Night Prayer

Saturday, May 31, 2003

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

OPENING

O God, come to my assistance.

Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

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

HYMN

Alleluia! Now the Strife Is O'er

Alleluia! The strife is o'er, the battle done;
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun:
alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions has dispersed;
let shout of holy joy outburst:
alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live and sing to thee:
alleluia!

PSALMODY

Psalm 91 *It Is Good to Give Thanks*

> *Ant. This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. Alleluia.*

It is good to confess to the Lord and to sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

To announce your mercy in the morning and your truth throughout the night,

upon a ten-stringed instrument, upon a psaltery, with a canticle on the harp.

For you have delighted me, O Lord, in your works, and in the works of your hands I will rejoice.

How great are your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are exceedingly deep.

The foolish man will not understand this, and the foolish one will not understand these things.

When the sinners spring up like grass, and when all those who work iniquity appear,

it is so that they may fall in eternity and eternity.

But you, O Lord, are Most High forever.

For behold your enemies, O Lord, for behold your enemies will perish; and all those who work iniquity will be dispersed.

And my horn will be exalted like that of the rhinoceros, and my old age in plentiful mercy.

And my eye has looked down upon my enemies; and my ear will hear of the downfall of the malicious who rise up against me.

The just will flourish like a palm tree; he will be multiplied like a cedar of Lebanon.

Those planted in the house of the Lord will flourish in the courts of the house of our God.

They will still be multiplied in a fruitful old age, and they will be patient so that they may announce

that the Lord our God is just and there is no iniquity in him.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

> *Ant. This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. Alleluia.*

SHORT READING

REVELATION 1:17–18

Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last, the one who lives. Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. Alleluia.

RESPONSORY

V. Into your hands I commend my spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL CANTICLE: NUNC DIMITTIS (LUKE 2:29-32)

THE CANTICLE OF SIMEON (NUNC DIMITTIS) (LUKE 2:29–32)

> *Ant. Alleluia! The Lord has truly risen; he appeared to Simon. Alleluia!*

Now you release your servant, O Lord, according to your word, in peace.

Because my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared before the face of all peoples:

a light of revelation to the Gentiles, and a glory for your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

> *Ant. Alleluia! The Lord has truly risen; he appeared to Simon. Alleluia!*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as the Lord himself has taught 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.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Into your hands, O risen Lord, we commend ourselves this night. Keep us in your love through the darkness and bring us to another day of Easter joy; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Alleluia! May the Risen Lord grant us a restful night and bring us to the joy of Easter. Alleluia! Amen.

The Lord grant us a restful night and a peaceful death.
Amen.

MARIAN ANTIPHON

REGINA CAELI

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia. For he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia. Has risen as he said, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.