



# THE ORDER FOR COMPLINE

ACCORDING TO THE HOLY RULE OF SAINT BENEDICT  
AND THE *BREVIARIUM MONASTICUM*

*Anno Domini MMIV*  
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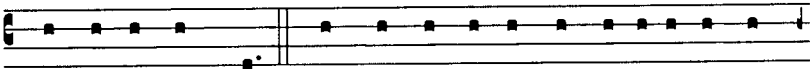


# THE ORDER FOR COMPLINE

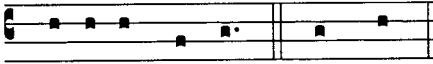
ACCORDING TO THE HOLY RULE OF SAINT BENEDICT  
AND THE *BREVIARIUM MONASTICUM*

[Lector]

[Officiant]



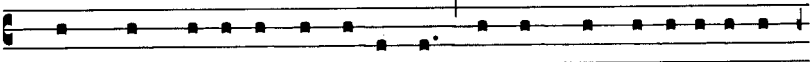
Sir, ask a bless - ing. The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night



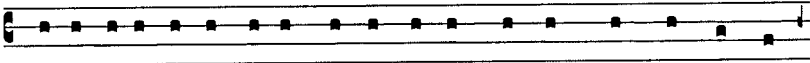
and a per-fect end. *R.* A - men.

¶ Then shall the Lector chant the following:

THE SHORT LESSON. *Fratres, sobrii estote.* I Peter v. 8, 9.



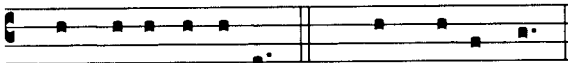
BRETHREN, be sober, be vig-il-ant, because your adversary the



devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may de-



vour: whom resist, stedfast in the faith. *Ps.* But thou, O Lord,



have mercy upon us. *R.* Thanks be to God.

¶ Then shall the Officiant chant the following *Versicle*, the People responding:



*Ps.* Our help is in the Name of the Lord.



*R.* Who hath made hea-ven and earth.

¶ *The Our Father, entirely in secret.*

¶ *Then shall be said the General Confession by the Officiant.*

I CONFESS to God Almighty, to blessed Mary ever-Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John Baptist, to the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, [to our blessed Father Benedict,] to all the Saints, and to you Brethren, that I have sinned exceedingly, in thought, word, and deed: [*here strike the breast thrice*] by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault. Wherefore I beg blessed Mary ever-Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, [our blessed Father Benedict,] and all the Saints, and you Brethren, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

¶ *And the Choir respond (but if in private or without a Priest, the response by the Officiant uses the word us instead of thee):*

ALMIGHTY God have mercy upon *thee*, forgive *thee* thy sins, and bring *thee* to everlasting life. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall be said the General Confession by the Choir:*

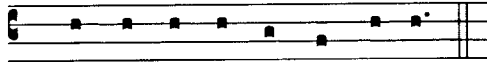
I CONFESS to God Almighty, to blessed Mary ever-Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John Baptist, to the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, [to our blessed Father Benedict,] to all the Saints, and to thee Father, that I have sinned exceedingly, in thought, word, and deed: [*here strike the breast thrice*] by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault. Wherefore I beg blessed Mary ever-Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, [our blessed Father Benedict,] and all the Saints, and thee Father, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

¶ *And the Priest Officiant gives the Absolution, as follows:*

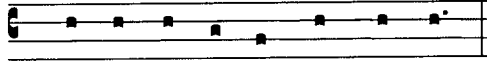
ALMIGHTY God have mercy upon you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. *Amen.*

THE Almighty and merciful Lord us pardon, absolution, and remission of our sins. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall the Officiant chant the following Versicle, the People responding:

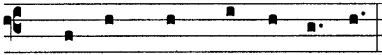


¶ Turn us then, O God our Saviour.

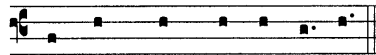


¶ And let thine an-ger cease from us.

¶ Then shall be chanted by Officiant and People:

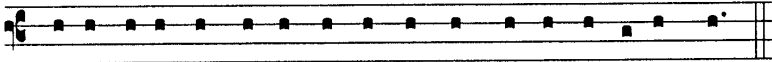


¶ O God, make speed to save us.



¶ O Lord, make haste to help us.

[All bow]

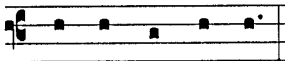


¶ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:

[Rise]



¶ As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world

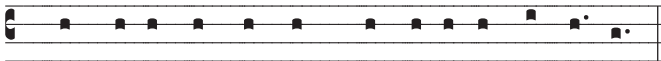


without end. Amen.



Al - le - lu - ia.

¶ After Septuagesima, instead of Alleluia:



Praise be to thee, O Lord, King of et-er-nal glo-ry.

### THE PSALMS OF COMPLINE.

¶ Then shall be chanted the four Psalms of Compline, the Precentor and the People chanting alternate verses, as follows:

Psalm 4 *Cum invocarem exaudivit me* Tone VIII 1



**H**EAR me when I call O God of my · righteousness: \* thou hast set me at liberty when I was in trouble, have mercy upon me and hearken un-to my pray-er.

2 O ye sons of men how long will ye blaspheme mine · honour \* and have such pleasure in vanity and seek · after falsehood?

3 Know this also that the LORD hath chosen to himself the man that is · godly; \* when I call upon the LORD · he will hear me.

4 Stand in awe and sin · not; \* commune with your own heart and in your · chamber and be still.

5 Offer the sacrifice of · righteousness \* and put your · trust in the LORD.

6 There be many that · say, \* Who will · show us any good?

7 LORD lift thou · up \* the light of thy countenance upon us.

8 Thou hast put gladness in my · heart; \* yea more than when their corn and · wine and oil increase.

9 I will lay me down in peace and take my · rest; \* for it is thou LORD only that makest me · dwell in safety.

10 Glory be to the Father and to the · Son \* and · to the Holy Ghost;

11 As it was in the beginning, † is now and ever · shall be, \* world · without end. Amen.

Psalm 91 (90) *Qui habitat in adjutorio Altissimi* Tone VIII 1

**W**HOSO dwelleth under the defence of the Most · High, \* shall abide under the shadow of · the Almighty.

2 I will say unto the LORD Thou art my hope and my · stronghold; \* my God in · him will I trust.

3 For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the · hunter, \* and from the · noisome pestilence.

4 He shall defend thee under his wings and thou shalt be safe under his · feathers; \* his faithfulness and truth shall be thy · shield and buckler.

5 Thou shalt not be afraid for any terror by · night, \* nor for the arrow that · flieth by day;

6 For the pestilence that walketh in · darkness, \* nor for the sickness that destroyeth · in the noon-day.

7 A thousand shall fall beside thee and ten thousand at thy right · hand; \* but it shall · not come nigh thee.

8 Yea with thine eyes shalt thou be·hold, \* and see the reward of · the ungodly.

9 For thou LORD art my · hope; \* thou hast set thine house of · defence very high.

10 There shall no evil happen unto · thee, \* neither shall any plague come · nigh thy dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over · thee, \* to keep · thee in all thy ways.

12 They shall bear thee in their · hands, \* that thou hurt not thy · foot against a stone.

13 Thou shalt go upon the lion and · adder: \* the young lion and the dragon shalt thou tread · under thy feet.

14 Because he hath set his love upon me therefore will I de·liver him; \* I will set him up because · he hath known my Name.

15 He shall call upon me and I will · hear him; \* yea I am with him in trouble, I will deliver him and bring · him to honour.

16 With long life will I satisfy · him, \* and show him · my sal·vation.

17 Glory be to the Father and to the · Son \* and · to the Holy Ghost;

18 As it was in the beginning, † is now and ever · shall be, \* world · without end. Amen.

Psalm 134 (133) *Ecce nunc benedicite Dominum* Tone VIII 1

**B**EHOLD now, praise the · LORD, \* all ye · servants of the LORD;  
2 Ye that by night stand in the house of the · LORD, \* even in the courts of the · house of our God.

3, 4 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the · LORD. \* The LORD that made heaven and earth give thee blessing · out of Sion.

5 Glory be to the Father and to the · Son \* and · to the Holy Ghost;

6 As it was in the beginning, † is now and ever · shall be, \* world · without end. Amen.

THE OFFICE HYMN. *Te lucis ante terminum.*



TO thee be-fore the close of day, Cre-a-tor of the world, we pray



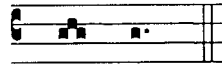
That with thy won-ted fa-vour thou, wouldst be our Guard and



Keep-er now.

From all ill dreams defend our eyes,  
From nightly fears and fantasies,  
Tread under foot our ghostly foe,  
That no pollution we may know.

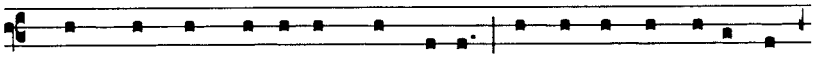
O Father, that we ask be done,  
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,  
Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,  
Shall live and reign eternally.



A - men.

THE LITTLE CHAPTER. *Tu autem in nobis es.* Jeremiah xiv. 9.

¶ Then shall the Lector chant the following:



THOU, O Lord, art in the midst of us, and we are call-ed by thy



Name: leave us not, O Lord our God. ℞. Thanks be to God.

¶ Then shall the Lector chant this Versicle, the People responding:



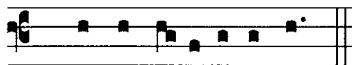
℣. Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of an \*eye. - - - -

[ \* In Eastertide: eye, al-le -lu-ia. - - - - ]



℞. Hide us under the shadow of thy \*wings. - - -

[ \* In Eastertide: wings, al - le-lu - ia. - - - - ]

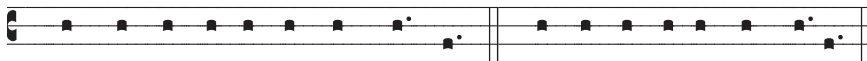


℣. Ky-ri - e e-le-i-son.

℟. Christ - e e-le-i-son.

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

☩ *The Our Father, secretly until:*



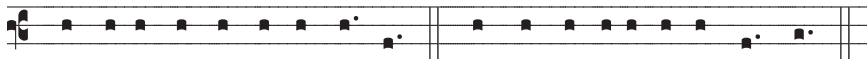
℣. And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion. ℟. But de-liv-er us from e-vil.

### THE PRECES.

☩ *The following Preces are not said on Double Feasts; or within Octaves; or on days when there has been Commemoration at Vespers of a Double or of an Octave, even Simple; or on Friday after the Octave of the Ascension; or on the Vigil of the Epiphany.*

☩ I believe in God, *secretly*

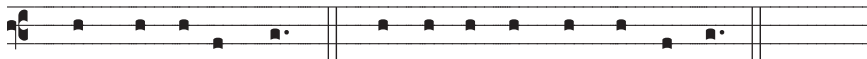
[The Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic Church: The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of sins:] *until:*



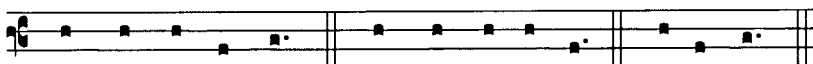
℣. The Resurrection of the bo-dy. ℟. And the life everlasting. A-men.



℣. Vouchsafe, O Lord, this night. ℟. To keep us with-out sin.



℣. O Lord, hear my pray'r. ℟. And let my cry come un-to thee.

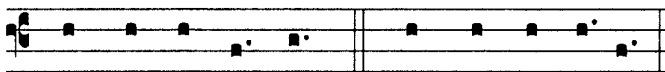


∩. The Lord be with you. ⚡. And with thy spi-rit. ∩. Let us pray.

FOR ANGELIC MINISTRATIONS. *Visita, quaesumus.*

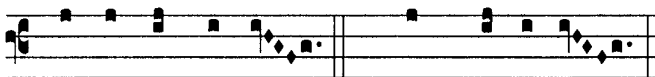
VISIT, we beseech thee, O Lord, this *habitation*, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy ; Let thy holy Angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace, and may thy blessing be upon us evermore ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE CLOSING VERSICLES. *Benedicamus Domino.*



∩. The Lord be with you. ⚡. And with thy spirit.

¶ On Feasts, the following tone is used:



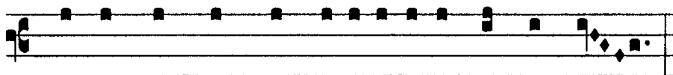
∩. Let us bless the Lord. ⚡. Thanks be to God.

¶ Or, on Ferials, the following tone is used:

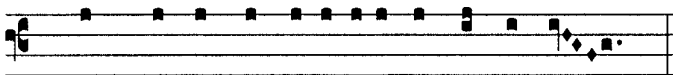


∩. Let us bless the Lord. ⚡. Thanks be to God.

¶ Or, in Eastertide:



∩. Let us bless the Lord, alleluia, al - le - lu - ia.



⚡. Thanks be to God, alleluia, al - le - lu - ia.

¶ Then is said the following in a low monotone voice:

✠ May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*


THE Almighty and Merciful Lord, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, bless and keep us. *Amen.*

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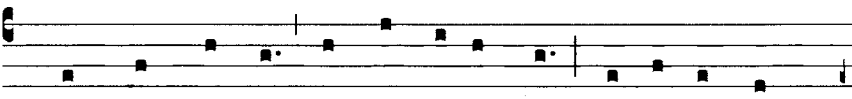
The First Anthem. *Alma Redemptoris Mater.* Mode V (transposed)

¶ From the First Evensong of Advent Sunday through the Second Evensong of Candlemas (the Purification of St. Mary).


[Precentor] [People]



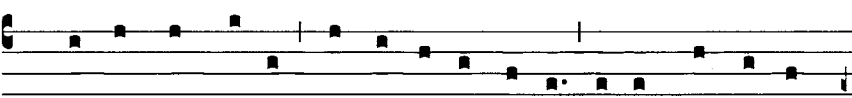
GRA-CIOUS Mother of our Redeemer, for ever abiding,



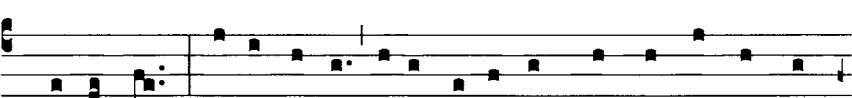
Hea-ven's gateway, and star of o - cean, O succour the



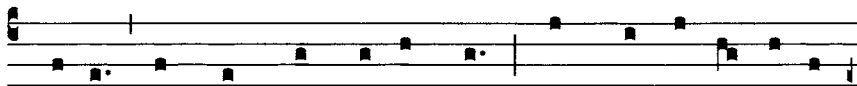
people, who, though falling, strive to rise a-gain. Thou



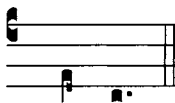
Maiden who barest thy ho-ly Cre-a-tor, to the wonder of



all nature; Ev-er Virgin, after, as before thou receivedst that



A-ve from the mouth of Ga-briel; have compassion on us

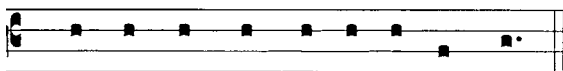


sinners.

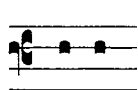
¶ *Before the Vigil of Christmas, the following Versicles and Collect are used:*



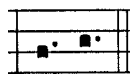
∩ The Angel of the Lord announc-ed unto Ma-ry.



℞ And she conceiv'd by the Ho-ly Ghost. ∩ Let us pray.

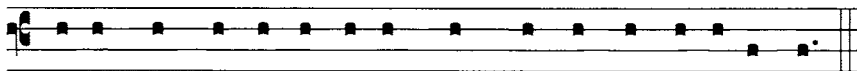


**W**E beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts : that, as we have known the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an Angel ; so by his Cross and Passion we may be brought unto the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord.

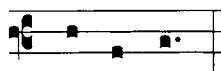
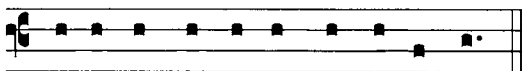


Amen.


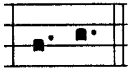
¶ *But from the First Evensong of Christmas to Candlemas:*




∩ After childbearing, O Virgin, thou didst remain in-vi-o-late.



℞ Intercede for us, O Mother of God. ∩ Let us pray.

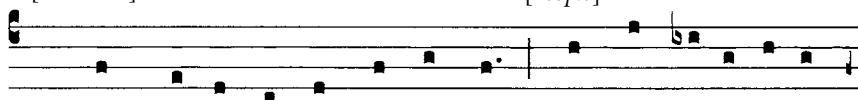

**O** GOD, who by the child-bearing of a pure Virgin hast bestowed upon all mankind the rewards of everlasting life : grant, we beseech thee ; that we may know the succour of her intercession, through whom we have been found worthy to receive the Author of life, even Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord.
 
 Amen.

The Second Anthem. *Ave Regina caelorum.* Mode VI.

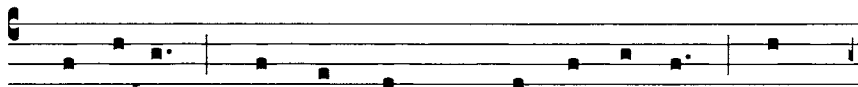

*From the Second Evensong of Candlemas to the Second Evensong of Wednesday in Holy Week.*

[Precentor]

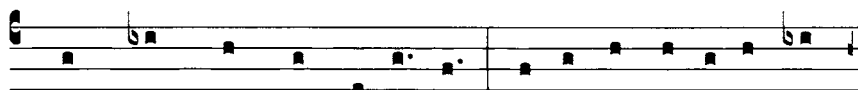
[People]



QUEEN of the heavens, we hail thee, Hail thee, La-dy of all



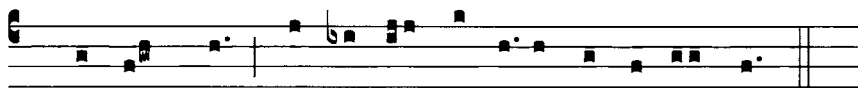
the Angels; Thou the dawn, the door of morning, whence



the world's true Light is ris-en: Joy to thee, O Virgin glo-



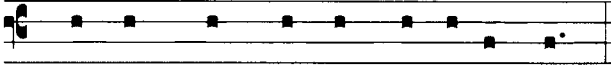
rious, Beau-ti-ful beyond all other; Hail, and farewell, O



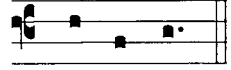
most gra-cious, In-ter-cede for us al-way to Je - sus.



∩ Vouchsafe that I may praise thee, O holy Vir-gin.



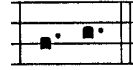
∩ Give me strength against thine e-ne-mies.



∩ Let us pray.



**W**E beseech thee, O Lord, mercifully to assist our infirmity : that like as we do now commemorate bless-ed Mary Ever-Virgin, Mother of God ; so by the help of her intercession we may die to our former sins and rise again to newness of life. Through the same Christ our Lord.



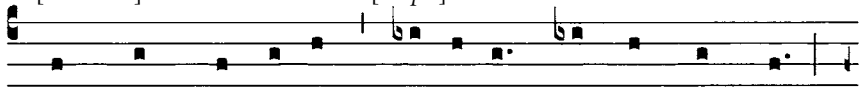
Amen.

The Third Anthem. *Regina caeli laetare.* Mode VI.

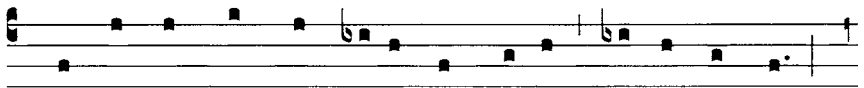
¶ From Holy Saturday through the Saturday within the Whitsun Octave:

[Precentor]

[People]



O QUEEN of heaven, be joyful, al - le - lu - ia:



Because he whom so meetly thou barest, al - le - lu - ia:



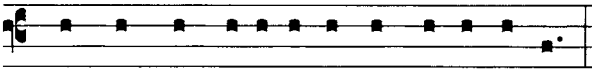
Hath a - ri - sen as he promis'd, al - le - lu - ia:



Pray for us to the Fa - ther, al - le - lu - ia.




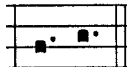
∩ Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, al-le-lu-ia.



∩ For the Lord is risen indeed, al-le-lu-ia.

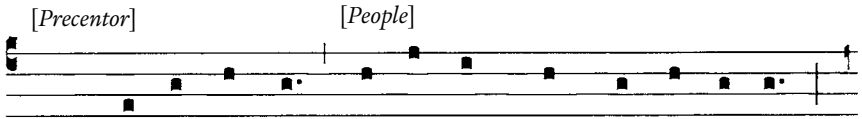


∩ Let us pray.

 **O** GOD, who by the Resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ hast given joy unto the world : grant, we beseech thee ; that through his Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord.  Amen.

The Fourth Anthem. *Salve Regina.* Mode V.

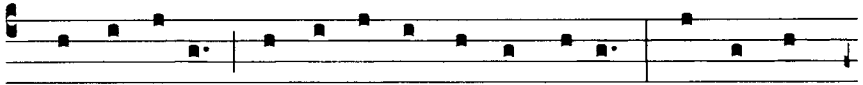
¶ *From First Evensong of Trinity Sunday to the Saturday before Advent:*



MA-RY, we hail thee, Mother and Queen compassionate;



Ma-ry, our com-fort, life, and hope, we hail thee. To



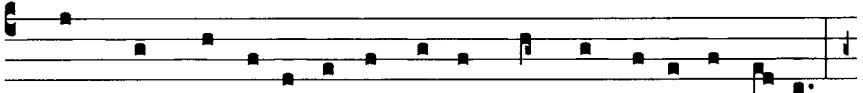
thee we exiles, children of Eve, lift our crying. To thee we



are sighing, as mournful and weeping, we pass through this



vale of sorrow. Turn thou, therefore, O our in-tercessor,



those thine eyes of pi-ty and loving-kindness upon us sinners



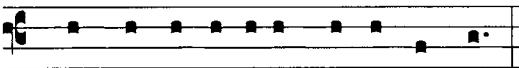
Hereafter, when our earthly ex-ile shall be ended, shew us



Je - sus, the bless-ed Fruit of thy womb. O gen - tle,



O ten-der, O gra-cious Virgin Ma-ry.



∴ Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.



¶ In Benedictine Religious Houses, as a last preparation for the night, the Superior sprinkles Holy Water on the monks and the faithful. As he does so, the Choir recites an antiphon followed by a psalm verse and the Gloria Patri and the repetition of the antiphon.

**ANTIPHON OUTSIDE OF PASCHALTIDE.** Thou shalt purge me, \* O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

*Psalm 51.* Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness.

¶ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*And the Antiphon is repeated:* Thou shalt purge me, &c.

**ANTIPHON IN PASCHALTIDE.** I beheld water \* proceeding out of the temple, from the right side thereof, alleluia: and everything whithersoever the waters of life shall come, shall be healed, and they all shall say, alleluia.

*Psalm 118.* O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious: because his mercy endureth for ever.

¶ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*And the Antiphon is repeated:* I beheld water, &c.