



THE CHAIR OF PETER

22ND FEBRUARY 2010

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER

Book of Common Prayer Texts

with **BENEDICTION**

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The Revised Standard Version

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The Book of Common Prayer

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Morning Prayer

'You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it.'

✠ O Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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⁺]

Invitatory

Psalm 67 Deus Misereatur

- 1 GOD be merciful unto us, and bless us: *
and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us: *
- 2 That thy way may be known upon earth: *
thy saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the people praise thee, O God: *
yea, let all the people praise thee.
- 4 O let the nations rejoice and be glad: *
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously,
and govern the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the people praise thee, O God: *
yea, let all the people praise thee.
- 6 Then shall the earth bring forth her increase: *
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.
- 7 God shall bless us: *
and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

* In sung settings, the words 'Holy Ghost' may always be substituted for 'Holy Spirit'.

+ Omitted in Lent. Instead of 'Alleluia', this versicle and response may be used, especially in Lent: *
'Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised'.

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.

Office Hymn

66 88 88 (Love Unknown)

THOU ART the Christ, O Lord,
The Son of God most high!
For ever be adored
That Name in earth and sky,
In which, though mortal strength may fail,
The saints of God at last prevail!

Oh, surely he was blest
With blessedness unpriced,
Who, taught of God, confessed
The Godhead in the Christ!
For of Thy Church, Lord, Thou didst own
Thy saint a true foundation stone.

Thrice was he put to shame,
Thrice did the dauntless fall;
But, oh, that look that came
From out the judgment hall!
It pierced and broke the spell-bound heart,
And foiled the tempter's sifting art.

Thrice fallen, thrice restored!
The bitter lesson learnt,
That heart for Thee, O Lord,
With triple ardour burnt.
The cross he took he laid not down,
Until he grasped the martyr's crown.

Oh, bright triumphant faith!
Oh, courage void of fears!
Oh, love most strong in death!
Oh, penitential tears!
By these, Lord, keep us lest we fall,
And make us go where Thou shalt call.

William H. How

Psalmody

I Mattins Psalms (These psalms may be omitted)

Psalm 19:1-6 Caeli enarrant

- 1 THE heavens declare the glory of God: *
and the firmament sheweth his handywork.
- 2 One day telleth another: *
and one night certifieth another.
- 3 There is neither speech nor language: *
but their voices are heard among them.
4. Their sound is gone out into all lands: *
and their words into the ends of the world.
- 5 In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun: *
which cometh forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber,
and rejoiceth as a giant to run his course.
- 6 It goeth forth from the uttermost part of the heaven,
and runneth about unto the end of it again: *
and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

Psalm 64 Exaudi, Deus

- 1 HEAR my voice, O God, in my prayer: *
preserve my life from fear of the enemy.
- 2 Hide me from the gathering together of the froward: *
and from the insurrection of wicked doers;
- 3 Who have whet their tongue like a sword: *
and shoot out their arrows, even bitter words;
- 4 That they may privily shoot at him that is perfect: *
suddenly do they hit him, and fear not.
- 5 They encourage themselves in mischief: *
and commune among themselves how they may lay snares,

- and say that no man shall see them.
- 6 They imagine wickedness, and practise it: *
that they keep secret among themselves,
every man in the deep of his heart.
- 7 But God shall suddenly shoot at them with a swift arrow: *
that they shall be wounded.
- 8 Yea, their own tongues shall make them fall: *
insomuch that whoso seeth them shall laugh them to scorn.
- 9 And all men that see it shall say, This hath God done: *
for they shall perceive that it is his work.
- 10 The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and put his trust in him: *
and all they that are true of heart shall be glad.

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.

Psalm 97 Dominus regnavit

- 1 THE Lord is King, the earth may be glad thereof: *
yea, the multitude of the isles may be glad thereof.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him: *
righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his seat.
- 3 There shall go a fire before him: *
and burn up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings gave shine unto the world: *
the earth saw it, and was afraid.
- 5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of the Lord: *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens have declared his righteousness: *
and all the people have seen his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all they that worship carved images,
and that delight in vain gods: *
worship him, all ye gods.
- 8 Sion heard of it, and rejoiced: *
and the daughters of Judah were glad, because of thy judgments, O
Lord.
- 9 For thou, Lord, art higher than all that are in the earth: *
thou art exalted far above all gods.
- 10 O ye that love the Lord, see that ye hate the thing which is evil: *
the Lord preserveth the souls of his saints;

- he shall deliver them from the hand of the ungodly.
11 There is sprung up a light for the righteous: *
and joyful gladness for such as are true-hearted.
12 Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous: *
and give thanks for a remembrance of his holiness

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.

II *Lauds Psalms*

Psalm 63: 1-9 Deus, Deus meus

- 1 O GOD, thou art my God: *
early will I seek thee.
2 My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee: *
in a barren and dry land where no water is.
3 Thus have I looked for thee in holiness: *
that I might behold thy power and glory.
4 For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself: *
my lips shall praise thee.
5 As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner: *
and lift up my hands in thy Name.
6 My soul shall be satisfied, even as it were with marrow and fatness: *
when my mouth praiseth thee with joyful lips.
7 Have I not remembered thee in my bed: *
and thought upon thee when I was waking?
8 Because thou hast been my helper: *
therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.
9 My soul hangeth upon thee: *
thy right hand hath upholden 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.

Psalm 149 Cantate Domino

- 1 O SING unto the Lord a new song: *

- let the congregation of saints praise him.
- 2 Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: *
and let the children of Sion be joyful in their King.
- 3 Let them praise his Name in the dance: *
let them sing praises unto him with tabret and harp.
- 4 For the Lord hath pleasure in his people: *
and helpeth the meek-hearted.
- 5 Let the saints be joyful with glory: *
let them rejoice in their beds.
- 6 Let the praises of God be in their mouth: *
and a two-edged sword in their hands;
- 7 To be avenged of the heathen: *
and to rebuke the people;
- 8 To bind their kings in chains: *
and their nobles with links of iron.
- 9 That they may be avenged of them, as it is written: *
Such honour have all his saints.

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.

Old Testament Lesson *Ezekiel 3:4-11*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel.

'You are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel'

And the voice said to me, 'Son of man, go, get you to the house of Israel, and speak with my words to them. For you are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel -- not to many peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. But the house of Israel will not listen to you; for they are not willing to listen to me; because all the house of Israel are of a hard forehead and of a stubborn heart. Behold, I have made your face hard against their faces, and your forehead hard against their foreheads. Like adamant harder than flint have I made your forehead; fear them not, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house.' Moreover he said to me, 'Son of man, all my words that I shall speak to you receive in your heart, and hear with your ears. And go, get you to the exiles, to your people, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God'; whether they hear or refuse to hear.'

Canticle

Song of the Three Holy Children 35-66 *Benedicite, Omnia Opera*

- 1 O ALL ye Works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: *
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 2 O ye Angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: *
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 3 O ye Heavens, bless ye the Lord: *
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 4 O ye Waters that be above the Firmament, bless ye the Lord: *
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 5 O all ye Powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: *
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 6 O ye Sun and Moon, bless ye the Lord: *
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 7 O ye Stars of Heaven, bless ye the Lord: *
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 8 O ye Showers and Dew, bless ye the Lord: *
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.

- 9 O ye Winds of God, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 10 O ye Fire and Heat, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 11 O ye Winter and Summer, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 12 O ye Dews and Frosts, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 13 O ye Frost and Cold, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 14 O ye Ice and Snow, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 15 O ye Nights and Days, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 16 O ye Light and Darkness, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 17 O ye Lightnings and Clouds, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 18 O let the Earth bless the Lord: *
yea, let it praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 19 O ye Mountains and Hills, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 20 O all ye Green Things upon the Earth, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 21 O ye Wells, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 22 O ye Seas and Floods, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 23 O ye Whales, and all that move in the Waters, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 24 O all ye Fowls of the Air, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 25 O all ye Beasts and Cattle, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 26 O ye Children of Men, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 27 O let Israel bless the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 28 O ye Priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

- 29 O ye Servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 30 O ye Spirits and Souls of the Righteous, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 31 O ye holy and humble Men of heart, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- 32 O Ananias, Azarias and Misael, bless ye the Lord: *
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

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.

Second Reading Acts 11:1-18

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

'To the Gentiles also God has granted repentance unto life'

Now the apostles and the brethren who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' But Peter began and explained to them in order: 'I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, something descending, like a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came down to me. Looking at it closely I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' But I said, 'No, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But the voice answered a second time from heaven, 'What God has cleansed you must not call common.' This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. At that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brethren also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. And he told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon called Peter; he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.' As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave the same gift

to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?' When they heard this they were silenced. And they glorified God, saying, 'Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance unto life.'

Canticle

Benedictus Luke 1: 68-79

- 1 ✠ BLESSED be the Lord God of Israel: *
for he hath visited, and redeemed his people;
- 2 And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us: *
in the house of his servant David;
- 3 As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets: *
which have been since the world began;
- 4 That we should be saved from our enemies: *
and from the hands of all that hate us;
- 5 To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers: *
and to remember his holy covenant;
- 6 To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham: *
that he would give us,
- 7 That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies: *
might serve him without fear,
- 8 In holiness and righteousness before him: *
all the days of our life.
- 9 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;
- 10 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people: *
for the remission of their sins;
- 11 Through the tender mercy of our God: *
whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;

- 12 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 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.

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 Spirit,
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 Spirit;
the holy Catholic Church;
the Communion of Saints;
the Forgiveness of sins;
the Resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

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.**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.

* In sung settings, 'which art' may be substituted for 'who art', 'in earth' for 'on earth', and 'them that' for 'those who'.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

**Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collect of the Day

O GOD, who didst bestow upon thy blessed Apostle Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and didst appoint unto him the high priesthood of binding and loosing: vouchsafe; that by the help of his intercession we may be delivered from the bonds of our iniquities: Who livest and reignest, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

English Missal

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 defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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 may be

ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The order for the end of the service may include:

- *Hymns or anthems*
- *A sermon*
- *Further Prayers (including the Prayers below)*

The 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 honour and glory, world without end. Amen.**

The Office concludes as follows:

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

Amen.

or

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Evening Prayer

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

✠ O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

**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⁺]**

Psalmody

I Compline Psalm (omitted if Compline is to follow separately)

Psalm 91 Qui habitat

- 1 WHOSO dwelleth under the defence of the most High: *
shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 I will say unto the Lord, Thou art my hope, and my strong hold: *
my God, in him will I trust.
- 3 For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter: *
and from the noisome pestilence.

* In sung settings, the versicle and response 'O Lord, open thou our lips &c', as at Morning Prayer, may begin the Office and the words 'Holy Ghost' may always be substituted for 'Holy Spirit'.

+ Omitted in Lent. Instead of 'Alleluia', this versicle and response may be used, especially in Lent: *
'Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised'.

- 4 He shall defend thee under his wings, and thou shalt be safe under his
feathers: *
his faithfulness and truth shall be thy shield and buckler.
- 5 Thou shalt not be afraid for any terror by night: *
nor for the arrow that flieth by day;
- 6 For the pestilence that walketh in darkness: *
nor for the sickness that destroyeth in the noon-day.
- 7 A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at thy right hand: *
but it shall not come nigh thee.
- 8 Yea, with thine eyes shalt thou behold: *
and see the reward of the ungodly.
- 9 For thou, Lord, art my hope: *
thou hast set thine house of defence very high.
- 10 There shall no evil happen unto thee: *
neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee: *
to keep thee in all thy ways.
- 12 They shall bear thee in their hands: *
that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone.
- 13 Thou shalt go upon the lion and adder: *
the young lion and the dragon shalt thou tread under thy feet.
- 14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: *
I will set him up, because he hath known my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will hear him: *
yea, I am with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and bring him to
honour.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him: *
and shew him my salvation.

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.

II *Vespers Psalms*

Psalm 116:10-16 Dilexi, quoniam

- 10 I BELIEVED, and therefore will I speak; but I was sore troubled: *
I said in my haste, All men are liars.
- 11 What reward shall I give unto the Lord: *
for all the benefits that he hath done unto me?
- 12 I will receive the cup of salvation: *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
- 13 I will pay my vows now in the presence of all his people: *
right dear in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.
- 14 Behold, O Lord, how that I am thy servant: *
I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid;
thou hast broken my bonds in sunder.
- 15 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving: *
and will call upon the Name of the Lord.
- 16 I will pay my vows unto the Lord, in the sight of all his people: *
in the courts of the Lord's house,
even in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.
Praise the Lord.

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.

Psalm 126 In convertendo

- 1 WHEN the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion: *
then were we like unto them that dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter: *
and our tongue with joy.
- 3 Then said they among the heathen: *
The Lord hath done great things for them.
- 4 Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already: *
whereof we rejoice.
- 5 Turn our captivity, O Lord: *
as the rivers in the south.
- 6 They that sow in tears: *
shall reap in joy.
- 7 He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed:*

shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

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.

First Lesson Acts 15:7-9

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

'God made choice that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the gospel'.

After there had been much debate, Peter rose and said to them, 'Brethren, you know that in the early days God made choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. And God who knows the heart bore witness to them, giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us; and he made no distinction between us and them, but cleansed their hearts by faith.'

Office Hymn

87 87 (*Shipston*)

Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three, and God is One;
and I next acknowledge duly
manhood taken by the Son.

And I trust and hope most fully
in that Manhood crucified;
and each thought and deed unruly
do to death, as he has died.

Simply to his grace and wholly
light and life and strength belong,
and I love supremely, solely,
him the holy, him the strong.

And I hold in veneration,
for the love of him alone,
holy Church as his creation,
and her teachings are his own.

Adoration aye be given,
with and through the angelic host,
to the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

J. H. Newman

Magnificat *Luke 1:46-55*

- 1 ✠ MY soul doth magnify the Lord: *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
- 2 For he hath regarded: *
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
- 3 For behold, from henceforth: *
all generations shall call me blessed.
- 4 For he that is mighty hath magnified me: *
and holy is his Name.
- 5 And his mercy is on them that fear him: *
throughout all generations.
- 6 He hath shewed strength with his arm: *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- 7 He hath put down the mighty from their seat: *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
- 8 He hath filled the hungry with good things: *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
- 9 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: *
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

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.

Second Lesson (*Sermon 4, de Natali*)

A reading from a sermon by Pope St Leo the Great

The Church of Christ grows in the strength of Peter's faith.

One man, Peter, was chosen out from the whole world to preside over the calling of all nations, over all the apostles and all the fathers of the Church. So, although in the people of God there are many priests and many pastors, Peter was to rule by his own authority over all, and over

them also Christ is the principal ruler. Brethren, by this appointment, God conferred on this man a great and wonderful share in his power, and where he willed that the rest of the leaders of the Church should have a gift like Peter's, it was only through Peter that he gave whatever he did not refuse to others.

The Lord once asked all the apostles what men thought about him. So long as they were describing the uncertainties of ignorant men about him, they all said the same.

But when he asked what the disciples themselves thought of him, it was the man who held first rank among the apostles who was the first to confess the Lord. And when Peter had said, 'You are the Christ, the son of the living God', Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven'. This means, you are blessed because my Father taught you this. You were not deceived by the opinion of the world, but instructed by inspiration from heaven; it was not flesh and blood, but he whose Son I am who has revealed me to you.

Jesus went on, 'And I tell you', meaning that, as my Father has revealed to you my divinity, so I make known to you your own high position: 'that you are Peter.' That means, I am the secure rock, the corner-stone which makes both one, that foundation other than which no man can lay. You, however, are also a rock because by my strength you are made firm, so that you and I may share together those things which are my special prerogatives by right.

'And on this rock I shall build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.' On this strong foundation, he says, I will build an everlasting temple and my Church will rise high to heaven upon the strength of this faith.

The gates of heaven will not imprison this confession, nor the chains of death bind it. Your voice is the voice of life: as it lifts up to heaven those who confess it, so it plunges into hell those who deny it.

That is why Jesus said to most blessed Peter: 'I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatever you bind on earth shall be bound also in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall also be loosed in heaven.'

The right to this power was handed on to the other apostles and the provisions of this decree have been passed on to all the leaders of the Church. But it was not an idle gesture to put into one man's keeping what was to be communicated to all. This commission was given to Peter in particular, because the example of Peter is put before all the leaders of the Church.

Second Reading, Office of Readings, 22nd February

Canticle

Either (when Compline is to follow later):

Benedictus Deus et Pater *Ephesians 1: 3-10*

- 1 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: *
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing
in the heavenly places.
- 2 He chose us in him before the foundation of the world: *
that we should be holy and blameless before him.
- 3 He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ: *
according to the purpose of his will,
- 4 To the praise of his glorious grace: *
which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
- 5 In him we have redemption through his blood: *
the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us.
- 6 He has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of
his will: *
according to his purpose which he set forth in Christ.
- 7 His purpose he set forth in Christ: *
as a plan for the fullness of time,
- 8 To unite all things in him: *
things in heaven and things on 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.

Or:

Nunc Dimittis *Luke 2: 29-32*

- 1 LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: *
according to thy word.
- 2 For mine eyes have seen: *
thy salvation;
- 3 Which thou hast prepared: *
before the face of all people;
- 4 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 Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: *
world without end. Amen.

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 Spirit,
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 Spirit;
the holy Catholic Church;
the Communion of Saints;
the Forgiveness of sins;
the Resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

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.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

**Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collect of the Day

O GOD, who didst bestow upon thy blessed Apostle Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and didst appoint unto him the high priesthood of binding and loosing: vouchsafe; that by the help of his intercession we may be delivered from the bonds of our iniquities: Who livest and reignest, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

English Missal

Collect for Peace

* In sung settings, 'which art' may be substituted for 'who art', 'in earth' for 'on earth', and 'them that' for 'those who'.

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 both 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 Saviour.

Amen.

Collect against all 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 Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The order for the end of the service may include:

- *Hymns or anthems*
- *A sermon*
- *Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (see below)*
- *Further Prayers (including the Prayers below from the Book of Common Prayer)*

A Prayer for the Queen's Majesty

O LORD our heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of Lords, the only Ruler of princes, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth; most heartily we beseech thee with thy favour to behold our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth; and so replenish her with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that she may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way: endue her plentifully with heavenly gifts; grant her in health and wealth long to live; strengthen her that she may vanquish and overcome all her enemies; and finally, after this life, she may attain everlasting joy and felicity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Royal Family

ALMIGHTY God, the fountain of all goodness, we humbly beseech thee to bless Philip Duke of Edinburgh, Charles Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. Endue them with thy Holy Spirit; enrich them with thy heavenly grace; prosper them with all happiness; and bring them to thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Clergy and People

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who alone workest great marvels, send down upon our bishops and curates, and all 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 honour of our advocate and mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Prayer of Saint 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: Fulfil 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 Office concludes as follows:

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

Amen.

or

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

May the souls of the faithful, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
Amen.

The Final Anthem to the Blessed Virgin Mary follows (see page 35)

Benediction

O salutaris hostia

LM (Gonfalon Royal)

O saving victim, opening wide
The gate of heaven to man below;
Our foes press hard on every side,
Thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.

All praise and thanks to you ascend
For evermore blest One in Three;
O grant us life that shall not end
In our true native land with you.

Readings (*if Benediction takes place outside Evening Prayer*)

Scripture Reading *Luke 18: 18-30*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

'Come, follow me.'

A ruler asked Jesus, 'Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' And Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour your father and mother.' And he said, 'All these I have observed from my youth.' And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, 'One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.' But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' Those who heard it said, 'Then who can be saved?' But he said, 'What is impossible with men is possible with God.' And Peter said, 'Behold, we have left our homes and followed you.' And he said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, there is no man who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, who will not receive manifold more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life.'

Second Reading Luke 18: 18-30

A Reading from *The Cost of Discipleship*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer

'It is Jesus who calls, and because it is Jesus, they follow at once.'

The call of Jesus goes forth, and is at once followed by the response of obedience. The response of the disciples is an act of obedience, not a confession of faith in Jesus. But how could the call immediately evoke obedience?

The story of the call of the first disciples is a stumbling-block for the natural reason, and it is no wonder that frantic attempts have been made to separate the two events. By hook or by crook a bridge must be found between them. Something must have happened in between, some psychological or historical event. Thus we get the stupid question: Surely they must have known Jesus before and that previous acquaintance explains their readiness to hear the Master's call. Unfortunately Scripture is ruthlessly silent on this point, and in fact it regards the immediate sequence of call and response as a matter of crucial importance. It displays not the slightest interest in the psychological reasons for a person's religious decisions. And why? For the simple reason that the cause behind the immediate following of call by response is Jesus Christ himself. It is Jesus who calls, and because it is Jesus, they follow at once.

This encounter is a testimony to the absolute, direct, and unaccountable authority of Jesus. There is no need of any preliminaries, and no other consequence but obedience to the call. Because Jesus is the Christ, he has the authority to call and to demand obedience to his word. Jesus summons us to follow him not as a teacher or a pattern of the good life, but as the Christ, the Son of God. In this short episode Jesus Christ and his claim are proclaimed to the world. Not a word of praise is given to the disciple for his decision for Christ. We are not expected to contemplate the disciple, but only him who calls, and his absolute authority. There is no road to faith or discipleship, no other road – only obedience to the call of Jesus.

And what does Scripture inform us about the content of discipleship? Follow me, run along behind me! That is all. To follow in his steps is something which is void of all content. It gives us no intelligible programme for a way of life, no goal or ideal to strive after. It is not a cause which human calculation might deem worthy of devotion, even the devotion of ourselves. At the call the disciples leave everything that they have – but not because they think that they might be doing something worthwhile, but simply for the sake of the call. Otherwise they cannot follow in the steps of Jesus. The disciples burn

their boats and go ahead. They are dragged out of their relative security into a life of absolute insecurity.

When we are called to follow Christ, we are summoned to an exclusive attachment to his person. The grace of his call bursts all the bonds of legalism. It is a gracious call, a gracious commandment. Christ calls; we are to follow.

The Cost of Discipleship, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, trans. R. H. Fuller, © SCM Press. 1958

Prayers

Prayer for the Church

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favourably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery, and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence, carry out the work of salvation: that things which were cast down may be raised up, and that all things may return to unity through him by whom all things were made, even your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gelasian Sacramentary

Prayer of Dedication in God's Service

God has created me to do him some definite service; he has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another. I have my mission – I may never know it in this life, but I shall know it in the next.

I have a part in this great work; I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for nothing. I shall do good, I shall do his work; I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, even while not intending it, if I do but keep his commandments and serve him in my calling.

Therefore I will trust in him. Whatever I am, wherever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness can serve him; in perplexity my perplexity may serve him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what he is about. I do not ask to see; I do not ask to know; I ask simply to be used.

John Henry Newman (The Catholic Prayer Book from Downside Abbey)¹

Prayer for Friends and Other Members of the Congregation

Blessed Lord, you have commanded us to love one another: grant us, who have not deserved the generosity of your kindness, the grace to love everyone in you and for you. We implore your kindness on all, but especially on the friends whom your love has given us. Love them, O fountain of love, and

¹ *The Catholic Prayer Book from Downside Abbey*, hereafter CPBDA, T & T Clark, 1999

grant them to love you with all their heart, that they may will and speak and do those things only which are pleasing to you.

St Anselm (CPBDA)

Prayer for Those in Need

Almighty and eternal God, may your grace enkindle in all of us a love of those people whom poverty and misery reduce to a condition of life unworthy of human beings. Arouse in the hearts of those who call you Father a hunger and thirst for justice and peace and for fraternal charity in deeds and in truth. Grant, O Lord, peace in our days: peace to our souls, peace to our families, peace to our country and peace among nations.

Pope Pius XII (CPBDA)

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

St Patrick's Breastplate

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you, in holiness and righteousness, all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, for ever and ever.

Edward Reynolds (amended)

Prayer for England

O Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and our most gentle queen and mother, look down in mercy upon England, your dowry, and upon us all who greatly hope and trust in you. By you it was that Jesus, our Saviour and our hope, was given to the world; and he has given you to us that we may hope still more.

Plead for us your children, whom you received and accepted at the foot of the cross, O mother of sorrows. Pray for our separated brethren, that in the one true fold of Christ, we may all be united under the care of Pope Benedict, the chief shepherd of Christ's flock. Pray for us all, dear mother, that, by faith and fruitful in good works, we may all deserve to see and praise God, together with you in our heavenly home.

Cardinal Merry del Val (CPBDA)

Tantum ergo

87 87 87 (Grafton)

Therefore we before him bending
This great sacrament revere;
Types and shadows have their ending,
For the newer rite is here;
Faith, our outward sense befriending,
Makes the inward vision clear.

Glory let us give and blessing
To the Father and the Son;
Honour, might and praise addressing,
While eternal ages run;
Ever too his love confessing,
Who from both, with both, is one.

Let us pray.

O God, who under a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of thy passion: grant us we beseech thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of thy body and blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption: who livest and reignest world without end.

The Divine Praises

Blessed be God.
Blessed be his holy name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.
Blessed be the name of Jesus.
Blessed be his most sacred heart.
Blessed be his most precious blood.
Blessed be Jesus in the most holy sacrament of the altar.
Blessed be the Holy Spirit the Paraclete.
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.
Blessed be her holy and immaculate conception.
Blessed be her glorious assumption.
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and mother.
Blessed be Saint Joseph, her spouse most chaste.
Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

Louis Felici SJ

Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ in the most holy sacrament.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in excelsis.

Ps. 117 Laudate Dominum

Let us adore for ever the most holy Sacrament.
O praise the Lord all ye heathen: *
praise him all ye nations.
For his merciful kindness is ever more and more towards us: *
and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever.
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.
Let us adore for ever the most holy Sacrament.

Acclamation

Blessed, hallowed and adored
be Jesus Christ on his throne of glory
and in the most holy sacrament of the altar. Amen.

Ave Regina Caelorum

LM (Angelus)

HAIL, QUEEN OF heaven, beyond compare,
To whom the angels homage pay;
Hail, Root of Jesse, Gate of Light,
That opened for the world's new Day.
Rejoice, O Virgin unsurpassed,
In whom our ransom was begun,
For all your loving children pray
To Christ, our Saviour, and your Son.

tr. Stanbrook Abbey