

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 salutáris hóstia,
Quæ cæli pandis óstium,
Bella premunt hostília ;
Da robur, fer auxiliúm.

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 ADVENT. 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. *℟*: 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. Al- le- lu- ia.

HYMN

Conditor alme siderum. (L.M.)

7th century.

*C 1. Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
Jesus, Redeemer, save us all,
And hear thy servants when they call.*

**A 2. Thou, grieving that the ancient curse
Should doom to death a universe,
Hast found the med'cine, full of grace,
To save and heal a ruined race.**

*C 3. Thou camest, the Bridegroom of the
Bride,
As drew the world to evening tide,
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,
The spotless Victim all divine.*

**A 4. At whose dread Name, majestic now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow ;
And things celestial thee shall own,
And things terrestrial, Lord alone.**

*C 5. O thou whose coming is with dread,
To judge and doom the quick and dead,
Preserve us, while we dwell below ;
From ev'ry insult of the foe.*

**A 6. To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Laud, honor, might, and glory be
From age to age, eternally.**

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.

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

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

Oratio

DEUS, qui nobis sub sacramento mirabili, passionis tuæ memoriam reliquisti : * tribue, quæsumus, ita nos Cörperis et Sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari ; ut redemptionis tuæ fructum in nobis iugiter sentiamus : Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula sæculorum. *℟*. 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. *℟*. 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 : To Christ the Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, let us pray with joyful **hearts** :

All : Come, / *Lord Jesus!*

Cantor : Lord Jesus, in the mystery of your incarnation, you revealed your glory to the **world**,

All : give us new life by *your coming*.

Cantor : You have taken our weakness upon **yourself**,

All : grant us *your mercy*.

Cantor : You redeemed the world from sin by your first coming in **humility**,

All : free us from all guilt when you come again *in glory*.

Cantor : You live and rule over **all**,

All : in your goodness / bring us to our eternal *inheritance*.

Cantor : You sit at the right hand of the **Father**,

All : gladden the souls of the dead with *your light*.

Our Father . . .

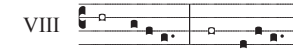
Celebrant : Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns 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 : See how glorious *he is*, *
coming forth as Savior *of all peoples* !

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*.

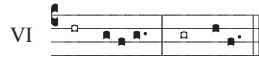
All : He shall drink from the stream *by the wayside* *
and therefore he shall lift *up his head*.

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 : See how glorious *he is*, *
coming forth as Savior *of all peoples* !



ANTIPHON 2

Cantor : Crooked ways will be straightened, /
and rough ways made **smooth**. *
Come, O Lord, do not delay, / *alleluia*.

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*.

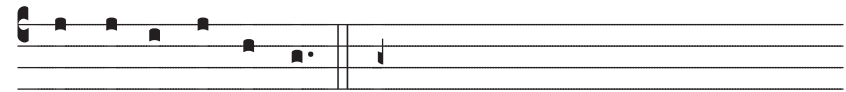
Cantor : The good man takes pity *and lends*, *
he conducts his affairs *with honor*.

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

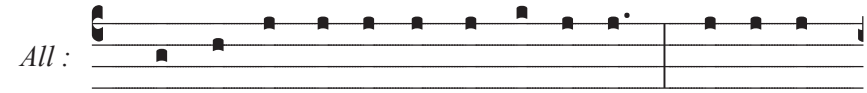
Cantor : He has no fear of *evil news* ; *
with a firm heart he trusts in *the Lord*.

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

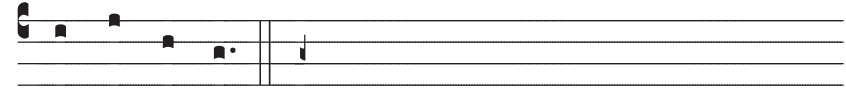
Cantor : Open-handed, he gives to the poor ; /
his justice stands *firm for ever*. *
His head will be raised *in glory*.



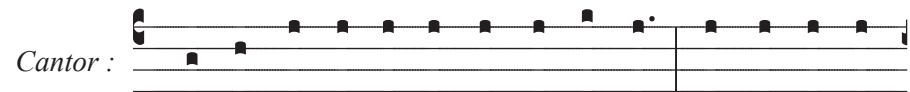
his children for ev- er.



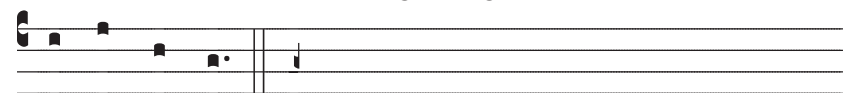
10. Glo- ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, * and to the



Ho- ly Spir- it :

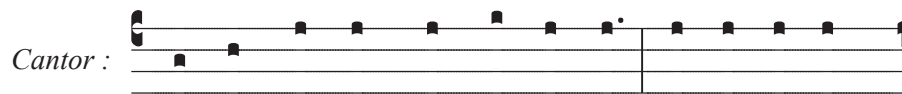


11. as it was in the be- gin-ning, is now * and will be for

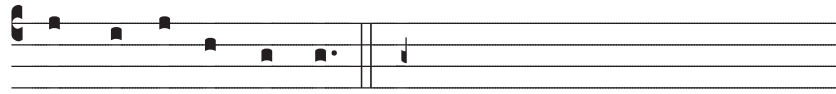


ev- er. A- men. *The antiphon is repeated by the Cantor.*

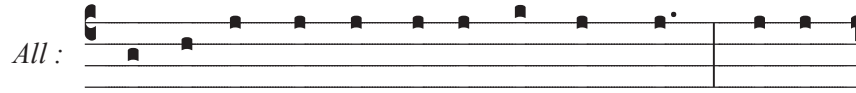




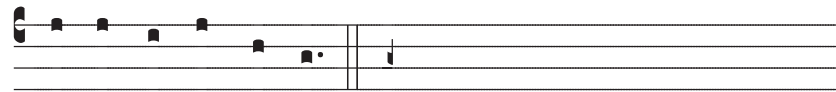
5. He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered



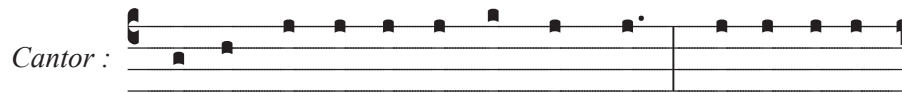
the proud in their con-ceit.



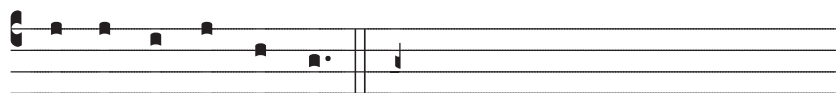
6. He has cast down the might-y from their thrones, * and has



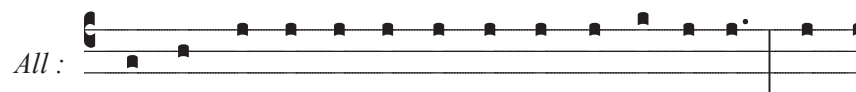
lift-ed up the low-ly.



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



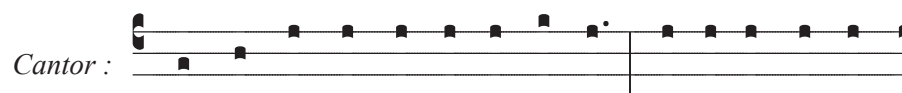
has sent a-way emp-ty.



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,



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

Frustration of the wicked

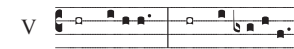
All : The wicked man sees and is angry, / grinds his teeth and *fades away* ; * the desire of the wicked leads to **doom**.

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 : Crooked ways will be straightened, / and rough ways *made smooth*. * Come, O Lord, do not delay, / **alleluia**.

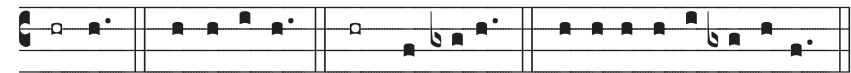


ANTIPHON 3

Cantor : Ever wider will his **kingdom** spread, * eternally at peace, / **alleluia**.

CANTICLE

Apocalypse 19 : 1-7



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

The wedding of the Lamb

Cantor : Salvation, glory, and power to our God : *

All : ∩ Alleluia.

Cantor : his judgments are honest and **true**.

All : ∩ Alleluia, **alleluia**.

Cantor : Sing praise to our God, all you his servants, *

All : ∩ Alleluia.

Cantor : all who worship him rev'rently, / *great and small*.

All : ∩ Alleluia, **alleluia**.

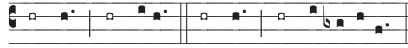
Cantor : The Lord our all-powerful God is King ; *

All : ∩ Alleluia.

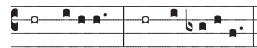
Cantor : let us rejoice, sing praise, and *give him glory*.

All : ∩ Alleluia, **alleluia**.

Cantor : The wedding feast of the Lamb has begun, *
All : R . Alleluia.
Cantor : and his bride is prepared to welcome him.
All : R . Alleluia, alleluia.



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.

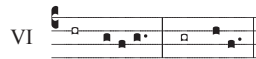


Cantor : Ever wider will his kingdom spread, *
 eternally at peace, / alleluia.

READING

Philippians 4 : 4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always! I say it again. Rejoice! Everyone should see how unselfish you are. The Lord is near.



RESPONSORY

Cantor : Let us see, O Lord, *
 your mercy and love.
All : Let us see, O Lord, *
 your mercy and love.
Cantor : And grant us your salvation, *
All : your mercy and love.
Cantor : Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
 and to the Holy Spirit :
All : Let us see, O Lord, *
 your mercy and love.

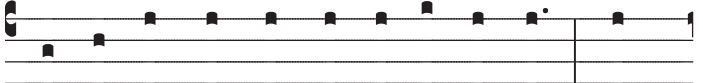
CANTICLE OF MARY

STAND

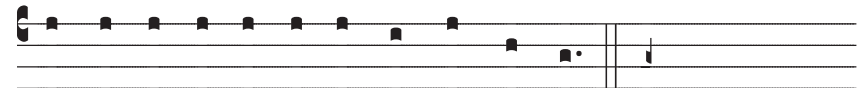
For the Canticle of Mary, the antiphon is sung by the cantor from the Office of the day.

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

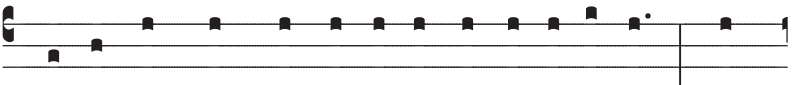
The soul rejoices in the Lord *Luke I : 46-55*

Cantor : VIII G 

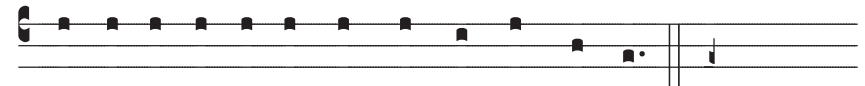
MY soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, * and



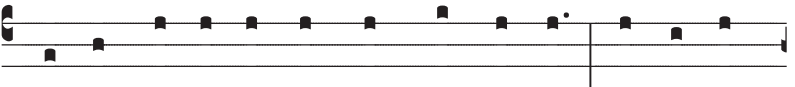
my spir- it re-joic- es in God my Sav- ior.

All : 

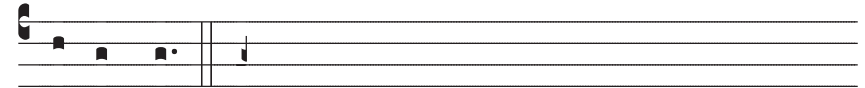
2. for he has looked with fav- or on his low-ly servant. * From



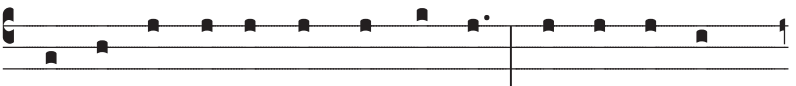
this day all gen- er- a- tions will call me bless- ed :

Cantor : 

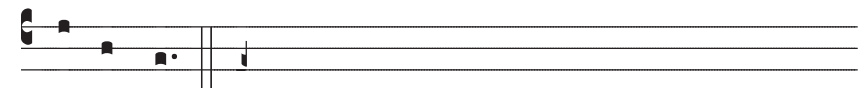
3. the Al- might- y has done great things for me, * and ho- ly



is his Name.

All : 

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



er- a- tion.

Responsory

Resp.

IV

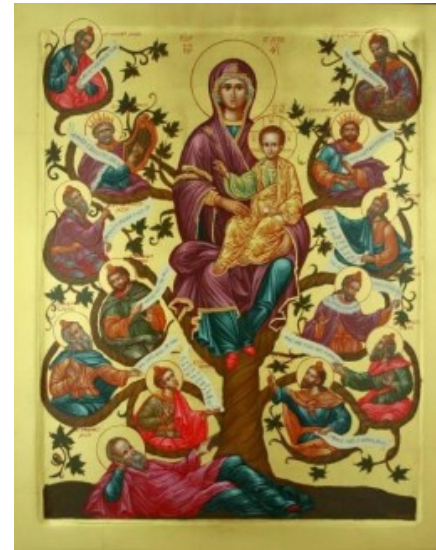
L ET us see, O Lord, your mer- cy, * And grant us your
sal-va-tion. Let us see. √ Restore a- gain our life, that we may
rejoice in you. * And grant. √ Glo- ry to the Fa-ther, and to the
Son, and to the Ho- ly Spir- it. Let us see.

Prepared by

Fr. Samuel F. Weber, O.S.B.
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THE OFFICE OF SUNDAY VESPERS FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Roman Rite. Psalter : Week IV. II Vespers
Ordinary Form



CATHEDRAL OF SAINT EUGENE

Diocese of Santa Rosa

2012

**From the homilies of Saint Bernard
in praise of the Virgin Mary**

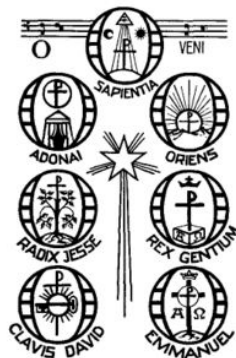
You have just heard, Blessed Virgin, that you are to conceive and bear a son, not by human intervention, but by the power of the Holy Spirit.

O Mary, do be quick and let us have your answer! Make haste, and let the angel have your reply — or rather, give it to the Lord himself, with the angel for your messenger. One word from you, and the Word himself will be yours; say what you are free to say, and God will take up his abode within you. One word from you which vanishes into the air, and soon you will hold in your arms the ever-living God.

Why do you delay? What have you to fear? Believe, praise, and accept what the Lord has told you. Temper your humility with a little boldness, your feeling of inadequacy with trust. There never was a moment when virginal innocence was so urgently called upon to cast discretion to the winds. No need for you, wise Virgin, to fear presumption in a matter such as this, for though your retinence reveals a becoming modesty, your love of us requies that silence should give place to speech.

O Blessed Virgin, open your heart and let faith enter in; open, too, your lips in praise and your womb to enshrine your Creator. See how he whom all the nations desire stands at the threshold of your door and knocks. What a pity if he should pass on because you are slow to open it, and you have to begin once again to seek in sorrow him whom your soul loves! Bestir yourself, and run quickly to open the door to him. Rise up, by believing what he has told you; run, by offering yourself to his service; open, by sing his praises.

And the Virgin's reply? *I am the handmaid of the Lord; let what you have said be done to me.*



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT AT SECOND VESPERS

Psalter: Week IV

Antiphons *In Cantu*
for cantor, schola or choir

I Ant.
VIII
S EE how glo-rious he is, * com-ing forth as Sav-ior
of all peo-ples. *Psalms 109*

2 Ant.
VI
C Rook-ed paths * will be straightened, and rough ways made
smooth. Come, O Lord, do not de-lay, al- le- lu- ia.
Psalms 111

3 Ant.
V
E V- er wid- er * will his kingdom spread, e- ter- nal-ly
at peace, al- le- lu- ia. [*intonation from antiphon*]

Canticle, Apocalypse 19: 1-7

