GOOD FRIDAY

AT TENEBRAE

The Office of Darkness

ACCORDING
TO THE USE OF THE
CATHEDRAL BASILICA
OF SAINT LOUIS

2009
GOOD FRIDAY

AT TENEBRAE

The Office of Darkness

In I Nocturn

Antiphon. VIII a

HEY a- rise, * the kings of the earth, princes plot

a-against the Lord and his Anointed.

Psalm 2

1. Why this tumult among nations,*
   among peoples this useless murmuring?

2. They arise, the kings of the earth,*
   princes plot against the Lord and his Anointed.

3. 'Come, let us break their fetters,*
   come, let us cast off their yoke.'

4. He who sits in the heavens laughs; *
   the Lord is laughing them to scorn.

5. Then he will speak in his anger,*
   his rage will strike them with terror.
6. ‘It is I who have set up my king * on Sion, my holy mountain.’

7. I will announce * the decree of the Lord:

8. The Lord said to me: † ‘You are my Son. * It is I who have begotten you this day.

9. Ask and I shall bequeath you the nations, * put the ends of the earth in your possession.

10. With a rod of iron you will break them, * shatter them like a potter’s jar.’

11. Now, O kings, understand, * take warning, rulers of the earth;

12. serve the Lord with awe * and trembling, pay him your homage

13. lest he be angry and you perish; * for suddenly his anger will blaze.

14. Blessed are they * who put their trust in God.

**Antiphon**

They a-rise, the kings of the earth, princes plot a-gainst

the Lord and his Anointed.

†† They di-vid- ed my garments a-mong them.

‡‡ And for my robes they cast lots.

**Good Friday at Tenebrae**

And then is sung kneeling:

Ant.  

C  

Hri-stus * factus est pro no-bis ob-e-

di-ens us-que ad mor-tem, mor-tem au-tem

cru-cis.

Christ became obedient for us unto death, even to death on a Cross.

The Our Father is said completely in silence. Then, recto tono, on a low pitch, without ‘Let us pray’, there is added:

We beseech you, O Lord, look graciously upon this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ did not hesitate to suffer betrayal into the hands of the enemy, and to suffer the torments of the Cross.

And in silence is concluded: Who lives and reigns.

When the Collect is finished, there is made a certain amount of noise and clatter; and at once the lighted candle is brought forth from beneath the altar, and all arise, and depart in silence.
ness of their sins.

9. In the ten-der com-pas-sion of our God * the dawn from on

g high shall break up-on us,

10. to shine on those who dwell in darkness † and the shad-ow
of death, * and to guide our feet in-to the way of peace.

Anti-
phon

They placed a-bove his head the charge a-gainst him,

writ-ten: Je-sus of Naz-a-reth, King of the Jews.
He has walled me about so that I cannot escape; he has put heavy chains on me. Ghimel. Although I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer. Ghimel. He has blocked my ways with hewn stones, he has made me desolate.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, turn back again to the Lord your God.

**Responsory**

Oh my chosen vineyard, † it is I who have planted you.

* How have you become so bitter that you should crucify me, and release Barabbas? ‡ I have hedged you in, and

4. He promised to show mercy to our fathers * and to remember his holy covenant.

5. This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: † to set us free from the hands of our enemies, * free to worship him without fear,

6. Holy and righteous in his sight * all the days of our life.

7. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; * for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way;

8. to give his people knowledge of salvation * by the forgive-
Good Friday at Tenebrae

At Benedictus. Antiphon. I g

T

HEY placed * a-bove his head the charge a-gainst him, writ-ten: Je-sus of Naz-a-reth, King of the Jews.


B

Lessed be the Lord, the God of Is-ra-el; * he has come to his peo-ple and set them free.

2. He has raised up for us a might-y sav-ior, * born of the house of his ser-vant Da-vid.

3. Through his ho-ly prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our en-e-mies,* from the hands of all who hate us.

Good Friday at Tenebrae

In II Nocturn

Ant. VIII G

Hey di-ved * my clothing a-mong them; and for my gar-ments they cast lots.

Psalm 21: 2-22

1. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? * You are far from my plea and the cry of my distress.

2. O my God, I call by day and you give no reply; * I call by night and I find no peace.

3. Yet you, O God, are holy, * enthroned on the praises of Israel.

4. In you our fathers put their trust; * they trusted and you set them free.

5. When they cried to you, they escaped. * In you they trusted and never in vain.

7. All who see me deride me. *
   They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
8. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; *
    let him release him if this is his friend.'
9. Yes, it was you who took me from the womb, *
    entrusted me to my mother's breast.
10. To you I was committed from my birth, *
    from my mother's womb you have been my God.
11. Do not leave me alone in my distress; *
    come close, there is none else to help.
12. Many bulls have surrounded me, *
    fierce bulls of Bashan close me in.
13. Against me they open wide their jaws, *
    like lions, rendering and roasting.
14. Like water I am poured out, *
    disjointed are all my bones.
15. My heart has become like wax, *
    it is melted within my breast.
16. Parched as burnt clay is my throat, *
    my tongue cleaves to my jaws.
17. Many dogs surround me, *
    a band of the wicked beset me.
18. They tear holes in my hands and my feet *
    and lay me in the dust of death.
19. I can count every one of my bones. *
    These people stare at me and gloat; *
20. they divide my clothing among them. *
    They cast lots for my robe.
21. O Lord, do not leave me alone, *
    my strength, make haste to help me!
22. Rescue my soul from the sword, *
    my life from the grip of these dogs.
23. Save my life from the jaws of these lions, *
    my poor soul from the horns of these oxen.

Psalm 147

1. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! *
   Sion, praise your God!
2. He has strengthened the bars of your gates, *
   he has blessed the children within you.
3. He established peace on your borders, *
   he feeds you with finest wheat.
4. He sends out his word to the earth *
    and swiftly runs his command.
5. He showers down snow white as wool, *
    he scatters hoar-frost like ashes.
6. He hurls down hailstones like crumbs. *
    The waters are frozen at his touch;
7. he sends forth his word and it melts them: *
    at the breath of his mouth the waters flow.
8. He makes his word known to Jacob, *
    to Israel his laws and decrees.
9. He has not dealt thus with other nations; *
    he has not taught them his decrees.

Remember me, O Lord, my God, when you come

in- to your kingdom.

$
\forall$ He has left me to dwell in the darkness.

$\exists$ Like the dead, long for-gotten.
Good Friday at Tenebrae

8. I hear, and my body trembles; *
at the sound, / my lips quiver.

9. Decay invades my bones, *
my legs tremble beneath me.

10. I await the day of distress *
that will come upon the people who attack us.

11. For though the fig tree blossom not *
nor fruit be on the vines,

12. though the yield of the olive fail *
and the terraces produce no nourishment,

13. though the flocks disappear from the fold *
and there be no herd in the stalls,

14. yet will I rejoice in the Lord *
and exult in my saving God.

15. God, my Lord, is my strength; †
he makes my feet swift as those of hind *
and enables me to go upon the heights.

Antiphon

When my soul is in trouble, O Lord, you will be
mindful of your mercy.

3 Ant. VIII G

Remember me, * O Lord, my God, when you come
into your kingdom.

Good Friday at Tenebrae

Antiphon

They divided my clothing among them; and for my

garments they cast lots.

 Curse False witnesses have risen up against me.

 And iniquity has lied to itself.

Lesson

Rom the catechism by Saint John Chrysostom, bishop.

If we wish to understand the power of Christ's Blood,

re-member where it came from, how it ran down from the Cross,

flowing from the Master's side. The Gospel records that when

Christ was dead, but still hung on the Cross, a soldier came and
pierced his side with a lance and immediately there poured out

Water and Blood. Now the water was a sign of baptism and the

Blood of the Holy Eucharist. The soldier pierced the Lord's

side; he breached the wall of the sacred temple, and I have

found the treasure and made it my own. So also with the

lamb: the Jews sacrificed the victim and I have been saved

by it. There flowed from his side Water and Blood. Beloved,

do not pass over this mystery without thought; it has yet

another hidden meaning, which I will explain to you. I

said that Water and Blood symbolized Baptism and the Holy

20. Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice, *
holocausts offered on your altar.

Antiphon

God did not spare his own Son, but delivered him

up for us all.

Canticle of Habakkuk 3:2-4. 13a. 15-19

1. O Lord, I have heard your renown, *
and feared, O Lord, your work.

2. In the course of the years revive it, †
in the course of the years make it known; *
in your wrath remember compassion!

3. God comes from Teman, *
the Holy One from Mount Paran.

4. Covered are the heavens with his glory, *
and with his praise the earth is filled.

5. His splendor spreads like the light; †
shines forth from beside him, *
where his power is concealed.

6. You come forth to save your people, *
to save your Anointed One.

7. You tread the sea with your steeds *
amid the churning of the deep waters.

Hen my soul is in trouble, * O Lord, you will be

mindful of your mercy.
3. My offenses truly I know them; * 
   my sin is always before me.
4. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; * 
   what is evil in your sight I have done.
5. That you may be justified when you give sentence * 
   and be without reproach when you judge.
6. O see, in guilt I was born, * 
   a sinner was I conceived.
7. Indeed you love truth in the heart; * 
   then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.
8. O purify me, then I shall be clean; * 
   O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.
9. Make me hear rejoicing and gladness, * 
   that the bones you have crushed may thrill.
10. From my sins turn away your face * 
    and blot out all my guilt.
11. A pure heart create for me, O God, * 
    put a steadfast spirit within me.
12. Do not cast me away from your presence, * 
    nor deprive me of your holy spirit.
13. Give me again the joy of your help; * 
    with a spirit of fervor sustain me,
14. that I may teach transgressors your ways * 
    and sinners may return to you.
15. O rescue me, God, my helper, * 
    and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.
16. O Lord, open my lips * 
    and my mouth shall declare your praise.
17. For in sacrifice you take no delight, * 
    burnt offering from me your would refuse,
18. my sacrifice a contrite spirit. * 
    A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.
19. In your goodness show favor to Sion: * 
    rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

Eu-cha-rist. From these two sac-ra-ments the Church is born:
from Baptism, the cleansing wa-ter that gives re-birth through the
Ho-ly Spir-it, and from the Ho-ly Eu-cha-rist. Since the symbols
of Baptism and the Eu-cha-rist flowed from his side, it was from
his side that Christ fashioned the Church, as he had fashioned
Eve from the side of A-dam. Mos-es gave a hint of this
when he tells the sto-ry of the first man and makes him exclaim:
Bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh! As God then took
a rib from A-dam’s side to fashion a wo-man, so Christ has
giv-en us Blood and Water from his side to fash-ion the Church.
God took the rib when A-dam was in a deep sleep, and in the same way Christ gave us the Blood and the Wa-ter after his own death. Do you un-derstand, then, how Christ has u-nit-ed his bride to himself and what food he gives us all to eat? By one and the same food we are both brought in-to be-ing and are nourished. As a wo-man nour-ish-es her child with her own blood and milk, so does Christ un-ceas-ing-ly nourish with his own Blood those to whom he himself has giv-en life.

Resporry

HE price of your redemption † was not something of

fleeting val-ue like gold or sil-ver, but the costly shedding of the Blood of Christ, the Lamb without blemish. * Through him, in the one Spi-rit, we can approach the Fa-ther. ☩ The Blood of Je-sus Christ wash-es a-way all our sins. * Through him, in the one Spi-rit, we can approach the Fa-ther.

At Lauds

1 Antiphon. VII d

OD did not spare * his own Son, but de-livered him up for us all.

Psalm 50

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kind-ness. *
   In your compassion blot out my of-fense.

2. O wash me more and more from my guilt *
   and cleanse me from my sin.
Cantor: Blessed is the womb of the | Vir-gin Mar-y *
which bore the Son of the | E-ter-nal Fa-ther.

Hymn.
The Cantor intones to the *, and the rest of the Hymn is sung by all.
Pange lingua gloriási *
Cor-póris mystérium,
San-guinísque pretiási,
Quem in mundi prétium
Fructus ventris generósí
Rex effúdit génium.
Nobis datus, nobis natus
Ex intécta Virgine,
Et in mundo conversátus,
Sparso verbi sémine,
Sui moras incolátus
Miro clausit órdine.
In suprénmac nocte coenac
Récumbs cum frátribus,
Observáta lege plene
Cibis in legálibus,
Cibum turbae duódenae
Se dat suis máibus.

Verbam caro, panem verum
Verbo carmen effícit:
Fitque sanguis Christi merum,
Et si sensus déficit,
Ad fírmamum cor sincérum
Sola fides suffícit.

Tantum ergo Sacramésentum
Veneréseum cérrui;
Et antiquum docéntum
Novo cedat ritú;
Præstet fides supplementum
Sénsuum défécitui.

Genítóri, Genítóque
Laus et iubiláti,
Salus, honor, virtus, quoque
Sit et benedíctio;
Procedénti ab utróque
Compar sit laudáti. Amen.

Of the glorious Body telling, *
O my tongue its mys’tries sing,
And the Blood, all price excelling,
Which the world’s eternal King,
In a noble womb once dwelling
Shed for this world’s ransoming.

Giv’n for us, for us descending,
Of a Virgin to proceed,
Man with man in converse blending,
Scattered he the Gospel seed,
Till his sojourn drew to ending,
Which he closed in wondrous deed.

At the last great Supper lying
Circled by his brethren’s band,
Weekly with the law complying
First he finished its command,
Then, immortal food supplying,
Gave himself with his own hand.

Word made Flesh, by word he maketh
Very bread his Flesh to be;
Man in wine Christ’s Blood partaketh:
And if senses fail to see,
Faith alone the true heart waketh
To behold the mystery.

Therefore we, before him bending,
This great Sacrament reverè;
Types and shadows have their ending,
For the newer Rite is here;
Faith, our outward sense befriending,
Makes the inward vision clear.

Glory let us give and blessing,
To the Father and the Son;
Honor, might, and praise addressing,
While eternal ages run;
Ever too his love confessing,
Who from Both, with Both, is One.

Amen.
Lord Je- sus, you are Word made flesh and splendor of the Fa- ther:

Ky- ri- e e-le- i- son. \(\text{R}\) Ky- ri- e e-le- i- son.

Responsorial Psalm. 8 G Week 14, Year II

(\(\text{R}\))

T

HE Lord is king; he is robed in maj- es- ty.

Psalm 104

1. The Lord is king, in splen-dor robed;
   [omit bc]
   robed is the Lord / and gird a- bout with strength. \(\text{R}\)
2. And he has made the world firm,
   not to be moved.
   Your throne stands firm / from of old;
   from everlasting you are, O Lord. \(\text{R}\)
3. Your decrees are worthy of trust in-deed:
   holiness be- fits your house,
   [omit c]
   O Lord, for length of days. \(\text{R}\)

Alleluia. 2 D

A

L- le- lu- ia, al- le- lu- ia, al- le- lu- ia.

Verse.

G

OD was re-con-ciling the world to himself in Christ,

and entrusting to us the message of reconcil- i- a- tion. \(\text{R}\)

Offertory. 8 G

Cantor:

All:

H

AIL Mar- y, full of grace, the Lord is with you, \(\text{R}\) Bless-ed

Cantor:

are you a-mong wo-men. \(\checkmark\) You are the glo- ry of Je- ru- sa- lem,

you are the joy of Is- ra- el, you are the hon-or of our peo- ple.

All:

\(\text{R}\) Bless-ed are you among wo-men. \(\checkmark\) For you are hap-py, O

ho- ly Vir- gin Mar- y, and most worth-y of all praise; for from

All:

you has ris- en the Sun of Jus-tice, Christ our God. \(\text{R}\) Bless-ed

are you among wo-men.
Saturday Commemoration of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Psalter: Saturday, Week II

AT LAUDS
Saturday Commemoration of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**AT LAUDS**

Opening Verse

_Celebrant:_ **O**

Lord, open my lips. R And my mouth will proclaim your praise.

_Cantor:_ Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

_All:_ Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

Invitatory. VIII c

_Cantor:_ Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

_All:_ Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

Psalm 95

_Cantor:_ Come, let us sing to the Lord *

and shout with joy to the Rock who saves us.

Let us approach him with praise and thanksgiving *

and sing joyful songs to the Lord.

At Lauds

The Lord's Prayer

**Presiding Minister:**

**G**

Aathering our prayers and praises into one, we pray

as Jesus taught us: **Our Father.**

The concluding prayer, without the invitation Let us pray, is added immediately after the Lord's Prayer.

**L**ORD God, give to your people the joy of continual health in mind and body. * With the prayers of the Virgin Mary to help us, guide us through the sorrows of this life to eternal happiness in the life to come. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, * one God, for ever and ever. R Amen.

_Dismissal_

The Lord be with you. R And also with you.

May Almighty God bless you,


**G**

O in peace. R Thanks be to God.
Saturday Commemoration of the B. V. M.

**Choir:**

**Antiphon**

Eve shut all her children out of Paradise; the Virgin Mary opened wide its gates.

**Intercessions**

**Cantor:**

Cantor: Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

Cantor: The Lord is God, the mighty God, / the great king over all the gods. *
He holds in his hands the depths of the earth / and the highest mountains as well. *
He made the sea; it belongs to him, *
the dry land, too, for it was formed by his hands.

All: Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

Cantor: Come, then, let us bow down and worship, * bending the knee before the Lord, our maker. For he is our God and we are his people, *
the flock he shepherds.

All: Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

Cantor: Today, listen to the voice of the Lord: *
Do not grow stubborn, / as your fathers did in the wilderness, when at Meriba and Massah / they challenged me and provoked me, *
although they had seen my works.

All: Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

Cantor: Forty years I endured that generation. *
I said, / “They are a people whose hearts go astray / and they do not know my ways.”
So I swore in my anger, *
“they shall not enter into my rest.” *

All: Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

Cantor: 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.

All: Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.
Hymn

O gloria Domina

Cantor:

O glori-ous Lad- y throned in rest, A-midst the star- ry hosts a- bove, Who gav- est nur- ture from thy breast

To God, with pure ma- ter- nal love.

All :

What we had lost through sinful Eve
The Blossom sprung from thee restores,
And, granting bliss to souls that grieve,
Unbars the everlasting doors.

Cantor:

O Gate, through which hath passed the King,
O Hall, whence light shone through the gloom;
The ransomed nations praise and sing
Life given from the Virgin womb.

All :

All honor, laud and glory be,
O Jesus, Virgin-born, to thee!
All glory, as is ever meet,
To Father, and to Paraclete.

A-men.

At Lauds

give-ness of their sins.

9. In the tender compassion of our God * the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, * and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

11. Glo- ry to the Father, and the Son,* and the Ho- ly Spir- it:

12. as it was in the be- gin- ning, is now, * and will be for ev- er. A- men.
4. He promised to show mercy to our fathers * and to re-
member his holy covenant.

5. This was the oath he swore to our father Abra-ham : * to
set us free from the hands of our ene-mies,

6. free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his
sight * all the days of our life.

7. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High ; *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8. to give his people knowledge of salvation * by the for-

At Lauds

Psalm 92

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, *
   to make music to your name, O Most High,

2. to proclaim your love in the morning *
   and your truth in the watches of the night,

3. on the ten-stringed lyre and the lute, *
   with the murmuring sound of the harp.

4. Your deeds, O Lord, have made me glad ; *
   for the work of your hands I shout with joy.

5. O Lord, how great are your works ! *
   How deep are your designs !

6. The foolish man cannot know this *
   and the fool cannot understand.

7. Though the wicked spring up like grass *
   and all who do evil thrive : *

8. they are doomed to be eternally destroyed. *
   but you, Lord, are eternally on high.
9. See how your enemies perish; *
   all doers of evil are scattered.

10. To me you give the wild-ox's strength; *
    you anoint me with the purest oil.

11. My eyes looked in triumph on my foes; *
    my ears heard gladly of their fall.

12. The just will flourish like the palm-tree *
    and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

13. Planted in the house of the Lord, *
    they will flourish in the courts of our God,

14. still bearing fruit when they are old, *
    still full of sap, still green,

15. to proclaim that the Lord is just. *
    In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

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

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

   Choir:

Antiphon

As morning breaks we sing of your mercy, Lord, and

night will find us proclaiming your fidelity.

   Cantor:   Choir:

Canticle of Zechariah.

   Lk 1: 68-79

   VIII G

   B

Less-ed be the Lord, the God of Is-ra-el; * he has

   come to his people and set them free.

2. He has raised up for us a might-y Sav-ior, * born of the

   house of his servant Da-vid.

3. Through his ho-ly prophets he promised of old that he

   would save us from our ene-mies, * from the hands of all who

   hate us.

   VIII G

   E

X-tol * the greatness of our God.
Saturday Commemoration of the B. V. M.

Responsoy

Cantor:

VI

A

After the birth of your son, * you remained a vir-gin.

Congregation:

After the birth of your son, * you remained a vir-gin. Υ Moth-er

Cantor:

of God, in-tercede for us. * You remained a vir-gin. Υ Glo-ry to

Congregation:

the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it. After the

birth of your son, * you remained a vir-gin.

Antiphon at Benedictus

Cantor:

VIII G

Choir:

VE shut all her children * out of Par-a- dise; the Vir-

gin Mar- y o-pened wide its gates.

At Lauds

Deuteronomy 32:1-12

The cantor begins and alternates verses with the congregation:

Canticle

1. Give ear, O heavens, while I speak; *
   let the earth hearken to the words of my mouth!

2. May my instruction soak in like the rain, *
   and my discourse permeate like the dew,

3. like a downpour upon the grass, *
   like a shower upon the crops:

4. For I will sing the Lord’s renown. *
   Oh, proclaim the greatness of our God!

5. The Rock—how faultless are his deeds, *
   how right all his ways!

6. A faithful God without deceit, *
   how just and upright he is!

7. Yet basely has he been treated by his degenerate children, *
   a perverse and crooked race!

8. Is the Lord to be thus repaid by you, *
   O stupid and foolish people?

9. Is he not your father who created you?
   Has he not made you and established you?

10. Think back on the days of old, *
    reflect on the years of age upon age.

11. Ask your father and he will inform you, *
    ask your elders and they will tell you:

12. When the Most High assigned the nations their heritage, *
    when he parcelled out the descendants of Adam,

13. he set up the boundaries of the peoples *
    after the number of the sons of God;

14. while the Lord’s own portion was Jacob, *
    his hereditary share was Israel.
10. Saturday Commemoration of the B. V. M.

15. He found them in a wilderness, *
a wasteland of howling desert.

16. He shielded them and cared for them, *
guarding them as the apple of his eye.

17. As an eagle incites its nestlings forth * 
by hovering over its brood,

18. so he spread his wings to receive them *
and bore them up on his pinions.

19. The Lord alone was their leader, *
no strange god was with them.

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

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

Choir :

Antiphon

Ex- tol the greatness of our God.

Cantor : Choir :

3 Ant. 

OW won- der-ful * is your name, O Lord, in all cre-
a- tion.

V a

The cantor begins and alternates verses with the congregation :

Psalm 8

1. How great is your name, O Lord our God, *
through all the earth !

2. Your majesty is praised above the heavens ; *
on the lips of children and of babes

3. you have found praise to foil your enemy, *
to silence the foe and the rebel.

4. When I see the heavens, the work of your hands, *
the moon and the stars which you arranged,

5. what is man that you should keep him in mind, *
mortal man that you care for him ?

6. Yet you have made him little less than a god ; *
with glory and honor you crowned him,

7. gave him power over the works of your hands, *
put all things under his feet.

8. All of them, sheep and cattle, *
yes, even the savage beasts,

9. birds of the air, and fish *
that make their way through the waters.

10. How great is your name, O Lord our God, *
through all the earth !

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

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

Choir :

Antiphon

How won-der-ful is your name, O Lord, in all cre-
a- tion.

V a

Reading

Galations 4 : 4-5

W hen the designated time had come, God sent forth his Son born of a woman, born under the law, to deliver from the law those who were subjected to it, so that we might receive our status as adopted sons.
THE PSALTER, OFFICIAL PRAYERBOOK OF THE CHURCH

Note how the four chants of today’s Mass use the first person: indeed, it is Christ who is lamenting and suffering, but by singing them with our own throats and lips we unite ourselves to him, or, as members of his Body, lament with him! Cardinal Schuster writes: When the Church desires to express the inward feelings of the Savior as he approaches his sacred Passion, she uses the Psalter, her official prayerbook. The Gospels give a summary of the life and teaching of Jesus, but the Psalms of David lead us into his soul and reveal his virtues, the impulses of his heart, his battles, his fears, and his ineffable love which united him to his Father.

During his whole life our Savior used words from the Psalms when he prayed to his Father; on the Cross Psalm 21 strengthened him in his death agony. We may even call the Psalter the book from which the eternal High-Priest prayed when he offered his mortal life as a holocaust to his Father. It should be our task then to study zealously the spirit of the Psalms, for through them we will come to know the soul of Christ.