

THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

II VESPERS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 22, 2019



Welcome to the Cathedral's celebration of Second Vespers for the Sundays in Advent. This order will be your guide for the liturgy. Please note the symbols for cantor or celebrant (V̇., Can., or Celebrant) and assembly (Ṙ. or All) and pray accordingly. Evening Prayer begins with the following verse:

OPENING VERSE (STAND)

God, come to my assistance. Ṙ Lord, make haste to help me. Glory to
the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it: as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alle-lu-ia.

HYMN

VERBUM SALUTIS

The Sav - ior of all men, the Word, Who from the Fa - ther's mouth pro - ceeds,
The Spi - rit o - ver - sha - dows you, His fruit - ful work has now be - gun,
Be - hold the sac - red tem - ple's gate, Re - main - ing sealed for years un - known;
Of old the pro - phets held his pledge; Be - fore the dawn he had his birth;
Let an - gels then ex - ult as well And all the na - tions leap for joy;
To you, O Christ, our gra - cious king, And to the Fa - ther glo - ry be,

With - in your womb, O Vir - gin blest, We hum - bly beg you to re - ceive.
That you might bring forth Christ the Lord, The Fa - ther's co - e - ter - nal Son.
Its bless - ed thres - hold fast - en'd tight Would o - pen for the Prince a - lone.
Now Ga - bri - el pro - claims to you: The Lord de - scends un - to the earth.
The Most High comes in low - li - ness To save what sin had once de - stroyed.
And to the Spi - rit Pa - ra - clete, While a - ges run e - ter - nal - ly.

After the hymn follows the psalmody of the office. Each psalm has an associated antiphon. The antiphon will be introduced, then the cantor will chant the incipit of the antiphon (the portion up to the asterisk, i.e., “See how glorious he is...”) Please join in the remainder of the antiphon. After the psalm, all sing the antiphon in its entirety. This practice is also the case for the Magnificat antiphon. The psalm verses are sung alternating by verse between schola and assembly. The psalm tone is found at the end of the antiphon below.

ANTIPHON I (SIT)

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

PSALM 110

Can. The Lord’s revelation to my Master: “Sit on my **right:** *
your foes I will put be-neath your **feet.**”

All The Lord will wield from Zion your scep-ter of **power:** *
rule in the midst of *all your* foes.

(etc.) A prince from the day of your birth on the *ho-ly* **mountains;***
from the womb before the dawn *I be-got you.*

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change. “You are a *priest for-ever,* *
a priest like Melchize-dek of **old.**”

The Master standing *at your* **right hand** *
will shatter kings in the day of *his* great **wrath.**

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

Glory to the Father, and to *the* **Son,** *
and to the *Ho-ly* **Spirit:**

as it was in the beginn-ing, is **now,** *
and will be forev-er. **A-men.**

(The antiphon is then repeated by all.)

ANTIPHON II

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.

VIF

PSALM 111

Can Happy the man who *fears the Lord*, *
who takes delight in all his *com-mands*.

All His sons will be *power-ful on earth* ; *
the children of the upright *are blest*.

(etc.) Riches and wealth are *in his house* ; *
his justice stands firm *for-ever*.

He is a light in the darkness *for the upright* : *
he is generous, merciful *and just*.

The good man takes *pit-y and lends*, *
he conducts his affairs *with honor*.

The just man will *nev-er waver* : *
he will be remembered *for-ever*.

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

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

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

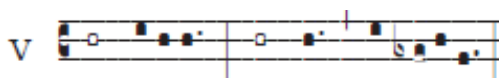
The wicked man sees and is angry, / grinds his teeth and *fades a-way* ; *
the desire of the wicked leads *to doom*.

Glory to the Father, and *to the Son*, *
and to the *Ho-ly Spirit*:

as it was in the *begin-ning, is now*, *
and will be for ever. *A-men*.

(The antiphon is then repeated by all.)

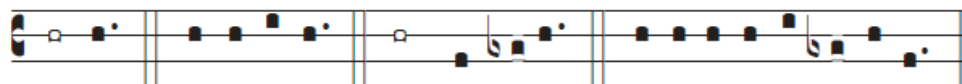
ANTIPHON III



Cantor Ever wider will his **king-dom** spread, *
 All eternally at peace, / **al-le-lu-ia.**

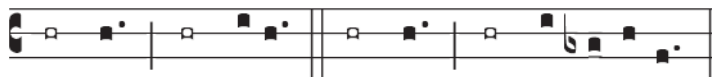
CANTICLE

CF. REVELATION 19:1-7



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

Can. Alleluia. Salvation, glory, and power to our God: *
 All R̃. Alle-lu-ia.
 (etc.) his judgments are hon-est and **true.** *
 R̃. Alleluia, *al-le-lu-ia.*
 Alleluia. Sing praise to our God, all you his servants, *
 R̃. Alle-lu-ia.
 All who worship him reverently, / *great and small.* *
 R̃. Alleluia, *al-le-lu-ia.*
 Alleluia. The Lord our all-powerful God is King; *
 R̃. Alle-lu-ia.
 let us rejoice, sing praise, and *give him glory.* *
 R̃. Alleluia, *al-le-lu-ia.*
 Alleluia. The wedding feast of the Lamb has begun, *
 R̃. Alle-lu-ia.
 and his bride is *pre-pared to welcome* him. *
 R̃. Alleluia, *al-le-lu-ia.*



Can. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, /
 and to the Holy **Spi-rit:**
 All as it was in the beginning, is now, /
 and will be for *ever.* **A-men.**

(The antiphon is then repeated by all.)

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

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.

CANTICLE OF MARY (*Magnificat*) (STAND)

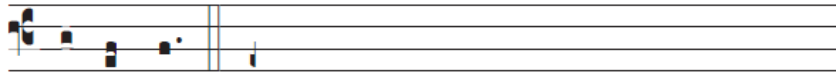
Antiphon (schola) O Rex Gentium, et desideratus earum, lapisque angularis, qui facis utraque unum: veni, et salva hominem, quem de limo formasti.
O King of all nations, the only joy of every human Heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature you fashioned from the Dust.

II D

M Y soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, * and
my spir- it re-joic- es in God my Sav- ior.
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 :
3. the Al- might- y has done great things for me, * and ho- ly
is his Name.



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



er- a- tion.



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



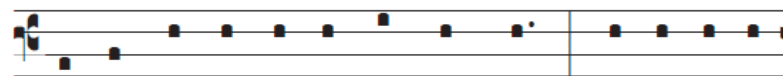
the proud in their con- ceit.



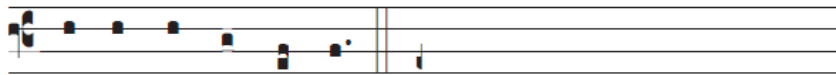
6. He has cast down the might- y from their thrones, * and has



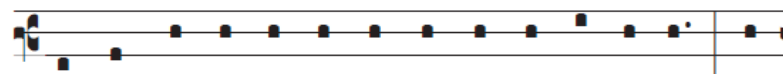
lift- ed up the low- ly.



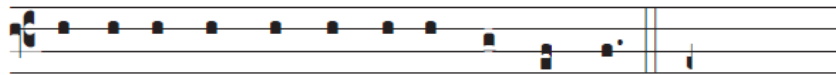
7. He has filled the hun- gry with good things, * and the rich he



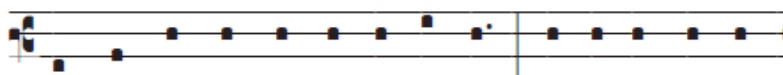
has sent a- way emp- ty.



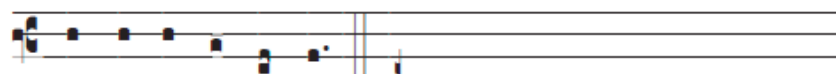
8. He has come to the help of his ser- vant, Is- ra- el * for



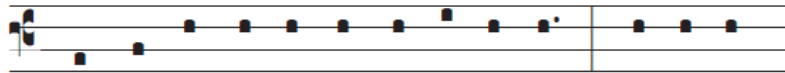
he has re- membered his promise of mer- cy,



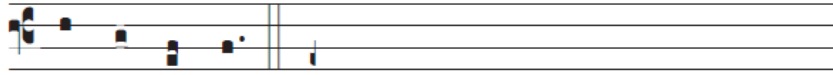
9. the prom- ise he made to our fa- thers, * to A- bra- ham and



his children for ev- er.



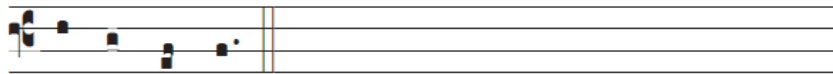
10. Glo- ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, * and to the



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 then repeated by the schola.)

The office of Vespers concludes with the sung Intercessions, Concluding Prayer, and Final Blessing and Dismissal found below. Please note the tone for the Intercessions, introduced by the celebrant, intoned by the cantor, and responded to by the assembly.

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 weakness upon your-**self**,

All: grant us *your mercy*.

Cantor: You redeemed the world from sin by your first coming in hu-**mility**,

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 your eternal *in-heri***tance**.

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

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

All: **Our Father . . .**

CONCLUDING PRAYER, FINAL BLESSING, AND DISMISSAL

- ℣. 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. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
- ℟. **Amen.**
- ℣. The Lord be with you:
℟. **and with your spirit.**
- ℣. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.
- ℟. **Amen.**
- ℣. Go in peace.
- ℟. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTIPHON IN PROCESSION (SUNG BY SCHOLA)

ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER

SIMPLE TONE, MODE V

Alma redemptoris Mater, quae pervia caeli porta manes, Et stella maris, succurre cadenti surgere qui curat populo: Tu quae genuisti, natura mirante, tuum sanctum Genitorem: Virgo prius ac posterius, Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud Ave, peccatorum miserere.

Holy Mother of our Redeemer, thou gate leading to heaven and star of the sea; help the falling people who seek to rise, thou who, all nature wonders, didst give birth to thy holy Creator. Virgin always, hearing that "Ave" from Gabriel's lips, take pity on us sinners.

—Marian antiphon for Advent and Christmas

The chant for tonight's Vespers was led by the Cathedral Children's Schola. Please contact Bruce Ludwick, Jr., at Ludwick@stpaulsbhm.org or 205.251.1279x107 for more information on joining this group!

CHRISTMAS MASSES AT THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

Please join us for one of our celebrations of the Nativity of the Lord!

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|---------------|--|
| 5:00 & 8:00PM | VIGIL MASS FOR CHRISTMAS WITH CANTOR |
| 11:15PM | SUNG OFFICE OF READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS & CHORAL PRELUDE |
| 12:00AM | SOLEMN MIDNIGHT MASS: VICTORIA MISSA "O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM" WITH GREGORIAN CHANT, CAROLS, AND SACRED POLYPHONY |
| 10:00AM | MASS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY WITH CHANT, CAROLS, AND SACRED ARIAS. |

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