

Cantor : Blessed be the great Mother of God, / Mary most **holy**. *
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate *Conception*.

All : Blessed be her glorious *Assumption*. *
Blessed be the name of Mary, / virgin *and* **mother**.

Cantor : Blessed be Saint **Joseph**, *
her most *chaste* **spouse**.

All : Blessed be **God** *
in his angels and in *his* **saints**.

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Holy God, we praise thy Name ;	Hark ! The loud celestial hymn
Lord of all, we bow before thee ;	Angel choirs above are raising ;
All on earth thy scepter 'claim ;	Cherubim and seraphim,
All in heav'n above adore thee ;	In unceasing chorus praising,
Infinite thy vast domain ;	Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord :
Everlasting is thy reign.	Holy, holy, holy Lord.

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.



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 salutaris hóstia,
Quæ cæli pandis óstium,
Bella premunt hostília ;
Da robur, fer auxiliium.

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT. AT SECOND VESPERS

Psalter: Week IV

A glimpse into the kingdom of God

Vespers is the evening prayer of the Church. This is the hour of thanksgiving for the graces bestowed during the day of salvation that has just passed. In Sunday Vespers we review gratefully the history of God's kingdom in the Church and in individual souls. We see Christ our victorious King in his power (Ps 109) ; we hear of the fundamental laws of the kingdom : love (fear) of God, love of neighbor (Ps 111). There are two principal objects to our Vesper prayers : thanksgiving, and new courage to continue our pilgrimage.

OPENING VERSE

STAND

O God, come to my as-sistance. *R.* O Lord, make haste to help me. Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it : as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for ev-er. A-men.

Audi, benigne Conditor. (L.M.)

*C 1. O merciful Creator, hear!
To us in pity bow thine ear:
Accept the tearful prayer we raise
In this our fast of forty days.*

**A 2. Our hearts are open, Lord, to thee;
Thou knowest our infirmity;
Pour out on all who seek thy face
Abundance of thy pard'ning grace.**

*C 3. Our sins are many, this we know;
Spare us, good Lord, thy mercy show;
And for the honor of thy Name
Our fainting souls to life reclaim.*

**A 4. Give us the self-control that springs
From discipline of outward things,
That fasting inward, secretly
The soul may purely dwell with thee.**

*C 5. We pray thee, Holy Trinity,
A One God, unchanging Unity,
That we, from this our abstinence
May reap the fruits of penitence.*
Amen.

BENEDICTION

OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tantum ergo Sacramentum

Tantum ergo Sacramentum
Veneremur cernui ;
Et antiquum documentum
Novo cedat ritui ;
Præstet fides supplementum
Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitque
Laus et iubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus, quoque
Sit et benedictio :
Procedenti ab utroque
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.

V. Panem de cælo præstitisti
eis (*T. P. alleluia*).
R. Omne delectamentum in se
habentem (*T. P. alleluia*).

Oratio

DEUS, qui nobis sub sacramento mirabili, passionis tuæ memoriã 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. *R.* Amen.

Prayer

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



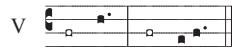
Cantor : Blessed be **God**. *
Blessed be his holy **Name**.

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**.

INTERCESSIONS



Celebrant : Let us give thanks continually to Christ, / our teacher
and our head, / who came to serve and to do good to all.
/ In humility and confidence let us **ask** him :

All : Come, Lord, to visit *your fam*'ly.

Cantor : Lord, be present to the bishops and priests of your
Church, / who share your role as head and **shepherd**,

All : may they lead your people to the Father /
under *your guidance*.

Cantor : May your angel be with all who **travel**,

All : to keep them safe in soul *and body*.

Cantor : Teach us to serve the needs of **others**,

All : and to be like you, who came to serve, /
not to *be served*.

Cantor : Grant that in the human family, / brother may always
help **brother**,

All : so that, with your assistance, /
it may be a city compact *and strong*.

Cantor : Have mercy on all the **dead**,

All : bring them to the vision of *your glory*.

Celebrant : Our Father . . .

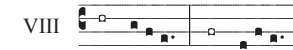
Celebrant : O God, who through your Word
reconcile the human race to yourself in a *wonderful way*, *
grant, we pray,
that with prompt devotion and eager faith
the Christian people may hasten
toward the solemn celebrations to come.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, *one God*, *
for ever and **ever**.

All : Amen.

Vespers concludes with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

ANTIPHON I

SIT



Cantor : God has *appointed Christ* *
to be the judge of the living *and the dead*.

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*.

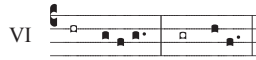
All : He shall drink from the stream *by the wayside* *
and therefore he shall lift *up his head*.

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 : God has *appointed Christ* *
to be the judge of the living *and the dead*.



ANTIPHON 2

Cantor : Happy the man who shows mercy for the Lord's sake ; * he will stand firm for ever.

Psalm III

The song of the saintly

This is the complement of the previous Psalm : the good God (Psalm 110)--the virtuous man (Psalm 111). The sequence of thought in the latter is rather free. The Church holds a mirror before my soul : are you such a virtuous man ? I will think of the man who has shown the highest sanctity, our blessed Lord, and of his Saints ; every day the Church is leading me into the gallery of his Saints.

Live a children born of the light. Light produces every kind of goodness and justice and truth (Ephesians 5 : 8-9)

Love of God's commandments

Cantor : Happy the man who fears the Lord, * who takes delight in all his commands.

Blessings of holy fear

All : His sons will be powerful on earth ; * the children of the upright are blest.

Cantor : Riches and wealth are in his house ; * his justice stands firm for ever.

All : He is a light in the darkness for the upright : * he is generous, merciful and just.

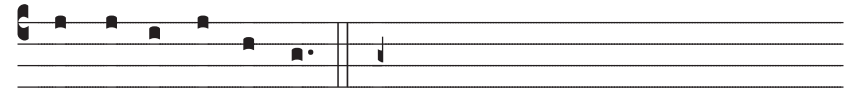
Cantor : The good man takes pity and lends, * he conducts his affairs with honor.

All : The just man will never waver : * he will be remembered for ever.

Cantor : He has no fear of evil news ; * with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.

All : With a steadfast heart he will not fear ; * he will see the downfall of his foes.

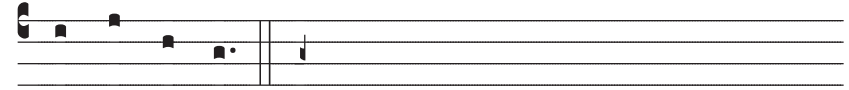
Cantor : Open-handed, he gives to the poor ; / his justice stands firm for ever. * His head will be raised in glory.



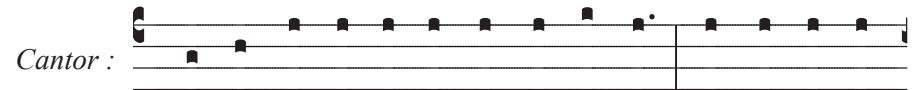
his children for ev- er.



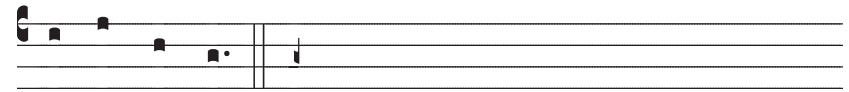
10. Glo- ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, * and to the



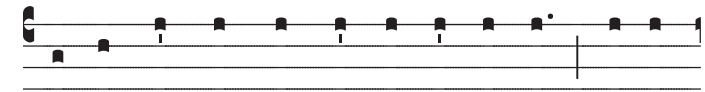
Ho- ly Spir- it :



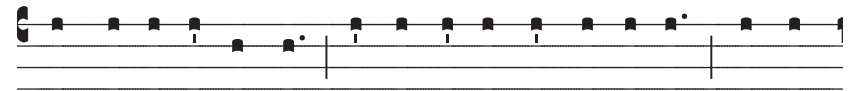
11. as it was in the be- gin-ning, is now * and will be for



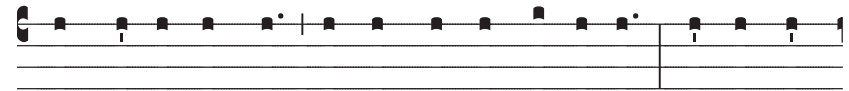
ev- er. A- men. The antiphon is repeated by the Cantor.



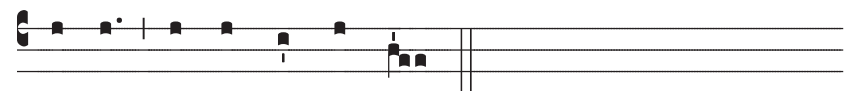
MY son, you have been with me all the time and ev'-



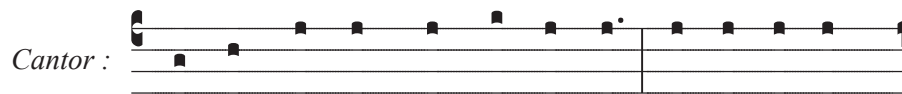
ry-thing I have is yours. But we had to feast and rejoice, because



your brother was dead and has come to life a-gain ; he was lost

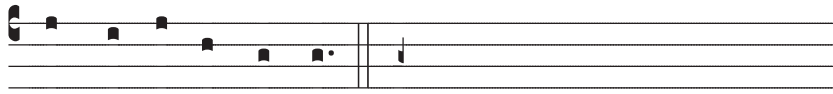


to us and now has been found.

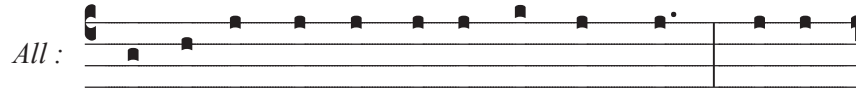


Cantor :

5. He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered

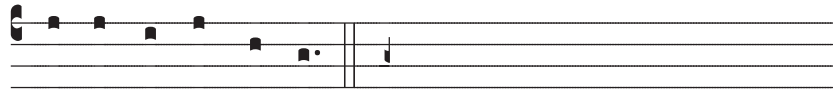


the proud in their con-ccit.

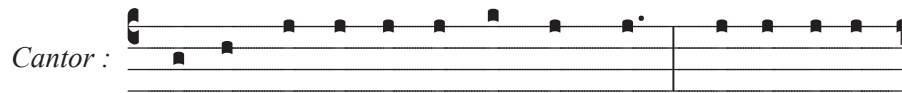


All :

6. He has cast down the might-y from their thrones, * and has

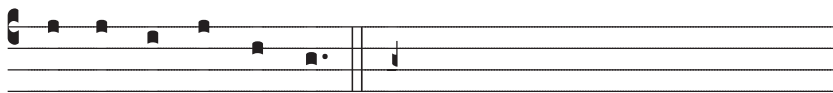


lift-ed up the low-ly.



Cantor :

7. He has filled the hun-gry with good things, * and the rich he

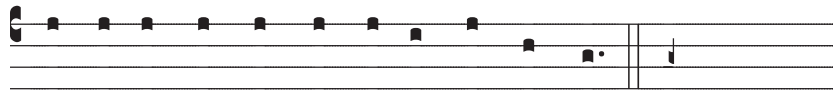


has sent a-way emp-ty.

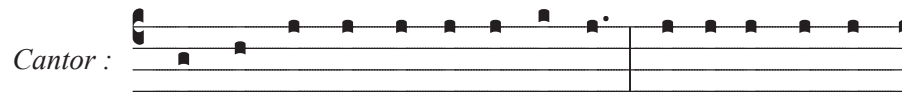


All :

8. He has come to the help of his ser-vant, Is- ra- el * for



he has re-mem-bered his promise of mer- cy,



Cantor :

9. the prom-ise he made to our fa-thers, * to A-bra-ham and

Frustration of the wicked

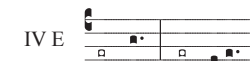
All : The wicked man sees and is angry, /
grinds his teeth and *fades away* ; *
the desire of the wicked leads to **doom**.

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 : Happy the man who shows mercy *for the Lord's* sake ; *
he will stand firm *for ever*.



IV E

ANTIPHON 3

Cantor : Those things, which God foretold through his prophets /
concerning the sufferings that Christ would **endure**, *
have been **fulfilled**.

CANTICLE

1 Peter 2 : 21-24

Cantor : Christ suffered for you, and left you an **example** *
to have you follow in *his* **footsteps**.

All : He did no **wrong** ; *
no deceit was found in *his* **mouth**.

Cantor : When he was **insulted** *
he returned *no* **insult**.

All : When he was made to **suffer**, *
he did not counter *with* **threats**.

Cantor : Instead he delivered himself **up** *
to the one who judges **justly**.

All : In his own **body** *
he brought our sins to *the* **Cross**,

Cantor : so that all of us, dead to sin, /
could live in accord with God's **will**. *
By his wounds you *were* **healed**.

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 : Those things, which God foretold through his prophets /
concerning the sufferings that Christ would **endure**, *
have been **fulfilled**.

READING I *Corinthians* 9 : 24-25

While all the runners in the stadium take part in the race, the award goes to one man. In that case, run so as to win ! Athletes deny themselves all sorts of things. They do this to win a crown of leaves that withers, but we a crown that is imperishable.

RESPONSORY

Cantor : Listen to us, O Lord, and have **mercy**, *
for we have **sinned against** you.

All : Listen to us, O Lord, and have **mercy**, *
for we have **sinned against** you.

Cantor : Christ Jesus, / hear our humble **petitions**, *

All : for we have **sinned against** you.

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

All : Listen to us, O Lord, and have **mercy**, *
for we have **sinned against** you.

CANTICLE OF MARY

STAND

The antiphon is sung by the Cantor.

VIII G

MY son, you have been with me all the time * and ev-
ry-thing I have is yours. But we had to feast and rejoice, because
your brother was dead and has come to life a-gain ; he was lost

to us and now has been found.

The soul rejoices in the Lord *Luke* I : 46-55

VIII G

MY soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, * and
my spir- it re-joic- es in God my Sav- ior.

All :

2. for he has looked with fav-or on his low-ly servant. * From
this day all gen- er- a- tions will call me bless- ed :

Cantor :

3. the Al- might- y has done great things for me, * and ho- ly
is his Name.

All :

4. He has mer- cy on those who fear him * in ev- 'ry gen-
er- a- tion.

IV

Responsory

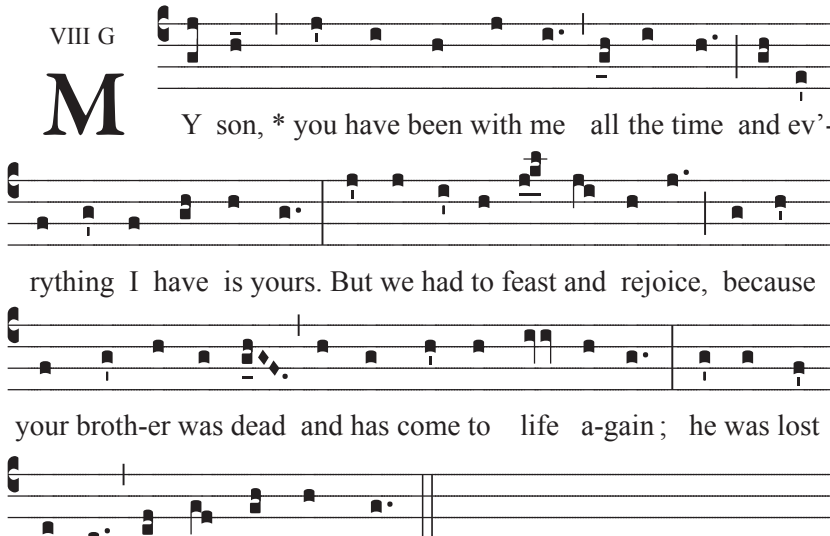
Resp. IV



L IS-TEN to us, O Lord, and have mer-cy, * for we have sinned a-against you. Lis-ten. √ Christ Je-sus, hear our hum-ble pe-ti-tions. * For we. √ Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it. Lis-ten

At Magnificat. Antiphon

VIII G

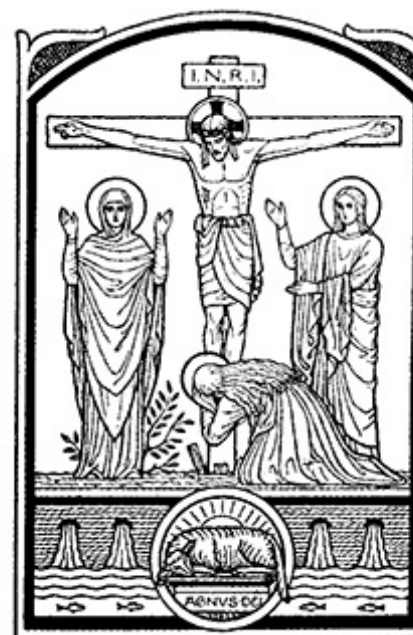


M Y son, * you have been with me all the time and ev'-rything I have is yours. But we had to feast and rejoice, because your broth-er was dead and has come to life a-gain; he was lost to us and now has been found.

THE OFFICE OF SUNDAY VESPERS FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Roman Rite. Psalter : Week I

Ordinary Form



CATHEDRAL OF SAINT EUGENE

Diocese of Santa Rosa

2013

Lent — a journey with Jesus through the “wilderness”

On our way towards Easter we have reached the Fourth Sunday of Lent. It is a journey with Jesus through the “wilderness”, that is, a time in which to listen more attentively to God’s voice and also to unmask the temptations that speak within us. The Cross is silhouetted against the horizon of this wilderness. Jesus knows that it is the culmination of his mission: in fact the Cross of Christ is the apex of love which gives us salvation. Christ himself says so in today’s Gospel: just “as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life” (Jn 3: 14-15).

The reference is to the episode in which, during the Exodus from Egypt, the Jews were attacked by poisonous serpents and many of them died. God then commanded Moses to make a bronze serpent and to set it on a pole; anyone bitten by serpents was cured by looking at the bronze serpent (Num 21: 4-9). Jesus was to be raised likewise on the Cross, so that anyone in danger of death because of sin, may be saved by turning with faith to him who died for our sake: “for God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him” (Jn 3: 17).

St Augustine comments: “So far, then, as it lies with the physician, he has come to heal the sick. He that will not observe the orders of the physician destroys himself. He has come a Saviour to the world . . . You will not be saved by him; you shall be judged of yourself”. Therefore, if the merciful love of God — who went so far as to give his only Son to redeem our life — is infinite, we have a great responsibility: each one of us, in fact, must recognize that he is sick in order to be healed. Each one must confess his sin so that God’s forgiveness, already granted on the Cross, may have an effect in his heart and in his life.

St Augustine writes further: “God accuses your sins: and if you also accuse them, you are united to God When your own deeds will begin to displease you, from that time your good works begin, as you find fault with your evil works. The confession of evil works is the beginning of good works”.

Sometimes men and women prefer the darkness to the light because they are attached to their sins. Nevertheless it is only by opening oneself to the light and only by sincerely confessing one’s sins to God that one finds true peace and true joy. It is therefore important to receive the Sacrament of Penance regularly, especially during Lent, in order to receive the Lord’s forgiveness and to intensify our process of conversion.

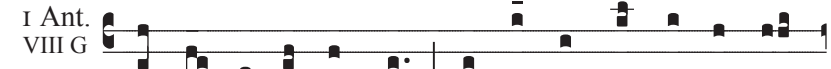
— Pope Benedict XVI

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT. AT SECOND VESPERS

Psalter: Week 4

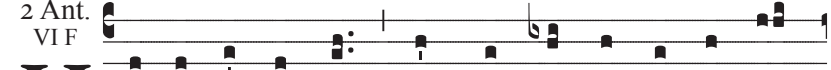
Antiphons *In Cantu*
for cantor, schola or choir

I Ant.
VIII G



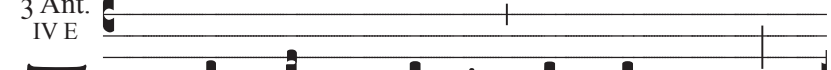
GOD has appointed Christ * to be the judge of the living and the dead. *Psalms 109*

2 Ant.
VI F



HAP-PY is the man * who shows mercy for the Lord’s sake; he will stand firm for- ev- er. *Psalms 111*

3 Ant.
IV E



THose things which God foretold * through his prophets concerning the sufferings that Christ would endure, have been fulfilled. *Canticle, 1 Peter 2: 21-24*