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.

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Hark! The loud celestial hymn
Angels above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heav’n with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy Lord.

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.

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

O Salutaris Hostia

O salutáris hóstia,
Quæ cæli pandis óstium,
Bella premunt hostïliæ;
Da robur, fer auxílium.
Uni trinóque Dómino
Sit sempitérna glória:
Qui vitam sine término
Nobis donet in pátria.
Amen.

O Saving Victim opening wide
The gate of heav’n to man below:
Our foes press on from every side:
Thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.
All praise and thanks to thee ascend
For evermore, blest One in Three:
O grant us life that shall not end
In our true native land with thee.
Amen.

A time of silent adoration follows.
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
AT SECOND VESPERS

The stars traverse the skies; the Wise Men journey from pagan lands, while the earth receives its Redeemer in the cave. There must be no one without some gift to offer, no one unmindful of the gratitude he owes. Let us celebrate the world’s salvation, the day Christ was born in our humanity, for today Adam’s sentence is reversed. No longer can it be said, ‘You are earth, and to the earth you shall return;’ rather, ‘You are now united to heaven, and to heaven you shall be admitted.’ — Saint Basil the Great

OPENING VERSE

O God, come to my assistance. R: O Lord, make haste to help me. 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.

HYMN

Hostis Herodes impie. (L.M.)

C 1. Why, impious Herod, shouldst thou fear Because the Christ is come so near? He who doth heav’nly kingdoms grant Thine earthly realm can never want.

Benediction

 quindi vives et regnas in saecula saeculorum. R: Amen.

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, * grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign for ever and ever. R: Amen.

The Divine Praises

V Oremus. Amen.

Cantor : Blessed be God. *
Blessed be his holy Name.

All : Blessed be Jesus Christ, / true God and true man. *
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Cantor : Blessed be his most Sacred Heart. *
Blessed be his most Precious Blood.

All : Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar. *
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.
Celebrant: On this day our Savior was adored by the Magi. / Let us also worship him with joy as we pray to him:

All: Save the poor, O Lord.

Cantor: King of the nations, / you called the Magi to adore you / as the first representative of the nations,

All: give us a willing spirit of adoration and service.

Cantor: King of glory, / you judge the peoples with justice,

All: grant mankind an abundant measure of peace.

Cantor: King of ages, / you endure from age to age,

All: send your word as fresh spring rain / falling on our hearts.

Cantor: King of justice, / you desire to free the poor who have no advocate,

All: be compassionate to the suffering and the afflicted.

Cantor: Lord, your name is blest for all ages,

All: show the wonders of your saving power / to our deceased brothers and sisters.

Celebrant: Our Father . . .

Celebrant: May the splendor of your majesty, O Lord, we pray, shed its light upon our hearts, * that we may pass through the shadows of this world and reach the brightness of our eternal home. 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.

All: Amen.

Vespers concludes with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Cantor: He comes in splendor, / the King who is our peace; *
he is supreme over all the kings of the earth.

Psalm 109

King and Priest

A famous Messianic Psalm. In colorful pictures, the royal psalmist paints the mission, conflict, and triumph of our Savior. We ought to pray this Psalm with sentiments of deepest devotion, homage, adoration; for Christ has applied these words of prophecy to himself.

Christ’s reign will last until all his enemies are made subject to him (1 Corinthians 15:25)

Appointed King by God

Cantor: The Lord’s revelation to my Master: /
“Sit on my right: * your foes I will put beneath your feet.”

All: The Lord will wield from Sion your scepter of power: * rule in the midst of all your foes.

Cantor: A prince from the day of your birth on the holy mountains; * from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

Appointed Priest by God

All: The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change. / “You are a priest for ever, * a priest like Melchizedek of old.”

Conqueror and Judge in God

Cantor: The Master standing at your right hand * will shatter kings in the day of his great wrath.

All: He shall drink from the stream by the wayside * and therefore he shall lift up his head.

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: He comes in splendor, / the King who is our peace; *
t he is supreme over all the kings of the earth.
ANTIPHON 2

Cantor : A light has shown through the darkness / for the upright of heart; * the Lord is gracious, merciful and just.

Psalm 112

Hymn of the humble

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

Praise God always

Cantor : Praise, O servants of the Lord, * praise the Name of the Lord!

All : May the Name of the Lord be blest * both now and for evermore!

Praise his exalted Name

Cantor : From the rising of the sun to its setting * praised be the Name of the Lord!

All : High above all nations is the Lord, * above the heavens his glory.

Praise his gracious condescension

Cantor : Who is like the Lord our God, * who has risen on high to his throne.

All : yet stoops from the heights to look down, * to look down upon heaven and earth?

Cantor : From the dust he lifts up the lowly, * from his misery he raises the poor.

All : to set him in the company of princes, * yes, with the princes of his people.

Cantor : To the childless wife he gives a home, * and gladdens her heart with children.

Doxology

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 : A light has shown through the darkness / for the upright of heart; * the Lord is gracious, merciful and just.

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 : Three mysteries mark this holy day: *
today the star leads the Magi to the infant Christ;
today water is changed into wine for the wedding feast; / today Christ wills to be baptized by John in the river Jordan * to bring us salvation.
5. He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

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

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

8. He has come to the help of his servant, Israel * for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

9. the promise he made to our fathers, * to Abram and

Cantor: All the people, whom you have made, * will come and worship before you, O Lord.

Antiphon 3

Cantor: Mighty and wonderful are your works, * Lord God Almighty!

All: Righteous and true are your ways, * O King of the nations!

Cantor: Who would dare refuse you honor, * or the glory due your name, O Lord?

All: Since you alone are holy, * all nations shall come.

Cantor: and worship in your presence, * Your mighty deeds are clearly seen.

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: All the people, whom you have made, * will come and worship before you, O Lord.

Canticle Revelation 15:3-4
**READING**

*Titus 3: 4-5*

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us; not because of any righteous deeds we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the baptism of new birth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

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**RESPONSORY**

*Cantor:* All peoples will be blest in him, * men and women of ev’ry race.

*All:* All peoples will be blest in him, * men and women of ev’ry race.

*Cantor:* All nations will acclaim his glory, *

*All:* All peoples will be blest in him, * men and women of ev’ry race.

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

*All:* All peoples will be blest in him, * men and women of ev’ry race.

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**CANTICLE OF MARY**

*Cantor:* Three mysteries mark this holy day: *

today the star leads the Magi to the infant Christ;

today water is changed into wine for the wedding feast; /

today Christ wills to be baptized by John in the river Jordan * to bring us salvation.

*The Cantor begins the Canticle, and alternates verses with All.*

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THE OFFICE OF SUNDAY VESPERS

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Roman Rite. Psalter: Festal Psalms

Ordinary Form. At Second Vespers

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT EUGENE

Diocese of Santa Rosa

2013

Responsory

Resp. VI

A

All peoples will be blessed in him, * men and women of ev'ry race. All peoples. V All nations will acclaim his glory. * Men and women. V Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. All peoples.

At Magnificat. Antiphon

VIII

Three mysteries * mark this holy day: to-day the star leads the Magi to the infant Christ; to-day water is changed into wine for the wedding feast; to-day Christ wills to be baptized by John in the river Jordan to bring us salvation.

Chant settings by Fr. Samuel F. Weber, O.S.B.

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FROM A HOMILY BY SAINT PETER CHRYSOLOGUS

GOD manifested his Incarnation to us by the signs we celebrate today. The first is that after searching the stars for his appearance in glory, the Wise Men found him in a cradle: a crying baby. They marvel at the sight of this Child, shown to them in swaddling clothes, who has for so long been hidden from them amid the constellations of heaven. Lost in wonder, they ponder over what they gaze upon: heaven on earth, earth taken up to heaven; man in God, God in man; what the whole world cannot encompass, contained in a tiny body. From the moment they see him, they believe without question. The gifts they offer proclaim their faith: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die. Through their action the Gentiles have moved from the last place to the first, since today, in the Wise Men’s profession of faith, pagan credulity has been consecrated to the truth.

Today we also commemorate Christ’s going down into the waters of the Jordan, to wash away the sin of the world. For this is why he has come, as John himself bears witness in the words: Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. Today a servant restrains his Lord, man touches God, John lays his hand upon Christ — not to grant forgiveness, but to receive it.

Today, as the prophet says, The voice of the Lord is heard over the waters — the voice that declares, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Today the Holy Spirit broods over the waters in the form of a dove. As in the time of the Deluge Noah learned from a dove that the flood had subsided upon the earth, so now, by the same sign, we know that the world has been saved from everlasting destruction. But here, unlike Noah’s dove which brought him a branch of an ancient olive tree, the Holy Spirit pours out all the riches of a new anointing upon the head of the Father of the world to come. So the prophecy is fulfilled: God, your God has anointed you with the oil of gladness, above all your companions.

Finally we recall today that when he changed water into wine Christ worked the first of his heavenly signs. But water was destined to be changed into the sacrament of his Blood, so that from the vessel of his own body he might give pure wine to those would drink. Thus he would fulfill the prophet’s words: My cup is overflowing: how magnificent it is!

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Antiphons In Cantu
for cantor, schola or choir

1 Ant. VIII

H

E comes in splendor, * the King who is our peace;

he is supreme over all the kings of the earth.

Psalm 109

2 Ant. VI

A

light has shone * through the darkness for the upright

of heart; the Lord is gracious, merciful and just.

Psalm 112

3 Ant. IV E

A

LL the people, * whom you have made, will come and

worship before you, Lord. Canticle, Revelation 15:3-4