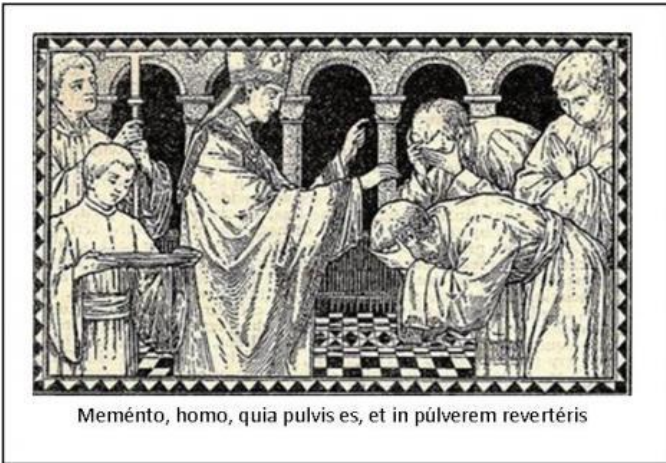




**A PENITENTIAL SERVICE BOOK**  
for use on  
**Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday**



**THE NORTH AMERICAN  
OLD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**



# IMPRIMATUR

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Metropolitan-Primate

The North American Old Roman Catholic Church

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# The Order for Daily Evening Prayer

Commonly called Vespers or Evensong

¶ *Evening Prayer shall begin by reading the following Sentence of Scripture, and may pass at once from the Sentence to the Lord's Prayer, or directly to the Versicles and Responses which follow the Lord's Prayer*

## **Lent.**

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. St. Luke xv. 18, 19.

¶ *Then the Celebrant shall say,*

LET us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

## **A General Confession.**

¶ *To be said by the whole Congregation, after the Celebrant, all kneeling.*

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have

done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind In Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

### **The Declaration of Absolution, or Remission of Sins.**

¶ *To be made by the Priest alone, standing; the People still kneeling.*

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *Then the Celebrant shall kneel, and say the Lord's Prayer; the People still kneeling, and repeating it with him, both here, and wheresoever else it is used in Divine Service.*

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.

V. O Lord, open thou our lips.  
R. *And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.*

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

V. Praise ye the Lord.  
R. *The Lord's Name be praised.*

## **The Office Hymn**

1. The glory of these forty days  
we celebrate with songs of praise;  
for Christ, through whom all things were made,  
himself has fasted and has prayed.

2. Alone and fasting Moses saw  
the loving God who gave the law;  
and to Elijah, fasting, came  
the steeds and chariots of flame.

3. So Daniel trained his mystic sight,  
delivered from the lions' might;  
and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became  
the herald of Messiah's name.

4. Then grant us, Lord, like them to be  
full oft in fast and prayer with thee;  
our spirits strengthen with thy grace,  
and give us joy to see thy face.

5. O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
to thee be every prayer addressed,  
who art in three-fold Name adored,  
from age to age, the only Lord.

## **The Psalms and the Lessons**

### **Psalm 25** *Ad te, Domine, levavi*

UNTO thee, O LORD, will I lift up my soul; my God, I  
have put my trust in thee: \* O let me not be confounded,  
neither let mine enemies triumph over me.

For all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed; \*  
but such as transgress without a cause shall be put to  
confusion.

Show me thy ways, O LORD, \* and teach me thy paths.

Lead me forth in thy truth, and learn me: \* for thou  
art the God of my salvation; in thee hath been my hope  
all the day long.

Call to remembrance, O LORD, thy tender mercies, \*  
and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old.

O remember not the sins and offences of my youth; \*  
but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O  
LORD, for thy goodness.

Gracious and righteous is the LORD; \* therefore, will he teach sinners in the way.

Them that are meek shall he guide in judgment; \* and such as are gentle, them shall he learn his way.

All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth, \* unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

For thy Name's sake, O LORD, \* be merciful unto my sin; for it is great.

What man is he that feareth the LORD? \* him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.

His soul shall dwell at ease, \* and his seed shall inherit the land.

The secret of the LORD is among them that fear him; \* and he will show them his covenant.

Mine eyes are ever looking unto the LORD; \* for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.

Turn thee unto me, and have mercy upon me; \* for I am desolate, and in misery.

The sorrows of my heart are enlarged: \* O bring thou me out of my troubles.

Look upon my adversity and misery, \* and forgive me all my sin.

Consider mine enemies, how many they are; \* and they bear a tyrannous hate against me.

O keep my soul, and deliver me: \* let me not be confounded, for I have put my trust in thee.

Let perfectness and righteous dealing wait upon me; \* for my hope hath been in thee.

Deliver Israel, O God, \* out of all his troubles.

¶ *And at the end of every Psalm and the whole of the Psalter, and also after the Venite, Benedictus es, Benedictus, and Jubilate, the following is said:*

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.*

### **The First Lesson** *Hosea 11: 1-4; 13:5-16a*

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and burning incense to idols. Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of compassion, with the bands of love, and I became to them as one, who eases the yoke on their jaws, and I bent down to them and fed them. It was I who knew you



in the wilderness, in the land of drought; but when they had fed to the full, they were filled, and their heart was lifted up; therefore they forgot me. So I will be to them like a lion, like a leopard I will lurk beside the way. I will fall upon them like a bear robbed of her cubs, I will tear open their breast, and there I will devour them like a lion, as a wild beast would rend them. I will destroy you, O Israel; who can help you? Where now is your king, to save you; where are all your princes, to defend you -- those of whom you said, "Give me a king and princes"? I have given you kings in my anger, and I have taken them away in my wrath. The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up, his sin is kept in store. The pangs of childbirth come for him, but he is an unwise son; for now he does not present himself at the mouth of the womb. Shall I ransom them from the power of Sheol? Shall I redeem them from Death? O Death, where are your plagues? O Sheol, where is your destruction? Compassion is hid from my eyes. Though he may flourish as the reed plant, the east wind, the wind of the LORD, shall come, rising from the wilderness; and his fountain shall dry up, his spring shall be parched; it shall strip his treasury of every precious thing. Samaria shall bear her guilt, because she has rebelled against her God.

*¶ After which shall be sung or said the Hymn called Magnificat, as followeth.*

**MAGNIFICAT** *St. Luke 1:46-55*

MY soul doth magnify the Lord, \* and my spirit hath  
rejoiced in God my Savior.

For he hath regarded \* the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth \* all generations shall call  
me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me; \* and holy is  
his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him \* throughout all  
generations.

He hath showed strength with his arm; \* he hath  
scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \* and hath  
exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things; \* and the  
rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant  
Israel; \* as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and  
his seed, forever.

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.

*¶ Then a lesson of the New Testament, as it is appointed.*

## **Second Lesson** *Galatians 6: 11-18*

See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

*¶ And after that shall be sung or said the Hymn called the Nunc Dimittis, as followeth:*

**NUNC DIMITTIS** *St. Luke 2:29-*

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen \* thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared \* before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \* and to be the  
glory of thy people Israel.

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.

¶ *Then shall be said the Apostle's Creed by the Minister and the  
People, standing.*

I BELIEVE in God 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, died, 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 God the Father  
Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the living  
and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost: The Holy  
Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints: The  
Forgiveness of sins: The Resurrection of the body: And  
the Life everlasting. Amen.

*¶ And after that, these Prayers following, the People devoutly kneeling; the Celebrant first pronouncing:*

**V.** The Lord be with you.

**R.** And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

*¶ Here, if it hath not already been said, shall follow the Lord's Prayer.*

**V.** O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

**R.** And grant us thy salvation.

**V.** O Lord, save the State.

**R.** And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

**V.** Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

**R.** And make thy chosen people joyful.

**V.** O Lord, save thy people.

**R.** And bless thine inheritance.

**V.** Give peace in our time, O Lord.

**R.** For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

**V.** O God, make clean our hearts within us.

**R.** And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

*¶ Then shall be said the Collect for the Day, and after that the Collects and Prayers following:*

**Collect for Shrove Tuesday**

Grant, O Lord, to Thy faithful people, that they may undertake with fitting piety this period of fasting, and may complete it with steadfast devotion. Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

**A Collect for Peace**

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**A Collect for Aid against Perils**

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**A Prayer for The President of the United States, and all in Civil Authority**

ALMIGHTY God, whose kingdom is everlasting and power infinite; Have mercy upon this whole land; and so rule the hearts of thy servants THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, The Governor of this State, and all others in authority, that they, knowing whose ministers they are, may above all things seek thy honor

and glory; and that we and all the People, duly considering whose authority they bear, may faithfully and obediently honor them, according to thy blessed Word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

### **A Prayer for the Clergy and People**

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; Send down upon our Bishops, and other Clergy, and upon the Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **A Prayer for all Conditions of Men**

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; [*\* especially those for whom our prayers are desired;*] that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them

patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

### **A General Thanksgiving**

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men; [*\* particularly to those who desire now to offer up their praises and thanksgivings for thy late mercies vouchsafed unto them.*] We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of



thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

**The Grace and Blessing** *2 Cor. xiii. 14.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

*Here endeth The Order of Evening Prayer.*

# The Litany

## or General Supplication

*¶ To be used after the Third Collect at Morning or Evening Prayer;  
or before Mass; or separately.*

O GOD the Father, Creator of heaven and earth;  
**Have mercy upon us.**

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world;  
**Have mercy upon us.**

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful;  
**Have mercy upon us.**

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God;  
**Have mercy upon us.**

REMEMBER not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences  
of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance of our  
sins: Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou  
hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not  
angry with us forever.  
**Spare us, good Lord.**

FROM all evil and mischief; from sin; from the crafts  
and assaults of the devil; from thy wrath, and from  
everlasting damnation,  
**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle and murder, and from sudden death,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; from all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and Commandment,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and Circumcision; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension, and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

WE sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way;

**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee so to rule the heart of thy servant, The President of the United States, that he may above all things seek thy honor and glory;

**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to bless and preserve all Christian Rulers and Magistrates, giving them grace to execute justice, and to maintain truth;

**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to illuminate all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living they may set it forth, and show it accordingly;

**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest;

**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people;

**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord;

**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to give us an heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to give to all thy people increase of grace to hear meekly thy Word, and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; and to comfort and help the weak-hearted; and to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to succor, help, and comfort, all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to preserve all who travel by land, by water, or by air, all women in child-birth, all sick persons, and young children; and to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to defend, and provide for, the fatherless children, and widows, and all who are desolate and oppressed;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all men;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies,  
persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use  
the kindly fruits of the earth, so that in due time we may  
enjoy them;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to  
forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and  
to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend  
our lives according to thy holy Word;  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.  
**Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.**

O Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world;  
**Grant us thy peace.**

O Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world;  
**Have mercy upon us.**

O Christ, hear us.  
**O Christ, hear us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Christ, have mercy upon us.  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

*¶ Then shall the Celebrant, and the People with him, say the Lord's Prayer.*

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.

*¶ The Celebrant may, at his discretion, omit all that followeth, to the Prayer, We humbly beseech thee, O Father, etc.*

*¶ Celebrant.*

OLORD, deal not with us according to our sins. Neither  
reward us according to our iniquities.

Let us pray.

O GOD, merciful Father, who despisest not the sighing  
of a contrite heart, nor the desire of such as are  
sorrowful; Mercifully assist our prayers which we make  
before thee in all our troubles and adversities,  
whensoever they oppress us; and graciously hear us, that  
those evils which the craft and subtlety of the devil or

man worketh against us, may, by thy good providence, be brought to nought; that we thy servants, being hurt by no persecutions, may evermore give thanks unto thee in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*¶ Celebrant and People.*

O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for thy Name's sake.

*¶ Celebrant.*

O GOD, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that thou didst in their days, and in the old time before them.

*¶ Celebrant and People.*

O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for thine honor.

*¶ Celebrant.*

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.

From our enemies defend us, O Christ.  
**Graciously look upon our afflictions.**

With pity behold the sorrows of our hearts.  
**Mercifully forgive the sins of thy people.**



Favorably with mercy hear our prayers.  
**O Son of David, have mercy upon us.**

Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, O Christ.  
**Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us, O Lord Christ.**

O Lord, let thy mercy be showed upon us;  
**As we do put our trust in thee.**

Let us pray.

WE humbly beseech thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and, for the glory of thy Name, turn from us all those evils that we most justly have deserved; and grant, that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy, and evermore serve thee in holiness and pureness of living, to thy honor and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*¶ The Celebrant may end the Litany here, or at his discretion add other prayers from this Service Booklet.*

# A Penitential Office

for the Eve of Shrove Tuesday  
or on Ash Wednesday.

¶ *On the First Day of Lent, or the eve before, the Office ensuing may be read immediately after the Prayer, We humbly beseech thee, O Father, in the Litany; or it may be used with Morning Prayer, or Evening Prayer, or as a separate Office.*

¶ *The same Office may be read at other times, at the discretion of the Celebrant.*

¶ *The Celebrant and the People kneeling, then shall be said by them this Psalm following.*

## **Psalm 51** *Miserere mei, Deus*

HAVE mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness;  
\* according to the multitude of thy mercies do away  
mine offences.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, \* and cleanse  
me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults, \* and my sin is ever before  
me.

Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy  
sight; \* that thou mightest be justified in thy saying, and  
clear when thou art judged.

Behold, I was shapen in wickedness, \* and in sin hath  
my mother conceived me.

But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts, \* and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; \* thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness, \* that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Turn thy face from my sins, \* and put out all my misdeeds.

Make me a clean heart, O God, \* and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence, \* and take not thy holy Spirit from me.

O give me the comfort of thy help again, \* and stablish me with thy free Spirit.

Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked, \* and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou that art the God of my health; \* and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.

Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord, \* and my mouth shall show thy praise.

For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee; \* but thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: \* a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.

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.

*¶ If the Litany hath been already said, the Celebrant may pass at once to O Lord, save thy servants; etc.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.

V. O Lord, save thy servants;  
**R. That put their trust in thee.**

V. Send unto them help from above.  
**R. And evermore mightily defend them.**

V. Help us, O God our Savior.  
**R. And for the glory of thy Name deliver us; be merciful to us sinners, for thy Name's sake.**

V. O Lord, hear our prayer.

R. And let our cry come unto thee.

Let us pray.

O LORD, we beseech thee, mercifully hear our prayers, and spare all those who confess their sins unto thee; that they, whose consciences by sin are accused, by thy merciful pardon may be absolved; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O MOST mighty God, and merciful Father, who hast compassion upon all men, and who wouldest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his sin, and be saved; Mercifully forgive us our trespasses; receive and comfort us, who are grieved and wearied with the burden of our sins. Thy property is always to have mercy; to thee only it appertaineth to forgive sins. Spare us therefore, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed; enter not into judgment with thy servants; but so turn thine anger from us, who meekly acknowledge our transgressions, and truly repent us of our faults, and so make haste to help us in this world, that we may ever live with thee in the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*¶ Then shall the People say this that followeth, after the Celebrant.*

TURN thou us, O good Lord, and so shall we be turned. Be favorable, O Lord, Be favorable to thy people, Who turn to thee in weeping, fasting, and praying. For thou art a merciful God, Full of compassion, Long-suffering,

and of great pity. Thou sparest when we deserve punishment, And in thy wrath thinkest upon mercy. Spare thy people, good Lord, spare them, And let not thine heritage be brought to confusion. Hear us, O Lord, for thy mercy is great, And after the multitude of thy mercies look upon us; Through the merits and mediation of thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*¶ Then the Celebrant shall say:*

O GOD, whose nature and property is ever to have mercy and to forgive; Receive our humble petitions; and though we be tied and bound with the chain of our sins, yet let the pitifulness of thy great mercy loose us; for the honor of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

THE LORD bless us, and keep us. The LORD make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. The LORD lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and evermore. Amen.

# The Order for Daily Morning Prayer commonly called Matins

¶ *Morning Prayer shall begin by reading the following Sentence of Scripture, and may pass at once from the Sentence to the Lord's Prayer, or directly to the Versicles and Responses which follow the Lord's Prayer*

## **Lent.**

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. St. Luke xv. 18, 19.

¶ *Then the Celebrant shall say,*

LET us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

## **A General Confession.**

¶ *To be said by the whole Congregation, after the Celebrant, all kneeling.*

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought

not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind In Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

### **The Declaration of Absolution, or Remission of Sins.**

¶ *To be made by the Priest alone, standing; the People still kneeling.*

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *Then the Celebrant shall kneel, and say the Lord's Prayer; the People still kneeling, and repeating it with him, both here, and wheresoever else it is used in Divine Service.*

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.



V. O Lord, open thou our lips.  
R. *And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.*

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

V. Praise ye the Lord.  
R. *The Lord's Name be praised.*

¶ *Then shall is to be said or sung the following Canticle.*

¶ On Ash Wednesday, immediately before the Venite is to be sung or said:

*In Thy hands O Lord; \* Are all the corners of the earth.*

**Venite, exultemus Domino.**

O COME, let us sing unto the LORD; \* let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving; \* and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the LORD is a great God; \* and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth; \* and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his, and he made it; \* and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down, \* and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God; \* and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; \* let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth; \* and with righteousness to judge the world, and the peoples with his truth.

Glory be.

¶ On Ash Wednesday, immediately after the Venite is to be repeated:

*In Thy hands O Lord; \* Are all the corners of the earth.*

## **The Office Hymn**

1. Kind Maker of the world, O hear  
The fervent prayer, with many a tear  
Poured forth by all the penitent  
Who keep this holy fast of Lent!

2. Each heart is manifest to Thee;  
Thou knowest our infirmity;  
Now we repent and seek Thy face;  
Grant unto us Thy pardoning grace.
3. Spare us, O Lord, who now confess  
Our sins and all our wickedness,  
And, for the glory of Thy Name,  
Our weakened souls to health reclaim.
4. Give us the self control that springs  
From abstinence in outward things  
That from each stain and spot of sin  
Our souls may keep the fast within.
5. Grant, O Thou blessed Trinity,  
Grant, O unchanging Unity,  
That this our fast of forty days  
May work our profit and Thy praise!

## **The Psalms and the Lessons**

### **Psalms 32. Beati quorum.**

BLESSED is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven, \*  
and whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth no  
sin, \* and in whose spirit there is no guile.

For whilst I held my tongue, \* my bones consumed  
away through my daily complaining.

For thy hand was heavy upon me day and night, \* and  
my moisture was like the drought in summer.

I acknowledged my sin unto thee; \* and mine  
unrighteousness have I not hid.

I said, I will confess my sins unto the LORD; \* and so  
thou forgavest the wickedness of my sin.

For this shall every one that is godly make his prayer  
unto thee, in a time when thou mayest be found; \* surely  
the great water-floods shall not come nigh him.

Thou art a place to hide me in; thou shalt preserve me  
from trouble; \* thou shalt compass me about with songs  
of deliverance.

I will inform thee, and teach thee in the way wherein  
thou shalt go; \* and I will guide thee with mine eye.

Be ye not like to horse and mule, which have no  
understanding; \* whose mouths must be held with bit  
and bridle, else they will not obey thee.

Great plagues remain for the ungodly; \* but whoso  
putteth his trust in the LORD, mercy embraceth him on  
every side.

Be glad, O ye righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; \* and  
be joyful, all ye that are true of heart.

**Psalm 143. Domine, exaudi.**

HEAR my prayer, O LORD, and consider my desire; \*  
hearken unto me for thy truth and righteousness' sake.

And enter not into judgment with thy servant; \* for in  
thy sight shall no man living be justified.

For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath smitten  
my life down to the ground; \* he hath laid me in the  
darkness, as the men that have been long dead.

Therefore is my spirit vexed within me, \* and my heart  
within me is desolate.

Yet do I remember the time past; I muse upon all thy  
works; \* yea, I exercise myself in the works of thy  
hands.

I stretch forth my hands unto thee; \* my soul gaspeth  
unto thee as a thirsty land.

Hear me, O LORD, and that soon; for my spirit waxeth  
faint: \* hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto  
them that go down into the pit.

O let me hear thy loving-kindness betimes in the  
morning; for in thee is my trust: \* show thou me the way  
that I should walk in; for I lift up my soul unto thee.

Deliver me, O LORD, from mine enemies; \* for I flee  
unto thee to hide me.

Teach me to do the thing that pleaseth thee; for thou art  
my God: \* let thy loving Spirit lead me forth into the

land of righteousness.

Quicken me, O LORD, for thy Name's sake; \* and for thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

And of thy goodness slay mine enemies, \* and destroy all them that vex my soul; for I am thy servant.

¶ *And at the end of every Psalm and the whole of the Psalter, and also after the Venite, Benedictus es, Benedictus, and Jubilate, the following is said:*

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.*

### **The First Lesson *Isaiah 58: 1-12***

Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins. Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God. Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labors. Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high. Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is

it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy reward. Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day: And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

¶ *Then shall be sung or said, the following Canticle.*

**Benedictus es, Domine.**

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers:\* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty:\* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness:\* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and dwellest between the Cherubim: \* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom: \* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven: \* praised and exalted above all 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.

## **Second Lesson** *Hebrews 12: 1-14*

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of



God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

¶ *And after that shall be sung or said the Hymn following.*

**Benedictus St. Luke i. 68.**

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; \* for he hath visited  
and redeemed his people;

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us, \* in the  
house of his servant David;

As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets, \* which  
have been since the world began;

That we should be saved from our enemies, \* and from  
the hand of all that hate us.

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, \* and  
to remember his holy covenant;

To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather  
Abraham, \* that he would give us;

That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies  
\* might serve him without fear;

In holiness and righteousness before him, \* all the days  
of our life.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the  
Highest: \* for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord  
to prepare his ways;

To give knowledge of salvation unto his people \* for the  
remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God; \* whereby the  
day-spring from on high hath visited us;

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the  
shadow of death, \* and to guide our feet into the way of  
peace.

Glory be.

### **The Apostles' Creed.**

I Believe in God 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 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: The Resurrection of the body: And  
the Life everlasting. Amen.

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

R. *And grant us thy salvation.*

V. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

R. *And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

### **Collect for the Day.**

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing  
that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those

who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **A Collect for Peace**

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **A Collect for Grace**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *When the Litany is said, the following prayers are omitted, and at other times the office may here end with such general intercessions as the Celebrant may think fit, (including the following) or with the Grace.*

### **A Prayer for The President of the United States, and all in Civil Authority**

O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world; We commend this nation to thy merciful care, that being guided by thy Providence, we may dwell secure in thy peace. Grant to THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do thy will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness; and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in thy fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

### **A Prayer for the Clergy and People**

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; Send down upon our Bishops, and other Clergy, and upon the Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **A Prayer for all Conditions of Men**

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be

led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

### **A General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests;

Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

**The Grace and Blessing** 2 Cor. xiii. 14

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

¶ *Here endeth The Order of Morning Prayer.*

## ASH WEDNESDAY

### BLESSING OF THE ASHES

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*Before Mass begins, the celebrant (with or without cope) together with his ministers, in violet vestments, go up to the altar. The Choir sings:*

#### ANTIPHON *Psalm 68: 17, 2*

Hear us, O Lord, for Thy mercy is kind: look upon us, O Lord, according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies. Ps. 68. 2. Save me, O God: for the waters are come in even unto my soul. V. Glory be to the Father.

V. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with thy spirit.**

#### FIRST PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God, spare those who are penitent, be merciful to those who implore Thee; and vouchsafe to send Thy holy Angel from heaven, to bless ✠ and sancti ✠ fy these ashes, that they may be a wholesome remedy to all who humbly implore Thy holy Name, and who accuse themselves, conscious of their sins, deploring their misdeeds before Thy divine mercy, or humbly and earnestly beseeching Thy sovereign goodness: and grant through the invocation of Thy most holy Name that whosoever shall be sprinkled with them for the remission of their sins may receive both health of body and safety of soul. Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**



## **SECOND PRAYER**

O God, who desirest not the death, but the repentance of sinners, look down most graciously upon the frailty of human nature; and in Thy goodness vouchsafe to bless ✠ these ashes which we purpose to put upon our heads in token of our lowliness and to obtain forgiveness: so that we who know that we are but ashes, and for the demerits of our wickedness are to return to dust, may deserve to obtain of Thy mercy, the pardon of all our sins, and the rewards promised to the penitent. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

## **THIRD PRAYER**

O God, who art moved by humiliation, and appeased by satisfaction: incline the ear of Thy goodness to our prayers and mercifully pour forth upon the heads of Thy servants sprinkled with these ashes the grace of Thy blessing: that Thou mayest both fill them with the spirit of compunction, and effectually grant what they have justly prayed for: and ordain that what Thou hast granted may be permanently established and remain unchanged. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

## **FOURTH PRAYER**

Almighty and everlasting God, who didst vouchsafe Thy healing pardon to the Ninevites doing penance in sackcloth and ashes, mercifully grant that we may so imitate them in our outward attitude as to follow them in obtaining forgiveness.

Through our Lord.  
R. Amen.

*After this the celebrant sprinkles the ashes three times with holy water and also incenses them three times. Meanwhile, the following antiphons and responsory are sung by the choir (or recited by the celebrant.)*

**ANTIPHON *Joel 2: 13***

Let us change our garments for ashes and sackcloth: let us fast and lament before the Lord: for plenteous in mercy is our God to forgive our sins.

**ANTIPHON *Joel 2: 17; Esther 13: 17***

Between the porch and the altar, the priests, the Lord's ministers, shall weep and shall say: Spare, O Lord, spare Thy people: and close not the mouths of them that sing to Thee, O Lord.

*During the singing, and after the ashes have been blessed, the celebrant standing, first receives ashes on his head, either from another priest, or from himself; then he places the ashes, in the form of a cross, on the heads or foreheads of the faithful, who kneel before him, saying to them:*

REMEMBER, man, that thou art dust, and unto dust thou shalt return. [*Genesis 3. 19*]

## RESPONSORY

R.: Let us amend for the better in those things in which we have sinned through ignorance; lest suddenly overtaken by the day of death, we seek space for repentance and are not able to find it. \*Attend, O Lord, and have mercy: for we have sinned against Thee. V. (Ps. 78. 9) Help us, O God, our Savior: and for the glory of Thy Name, O Lord, deliver us. \*Attend. V. Glory be to the Father. \*Attend.

*When all have received the ashes, the Priest washes his hands and says:*

V. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with thy spirit.**

Grant us, O Lord, to begin with holy fasts the campaign of our Christian warfare: that, as we do battle with the spirits of evil, we may be protected by the help of self-denial. Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## **PROPER of the MASS**

### **Station at St Sabina's**

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#### **INTROIT** *Wisdom 11: 24, 25, 27*

Thou hast mercy upon all, O Lord, and hatest none of the things which Thou hast made, overlooking the sins of men for the sake of repentance, and sparing them: because Thou art the Lord our God. Ps. 56. 2. Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me: for my soul trusteth in Thee.  
V. Glory

#### **COLLECT**

Grant, O Lord, to Thy faithful people, that they may undertake with fitting piety the venerable solemnities of fasting, and complete them with steadfast devotion. Through our Lord.

#### **LESSON** *Joel 2: 12-19*

Thus saith the Lord: Be converted to Me with all your heart, in fasting and in weeping and in mourning. And rend your hearts and not your garments, and turn to the Lord your God: for He is gracious and merciful, patient and rich in mercy, and ready to repent of the evil. Who knoweth but He will return and forgive and leave a blessing behind Him, sacrifice and libation to the Lord your God? Blow the trumpet in Sion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather together the people, sanctify the

Church, assemble the ancients, gather together the little ones and them that suck at the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth from his bed and the bride out of her bride chamber. Between the porch and the altar the priests, the Lord's ministers, shall weep and shall say: Spare, O Lord, spare Thy people; and give not Thine inheritance to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them. Why should they say among the nations: Where is their God? The Lord hath been zealous for His land, and hath spared His people. And the Lord answered and said to His people: behold I will send you corn and wine and oil, and you shall be filled with them: and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations: saith the Lord almighty.

**GRADUAL** *Psalm 56: 2, 4*

Have mercy on me, O Lord, have mercy on me: for my soul trusteth in Thee. V. He hath sent from heaven and delivered me: He hath made them a reproach that trod upon me.

**TRACT** *Psalm 102: 10*

O Lord, repay us not according to the sins we have committed, nor according to our iniquities. V. O Lord, remember not our former iniquities, let Thy mercies speedily prevent us: for we are become exceeding poor. [*Here kneel.*] V. Help us, O God, our Savior: and for the glory of Thy Name, O Lord, deliver us: and forgive us our sins for Thy Name's sake.

**GOSPEL** *St Matthew 6: 16-21*

At that time Jesus said to His disciples: When you fast, be not as the hypocrites, sad. For they disfigure their face, that they may appear unto men to fast. Amen I say to you, they have received their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thy head and wash thy face, that thou appear not to men to fast, but to thy Father who is in secret: and thy Father who seeth in secret will repay Thee. Lay not up to yourselves treasures on earth: where the rust and moth consume, and where thieves break through and steal. But lay up to yourselves treasures in heaven: where neither the rust nor moth doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where thy treasure is, there is thy heart also.

**OFFERTORY** *Psalm 29: 2, 3*

I will extol Thee, O Lord, for Thou hast upheld me, and hast not made my enemies to rejoice over me: O Lord, I have cried to Thee, and Thou hast healed me.

**SECRET**

Fit us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to offer worthily these gifts, by which we celebrate the opening of this venerable Mystery. Through our Lord.

## **PREFACE FOR LENT**

It is truly meet and just, right and availing unto salvation, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty and everlasting God. Who by the fasting of the body dost curb our vices, elevate our minds and bestow virtue and reward; through Christ our Lord. Through whom the angels praise Thy majesty, the dominions worship it, and the powers stand in awe. The heavens and the heavenly hosts, with the blessed seraphim join together in celebrating their joy. With these we pray Thee join our voices also, while we say with lowly praise:

### **COMMUNION *Psalm 77: 29, 30***

He that shall meditate day and night on the law of the Lord, shall bring forth his fruit in due season.

### **POSTCOMMUNION**

May the Sacraments we have received afford us help, O Lord, that our fasts may be pleasing unto Thee, and profitable unto us for healing. Through our Lord.

### **PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

*Throughout Lent, on every ferial Mass, after the Postcommunion, the celebrant says this prayer over the people:*

Let us pray.

Bow down your heads before God.

Look graciously, O Lord, upon us who bow down before Thy majesty: that we who have been refreshed by Thy divine Gift may ever be sustained by Thy heavenly aids. Through our Lord.