

The Divine Office

Vespers for the Epiphany of Our Lord
Vespers during the Octave of the Epiphany

PREPARATORY PRAYER

Before the Office, it is praiseworthy to kneel, make the sign of the cross and then say silently the following prayers.

Aperi Domine

Open my mouth, O Lord, to bless thy holy Name: cleanse my heart from all vain, evil, and wandering thoughts; enlighten my understanding and kindle my affections, that I may fittingly recite this Office with attention and devotion, and so may be meet to be heard before the presence of thy divine Majesty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Prayer of St. Gertrude

O Lord, in union with that divine intention wherewith thou thyself didst offer thy praises to God while upon the earth, I now recite this Office to thee.

PSALMS

The first half of Antiphon 1 is sung.

Psalm 109. Dixit Dominus



THE LORD said • únto my Lórd, *

Be Seated.

Sit thou on my right hand, until I make thine ene • mías thy fóotstool.

² The LORD shall send the rod of thy power • óut of Síon: *
be thou ruler, even in the midst a • móng thine énemies.

³ In the day of thy power shall the people offer themselves willingly with an • hóly wórship: *
the dew of thy birth is of the wómb • of the mórníng.

⁴ The LORD sware, • ánd will nótt repént, *
Thou art a Priest for ever after the order • óf Melchisedech.

⁵ The Lord up • ón thy ríght hánd *
shall wound even kings in the • dáy of hís wrath.

⁶ He shall judge a • móng the héathen; *
he shall fill the places with the dead bodies, and smite in sunder the heads over • dívers
cóuntries.

⁷ He shall drink of the bróok in thé wáy; *

Stand.

therefore shall hé lift úp his head.

Bow (women genuflect) while singing:

Glory be to the Fá • ther and tó the Són, *
and • tó the Hóly Ghost.

Stand upright.

As it was in the beginning, † is now, and • éver sháll be, *
wórlđ • without énd. Amen.

Antiphon 1 is sung in its entirety.

The first half of Antiphon 2 is sung.

Psalm 110. Confitebor



I WILL give thanks unto the LORD • wíth my whóle héart, *

Be Seated.

secretly among the faithful, and in the • cóngregátion.

² The wórks • of the LÓRD are gréat, *
sought out of all them that have • pléasure thérein.

³ His work is worthy to be praised and • hád in hónour, *
and his righteousness endúr • eth for éver.

⁴ The merciful and gracious LORD hath so done his • már-vel-lóus wórks, *
that they ought to be hád • in remémbrance.

⁵ He hath given meat unto • thém that féar him; *
he shall ever be mindful • óf his cóvenant.

⁶ He hath shewed his people the pów • er of hís wórks, *
that he may give them the heritage • óf the héathen.

⁷ The works of his hands are veri • tý and júdgment; *
all his com • mándments áre true.

⁸ They stand fast for év • er and éver, *
and are done in • trúth and équity.

⁹ He sent redemption un • tó his péople; *
he hath commanded his covenant for ever; holy and ré • ver-end ís his Name.

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the begín • ning of wísdóm; *

Stand.

a good understanding have all they that do thereafter; the praise of it endúr • eth for éver.

Bow (women genuflect) while singing:

Glory be to the Fá • ther and tó the Són, *
and • tó the Hóly Ghost.

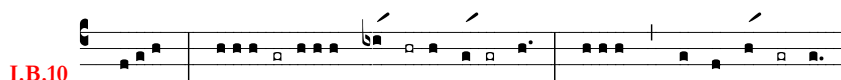
Stand upright.

As it was in the beginning, † is now, and • éver sháll be, *
wórlđ • without énd. Amen.

Antiphon 2 is sung in its entirety.

The first half of Antiphon 3 is sung.

Psalm 111. Beátus vir



*BLESSED is the man that • féareth thé LÓRD; **

Be Seated.

he hath great delight in • hís commándments.

² His seed shall be mígh • ty upón éarth; *
the generation of the faithful • sháll be bléss-ed.

³ Riches and plenteousness shall • bé in hís hóuse; *
and his righteousnes endúr • eth for éver.

⁴ Unto the godly there ariseth up líght • in the dárkness; *
he is merciful, lóv • ing, and ríghteous.

⁵ A good man is merci • fúl, and léndeth; *
and will guide his words • wíth discrétion.

⁶ For he shall név • er be móv-ed: *
and the righteous shall be had in everlást • ing remémbrance.

⁷ He will not be afraid of any • évil tídings; *
for his heart standeth fast, and be • líeveth ín the LORD.

⁸ His heart is establish • éd, and wíll not shrínk, *
until he see his desire up • ón his énemies.

⁹ He hath dispersed abroad, and gív • en to thé póor, *
and his righteousnes remaineth for ever; his horn shall be exált • ed with hónoúr.

¹⁰ The ungodly shall see it, and • ít shall gríeve him; *

Stand.

he shall gnash with his teeth, and consume away; the desire of the ungod • ly shall pérish.

Bow (women genuflect) while singing:

Glory be to the Fá • ther and tó the Són, *
and • tó the Hóly Ghost.

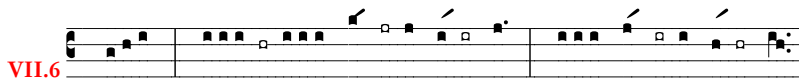
Stand upright.

As it was in the beginning, † is now, and • éver sháll be, *
wórlđ • without énd. Amen.

Antiphon 3 is sung in its entirety.

The first half of Antiphon 4 is sung.

Psalm 112. Laudáte, púeri



*PRAISE the • LÓRD, ye sérvants; **

Be Seated.

O práise • the Name óf the LORD.

² Blessed be the • Náme of thé LÓRD *
from this time • fóρθ for évermore.

³ The LORD'S • Náme is práis-ed *
from the rising up of the sun unto the gó • ing down óf the same.

⁴ The LORD is high a • bóve all héathen, *
and his glory a • bóve the héavens.

⁵ Who is like unto the LORD our God, that hath his • dwélling só hígh, *
and yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in • héaven ánd earth!

⁶ He taketh up the simple • óut of thé dúst, *
and lifteth the • póor out óf the mire;

⁷ That he may set him • wíth the prínces, *
even with the prínces • óf his péople.

⁸ He maketh the barren wó • man to kéept hóuse, *

Stand.

and to be a joyfúlmó • ther of children.

Bow (women genuflect) while singing:

Glory be to the Fá • ther and tó the Són, *
and • tó the Hóly Ghost.

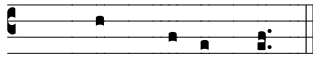
Stand upright.

As it was in the beginning, † is now, and • éver sháll be, *
wórlđ • without énd. Amen.

Antiphon 4 is sung in its entirety.

CHAPTER

After the Chapter is chanted by the Officiant:

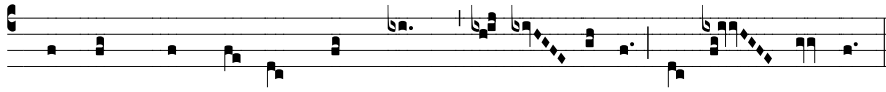


℟. Thanks be to God.

SHORT RESPONSE



All they from Sheba shall come * Al-le - lu-ia, al-le - lu-ia.



All they from Sheba shall come, Al-le - lu-ia, al-le - lu-ia.



∞ They shall bring gold and incense.



Al-le - lu-ia, al-le - lu-ia.

Bow (women genuflect) while singing:



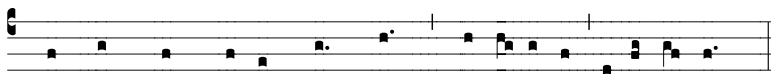
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost.

Stand upright.

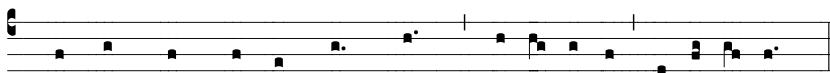


All they from Sheba shall come, Al-le - lu-ia, al-le - lu-ia.

Simple Tone:



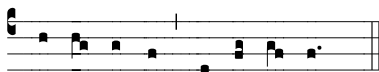
All they from Sheba shall come * Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



All they from Sheba shall come Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



∞ They shall bring gold and incense.



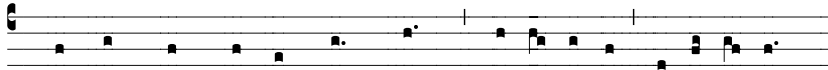
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Bow (women genuflect) while singing:



Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

Stand upright.



All they from Sheba shall come Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

HYMN



Why, impious Herod, vainly fear

That Christ the Saviour cometh here?

He takes not earthly realms away

Who gives the crown that lasts for aye.

To greet his birth the wise men went,

Led by the star before them sent;

Called on by light, towards Light they pressed,

And by their gifts their God confessèd.

In holy Jordan's purest wave

The heavenly Lamb vouchsafed to lave;

That he, to whom was sin unknown,

Might cleanse his people from their own.

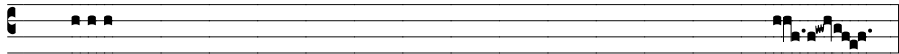
New miracle of power divine,
The water reddens into wine;
He spake the word, and poured the wave
In other streams than nature gave.

Bow (women genuflect) while singing:

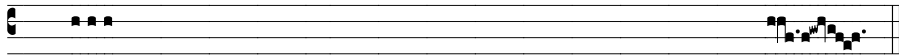
All glory, Lord, to thee we pay
For thine Epiphany today;
All glory, as is ever meet,
To Father and to Paraclete. Amen.

VERSICLE

For Epiphany Day & throughout the Octave:

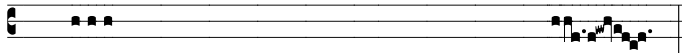


∇ The Kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents, allelu-ia.

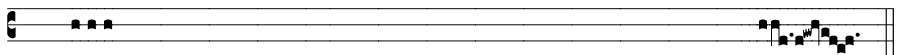


⌘ The kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts, allelu-ia.

For the Sunday within the Octave:



∇ We have seen his star in the east, allelu-ia.



⌘ And are come with gifts to worship the Lord, allelu-ia.

THE MAGNIFICAT

The first half of the Antiphon is sung.

*For I Vespers on Epiphany day:
For Day IV in the Octave:*



For II Vespers on Epiphany day:



For Day II in the Octave:



For Day III & V in the Octave:



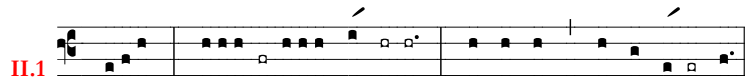
*For Day V in the Octave:
For II Vespers on the Sunday within the Octave*



For Day VI in the Octave:



For I Vespers on the Sunday within the Octave:



✠ *MY SOUL* doth • *mágnifý* the *Lórd*, *
and my spirit hath rejoic-ed in • *Gód* my *Sáviour*.

For he • háth regárded *
the lowliness of • *hís* handmáiden.

For be • hóld, from héncforth *
all generátions shall • cáll me bléss-ed.

For he that is mighty hath • mágnifi-ed mé; *

Bow the head.

and hó • ly is hís Name.

And his mercy is on • thém that féar him *
throughout all • génerátions.

He hath shew-ed • stréngth with hís árm; *
he hath scatter-ed the proud in the imaginá • tion of théir hearts.

He hath put down the mígh • ty from théir séat, *
and hath exalted the • húmble ánd meek.

He hath filled the húng • ry with góod thínghs; *
and the rich he hath sent • émpy áway.

He remembering his mercy † hath holpen his • sérvant Ísra-el; *
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his • séed for éver.

Bow (women genuflect) while singing:

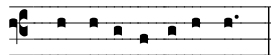
Glory be to the Fá • ther and tó the Són, *
and • tó the Hóly Ghost.

Stand upright.

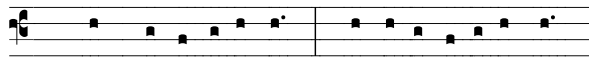
As it was in the beginning, † is now, and • éver sháll be, *
wórlđ • without énd. Amen.

The Antiphon is sung in its entirety.

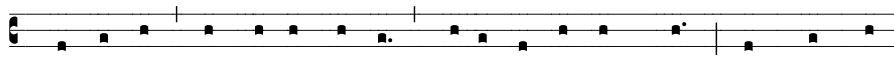
THE PRAYERS



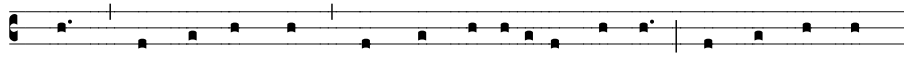
Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son.



℟. Chris-te e-le-i-son. Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son.



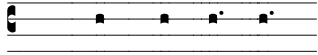
Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom



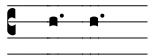


Let us pray.

The collect is prayed, ending with the words:



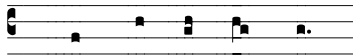
...world without end.



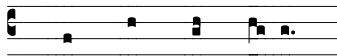
℟ Amen

Appointed commemorations are observed.

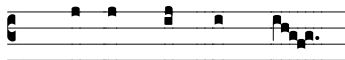
THE BLESSING



℣ The Lord be with you.



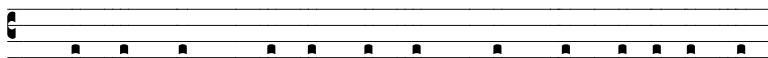
℟ And with thy spirit.



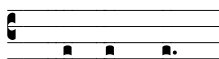
℣ Let us bless the Lord.



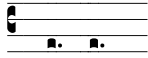
℟ Thanks be to God.



℣ May the souls **✠** of the faithful, through the mercy of God,



rest in peace.

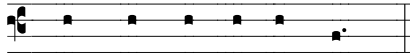


℣. Amen

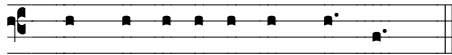
The Our Father is said silently.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, ✠ but deliver us from evil. Amen.

When Compline does not follow immediately, the appropriate Marian Antiphon is sung.



℣. The Lord give us his peace.



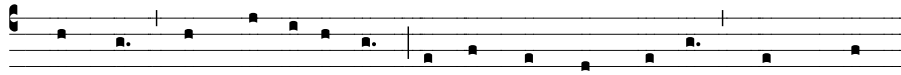
℣. And life everlasting. Amen.

THE MARIAN ANTIPHON

From I Vespers of Advent Sunday through II Vespers of the Purification.



Gracious † Mother of our Redeemer, forever abiding Heaven's



gateway, and star of ocean, O succour the people, Who, though



falling, strive to rise again. Thou Maiden who barest thy holy



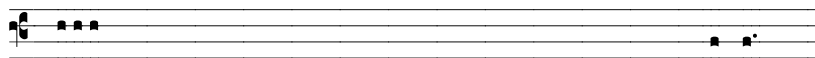
Creator, to the wonder of all nature; Ever Virgin, after as before



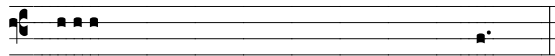
thou recei-vedst that Ave from the mouth of Gabriel; have com-



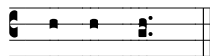
passion on us sinners.



∴ After Child-bearing, O Virgin, thou didst remain invi-olate.



⦿ Intercede for us, O Mother of God.

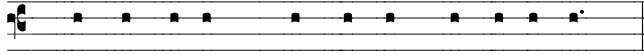


Let us pray.

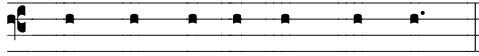
O God, who by the fruitful virginity of blessed Mary hast bestowed upon mankind the reward of eternal salvation: grant, we beseech Thee; that we may know the help of her intercession, through whom we have been accounted worthy to receive the Author of our life, Jesus Christ, Thy Son our Lord.



R: Amen



V: May the divine **✠** help remain with us always.



R: And with our absent brethren.

After the Office is ended, it is praiseworthy to say the following Prayers.

To the holy and undivided Trinity,
To the crucified humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
To the fruitful Virginity of the blessed and glorious ever Virgin Mary,
And to the whole company of the Saints
Be everlasting praise, honor, power and glory from every creature,
And unto us the remission of all our sins for ever, world without end.

R: Amen.

V: Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, which bore the Son of the Father eternal.

R: And blessed are the paps which gave suck to Christ the Lord.

The Pater Noster & Ave Maria are prayed silently.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, **✠** but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners; now, and at the hour of our death. Amen