

Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

EASTER SUNDAY

9 April 2023 5.00pm

THE OFFICE OF VESPERS

Vespers, also called Evening Prayer, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office. In the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church fulfills Jesus' command to "pray continually". Through hymns, psalms, canticles, readings, and prayers, the people of God sanctify the day by continual praise of God and intercession for the needs of the world.

The Liturgy of the Hours includes several specified times of prayer. The most important times are Morning Prayer: Lauds (which takes place upon rising) and Evening Prayer: Vespers (which takes place as dusk begins to fall). The Office of Vespers gives thanks for the day just past and makes an evening sacrifice of praise to God.

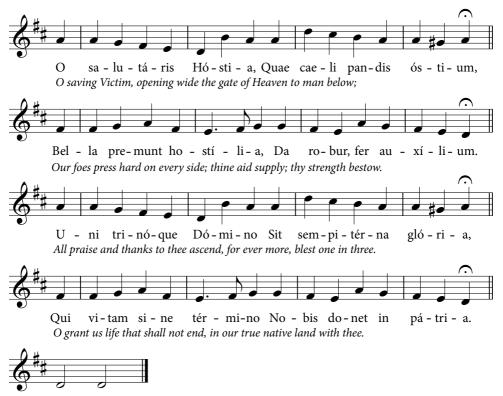
Bishops, priests, deacons, and many men and women in consecrated life pray the Liturgy of the Hours each day. Their work is organised around this prayer, keeping God always at the centre of their days. Lay people are encouraged to pray the Liturgy of the Hours as well, especially Morning and Evening Prayer. The public singing of Lauds and Vespers is a regular part of the life and worship of St Mary's Cathedral.

TO MAINTAIN A SPIRIT OF REVERENCE AND SOLEMNITY, PLEASE TURN OFF AND REFRAIN FROM USING ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

At the sound of the Sacristy bell all stand.

As the Blessed Sacrament is brought to the altar all kneel and sing:



A - men.

ORDER OF VESPERS

INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFICE

 V. Deus, in adiutorium meum intende.
 R. Domine, ad adiuvandum me festina. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Alleluia. O God, come to our aid.

O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

OFFICE HYMN

Ad cenam Agni providi, stolis salutis candidi, post transitum maris Rubri Christo canamus principi.

Cuius corpus sanctissimum in ara crucis torridum, sed et cruorem roseum gustando, Deo vivimus.

> Protecti paschæ vespero a devastante angelo, de Pharaonis aspero sumus erepti imperio.

Iam pascha nostrum Christus est, agnus occisus innocens; sinceritatis azyma qui carnem suam obtulit.

> O vera, digna hostia, per quam franguntur tartara, captiva plebs redimitur, redduntur vitæ præmia!

Consurgit Christus tumulo, victor redit de barathro, tyrannum trudens vinculo et paradisum reserans.

> Esto perenne mentibus paschale, Iesu, gaudium et nos renatos gratiæ tuis triumphis aggrega.

Iesu, tibi sit gloria, qui morte victa prænites, cum Patre et almo Spiritu, in sempiterna sæcula. Amen. The Lamb's high banquet we await in snow-white robes of royal state: and now, the Red Sea's channel past, to Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the Altar of the Cross His Body hath redeemed our loss: and tasting of his roseate Blood, our life is hid with him in God.

That Paschal Eve God's arm was bared, the devastating Angel spared: by strength of hand our hosts went free from Pharaoh's ruthless tyranny.

Now Christ, our Paschal Lamb, is slain, the Lamb of God that knows no stain, the true Oblation offered here, our own unleavened Bread sincere.

O thou, from whom hell's monarch flies, O great, O very Sacrifice, Thy captive people are set free, and endless life restored in thee.

For Christ, arising from the dead, from conquered hell victorious sped, and thrust the tyrant down to chains, and Paradise for man regains.

We pray thee, King with glory decked, in this our Paschal joy, protect from all that death would fain effect Thy ransomed flock, thine own elect.

To thee who, dead, again dost live, all glory Lord, thy people give; all glory, as is ever meet, to Father and to Paraclete. Amen.

PSALMODY

FIRST ANTIPHON

VENERUNT ad monumentum Maria Magdalene et altera Maria videre sepulcrum, alleluia.

Mary Magdalen came with the other Mary to see the tomb where the Lord had been laid, alleluia.

PSALM 109 (110)

Dixit Dominus Domino meo:	The Lord's revelation to my Master:
«Sede a dextris meis,	'Sit on my right:
donec ponam inimicos tuos:	your foes I will put
scabellum pedum tuorum».	beneath your feet.'
Virgam potentiæ tuæ emittet Dominus ex Sion:	The Lord will wield from Zion your sceptre of power:
dominare in medio inimicorum tuorum.	rule in the midst of all your foes.
Tecum principatus in die virtutis tuæ,	A prince from the day of your birth
in splendoribus sanctis:	on the holy mountains;
ex utero ante luciferum genui te.	from the womb before the dawn I begot you.
Iuravit Dominus et non pænitebit eum:	The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.
«Tu es sacerdos in æternum secundum	'You are a priest for ever,
ordinem Melchisedech».	a priest like Melchizedek of old.'
Dominus a dextris tuis: conquassabit in die iræ suæ reges.	The Master standing at your right hand will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.
De torrente in via bibet:	He shall drink from the stream by the wayside
propterea exaltabit caput.	and therefore he shall lift up his head.
Gloria Patri et Filio,	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
et Spiritui Sancto.	and to the Holy Spirit,
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper	as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	world without end. Amen.
The Antiphon is repeated.	

SECOND ANTIPHON

VENITE, et videte locum ubi positus erat Dominus, alleluia.

Come and see where the Lord was laid, alleluia.

PSALM 113A (114)

In exitu Israel de Ægypto,	When Israel came forth from Egypt,
domus Iacob de populo barbaro,	Jacob's sons from an alien people,
factus est Iuda sanctuarium eius,	Judah became the Lord's temple,
Israel potestas eius.	Israel became his kingdom.
Mare vidit et fugit,	The sea fled at the sight:
Iordanis conversus est retrorsum;	the Jordan turned back on its course,
montes saltaverunt ut arietes,	the mountains leapt like rams
et colles sicut agni ovium.	and the hills like yearling sheep.
Quid est tibi, mare, quod fugisti?	Why was it, sea, that you fled,
Et tu, Iordanis,	that you turned back, Jordan,
quia conversus es retrorsum?	on your course?
Montes, quod saltastis sicut arietes,	Mountains, that you leapt like rams;
et colles, sicut agni ovium?	hills, like yearling sheep?
A facie Domini contremisce, terra, a facie Dei Iacob,	<i>Tremble, O earth, before the Lord, in the presence of the God of Jacob,</i>
qui convertit petram	who turns the rock
in stagna aquarum	into a pool
et silicem in fontes aquarum.	and flint into a spring of water.
Gloria Patri, et Filio,	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
et Spiritui Sancto,	and to the Holy Spirit,
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper	as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	world without end. Amen.
The Antiphon is repeated.	

THIRD ANTIPHON

TE, nuntiate fratribus meis, alleluia, ut eant in Galilæam; ibi me videbunt, alleluia.

Go, and tell my brethren that they are to leave for Galilee: they will see me there. Alleluia.

CANTICLE Apocalypse 19:1-2. 5-7

Salus	et gloria et virtus Deo nostro:
	quia vera et iusta iudicia eius.
	Alleluia, alleluia.

Laudem dicite Deo nostro, omnes servi eius: et qui timetis eum, pusilli et magni! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Quoniam regnavit Dominus, Deus noster omnipotens: Gaudeamus et exsultemus et demus gloriam ei. Alleluia, alleluia.

> Quia venerunt nuptiæ Agni: et uxor eius præparavit se. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

> > Gloria Patri et Filio: et Spiritui Sancto. Alleluia, alleluia.

Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, his judgements are true and just. Alleluia, alleluia.

Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns, let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory. Alleluia, alleluia.

The marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, Alleluia, alleluia.

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Antiphon is repeated.

CHRIST has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place forever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying.

ANTIPHON

HEC dies quam fecit Dominus: exsultemus et lætemur in ea.

This is the day which was made by the Lord: let us rejoice and be glad.

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

CUM esset sero die illo una sabbatorum et fores essent clausæ ubi erant discipuli congregati, stetit Iesus in medio et dixit eis: Pax vobis, alleluia.

On the evening of that Sunday, when the disciples were gathered behind locked doors, Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you.' Alleluia.

MAGNIFICAT

Primi toni

Cipriano de Rore (1515–1565)

Magnificat	My soul
anima mea Dominum,	glorifies the Lord,
et exsultavit spiritus meus	my spirit rejoices
in Deo salutari meo,	in God, my Saviour.
quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ.	He looks on his servant in her lowliness;
Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent	henceforth all ages
omnes generationes,	will call me blessed.
quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est,	The Almighty works marvels for me.
et sanctum nomen eius,	Holy his name!
et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.	<i>His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.</i>
Fecit potentiam in brachio suo, dispersit superbos mente cordis sui;	<i>He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted.</i>
deposuit potentes de sede; et exaltavit humiles;	<i>He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.</i>
esurientes implevit bonis et divites dimisit inanes.	<i>He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.</i>
Suscepit Israel puerum suum, recordatus misericordiæ suæ,	<i>He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy,</i>
sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,	the mercy promised to our fathers,
Abraham et semini eius in sæcula.	to Abraham and his sons for ever.
Gloria Patri et Filio,	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
et Spiritui Sancto.	and to the Holy Spirit,
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper	as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	world without end. Amen.
The Antiphon is repeated.	

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INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray with joy to Christ the Lord. He rose from the dead and is living now to intercede for us.

R. Victorious king, hear us.

Christ, you are the light of the world and the salvation of nations; set us on fire with your Spirit as we proclaim the wonder of your resurrection. \mathbb{R}^{n}

Let Israel recognize in you the Messiah it has longed for; fill all men with the knowledge of your glory. $R_{\rm c}^{\rm x}$

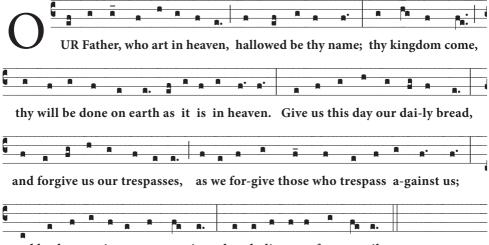
Keep us united in the communion of saints; may we find rest with them, when life's work is done. $R_{...}^{\gamma}$

You have overcome death, the last enemy of man; destroy everything in us that is at enmity with God. $\$ $R\!\!\!/$

Christ, our Saviour, you became obedient to death, but God raised you to the heights; receive our brothers into the kingdom of your glory. R.

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All sing



and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e- vil.

COLLECT

ON this day, Lord God, you opened for us the way to eternal life through your only Son's victory over death. Grant that as we celebrate the feast of his resurrection we may be renewed by your Holy Spirit and rise again in the light of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

The Choir sings

THE MOTET

${ m H}^{{ m \&C}}$ dies quam fecit Dominus: exultemus et lætemur in ea. Alleluia.

This is the day which the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad. Alleluia.

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

All sing



who from both with both is One.

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 Panem de cælo præstitísti eis, allelú- ia. You gave them bread from heaven.



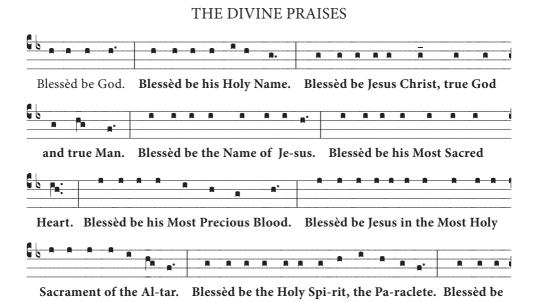
R. Omne delectaméntum in se habéntem, allelú- ia. Containing in itself all sweetness.

Oremus.

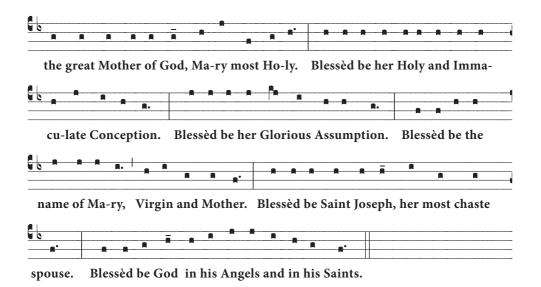
DEUS, qui nobis sub sacramento mirabili passionis tuæ memoriam reliquisti: tribue quæsumus, ita nos corporis et sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari; ut redemptionis tuæ fructum in nobis iugiter sentiamus. Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula sæculorum. Let us pray.

O God, who in a wonderful Sacrament has left us a memorial of your passion: grant us so to venerate the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood, that we may perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

RX Amen.



BENEDICTION *is given*.

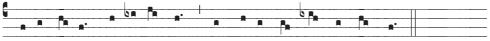


As the Blessed Sacrament is reposed, all sing



A-do-rémus * in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa- cra-mén-tum. Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes:	O praise the Lord, all you nations,
laudate eum omnes populi.	acclaim his all you peoples!
Quoniam confirmata est super nos	Strong is his
misericordia eius:	love for us;
et veritas Domini manet in æternum.	he is faithful for ever.
Gloria Patri, et Filio:	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
et Spiritui Sancto,	and to the Holy Spirit,
sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper:	as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.	world without end. Amen.



A-do-rémus * in æ-tér-num Sanc-tís-si-mum Sa- cra-mén-tum. Let us adore for ever the most Holy Sacrament.

THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



nobis De-um, al-le-lú-ia. *us to God.*

Organ Voluntary

Christus Resurrexit!

Oreste Ravanello (1871-1938)

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