

Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest

Feast Thursday after Pentecost

The psalms and Scripture Readings given here are those used in Australia. Celebrating this Feast in USA will require the appropriate translations.

Evening Prayer I

Please note that Evening Prayer I is from the liturgy approved for the Confraternity of Christ the Priest, celebrated as a patronal Solemnity. The rest of the Divine Office given here is according to the 2016 Editio Typica. Its accompanying Decree is given below)

Hymn

O Christ, High Priest eternal
of covenant made new,
to you our vows are offered
with thankful praises due.

In pity for our weakness,
you left the Father's throne,
obedient and lowly,
the Virgin's womb your home.

Your light of grace transforming
the weakest and the least,
the Father and the Spirit
anoint you Prince and Priest.

O Victim, one and perfect,
you shed your blood in love,
that we may share for ever
our Father's peace above.

On every altar offered,
to save our fallen race,
your pleading is accepted
before the throne of grace.

To Christ the Priest give glory,
and to his Father praise,
the Lord of life and bounty
who reigns for endless days.

*Hymnus ad Vesperas. Aeterne Christe Pontifex
Trans. Rev Mgr Peter Elliot 76.76.76.76*

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1 In Jesus the Son of God we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heavens.

Psalm 112

Praise, O servants of the Lord,*
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed*
both now and for evermore!
From the rising of the sun to its setting*
praised be the name of the Lord!

High above all nations is the Lord,*
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,*
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,*
to look down upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,*
from his misery he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,*
yes, with the princes of his people.
To the childless wife he gives a home*
and gladdens her heart with children.

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.

Antiphon: In Jesus the Son of God we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heavens.

Antiphon 2 You have redeemed us from every tribe and tongue and people and nation and made us priests to our God.

Psalm 116

O praise the Lord, all you nations,*
acclaim him all you peoples!

Strong is his love for us;*
he is faithful 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.

Antiphon: You have redeemed us from every tribe and tongue and people and nation and made us priests to our God.

Antiphon 3 He learnt to obey through suffering, and having been made perfect he was acclaimed by God high priest of the order of Melchisedek.

Canticle Phil 2:6-11

Though he was in the form of God,*
Jesus did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped.

He emptied himself †
taking the form of a servant*
being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form, †
he humbled himself and became obedient unto death,*
even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him*
and bestowed on him the name which is above every name,

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,*
in heaven and on earth and under the earth.

And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,*
to the glory of God the Father.

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.

Antiphon: He learnt to obey through suffering, and having been made perfect he was acclaimed by God high priest of the order of Melchisedek.

SCRIPTURE READING Hebrews 7:24-25

Jesus because he remains forever can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

SHORT RESPONSORY

R/. We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Repeat R/

V/. We boast in the hope of the glory of God. R/. Glory be. R/.

MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

He became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation and was acclaimed by God with the title of High Priest of the order of Melchisedek.

INTERCESSIONS

Our Saviour has made us a kingdom and a priesthood to offer sacrifices acceptable to God.

Therefore we gratefully call upon him:

R/. Keep us faithful in your service, Lord.

Christ, true adorer of the Father, your clean oblation is offered by the Church from the rising of the sun till its setting — unite in one body all who share the one bread.

R/. Keep us faithful in your service, Lord.

Watch over the priests and ministers of your Church — while they preach to others may they be found faithful in your service.

R/. Keep us faithful in your service, Lord.

Make perfect in charity all who share the order of priesthood — and preserve always your faithful in unity of spirit by the bond of peace.

R/. Keep us faithful in your service, Lord.

On the evening of this day hear your Church singing your praises — teach her to glorify your Divine Majesty without ceasing.

R/. Keep us faithful in your service, Lord.

To the dead grant the vision of your face — grant us also the blessedness of contemplating you in heaven.

R/. Keep us faithful in your service, Lord.

Our Father

CONCLUDING PRAYER (from the 2016 text)

O God, who for the glory of your majesty
and the salvation of the human race,
made your Only Begotten Son the Eternal High Priest,
grant that, through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit,
those whom he has chosen as ministers and stewards of his mysteries
may be found faithful in carrying out the ministry they have received.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

DIVINE OFFICE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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DECREE

To ensure more effectively that the grace of the Year of the Priest might endure for a longer time among the People of God, the Supreme Pontiff BENEDICT XVI graciously provided that liturgical formularies for the celebration of Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest should be prepared, to be offered for the use of the individual Conferences of Bishops that request them.

This Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, by virtue of the special faculties granted by the same Supreme Pontiff, willingly approves and declares to be typical the Latin text of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours, and the Roman Martyrology relating to OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST as they appear in the attached exemplar.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

From the offices of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 23 July 2012.

ANTONIO Card. CAÑIZARES LLOVERA

Prefect

Rev. Msgr. JUAN MIGUEL FERRER GREDESCHE

Undersecretary

CONGREGATIO DE CULTU DIVINO

ET DISCIPLINA SACRAMENTORUM

Prot. n. 1040/11/L

Feast

Invitatory

Ant. Let us give glory to Christ who has an eternal priesthood.

Invitatory Psalm, as in the Ordinary.

Office of Readings

HYMN

Jesus, our High Priest, only Mediator,
mercifully bringing prayers before the Father:
from every nation, justly we extol you,
singing your praises.

Formed by the Spirit in the womb of Mary,
Son of the Virgin, your right arm embraces
all of creation, Sacrifice and Victim,
worthy of blessing.

Named by the Father Priest and King for ever,
you were anointed with the oil of gladness,
brought to high heaven and his throne of glory,
height of all honor.

God most exalted, mortal flesh assuming,
offering your life-blood, precious gift all cleansing,
you paid the ransom, price of our redemption,
death's curse removing.

Christ, who uplifted on the Cross of sorrow,
drew all creation, piercing hearts with ardor,
grant we may ever praise you and the Father,
one with the Spirit. Amen.

PSALMODY

Ant. 1 I asked my Father, and he has given me the nations as an inheritance.

Psalm 2

Why this tumult among nations,*
among peoples this useless murmuring?
They arise, the kings of the earth,*
princes plot against the Lord and his Anointed.
'Come, let us break their fetters,*
come, let us cast off their yoke.'

He who sits in the heavens laughs;*
the Lord is laughing them to scorn.
Then he will speak in his anger,*
his rage will strike them with terror.
'It is I who have set up my king*
on Sion, my holy mountain.'

I will announce the decree of the Lord: †
The Lord said to me: 'You are my Son.*
It is I who have begotten you this day.
Ask and I shall bequeath you the nations,*
put the ends of the earth in your possession.
With a rod of iron you will break them,*
shatter them like a potter's jar.'

Now, O kings, understand,*
take warning, rulers of the earth;
serve the Lord with awe*
and trembling, pay him your homage
lest he be angry and you perish;*
for suddenly his anger will blaze.

Blessed are they who put their trust in God.

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

Ant. 1 I asked my Father, and he has given me the nations as an inheritance.

Ant. 2 Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.

Psalm 40 (39):2-13

I waited, I waited for the Lord †
and he stooped down to me;*
he heard my cry.

He drew me from the deadly pit,*
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock*
and made my footsteps firm.

He put a new song into my mouth,*
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear*
and shall trust in the Lord.

Happy the man who has placed*
his trust in the Lord
and has not gone over to the rebels*
who follow false gods.

How many, O Lord my God, †
are the wonders and designs
that you have worked for us;*
you have no equal.
Should I proclaim and speak of them,*
they are more than I can tell!

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,*
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.*
Instead, here am I.

In the scroll of the book it stands written*
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law*
in the depth of my heart.

Your justice I have proclaimed*
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;*
you know it, O Lord.

I have not hidden your justice in my heart*
but declared your faithful help.
I have not hidden your love and your truth*
from the great assembly.

O Lord, you will not withhold*
your compassion from me.
Your merciful love and your truth*
will always guard me.

For I am beset with evils*
too many to be counted.
My sins have fallen upon me*
and my sight fails me.

They are more than the hairs of my head*
and my heart sinks.
O Lord, come to my rescue,*
Lord, come to my aid.

O let there be rejoicing and gladness*
for all who seek you.
Let them ever say: 'The Lord is great',*
who love your saving help.

As for me, wretched and poor,*
the Lord thinks of me.
You are my rescuer, my help,*
O God, do not delay.

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

Ant. 2 Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.

Ant. 3 Christ loved the Church and handed himself over for her, to make her holy.

Psalm 85 (84)

O Lord, you once favoured your land,
and revived the fortunes of Jacob,
you forgave the guilt of your people*
and covered all their sins.
You averted all your rage,*
you calmed the heat of your anger.

Revive us now, God, our helper!*
Put an end to your grievance against us.
Will you be angry with us for ever,*
will your anger never cease?

Will you not restore again our life*
that your people may rejoice in you?
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy*
and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,*
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people and his friends*
and those who turn to him in their hearts.
His help is near for those who fear him*
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;*
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth*
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper*
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him.*
and peace shall follow his steps.

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

Ant. 3 Christ loved the Church and handed himself over for her, to make her holy.

✠. Christ offered one sacrifice for sins.

✠. And has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews **Heb 4:14-16; 5:1-10**
Jesus, the great High Priest

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No-one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: 'You are my Son, today I have become your father', and in another text: 'You are a priest of the order of Melchisedek, and for ever'.

During his life on earth, he offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation and was acclaimed by God with the title of high priest of the order of Melchisedek.

RESPONSORY Phil 2:8; Is 53:7

R. Christ humbled himself, * becoming obedient even to death.

V. He was sacrificed, for he himself willed it, * becoming . . .

SECOND READING

A reading from the Encyclical *Mediator Dei* of Pope Pius XII
(**AAS 39 [1947], 552-553**)
Christ, Priest and Victim

Christ is a Priest indeed; however, he is a Priest not for himself but for us, since, in the name of the whole human race, he brings our prayers and religious dispositions to the eternal Father; he is also a victim, but a victim for us, since he substitutes himself for sinners.

Now the exhortation of the Apostle, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus," demands that all Christians should possess, as far as is humanly possible, the same dispositions as those which the divine Redeemer had when he offered himself in sacrifice: that is to say, they should with a humble attitude of mind, offer adoration, honor, praise and thanksgiving to the supreme majesty of God.

Moreover, it demands that they must assume in some way the condition of a victim, that they deny themselves as the Gospel commands, that freely and of their own accord they do penance and that each detests and makes satisfaction for his sins.

It demands, in a word, that we must all undergo with Christ a mystical death on the Cross so that we can apply to ourselves the words of St. Paul, "I have been crucified with Christ" (Galatians 2:19).

RESPONSORY Cf. Gal 2:20

℟. I live by faith in the Son of God, * Who has loved me and has given himself up for me.

℣. I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me * Who has loved me . . .

HYMN, Te Deum

Prayer, as in Lauds (Morning Prayer).

Lauds (Morning Prayer)

HYMN

Singing together, heaven and earth acclaim you,
Christ Jesus, Savior, humankind redeeming,
offering the Father fitting expiation,
Priest through the ages.

Led to the slaughter, Jesus, you accepted,
willingly, gently, death and all its torment,
that you might lead us, who were lost and broken,
through heaven's gateway.

Ending for ever former rites held sacred,
bringing fulfilment to the Prophets' writings,
now by a new love, you ordained a covenant
with God the Most High.

Merciful Author of so great a covenant,
you, the true Victim, food of life eternal,
placed on the altar, pledge of peace most holy,
you are the one Priest.

Christ, who uplifted on the Cross of sorrow,
drew all creation, piercing hearts with ardor,
grant we may ever praise you and the Father,
one with the Spirit. Amen.

Ant. 1 Through the blood of the Cross of Christ, the Father has established peace with all things,
whether on earth or in heaven.

Psalms and canticle of Sunday, Week I.

A soul thirsting for God Psalm 62(63):2-9

O God, you are my God, for you I long;*
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you*
like a dry, weary land without water.
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary*
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,*
my lips will speak your praise.
So I will bless you all my life,*
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,*
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.*
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;*
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;*
your right hand holds me fast.

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

Ant. 1 Through the blood of the Cross of Christ, the Father has established peace with all things,
whether on earth or in heaven.

Ant. 2 All things were created through Christ and in Christ.

Canticle: Daniel 3:57-88,56

O all you works of the Lord, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, angels of the Lord, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, the heavens of the Lord, O bless the Lord.*
and you, clouds of the sky, O bless the Lord.
And you, all armies of the Lord, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, sun and moon, O bless the Lord.*
And you, the stars of the heav'ns, O bless the Lord.
And you, showers and rain, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, all you breezes and winds, O bless the Lord.*
And you, fire and heat, O bless the Lord.
And you, cold and heat, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, showers and dew, O bless the Lord.*
And you, frosts and cold, O bless the Lord.
And you, frost and snow, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, night-time and day, O bless the Lord.*
And you, darkness and light, O bless the Lord.
And you, lightning and clouds, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O let the earth bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
And you, mountains and hills, O bless the Lord.*
And you, all plants of the earth, O bless the Lord.
And you, fountains and springs, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, rivers and seas, O bless the Lord.*
And you, creatures of the sea, O bless the Lord.
And you, every bird in the sky, O bless the Lord.†
And you, wild beasts and tame, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, children of men, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O Israel, bless the Lord, O bless the Lord.*
And you, priests of the Lord, O bless the Lord.
And you, servants of the Lord, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, spirits and souls of the just, O bless the Lord.*
And you, holy and humble of heart, O bless the Lord.
Ananias, Azarias, Mizaël, O bless the Lord.*
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

Let us praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.*
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.
May you be blessed, O Lord, in the heavens.*
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.

Ant. 2 All things were created through Christ and in Christ.

Ant. 3 He has put all things under his feet and has made him Head over the whole Church, which is his Body.

Psalm 149

Sing a new song to the Lord,*
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in its Maker,*
let Zion's songs exult in their king.
Let them praise his name with dancing*
and make music with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.*
He crowns the poor with salvation.
Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,*
shout for joy and take their rest.
Let the praise of God be on their lips*
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations*
and punishment on all the peoples;
to bind their kings in chains*
and their nobles in fetters of iron;
to carry out the sentence pre-ordained:*
this honour is for all his faithful.

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

Ant. He has put all things under his feet and has made him Head over the whole Church, which is his Body.

SHORT READING Heb 10:5-10

This is what he said on coming into the world:

You wanted no sacrifice or oblation but you gave me a body.

You took no pleasure in burnt offering or sacrifice for sin;

then I said, 'Here I am, I am coming, to do your will, God.'

He is abolishing the first sort to establish the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of the body of Jesus Christ made once and for all.

SHORT RESPONSORY Ps 40 (39):8-9

R. Behold I come * that I may do your will.

Behold I come * that I may do your will.

V. Your law is in my inmost heart. Behold I come * that I may do your will.

Glory be to the Father... Behold I come * that I may do your will.

Benedictus ant. May they all be one, Father, so that the world may believe it was you who sent me.

INTERCESSIONS

Father of mercies and God of all consolation, you fill with your kindness all who approach you. As we begin this day, through Christ and with him and in him, we your children pray:

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,

— lead us into the light of your truth.

Christ, Word of God, you are with the Father for ever;

— stir up in your faithful the will to proclaim the Gospel.

Jesus, Anointed of the Father in the Holy Spirit,

— consecrate your Church in holiness.

Christ, High Priest of the New Covenant,

— clothe Priests with your holiness, to the glory of the Father.

Christ, Wisdom of God, our peace and reconciliation,

— grant that we may be made one in heart and mind in your Church.

Christ, Eternal Priest, who glorify the Father,

— grant that in you our offering may be rendered as praise to your eternal glory.

Our Father.

Prayer

O God, who for the glory of your majesty

and the salvation of the human race,

made your Only Begotten Son the Eternal High Priest,

grant that, through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit,

those whom he has chosen as ministers and stewards of his mysteries

may be found faithful in carrying out the ministry they have received.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

Daytime Prayer

Psalms of the occurring weekday.

Terce (Midmorning)

Ant. Through Christ we all have access to the Father in the one Spirit.

SHORT READING Heb 7:26-27

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself.

☩. Rejoice that you have a share in the sufferings of Christ.

☩. That you may also rejoice and exult in the revelation of his glory.

Sext (Midday)

Ant. You have been built on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

SHORT READING 1 Pet 2:4-5

Come to the Lord, the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you, too, may be living stones making a spiritual house as a holy priesthood to offer the spiritual sacrifices made acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

☩. As you have received Jesus Christ, the Lord, so walk in him.

☩. Planted, and built up in him, and confirmed in faith.

None (Midafternoon)

Ant. Grace has been given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift, for the building-up of his Body, which is the Church.

SHORT READING 1 Pet 2:9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people and now you are the People of God; once you were outside the mercy and now you have been given mercy.

☩. Let the peace of Christ exult in your hearts.

☩. That peace in which you have also been called in the one Body.

Prayer, as at Lauds (Morning Prayer).

Vespers (Evening Prayer)

HYMN

O Christ, High Priest for evermore
of your eternal covenant,
our hymns and prayers are rightly yours:
we sing you songs of thankful love.

Proceeding from the Father's throne,
and moved with pity for our sin,
you came, obedient, weak, and poor,
incarnate in the Virgin's womb.

You came destroying ancient sin,
preparing all for light and grace;
the Father and the Paraclete
anointed you as Priest and King.

Unique, unblemished sacrifice,
you shed your blood for love of us;
in love you grant your children now
to glory in the Father's peace.

You give yourself eternally,
our altars' saving sacrifice,
the perfect One enthroned on high,
obtaining mercy for us all.

All praise to you, O Christ, High Priest
who live and reign and sacrifice,
and glory to the Father be
for endless ages still to come. Amen.

Ant. 1 The Lord has sworn an oath, and he will not change: You are a priest for ever.

Psalm 110 (109):1-5, 7

The Lord's revelation to my Master: †
'Sit on my right:*
your foes I will put beneath your feet.'

The Lord will wield from Sion †
your sceptre of power:*
rule in the midst of all your foes.

A prince from the day of your birth †
on the holy mountains;*
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change †
'You are a priest for ever,*
a priest like Melchisedech of old.'

The Master standing at your right hand*
will shatter kings in the day of his wrath.
He shall drink from the stream by the wayside*
and therefore he shall lift up his head.

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

Ant. 1 The Lord has sworn an oath, and he will not change: You are a priest for ever.

Ant. 2 God, who is rich in mercy, has brought us to life together in Christ.

Psalm 111 (110)

I will thank the Lord with all my heart*
in the meeting of the just and their assembly.
Great are the works of the Lord;*
to be pondered by all who love them.

Majestic and glorious his work,*
his justice stands firm for ever.
He makes us remember his wonders.*
The Lord is compassion and love.

He gives food to those who fear him;*
keeps his covenant ever in mind.
He has shown his might to his people*
by giving them the lands of the nations.

His works are justice and truth:*
his precepts are all of them sure,
standing firm for ever and ever:*
they are made in uprightness and truth.

He has sent deliverance to his people †
and established his covenant for ever.*
Holy his name, to be feared.

To fear the Lord is the first stage of wisdom; †
all who do so prove themselves wise.*
His praise shall last 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.

Ant. 2 God, who is rich in mercy, has brought us to life together in Christ.

Ant. 3 Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Canticle Col 1:12-20

Let us give thanks to the Father, †
who has qualified us to share*
in the inheritance of the saints in light.

He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness*
and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption,*
the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God,*
the firstborn of all creation,
for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth,*
visible and invisible.

All things were created*
through him and for him.
He is before all things,*
and in him all things hold together.

He is the head of the body, the Church;*
he is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead,*
that in everything he might be pre-eminent.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,*
and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,*
making peace by the blood of his cross.

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

Ant. 3 Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

SHORT READING Heb 10:19-23

Brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he has opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our minds sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful.

SHORT RESPONSORY Rom 5:1b-2b

℟. Let us have peace with God * through our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us have peace . . .

℣. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of the children of God. *

Let us have peace with God * through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Glory be to the Father. Let us have peace . . .

Magnificat ant. Father, I pray for them, because they are yours and I consecrate myself for them, so that they may also be consecrated in the Truth.

INTERCESSIONS

Through Christ, let us pour forth our prayers to God the Father, who directs all things by his will and blesses all who trust in him.

With confidence we ask that you hear us.

Christ, Word of the Father,

— place on our lips the prayer we are about to offer.

Christ our Priest, Bread of Life,

— grant your chosen ones to live the gift of their own priesthood, as they bring their self-oblation to perfection in you.

Christ in glory, always interceding for us with the Father,

— keep us faithful in prayer, lest laborers should be lacking for your harvest.

Christ the Lord, sent by the Father,

— grant that in you all may find life and the way of the Kingdom.

Christ, Son of the living God, who by your death have conquered death,

— grant that the ultimate self-offering of our dead may bring them eternal joy in glory.

Our Father.

Prayer

O God, who for the glory of your majesty
and the salvation of the human race,
made your Only Begotten Son the Eternal High Priest,
grant that, through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit,
those whom he has chosen as ministers and stewards of his mysteries
may be found faithful in carrying out the ministry they have received.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

**Hymn translations as previously used by the Confraternity of Christ the Priest
approved by the Congregatio de Cultu Divino et Disciplina Sacramentorum Prot. N.
CD 501/91**

THE OFFICE OF READINGS

Hymn

Jesus our High Priest, Lord and Mediator,
joyful we praise you, all our race acclaiming
your intercession at the throne of mercy,
before the Father.

Formed by the Spirit through the holy Virgin,
Victim most worthy, you were born to save us;
Child in a manger, with your hands so gentle
you hold creation.

You were anointed with the oil of gladness,
Chrism most holy, given by the Father,
sharing his glory, majesty and honour,
our Priest for ever.

Lord God almighty, bearing our frail nature,
your blood is offered, for our sins the cleansing,
perfect oblation, price of reparation,
from death our freedom.

Christ our Redeemer, on the Cross uplifted,
draw us together, with your love so tender,
that we may praise you, Paraclete and Father,
now and for ever.

11.11.11.5 Trans. Rev Mgr Peter Elliot

MORNING PRAYER

Hymn

Earth joins with heaven, echoing your praises,
Christ the Redeemer of the race of Adam
before the Father, as the priest and victim,
our expiation.

Jesus our Saviour, merciful and peaceful,
bearing the sorrow of our mortal burden,
you died to save us, opening for lost ones
portals of heaven.

Rites of the old law by your will completed,
wisdom of prophets brought to human vision,
in heights of heaven is for ever honoured
your new agreement.

Merciful giver of the pact eternal,
you give your body, food of life for ever,
your own oblation, gift of peace and mercy
on every altar.

Christ our Redeemer, on the Cross uplifted,
draw us together, with your love so tender,
that we may praise you, Paraclete and Father,
now and for ever.

Christe Sanctorum; 11.11.11.5

Trans. Rev Mgr Peter Elliot

EVENING PRAYER II

Hymn Tune:: Valet will ich dir geben 76.76.D
(St Theodulph of Orleans - 821)

O Christ, High Priest eternal
of covenant made new,
to you our vows are offered
with thankful praises due.

In pity for our weakness,
you left the Father's throne,
obedient and lowly,
the Virgin's womb your home.

Your light of grace transforming
the weakest and the least,
the Father and the Spirit
anoint you Prince and Priest.

O Victim, one and perfect,
you shed your blood in love,
that we may share for ever
our Father's peace above.

On every altar offered,
to save our fallen race,
your pleading is accepted
before the throne of grace.

To Christ the Priest give glory,
and to his Father praise,
the Lord of life and bounty
who reigns for endless days.

Hymnus ad Vesperas. Aeterne Christe Pontifex
Trans. Rev Mgr Peter Elliot