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RDINARY

Compline begins with the verse O God, come to my assistance followed by the Glory be to the Father. It is praiseworthy that, after this, a brief examination of conscience occur. In a communal celebration a Penitential Act according to the formulas used at Mass may be inserted here, provided on p. 4.

HYMN

Then a Hymn is said from the options provided on p. 7.

PSALMODY

After First Vespers of Sundays and of Solemnities, Psalms 4 and 134, p. 15, are said; after Second Vespers, as well as during the Paschal Triduum, Psalm 91, p. 19, is said. Both forms of Compline for Sunday may also be used within the Octave of the Nativity and the Octave of Easter.

On all other days, the Psalms with their antiphons are found below. One may, however, use again either Compline from Sunday.

The Glory be to the Father is said at the end of all Psalms and Canticles.

SHORT READING and RESPONSORY

After the Psalmody, a Short Reading takes place. Then the Short Responsory Into your hands, O Lord follows.

GOSPEL CANTICLE, NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29–32

Afterwards, the antiphon Protect us, Lord for the Canticle is said, followed by the Canticle of Simeon (Nunc dimittis). The Latin text of the Gospel Canticle may be found on p. 44. The antiphon is then repeated, as usual.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

The Prayer is then said with the invitation Let us pray, and the reply is: Amen.

BLESSING

Then, the blessing May the almighty Lord is said, even in individual recitation, followed by one of the Antiphons for the Blessed Virgin Mary, p. 40.

ENITENTIAL ACTS

After a brief pause for silence, all recite together the formula of general confession:

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say:

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;

Then they continue:

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The one presiding concludes:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

The people reply:

Amen.

Or, after a brief pause for silence, the one who presides says:

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

The people reply:

For we have sinned against you.

The one who presides:

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

The people:

And grant us your salvation.

The one presiding concludes:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

The people reply:

Amen.

Or, after a brief pause for silence, the one who presides, or another member of the congregation, says the following or other invocations with Kyrie, eleison (Lord, have mercy):

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:

Lord, have mercy. **Or:** Kyrie, eleison.

The people reply:

Lord, have mercy. **Or:** Kyrie, eleison.

The one presiding:

You came to call sinners:

Christ, have mercy. **Or:** Christe, eleison.

The people:

Christ, have mercy. **Or:** Christe, eleison.

The one presiding:

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:

Lord, have mercy. **Or:** Kyrie, eleison.

The people:

Lord, have mercy. Or: Kyrie, eleison.

The one presiding concludes:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

The people reply:

Amen.

HYMNS

During Advent through December 16, Christmas Time before Epiphany,
on the first, third, and fifth weeks of Lent, and Ordinary Time:

Text with music, p. 10.

To you before the close of light,
Creator of all things, we pray:
Be our protector, keep us safe
in your unfailing clemency.

Incline our hearts to dream of you,
to sense your presence as we sleep;
as light returns, so let us sing
your praise and glory evermore.
Grant us the grace of health and strength,

renew our warmth and joy of life;
and let your radiant light dispel
the dreaded darkness of the night.

Almighty Father, grant our prayer
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who reigns with you from age to age,
one with the Spirit, ever blest. Amen.

Meter: LM

During Advent after December 16, Christmas Time from Epiphany to Baptism of the Lord, on the remaining weeks of Lent, and Ordinary Time:

O Christ, resplendent as the day,
you clear away the dark of night;
by faith we know you, Light from Light,
proclaiming light to all the blest.

O holy Lord, we humbly pray:
Watch over us throughout this night
and grant us calm and silent hours,
that we may find our rest in you.

And when our eyes are closed in sleep,
still let our hearts keep watch for you;
protect and guard by your right hand
the faithful, filled with love for you.

O strong defender, see our plight,
subdue our foes who lie in wait;
direct and guide your servants, Lord,
whom you have purchased with your blood.

To you, O Christ, most loving King,
and to the Father, glory be,
one with the Spirit Paraclete,
from age to age for evermore. Amen.

Meter: LM

During Easter Time:

Jesus, Redeemer of the world,
Word from the Father, God most high,
true Light sent forth from unseen Light,
and watchful guardian of your own:

O Maker of the universe,
you order all our days and hours;
restore our bodies, worn by toil,
with peace and silence through the night.

Destroyer of the pit of hell,
release us from our wicked foe,
that he may have no strength to lure
the souls you ransomed by your blood.

As we remain for this brief time,
our weary bodies seeking rest,
Lord, may our flesh so sleep in peace,
that lethargy not dull our minds.

To you, Lord Jesus, glory be,
who shine in victory over death,
with God the Father, ever blest,
and loving Spirit, ever one. Amen.

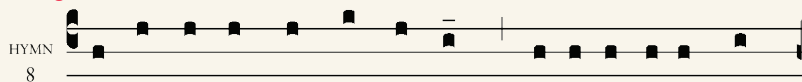
Meter: LM

SOME MUSICAL SETTINGS

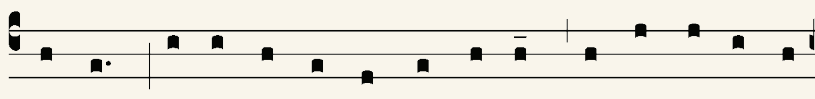
HYMN

To You Before the Close of Light (Te Lucis)

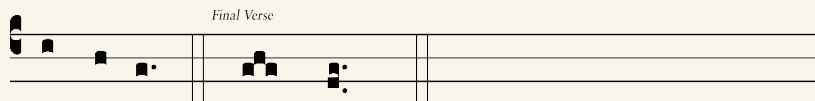
In English:



To you be-fore the close of light, Cre-a-tor of all

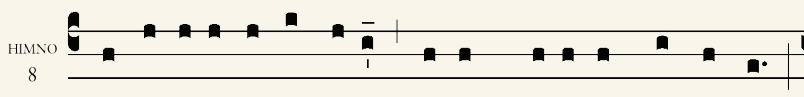


we pray : Be our pro-tec-tor, keep us safe in your un-fail-ing

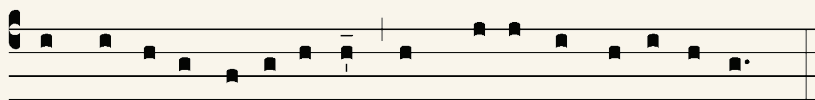


clem-en-cy. A- men.

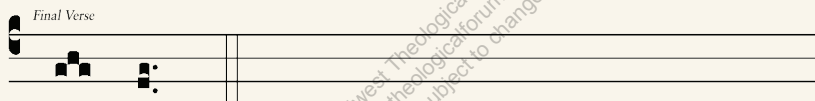
In Latin:



TE lú-cis ante términum, ré-rum cre- á-tor, pós-ci-mus,



ut pro tu- a cleménti- a sis præ-sul et custó-di- am.



A- men.

CHANT TONE

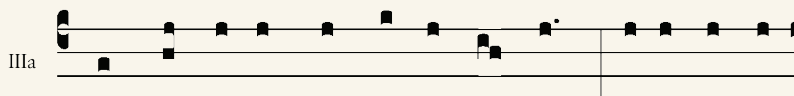
For Psalms and Canticles



CANTICLE

Nunc Dimittis (Canticle of Simeon)

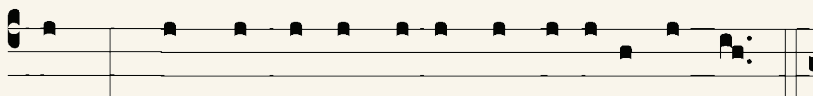
In English:



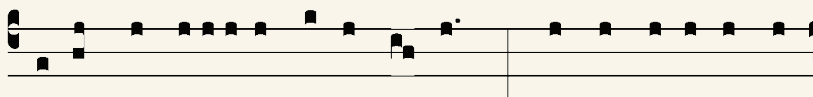
Now you dismiss your servant in peace,* according to



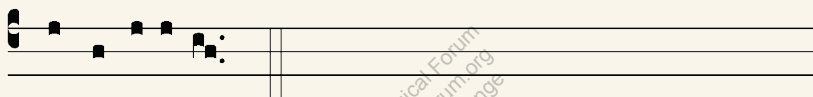
your word, O Mas-ter; for my eyes have seen your salva-



tion, * which you prepared in the sight of all the peo- ples :



a light for revelation to the na-tions, * and the glo-ry of your



people Is-ra-el.





AFTER FIRST VESPERS ON SUNDAYS AND SOLEMNITIES

O God, come to my assistance.

— O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. (Alleluia.)

A brief examination of conscience may occur.

HYMN, p. 7.

PSALMODY

Antiphon

Ant. 1 Have mercy, O Lord, and hear me.

Easter Ant. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Psalm 4

Thanksgiving

*The Lord has made wonderful the one whom
he raised from the dead (St. Augustine).*

O God of justice, give answer when I call; *
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

O you people, how long will my glory be dishonored, *
will you love what is futile and seek what is false?

Know that the LORD works wonders for his faithful one; *
the LORD will hear me whenever I call him.

Tremble, do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still. *
Offer right sacrifice, and trust in the LORD.

“O that we might see better times,” many say. *
Lift up the light of your face on us, O LORD.

You have put into my heart a greater joy *
than abundance of grain and new wine can provide.

In peace I will lie down and fall asleep, *
for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

Ant. Have mercy, O Lord, and hear me.

Ant. 2 O bless the Lord by night.

Psalm 134

Evening prayer in the Temple

*Sing praise to our God, all you his servants,
you who fear him, small and great (Rv 19:5).*

O come and bless the LORD, †
all you servants of the LORD, *
who stand by night in the house of the LORD.

Lift up your hands to the holy place, *
and bless the LORD.

May the LORD bless you from Zion, *
he who made both heaven and earth.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

Ant. O bless the Lord by night.

Easter Ant. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SHORT READING

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with your whole heart, and with your whole being, and with your whole strength. Take to heart these words which I command you today. Keep repeating them to your children. Recite them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you get up.

SHORT RESPONSORY

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

— Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

— I commend my spirit.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

— Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Throughout the Octave of Easter, in place of the Responsory, the following antiphon is said:

Ant. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad, alleluia.

Easter Time:

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

— Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth,

— alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

— Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

M ONDAY

O God, come to my assistance.

— O Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen. (Alleluia.)

A brief examination of conscience may occur.

HYMN, p. 7.

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

Ant. You, Lord God, are slow to anger and abundant in mercy.

Easter Ant. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Psalm 86

Prayer of the poor in distress

Blessed be God, who consoles us in all our trials (2 Cor 1:3, 4).

Turn your ear, O LORD, and answer me, *

for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my soul, for I am faithful; *

save the servant who trusts in you, my God.

Have mercy on me, O Lord, *

for I cry to you all the day long.

Gladden the soul of your servant, *

for I lift up my soul to you, O Lord.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, *

full of mercy to all who call to you.

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, *

and attend to my voice in supplication.

In the day of distress, I will call to you, *
and surely you will answer me.
Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord, *
nor works to compare with yours.

All the nations you have made shall come; †
they will bow down before you, O Lord, *
and glorify your name,
for you are great and do marvelous deeds, *
you who alone are God.

Teach me, O LORD, your way, †
so that I may walk in your truth, *
single-hearted to fear your name.

I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your name forever.
Your mercy to me has been great; *
you have saved me from the depths of Sheol.

The proud have risen against me, O God; †
a band of the ruthless seeks my life. *
To you they pay no heed.

But you, O God, are compassionate and gracious, *
slow to anger, O Lord,
abundant in mercy and fidelity; *
turn and take pity on me.

O give your strength to your servant, *
and save the son of your handmaid.
Show me the sign of your favor, †
that my foes may see to their shame, *
that you, O LORD, give me comfort and help.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

Ant. You, Lord God, are slow to anger and abundant in mercy.

Easter Ant. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SHORT READING

cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10

God has destined us for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.

SHORT RESPONSORY

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

— Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

— I commend my spirit.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

— Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Easter Time:

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

— Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth,

— alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

— Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

Ant. Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep, that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in his peace (E.T. alleluia).

Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel

Text with music, p. 11.

Now you dismiss your servant in peace, *
according to your word, O Master;
for my eyes have seen your salvation, *
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples:
a light for revelation to the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

Prayer

Grant refreshing sleep to our bodies, Lord,
and make the seeds we have sown by our labors today
grow into an everlasting harvest.
Through Christ our Lord.

BLESSING

May the almighty Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.
— Amen.

Antiphon for the Blessed Virgin Mary, as below, p. 40.