world and gleaming pearl, who by announcing Christ's resurrection merited to become the Apostle of the Apostles, Mary Magdalen, be ever our loving advocate with God who has chosen you.

Prayer

Grant to us, most merciful Father, that as the

blessed Mary Magdalen, by loving our Lord Jesus Christ above all things, won the forgiveness of her sins, so may she obtain for us, through your mercy, everlasting happiness. Through.

At the Hours psalms and antiphon from weekday.

TERCE

Little Chapter as in Lauds.

Ry. Graciousness is poured * upon your lips. — Graciousness. **V.** Because God has blessed you for evermore. — Upon. — Glory. — Graciousness.

V. In splendour and state. **Ry.** Ride on in triumph.

SEXT

Little Chapter Prov. 31

She girds her loins with strength and makes her arms strong. She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night.

Ry. In splendour * and state. — In splendour and state. **V.** Ride on in triumph. — And state. — Glory. — In splendour.

V. God will help her through his watchful presence. **Ry.** God is within, she cannot be shaken.

NONE

Little Chapter Prov. 31

Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.

R. God will help her * through his watchful presence. — God. *V.* God is within, she cannot be shaken. — Through. — Glory. — God.

V. Her sins, which are many, are forgiven. *R.* For she loved much.

Prayer

Grant to us, most merciful Father, that as the blessed Mary Magdalen, by loving our Lord Jesus Christ above all things, won the forgiveness of her sins, so may she obtain for us, through your mercy, everlasting happiness. Through.

VESPERS

Ant. to psalms Let all the earth sing out in highest praise on the feast of Saint Mary Magdalen.

Psalms for the Common of a Virgin [142].

Little Chapter Prov. 31

A good wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.

Hymn

O Mother Church, cry out and praise
This clemency that Christ displays,
Who, through the sevenfold power of grace
The sevenfold blemish does efface.

Of Lazarus a sister, too,
This Mary much transgression knew;
But at hell's mouth all sin she spurns,
And to Life's threshold she returns.

The wanton life is given up,
What was the sink is now the cup;
From vessel held in scorn profound
Comes vase of honour, high renowned.

Infirm to Healer then draws near,
She brings a flask of perfumes dear;
And, from disease of many kinds,
At word of Healer, cure she finds.

In triumph coming, he who died,
The risen Jesus, she espied;
The first is she that joy to know,
Who more than others love did show.

Prayer

For all his many favours done,
To God be glory, to the One
Who blots out penalties and sin,
And gives, instead, the prize we win.
Amen.

V. Mary has chosen the good portion. *R.* Which shall not be taken away from her.

Magnif. ant. At that time, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that Jesus was sitting at table in the house of Simon the leper, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, and standing behind the Lord Jesus at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment.

Compline from weekday.

23 July

St. Apollinaris
Bishop and Martyr
Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. Let him who would come after me deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.

V. A gold crown upon his head. *R.* Inscribed like a signet with "Holiness."

O God, you gladden us by the annual solemnity of the blessed Apollinaris, your martyr and bishop; mercifully grant, that as we honour his feast we may also enjoy his protection. Through.

24 July

St. Christina
Virgin and Martyr
Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. Come, my chosen one, and I will set my throne in you; for the king has desired your beauty.

V. She is led to the king with her maiden companions. *R.* Her destined companions are escorted in.

Prayer

We beseech you, Lord, that we may obtain pardon through the prayer of the blessed Christina, your virgin and martyr, who was ever pleasing to you by reason of her chastity and practice of your virtues. Through.

25 July

St. James, Apostle

II class

All from the Common of Apostles [38], except what is given here as proper.

At I VESPERS where the feast is celebrated as I class:

Ant. to psalms O blessed James, worthy to be praised by all with heart and voice. O excellent, lovable patron, intercede for us with the Lord.

Psalm Praise, O servants, etc. [1].

Magnif. ant. O light and glory of Spain, most holy James, you hold a primacy among the apostles, since you were first among them to win the martyr's crown. O excellent guardian, who merited to see our Redeemer, while he was still mortal, transfigured by his Godhead, hear the prayers of your servants and intercede for our salvation and that of all peoples.

MATINS

I Nocturn

From the blessed apostle Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

Lesson i Chapter 3

It was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; that is, how the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I was made a minister

according to the gift of God's grace which was given me by the working of his power.

Ry. i. "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves," says the Lord, * "so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. **V.** For they will deliver you up to councils, and flog you in their synagogues." — So be wise.

Lesson ii

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose which he has realised in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and confidence of access through our faith in him.

Ry. ii. "Take my yoke upon you," says the Lord, "and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart: * for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. **V.** And you will find rest for your souls." — For my yoke.

Lesson iii

So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory. For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

Ry. iii. When you stand before kings and governors, do not be anxious how you are to speak, or what you are to say: * for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. **V.** For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. — For what. — Glory. — For what.

II Nocturn

Lesson iv

James, son of Zeb'edee and brother of John the apostle, was a native of Galilee. He and his brother John were among the first apostles to be called, and, leaving their father and their nets, they followed the Lord. Both were surnamed Bo-aner'ges, that is, sons of thunder, by Jesus himself. James was one of the three apostles

whom our Saviour loved most and whom he chose to witness his transfiguration, to be present at the miracle of raising the daughter of the ruler of the synagogue from the dead, and to be with him when he went to the Mount of Olives to pray to his Father, before being taken prisoner by the Jews.

Ry. iv. I saw men standing together, in shining garments, and the angel of the Lord spoke to me, saying, * "These are the holy men; they have become the friends of God."

V. I saw an angel of God flying in mid-heaven, and crying out with a loud voice he said. — These.

Lesson v

After Jesus Christ ascended into heaven, James preached our Lord's divinity in Judea and Samaria and led many to the christian faith. Then he went to Spain where he converted many to Christ. Seven of these were later consecrated bishops by Saint Peter and were the first bishops to be sent to Spain. James then returned to Jerusalem where he converted, among others, Hermodenes the Philosopher. Herod Agrippa, who was appointed king by the Emperor Claudius, anxious to curry favour with the Jews, ordered James to be

beheaded for openly proclaiming the divinity of Jesus Christ. When the officer who led him to the tribunal saw how courageously James faced martyrdom, he immediately declared himself to be a christian.

Ry. v. These are they who have been victorious, the friends of God, who, disdainng the commands of princes, were worthy of everlasting reward: * now they are crowned and hold the palm branch. **V.** These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. — Now.

Lesson vi

As they were both being dragged to execution, the officer begged forgiveness of James. The latter embraced him, saying “Peace be to you.” Then shortly before both were beheaded, James healed a paralytic. The saint’s body was afterwards taken to Compostella, where it is venerated with great solemnity. From all parts of the world, pilgrims go there to express their devotion and to fulfil their vows. His feast is celebrated by the church on this day, the day on which the transfer of his body took place. It was, however, sometime around

Easter that, at Jerusalem, he bore witness to Jesus Christ by shedding his blood for him, the first of the apostles to do so.

Ry. vi. “You are the light of the world,” says the Lord, * “who by your endurance will gain your lives. **V.** As my Father appointed a kingdom for me, so do I appoint for you, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom.” — Who by. — Glory. — Will gain.

III Nocturn

Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Lesson vii Chapter 20

At that time, the mother of the sons of Zeb’edee came up to Jesus, with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. Etc.

Homily of St. Jerome, Priest

Book I Commentary on Matthew ch. 20

Because the Lord had said, “And he will be raised on the third day,” the woman thought that after his resurrection he would reign immediately, and that what is promised for his second coming would be fulfilled in his first. With a woman’s

eagerness, she desires what can be had here and now, heedless of what is reserved for the future. In womanly misapprehension and moved by her affection, the mother of the sons of Zeb’edee makes her request, not realising what she was asking. Nor is it strange that she should be accused of being ill-informed since it is told of Peter, when he expressed the wish to make three booths, that he did not know what he said. To the mother and her sons Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking.”

Ry. vii. These are the holy men whom the Lord has chosen in genuine love and to whom he has given everlasting glory. * By their teaching a light is cast upon the church as on the moon by the sun. **V.** Their span goes forth through all the earth; their words to the utmost bounds of the world. — By their.

Lesson viii

The mother makes a request, and the Lord, knowing that she is but voicing the wishes of her sons, addresses the disciples, asking, “Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?” We know that in sacred scripture “the cup” means “the

passion,” according to the words, “Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me.” Again, we read in the psalm, “The cup of salvation I will raise,” and the psalmist, straightway, indicates what it is that this cup signifies, for he says, “O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.” Then Jesus said to the two disciples, “You will drink my cup.”

Ry. viii. Who are these that fly like a cloud, * and like doves to their windows? **V.** Purer than snow, whiter than milk, their bodies more ruddy than coral. — And like doves.

Lesson ix

It may be asked how did the sons of Zeb’edee, James and John, drink the cup of martyrdom, since, according to scripture the apostle James, only, was beheaded by Herod, whereas John died a natural death. But if we read sacred history, where it is told how John was thrown into a cauldron of boiling oil that he might suffer martyrdom; how he emerged victorious to receive the crown from Christ, and how he was at once banished to the island of Patmos; then we shall see that John did not lack the will for martyrdom and that

he did, indeed, drink the cup of witness.

Ry. ix. Do not forsake your flock, eternal Shepherd, but through your blessed apostles * guard it with unflinching vigilance.

V. Lord, protect your people which trusts in the patronage of your apostles.—Guard it.—Glory.—Guard it.

LAUDS

Prayer

Be the sanctifier and the guardian of your people, Lord, and, strengthened by the protection of your apostle, James, may it be pleasing to you in its behaviour and serve you with quiet mind. Through.

Commemoration of SS. Christopher and Cucuphas, Martyrs.

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

V. God is to be feared.
Ry. In his holy place.

Prayer

Grant, we beseech you, almighty God, that

we who know how strong your glorious martyrs, Christopher and Cucuphas, have been in showing forth their faith, may experience how devoted they are in prayer to you, on our behalf. Through.

26 July

St. Ann, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary

II class

All from the Common of a Non-Virgin [149], except what is given here as proper.

MATINS

I Nocturn

From the book of Ecclesiasticus

Lesson i Chapter 26

Awife's charm delights her husband, and her skill puts fat on his bones. A silent wife is a gift of the Lord, and there is nothing so precious as a disciplined soul. A modest wife adds charm to charm, and no balance can weigh the value of a chaste soul. Like the sun rising in the heights of the Lord, so is the beauty of a good wife in her well-ordered home.

Ry. i. Let us all rejoice in the Lord, celebrating a festival day in honour of the blessed Ann. * At her solemnity the angels rejoice and give praise to the Son of God. **V.** His are

majesty and state and power and splendour in his holy place.—On her.

From the blessed apostle Peter's First Letter

Lesson ii Chapter 3

Likewise, you wives, be submissive to your husbands, so that some, though they do not obey the word, may be won without a word by the behaviour of their wives, when they see your reverent and chaste behaviour. Let not yours be the outward adorning with braiding of hair, decoration of robes, but let it be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable jewel of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. So once the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves and were submissive to their husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord.

Ry. ii. For the cause of truth and goodness and right: * he will lead you wondrously by your right hand. **V.** Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words.—He will.

From the blessed apostle Paul's First Letter to Timothy

Lesson iii Chapter 2

I desire then that in every place the men should

pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarrelling; also that women should adorn themselves modestly and sensibly in seemly apparel, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly attire, but by good deeds, as befits women who profess religion. Let a woman learn in silence with all submissiveness. I permit no woman to teach or to have authority over men; she is to keep silent.

Ry. iii. In splendour and state * ride on in triumph. **V.** Graciousness is poured upon your lips: because God has blessed you for evermore.—Ride on.—Glory.—In triumph.

II Nocturn

Sermon of St. John Damascene

Sermon 2 on the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, towards the end

Lesson iv

The home of Ann is proposed to us as a model of married life and virginity, the married life of the mother, the virginity of the daughter. The mother is no longer barren; the daughter is destined to give birth to Christ, made like to us in our human nature by the divine Architect, in a manner beyond human

nature. It is no wonder, then, that Ann, filled with the Holy Spirit, exclaims in her joy and exultation of soul, "Rejoice with me, for I have brought forth, from a barren womb, the offspring of the promise, and I have nourished at my breast, as I had desired, the child of blessing. I have set aside the sorrow of barrenness and have put on the joy of motherhood."

Ry. iv. She girds her loins with strength and makes her arms strong; she perceives that her merchandise is profitable. * Her lamp does not go out at night. **V.** Your word is a lamp for my steps and a light for my path. — Her lamp.

Lesson v

Let Hannah, the rival of Penin'nah, rejoice with me today and celebrate with me the new and unexpected miracle wrought in me, and similar to that performed in her. Let Sarah exult, for she conceived with joy in her old age, thereby prefiguring the fertility that would end my barrenness. Let those who are barren and unfruitful sing of my good fortune, so wonderfully bestowed on me by God. Let all women blessed with children say, 'Blessed is he who granted that which they desired to

those who asked. He made the barren fruitful and he gave her this most blessed offspring, the Virgin, who became mother of God according to the flesh, and whose womb is a heaven where he, whom no place can contain, found his abode.'"

Ry. v. She opens her hand to the poor, and reached out her hands to the needy. * She is not afraid of snow for her household. **V.** Open-handed, she gives to the poor; her justice stands firm for ever. — She is not afraid.

Lesson vi

In truth you are blessed and thrice blessed, for you bore her whom God has adorned with blessedness, Mary, whose very name is greatly to be revered. Christ, the flower of life, comes forth from her whose conception was glorious, whose child-bearing surpassed in sublimity anything in this world. We, too, salute you, most blessed woman, for our God-given hope, that is, the child of promise, was born of you. You are indeed blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. The tongues of the godly sound the praises of your child, and every word joyfully acclaims your motherhood.

Ry. vi. Come, my chosen one, and I will set my throne in you: * for the king has desired your beauty. **V.** In splendour and state, ride on in triumph. — For the king. — Glory. — For the king.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you raised the blessed Ann, mother of your mother, to the joys of life in heaven. Grant, we pray, that we may reach eternal happiness through the merits of her through whose happy childbirth you were pleased, for the salvation of the world, to take upon yourself human nature. For you live.

27 July

BB. Joseph and Melchior

Bishops, O. P.

and Companions

Martyrs

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

In the year 1857, during the savage attacks of Tu-Duc, King of Annam, on the christians, Joseph Mary Diaz Sanjurjo of the Dominican Province of the Philippine Islands and Vicar Apostolic of Central Tonquin, was condemned to death. A year later, Mel-

chior Garcia Sampedro, his successor as Vicar Apostolic, followed him to the palm of martyrdom. As the severity of Tu-Duc's persecution grew in intensity, many natives of Tonquin, following in the footsteps of their bishops, joyously and courageously gave their lives for the love of Christ. Four of these were Dominican priests, two from the first Order and two from the third. All these martyrs, of whom nineteen were lay folk, were beatified by Pius XII in the year 1951.

Ry. iii. They washed their robes and made them spotless * in the blood of the Lamb. **V.** These are they who have come out of the great tribulation, and have washed their robes. — In the. — Glory. — In the.

Before Lauds and at Vespers:

V. Blessed Joseph, and your companions, pray for us. **Ry.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LAUDS

Prayer

May the happy testimony of your martyrs, Joseph, Melchior and their companions, strengthen us, Lord, and may it earnestly entreat assistance for our frailty. Through.

28 July

**SS. Nazarius, Celsus
and Pantaleon****Martyrs****Commemoration****LAUDS**

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

V. God is to be feared.
R. In his holy place.

Prayer

O God, as you allow us to keep the feast of your holy martyrs Nazarius, Celsus and Pantaleon, grant that we may enjoy their company in everlasting happiness. Through.

29 July

**St. Martha
Virgin****III class****MATINS****Lesson iii**

Martha was born of noble and wealthy parents, but she is more renowned for her hospitality to Christ

the Lord. Tradition has it that after the Ascension, she, her brother, her sister and many more christians, having been taken captive by the Jews and turned adrift upon the open sea in a boat without sail or oars, landed at Marseilles. Impressed by their miraculous escape and inspired by their preaching, the people of Marseilles and the neighbouring districts came to believe in Christ. Martha, who won the love and admiration of the inhabitants of Marseilles by her remarkable sanctity and charity, retired with some very holy women to a spot remote from men. She lived there for a long time, and was held in high esteem for her piety and prudence. At length, renowned for miracles, having long foretold the day of her death, she passed to her reward.

R. iii. The kingdom of the world and all earthly trappings I have spurned for the love of my Lord Jesus Christ, * whom I have seen, whom I have loved, in whom I have believed, whom I have cherished. **V.** My heart overflows with noble words. To the king I must speak the song I have made. — Whom I have seen. — Glory. — In whom I have believed.

LAUDS**Prayer**

Graciously hear us, God of our salvation, that as we rejoice on the feast of the blessed Martha, your virgin, we may be imbued with the spirit of holy earnestness. Through.

Commemoration of SS. Felix, Simplicius, Faustinus and Beatrice, Martyrs.

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

V. God is to be feared.
R. In his holy place.

Prayer

Grant, we beseech you, Lord, that as the christian people rejoices in the earthly festival of your martyrs, Felix, Simplicius, Faustinus and Beatrice, it may enjoy the eternal festival; and that what it celebrates and desires, it may truly attain. Through.

30 July

**Bl. Mannes
Confessor, O. P.****Commemoration****LAUDS**

Ant. “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much,” says the Lord.

V. The just man will blossom as the lily. **R.** And he will flourish before the Lord for ever.

Prayer

O God, by wondrous ways you led your blessed confessor, Mannes, into the path of perfection; by the same gracious mercy direct our actions, that we may be able to seek out what you command and obtain what you promise. Through.

Commemoration of SS. Abdon and Sennen, Martyrs.

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

V. God is to be feared.
Ry. In his holy place.

Prayer

O God, you abundantly bestowed upon your saints Abdon and Sennen the gift of grace that they might attain to their present glory; grant to your servants forgiveness of sins, that by the merits of your saints they may be delivered from all adversities. Through.

31 July
St. Ignatius
Confessor

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Ignatius, a Spaniard, born at Loyola in Cantabria, first served at the court of the Catholic King but later took up a military career. He was seriously wounded at the siege of Pampeluna, and during a long convalescence chanced to read some spiritual books which filled him with an intense longing to follow in the footsteps of Christ and the saints. Proceeding to Montserrat and, hanging his weapons before the altar of the Blessed Virgin, he spent the night in vigil there, thus beginning his service in the army of the spirit. He led a

life of unusual austerity and, though lacking in education, compiled, with the help of God's sure light, the famous book of the Exercises, approved both by the Holy See and by its usefulness for all. Going to Paris, he was joined by nine companions of various nationalities who were studying at that university, and there at Montmartre, he laid the foundations of the Society of Jesus, a work he later completed at Rome. To the three customary vows of religion, he added a fourth, obliging members of the Society to undertake any missionary work assigned them by the Apostolic See. Ignatius did much to increase tidiness in churches, teaching of catechism, regular attendance at sermons and frequent reception of the sacraments. He was most zealous for the spread of the catholic faith to every land and exercised extraordinary power over the evil spirits. At the age of sixty-five, he went forth to meet his Lord, whose greater glory he had ever sought in all things. Pius XI appointed and declared him heavenly patron of all spiritual exercises.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for

their master to come home from the marriage feast.

V. Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you strengthened the church militant, through the blessed Ignatius, with a new force to spread abroad the greater glory of your name; grant that by his help and following his example, we may struggle while on earth and may be worthy to be crowned with him in heaven. Through.

Commemoration of St. Germanus, bishop of Auxerre.

Ant. Blessed is that servant whom the Master finds awake, when he comes and knocks at the door.

V. The just will flourish like the palm tree in the house of the Lord. **Ry.** He shall grow like a Lebanon cedar.

Prayer

Graciously hear, we beseech you, Lord, the prayers we make on the feast of the blessed Germanus, your confessor and bishop; by the merits and intercession of him who so

worthily served you, free us from all sin. Through.

1 August

The Holy Machabees
Martyrs

Commemoration

LAUDS

Ant. These are the holy ones who, for the love of God, despised the threats of men. The holy martyrs rejoice with the angels in the kingdom of heaven. What a precious death is that of the saints! They stand always in the presence of the Lord, and are not parted from one another.

V. God is to be feared.
Ry. In his holy place.

Prayer

May the fraternal group of your martyrs give us joy, Lord. May it give to our faith a harvest of good works and encourage us by repeated intercession. Through.

2 August

St. Alphonsus Mary de
Liguori

Bishop, Confessor and
Doctor of the Church

III class

MATINS

Lesson iii

Alphonsus Mary de Liguori was born at

Naples of noble parents. As a young man he loved to serve the sick in the public hospitals and to devote himself to frequent prayer in church. To please his father, he became an advocate. However, when he had experienced the dangers involved in litigation, he abandoned the legal profession, renounced his family right of inheritance, and became a priest. From this on, he showed so much zeal in attacking vice that he brought about the conversion of many sinners. Specially compassionate towards the poor and the peasantry, he founded the Congregation of Priests of the Most Holy Redeemer to preach the Gospel to them. Lest he might ever turn aside from his purpose he bound himself by perpetual vow never to waste time. Alphonsus assiduously contemplated the Lord's passion and the Blessed Eucharist. He was outstanding for his devotion to the Mother of God, and more than once was refreshed by signs of her heavenly protection. In his efforts to win souls to Christ, he wrote much that was full of sacred learning and piety. He steadily refused those ecclesiastical dignities that were offered to him, but, compelled by apostolic authority, he

undertook the government of the diocese of Sant' Agata dei Goti. Generous to the poor, he became all things to all men, and brought back nuns to a more perfect way of life. Because of serious and chronic illnesses he resigned his bishopric and returned to his brethren. Finally, at the age of ninety, remarkable for a life of innocence and penance, he died peacefully in the year 1787. Pope Pius IX proclaimed him Doctor of the Church, and Pius XII named him heavenly patron of all confessors and moralists.

Ry. iii. Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, * and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast.

V. Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. — And be like men. — Glory. — To come home.

LAUDS

Prayer

O God, you made your church fruitful with a new offspring through the blessed Alphonsus Mary, your confessor and bishop, who burned with love of souls; we pray that, taught by his wholesome counsels and strengthened by his

example, we may be able happily to come to you. Through.

Commemoration of St. Stephen I, Pope and Martyr.

Ant. Let him who would come after me deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.

V. A gold crown upon his head. **Ry.** Inscribed like a signet with "Holiness."

Prayer

O God, you gladden us by the annual solemnity of the blessed Stephen, your martyr and bishop; mercifully grant that, as we honour his feast we may rejoice in his protection. Through.