

Solemn Vespers and Benediction

The Office of Evening Prayer

Sixth Sunday of the Year

WEEK II

11 February 2024 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.

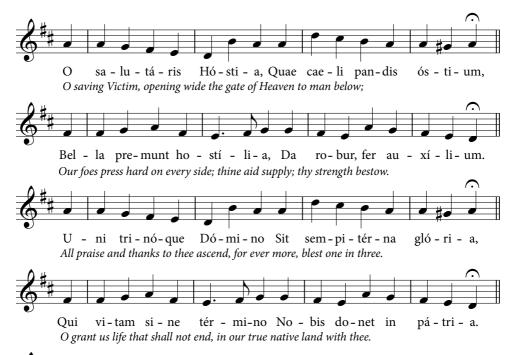
Bishops, priests, deacons, and many men and women in consecrated life pray the Liturgy of the Hours each day. Their work is organised around this prayer, keeping God always at the centre of their days. Lay people are encouraged to pray the Liturgy of the Hours as well, especially Morning and Evening 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:





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

O lux, Beata Trinitas	O light, O blessed Trinity
et principalis Unitas,	And princely might of Unity,
iam sol recedit igneus:	the fiery sun now goes his way:
infunde lumen cordibus.	shed thou within our hearts thy ray.
Te mane laudum carmine,	To thee our morning song of praise,
te deprecemur vespere;	to thee our evening prayer we raise;
te nostra supplex gloria	In humble worship thee adore
per cuncta laudet sæcula.	and glory for evermore.
Christum rogamus et Patrem,	We pray the Father and the Son
Christi Patrisque Spiritum;	who, with the Spirit reign as one;

unum potens per omnia, fove precantes, Trinitas. Amen. We pray the Father and the Son who, with the Spirit reign as one; O Trinity, containing all, console thy servants when they call. Amen.

All sit.

PSALMODY

FIRST ANTIPHON

CACERDOS in æternum Christus Dominus Secundum ordinem Melchisedech, alleluia.

Christ the Lord is a priest for ever according to the order of Melchizedek, alleluia.

PSALM 109 (110)

Dixit Dominus Domino meo:	<i>The Lord's revelation to my Master:</i>
«Sede a dextris meis,	<i>'Sit on my right:</i>
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.
<i>The Antiphon is repeated.</i>	

SECOND ANTIPHON

D^{EUS} autem noster in cælo; omnia quæcumque voluit, fecit, alleluia.

Our God is in heaven: he has power to do whatever he will, alleluia.

PSALM 113B (115)

Non nobis, Domine, non nobis,	Not to us, Lord, not to us,
sed nomini tuo da gloriam	but to your name give the glory
super misericordia tua et veritate tua.	for the sake of your love and your truth,
Quare dicent gentes:	lest the heathen say:
«Ubi est Deus eorum?».	'Where is their God?'
Deus autem noster in cælo,	But our God is in the heavens;
omnia, quæcumque voluit, fecit.	he does whatever he wills.
Simulacra gentium argentum et aurum,	Their idols are silver and gold,
opera manuum hominum.	the work of human hands.
Os habent et non loquentur, oculos habent et non videbunt.	They have mouths but they cannot speak; they have eyes but they cannot see;
Aures habent et non audient,	they have ears but they cannot hear;
nares habent et non odorabunt.	they have nostrils but they cannot smell.
Manus habent et non palpabunt,	With their hands they cannot feel;
pedes habent et non ambulabunt;	with their feet they cannot walk.
non clamabunt in gutture suo.	(No sound comes from their throats.)
Similes illis erunt, qui faciunt ea, et omnes, qui confidunt in eis.	Their makers will come to be like them and so will all who trust in them.
Domus Israel speravit in Domino:	Sons of Israel, trust in the Lord;
adiutorium eorum et scutum eorum est.	he is their help and their shield.
Domus Aaron speravit in Domino:	Sons of Aaron, trust in the Lord;
adiutorium eorum et scutum eorum est.	he is their help and their shield.
Qui timent Dominum, speraverunt in Domino:	You who fear him, trust in the Lord;
adiutorium eorum et scutum eorum est.	he is their help and their shield.

Dominus memor fuit nostri et benedicet nobis: benedicet domui Israel, benedicet domui Aaron,

benedicet omnibus, qui timent Dominum, pusillis cum maioribus.

Adiciat Dominus super vos, super vos et super filios vestros.

Benedicti vos a Domino, qui fecit cælum et terram.

Cæli, cæli sunt Domino, terram autem dedit filiis hominum.

Non mortui laudabunt te, Domine, neque omnes, qui descendunt in silentium,

sed nos, qui vivimus, benedicimus Domino ex hoc nunc et usque in sæculum.

> Gloria Patri et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper: et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. *He remembers us, and he will bless us; he will bless the sons of Israel. (He will bless the sons of Aaron.)*

The Lord will bless those who fear him, the little no less than the great:

to you may the Lord grant increase, to you and all your children.

May you be blessed by the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

The heavens belong to the Lord but the earth he has given to men.

The dead shall not praise the Lord, nor those who go down into the silence.

But we who live bless the Lord now and for ever. Amen.

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.

ANTIPHON

DEUS autem noster in cælo; omnia quæcumque voluit, fecit, alleluia.

Our God is in heaven: he has power to do whatever he will, alleluia.

THIRD ANTIPHON

AUDEM dicite Deo nostro, omnes servi eius, pusilli Let magni, alleluia.

Praise God, all you his servants, both great and small, alleluia.

CANTICLE Apocalypse 19:1-2. 5-7

Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Salus et gloria et virtus Deo nostro:	Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
quia vera et iusta iudicia eius.	his judgements are true and just.
Alleluia, alleluia.	Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Laudem dicite Deo nostro, omnes servi eius:	Praise our God, all you his servants,
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
et qui timetis eum, pusilli et magni!	you who fear him, small and great.
Alleluia, alleluia.	Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Quoniam regnavit Dominus,	The Lord our God,
Deus noster omnipotens:	the Almighty, reigns,
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Gaudeamus et exsultemus et demus gloriam ei.	let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.
Alleluia, alleluia.	Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Quia venerunt nuptiæ Agni:	The marriage of the Lamb has come,
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
et uxor eius præparavit se.	and his bride has made herself ready.
Alleluia, alleluia.	Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Gloria Patri et Filio:	Glory be to the Father and to the Son
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
et Spiritui Sancto.	and to the Holy Spirit,
Alleluia, alleluia.	Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper	as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

Ρ СĻ et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. world without end. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.

eginning, Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Antiphon is repeated.

W E feel that we must be continually thanking God for you, brothers whom the Lord loves, because God chose you as the first fruits to be saved by the sanctifying Spirit and by faith in the truth. Through the Good News that we brought he called you to this so that you should share the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

SHORT RESPONSORY

Magnus Dominus noster, Et magna virtus eius.	
℣. Et sapientiæ eius non est numerus. I∑.	His wisdom can never be measured.
℣. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. ℝ.	<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.</i>

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

D^{OMINE, si tu vis, potes me mundare. Et ait Iesus: Volo, mundare.}

'If you want to,' said the leper, 'you can cure me.' And Jesus said, 'Be cured!'

MAGNIFICAT

My soul

glorifies the Lord,

my spirit rejoices

Primi toni

Juan de Esquivel Barahona (c.1563–c.1613)

Magnificat	
anima mea Dominum,	

et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo,

quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ. Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes,

quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est, et sanctum nomen eius,

et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.

> Fecit potentiam in brachio suo, dispersit superbos mente cordis sui;

> > deposuit potentes de sede; et exaltavit humiles;

esurientes implevit bonis et divites dimisit inanes.

Suscepit Israel puerum suum, recordatus misericordiæ suæ,

sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini eius in sæcula.

> Gloria Patri et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen. in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her lowliness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted.

He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy,

the mercy promised to our fathers, to Abraham and his sons for ever.

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.

The Antiphon is repeated.

INTERCESSIONS

Through the gospel, the Lord Jesus calls us to share in his glory. Let us make our prayer with him to our heavenly Father.

$\ensuremath{\mathbb{R}}$. Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for all nations: that they may seek the way that leads to peace, that human rights and freedom may be everywhere respected, and that the world's resources may be generously shared. R

We pray for the Church: that her leaders may be faithful ministers of your word, that all her members may be strong in faith and hope and that you may be recognized in the love she bears to all. R

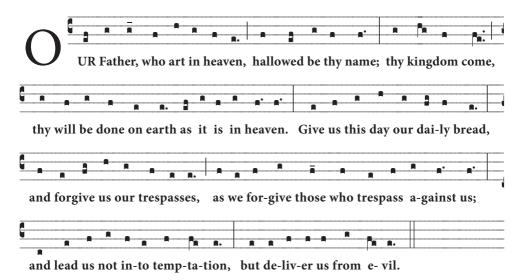
We pray for our families, and the community in which we live: that we may find you in them. R_{2}^{\prime}

We pray for ourselves: that in the coming week we may serve others in our work, and find peace when we rest. R

We pray for the faithful departed: that through your mercy they may rest in peace. RX

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

All sing



COLLECT

T O those who love you, Lord, you promise to come with your Son and make your home within them. Come, then, with your purifying grace and make our hearts a place where you can dwell. 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

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills; from whence cometh my help. My help cometh even from the Lord who hath made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved, and he that keepeth thee will not sleep. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

Ernest Walker (1870-1949)

All sing



who from both with both is One.

A	
V	

Y. Panem de cælo præstitísti e- is. You gave them bread from heaven.



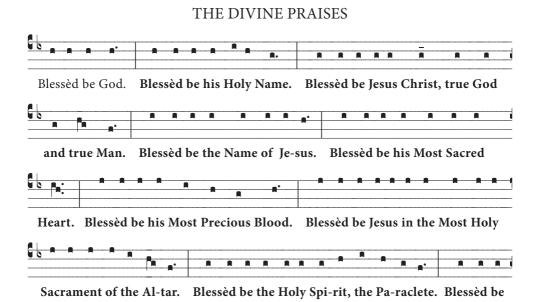
R. Omne delectaméntum in se habén- tem. Containing in itself all sweetness.

Oremus.

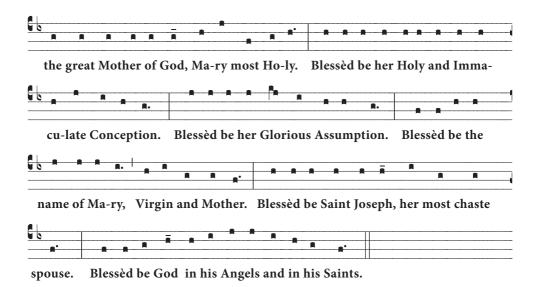
DEUS, qui nobis sub sacramento mirabili passionis tuæ memoriam reliquisti: tribue quæsumus, ita nos corporis et sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari; ut redemptionis tuæ fructum in nobis iugiter sentiamus. Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula sæculorum. Let us pray.

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*.

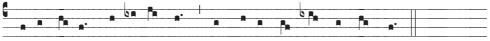


As the Blessed Sacrament is reposed, all sing



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.

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All sing
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THE ANTIPHON TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



omnes spe-ci- ó-sa; va-le, o valde de-có-ra, et pro no-bis Christum exó- ra. *our ransom was begun, for all your loving children pray to Christ, our Saviour, and your Son.*

Organ Voluntary Fugue in C minor (BWV 546ii)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)