



PRAYER BEFORE THE DIVINE OFFICE

Open my lips, O Lord, to praise your holy Name. Cleanse my heart of any vain, evil, or distracting thoughts. Give light to my mind and fervor to my will; enable me to recite this Office worthily, attentively, and devoutly, so that my prayer will be heard in the presence of your divine Majesty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord, I offer you this Hour with the divine intention you had while on earth offering praises to God.

PRAYER AFTER THE DIVINE OFFICE

Let every creature give unending praise, honor, power and glory throughout all eternity to the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity, the crucified humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ, the chaste Motherhood of Mary, the ever glorious and blessed Virgin, and to the entire assembly of saints, and may we be granted the forgiveness of our sins.

Blessed is the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary which bore the Son of the Eternal Father. And blessed are the breasts which nursed Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY AT FIRST VESPERS

Psalter: Week IV

A glimpse into the kingdom of God

Vespers is the evening prayer of the Church. This is the hour of thanksgiving for the graces bestowed during the day of salvation that has just passed. In Sunday Vespers we review gratefully the history of God's kingdom in the Church and in individual souls. We see Christ our victorious King in his power (Philippians Ct.), and God's care over his chosen ones (Ps 121 & 129). There are two principal objects to our Vesper prayers: thanksgiving, and new courage to continue our pilgrimage during the coming week.

OPENING VERSE

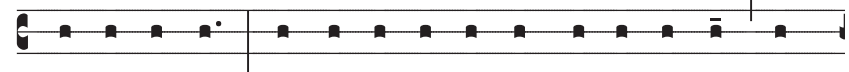
STAND

Celebrant:

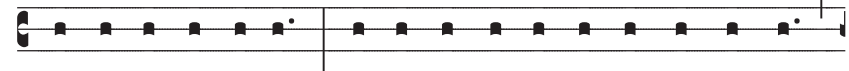
All:

O

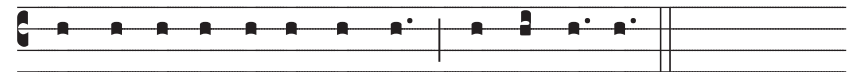
God, come to my as-sistance. R. O Lord, make



haste to help me. Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and



to the Ho-ly Spir-it: as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now,



and will be for ev-er. A-men. Al-le-lu-ia.

HYMN

From a Gothic Hymnal. Author and century unknown.

Rerum Deus, fons omnium. (L.M.)

C 1. *O God, the Source and Fount of life,
 Creating all things by your will,
 To give us joy you never cease
 The earth with wondrous gifts to fill.*

A 2. **And when creation was complete,
 Repose for man you also blest
 By resting on the seventh day,
 That he might toil again refreshed.**

C 3. *To fallen mortals grant the grace
 Of sorrow for each sins's offence,
 And courage to begin anew
 And strive for virtue's recompense.*

C 4. **When Christ the Judge supreme appears
 To sift the present and the past,
 May we his servants thrill with joy
 And peace to gaze on him at last.**

C 5. *O God of mercy, hear our prayer,
 A With Christ, your Son, and Spirit blest,
 Transcendant Trinity in whom
 Created things all come to rest. Amen.*

SIT

ANTIPHON I



Cantor : For the peace of Jerusalem **pray** : *
Peace be *to your homes* !

Psalm 121

Pilgrimage song; greeting to the holy city Jerusalem

For us, the psalm expresses love of the Church and all her treasures : Eucharist (throne of David) and confession (judgment seat) ; then a petition for the Church : Love of the Church is inseparably bound up with love of the Holy Eucharist.

*You have come to Mount Sion,
to the city of the living God, heavenly Jerusalem (Hebrews 12 : 22)*

Entering the Holy City

Cantor : I rejoiced when I heard them **say** :
“Let us go *to God’s house* .”

All : And now our *feet are standing* *
within your gates, *O Jerusalem* .

In the city

Cantor : Jerusalem is built *as a city* *
strongly *compact* .

All : It is there that the *tribes go up* , *
the tribes *of the Lord* .

Cantor : For Israel’s *law it is* , *
there to praise *the Lord’s name* .

All : There were set the *thrones of judgment* *
of the *house of David* .

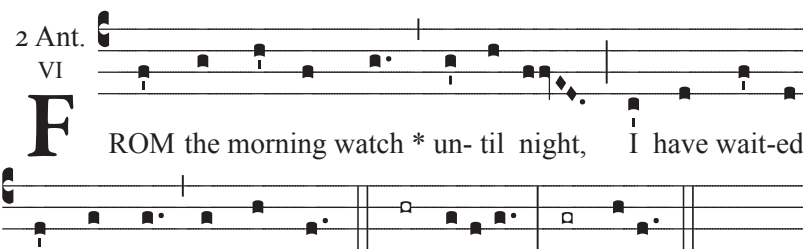
Farewell

Cantor : For the peace of Jerusalem **pray** : *
“Peace be *to your homes* !”

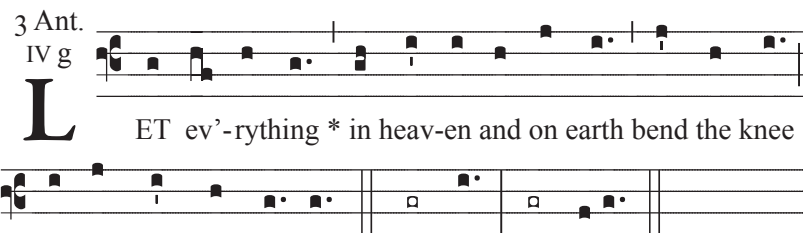
All : May peace reign *in your walls* , *
in your palaces, peace !”

Cantor : For love of my brethren *and friends* *
I say : “*Peace upon* you !” .

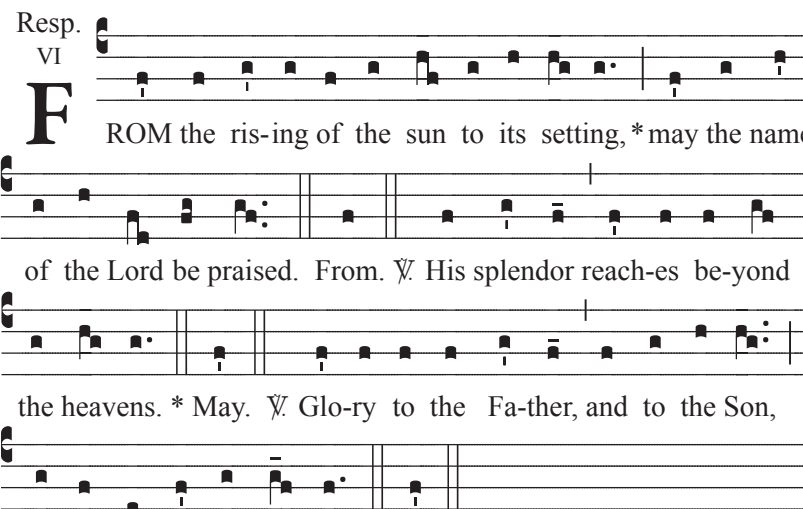
All : For love of the house *of the Lord* *
I will ask *for your good* .



trust-ing-ly for the Lord. *Psalm 129*

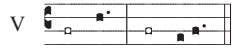


at the name of Je- sus. *Canticle : Philippians 2 : 6-11*



and to the Ho-ly Spir-it. From.

INTERCESSIONS



Celebrant : Everyone who waits for the Lord finds joy. / Now we pray to **him** :

All : Look on us with favor, Lord, *and* **hear** us.

Cantor : Faithful witness, firstborn of the dead, / you washed away our sins in your **blood**,

All : make us always remember your wonderful **works**.

Cantor : You called men to be heralds of your good **news**,

All : make them strong and faithful messengers of *your* **kingdom**.

Cantor : King of peace, send your Spirit on the leaders of the **world**,

All : turn their eyes toward the poor and *the* **suffering**.

Cantor : Protect and defend those who are discriminated against / because of their race, color, class, language or **religion**,

All : that they may be accorded the rights and dignity which *are* **theirs**.

Cantor : May all who died in your love share in your **happiness**,

All : with Mary, our mother, / and all *your* **holy** ones.

Our Father . . .

Celebrant : *Prayer proper to the Sunday*

All : Amen.

Antiphons *In Cantu* for cantor, schola or choir



P

RAY * for the peace of Je- ru- sa-lem. *Psalms 121*

Doxology

Cantor : Glory to the Father, and to *the* **Son**, *
and to the *Holy* **Spirit** :

All : as it was in the beginning, *is* **now**, *
and will be for ever. **Amen**.

Cantor : For the peace of Jerusalem **pray** : *
Peace be *to your* **homes** !



ANTIPHON 2

Cantor : From the morning watch *until* **night**, *
I have waited trustingly for *the* **Lord**.

Psalms 129

A cry from the depths

How many Christians have passed over into eternity today! Surely the greater number of them are not perfectly free from sin and punishment, and thus with deep devotion we pray the De profundis for their deliverance from purgatory. We pray it also as a thanksgiving song, however, because the faithful departed are God's children, who with full hands will soon be carrying the sheaves of their lives into the heavenly storehouses. No psalm is used more frequently by the Church in her prayers for the dead.

He himself will save his people from their sins (Matthew 1 : 21)

First strophe : a cry of confidence

a. Forgiveness

Cantor : Out of the depths I cry to you, **O Lord**, *
Lord, hear *my* **voice** !

All : O let your ears *be* **attentive** *
to the voice of *my* **pleading**.

b. God's readiness to forgive

Cantor : If you, O Lord, should *mark our* **guilt**, *
Lord, / who would *survive* ?

All : But with you is *found* **forgiveness** : *
for this we **revere** you.

Second strophe : the foundations of trust

a. Hope

Cantor : My soul is waiting *for the* **Lord**, *
I count on *his* **word**.

All : My soul is longing *for the Lord* *
more than watchmen *for daybreak*.

Cantor : Let the watchmen *count on daybreak* *
and Israel on *the Lord*.

b. Foundations of hope

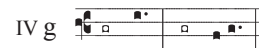
All : Because with the Lord *there is mercy* *
and fullness of *redemption*,

Cantor : Israel indeed he *will redeem* *
from all its *iniquity*.

All : Glory to the Father, and *to the Son*, *
and to the Holy *Spirit* :

Cantor : as it was in the *beginning, is now*, *
and will be for ever. *Amen*.

Cantor : From the morning watch *until night*, *
I have waited trustingly *for the Lord*.



ANTIPHON 3

Cantor : Let everthing in heaven and on *earth* *
bend the knee at the name *of Jesus*.

Canticle

Philippians 2:6-11

Christ, God's holy servant

Cantor : Though he was in the form of God, /
Jesus did not deem equality with **God** *
something to *be grasped* at.

All : Rather, he emptied himself /
and took the form of a **slave**, *
being born in the likeness *of men*.

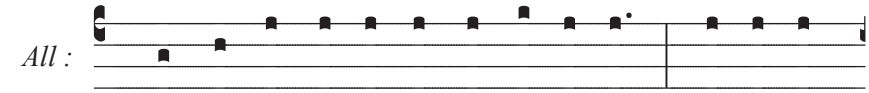
Cantor : He was known to be of human **estate**, *
and it was thus that he humbled *himself*

All : obediently accepting even **death**, *
death on *a cross* !

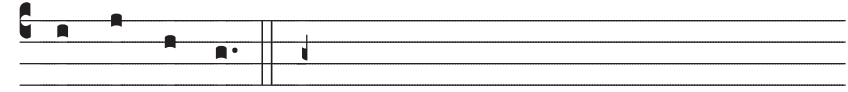
Cantor : Because of this, /
God highly **exalted** him *
and bestowed on him the name /
above every *other name*,



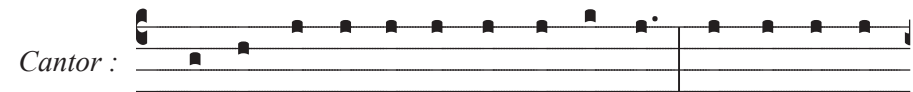
his children for ev- er.



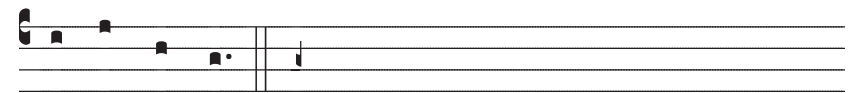
10. Glo- ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, * and to the



Ho- ly Spir- it :

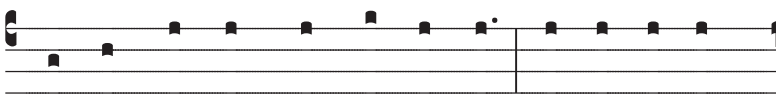


11. as it was in the be- gin-ning, is now * and will be for




ev- er. A- men. *The antiphon is repeated by the Cantor.*

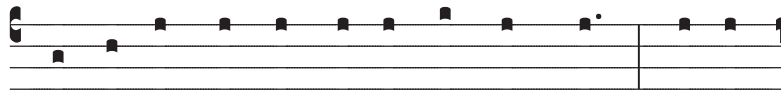


Cantor : 

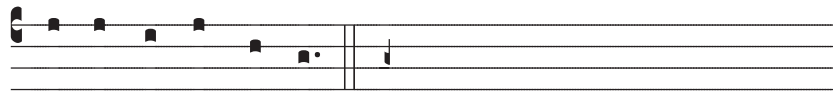
5. He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered



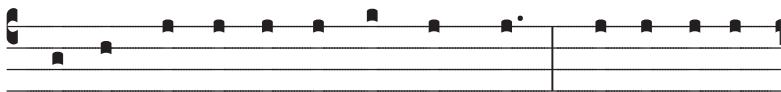
the proud in their con-ccit.

All : 

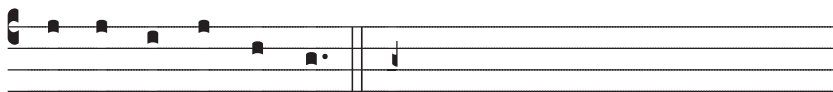
6. He has cast down the might-y from their thrones, * and has



lift-ed up the low-ly.

Cantor : 

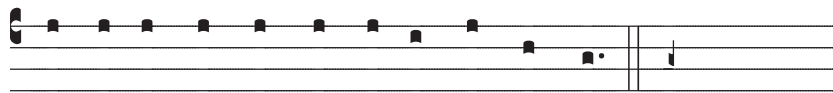
7. He has filled the hun-gry with good things, * and the rich he



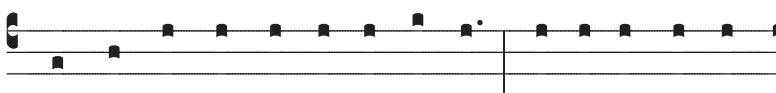
has sent a-way emp-ty.

All : 

8. He has come to the help of his ser-vant, Is- ra- el * for



he has re-mem-bered his promise of mer- cy,

Cantor : 

9. the prom-ise he made to our fa-thers, * to A-bra-ham and

All : So that at Jesus' name /
every knee must **bend** *
in the heavens, on the earth, and under *the earth*,

Cantor : and every tongue proclaim /
to the glory of God the **Father** : *
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD !

All : Glory to the Father, and to the **Son**, *
and to the Holy **Spirit** :

Cantor : as it was in the beginning, is **now**, *
and will be for ever. **Amen**.

Cantor : Let everthing in heaven and on **earth** *
bend the knee at the name of **Jesus**.

READING

2 Peter 2 : 19-21

We possess the prophetic message as something altogether reliable. Keep your attention closely fixed on it, as you would on a lamp shining in a dark place until the first streaks of dawn appear and the morning star rises in your hearts. First you must understand this : there is no prophecy contained in Scripture which is a personal interpretation. Prophecy has never been put forward by man's willing it. It is rather that men impelled by the Holy Spirit have spoken under God's influence.

VI 

RESPONSORY

Cantor : From the rising of the sun *to its setting*,
may the name of the Lord **be praised**.

All : From the rising of the sun *to its setting*,
may the name of the Lord **be praised**.

Cantor : His splendor reaches *beyond the heavens* ; *

All : may the name of the Lord **be praised**.

Cantor : Glory to the Father, and *to the Son*, *
and to the Holy **Spirit**.

All : From the rising of the sun *to its setting*,
may the name of the Lord **be praised**.

Sunday 28 B

You have left everything to *follow me* ; *
you will have it all returned a hundredfold
and will inherit *eternal life*.

Prayer

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,
at all times go before us and follow after
and make us always determined
to carry out good works.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever.

Sunday 32 B

The poor widow gave *more than anyone*, *
because in her poverty / she gave *all she had*.

Prayer

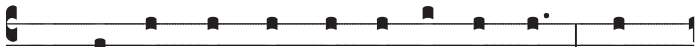
Almighty and merciful God,
graciously keep us from all adversity,
so that, unhindered in mind and body alike,
we may pursue in freedom of heart
the things that are yours.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever.

CANTICLE OF MARY

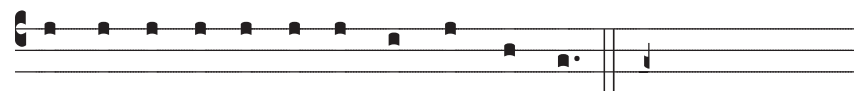
STAND

*The antiphon is sung by the Cantor. Tone VIII.
The Cantor begins the Canticle, and alternates verses with All.*

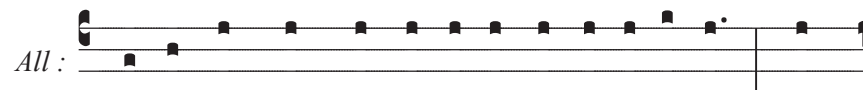
The soul rejoices in the Lord *Luke I : 46-55*

VIII G 

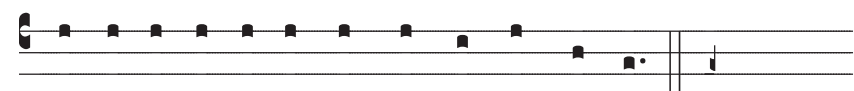
MY soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, * and



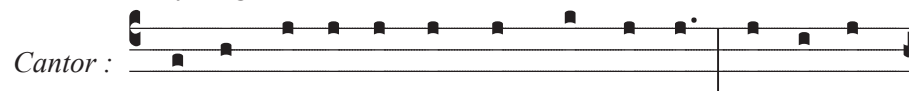
my spir- it re-joic- es in God my Sav- ior.

All : 

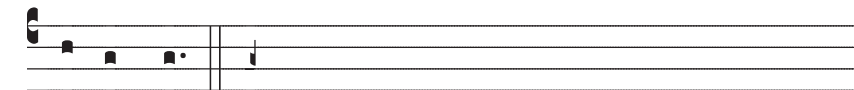
2. for he has looked with fav- or on his low- ly servant. * From



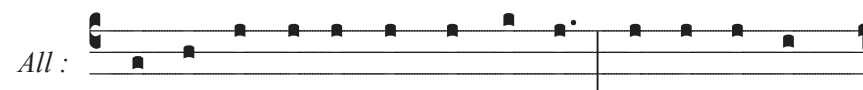
this day all gen- er- a- tions will call me bless- ed :

Cantor : 

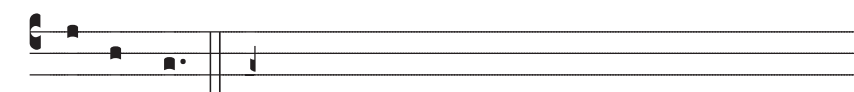
3. the Al- mighty- y has done great things for me, * and ho- ly



is his Name.

All : 

4. He has mer- cy on those who fear him * in ev- 'ry gen-



er- a- tion.

IV

SUNDAY
at
FIRST VESPERS

Roman Rite. Psalter : Week IV

Ordinary Form



DEACON CANDIDATES

Diocese of Oakland

2012

Prepared by

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