

1st Vespers of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

God, ✠ come to my assistance. *Lord, make haste to help me.*

Stand; sign of the Cross

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

Bow from the waist

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

Stand

HYMN

Mary, crowned with living light,
Temple of the Lord,
Place of peace and holiness,
Shelter of the Word.

Virgin Mother of our God,
Lift us when we fall,
Who were named upon the Cross
Mother of us all.

Mystery of sinless life
In our fallen race,
Free from shadow, you reflect
Plentitude of grace.

Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Bow from the waist
Heaven sings your praise; Stand
Mary magnifies your name
Through eternal days.

PSALMODY

Ant. 1 I will make you enemies, you and the woman, * your offspring and hers.



Psalm 113

Praise the name of the Lord

He has cast down the mighty and has lifted up the lowly (Luke 1:52).

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!

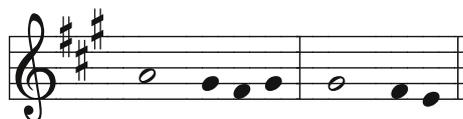
From the dust he lifts up the lowly, *
from his misery he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes, *
yes, with the princes of his people.
To the childless wife he gives a home *
and gladdens her heart with children.

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?

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon I will make you enemies, you and the woman, * your offspring and hers.

Ant. 2 The Lord has clothed me with garments of salvation; * he has covered me with a robe of justice.



Psalm 147

The restoration of Jerusalem

Come, I will show you the bride of the Lamb (Revelation 21:9).

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, *

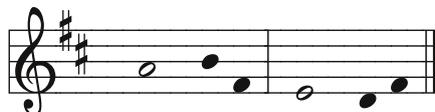
he feeds you with finest wheat.

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: *

Antiphon **The Lord has clothed me with garments of salvation; * he has covered me with a robe of justice.**

Ant. 3 Hail Mary, full of grace; * the Lord is with you.



Canticle – Ephesians 1:3-10
God our Savior

Praised be the God and Father *
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who bestowed on us in Christ *
every spiritual blessing in the heavens.

God chose us in him +
before the world began to be holy *
and blameless in his sight.

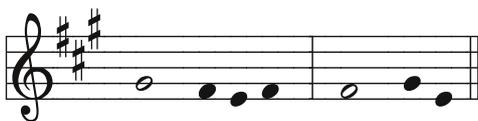
He predestined us +
to be his adopted sons through Jesus Christ, *
such was his will and his pleasure,
that all might praise the glorious favor *
he has bestowed on us in his beloved.

In him and through his blood, we have been
redeemed, *
and our sins forgiven,

Antiphon **Hail Mary, full of grace; * the Lord is with you.**

READING

Those whom God foreknew he predestined to share the image of his Son. Those he predestined he likewise called; those he called he also justified.



I shall glorify you, Lord, * for you have rescued me.
– I shall glorify you, Lord, * for you have rescued me.

You have not let my enemies rejoice over me. *
– **for you have rescued me.**

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.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *

so immeasurably generous *
is God's favor to us.

God has given us the wisdom *
to understand fully the mystery,
the plan he was pleased *
to decree in Christ.

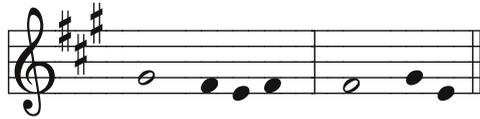
A plan to be carried out *
in Christ, in the fullness of time,
to bring all things into one in him, *
in the heavens and on earth.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be for ever. Amen

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit,
– I shall glorify you, Lord, * for you have rescued me.

CANTICLE OF MARY
Luke 1:46-55
The soul rejoices in the Lord

Antiphon All generations will call me blessed: * the Almighty has done great things



My soul ✠ proclaims the Sign of the cross
greatness of the Lord, *
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior *
for he has looked with favor * on his lowly
servant.

From this day all generations will call me
blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and
holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their
thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon All generations will call me blessed: * the Almighty has done great things for me.



Let us praise God our almighty Father, who wished that Mary, his Son's mother, be celebrated by
each generation. * Now in need we ask: *

– Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

O God, worker of miracles, you made the immaculate Virgin Mary share, body and soul, in your
Son's glory in heaven, * direct the hearts of your children to that same glory.

– Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

You made Mary our mother. * Through her intercession grant strength to the weak, comfort to the
sorrowing, pardon to sinners, salvation and peace to all.

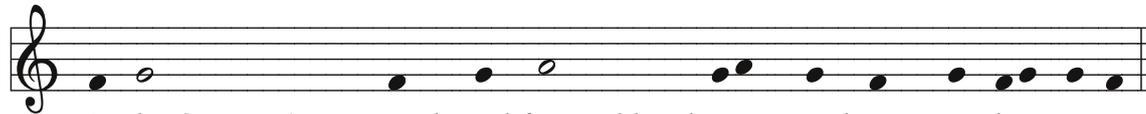
– Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

You made Mary full of grace, * grant all men the joyful abundance of your grace.

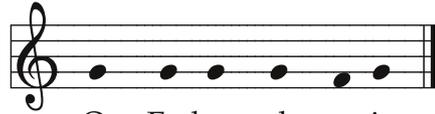
– Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

Make your Church of one mind and one heart in love,*
and help all those who believe to be one in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus.
– **Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.**

You crowned Mary queen of heaven,*
may all the dead rejoice in your kingdom with the saints for ever.
– **Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.**



At the Saviour's co-mand, and formed by di-vine teach-ing, we dare to say:



Our Father, who art in...

COLLECT

Father,
you prepared the Virgin Mary
to be the worthy mother of your Son.
You let her share beforehand
in the salvation Christ would bring by his death,
and kept her sinless from the first moment of her conception.
Help us by her prayers
to live in your presence without sin.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
– Amen.

DISMISSAL

May the Lord bless us, ✠ protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.
– Amen.