

EXTRAORDINARY PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR RECONCILIATION, UNITY AND PEACE

SOLEMN TRIDUUM CYCLE OF PRAYER SATURDAY PRAYER

(AT 7 P.M. IN THE HOLY LAND OR AT 6 P.M. LOCAL TIME,
THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE WORLD)



The third day of the triduum cycle of prayer is placed in the *time of the expectation of the Lord's Resurrection*, the realization of God's greatest promise: victory over death. An office of readings is proposed, presenting the mystery of iniquity (the mystery of evil) and the inversion of justice in the world, the promises for the intermediary time (which runs from the Resurrection of Jesus until His return), and the eschaton.

In this *time of hopeful waiting*, the Church prays for the *realization of the intentions of her prayer for Reconciliation, Unity and Peace*. The Church invokes *Divine Mercy*, the limit the Creator has set for the action of evil¹, upon herself and upon all mankind.



¹ John Paul II, Encyclical "Dives in Misericordia", 30 November 1980.



Office of readings

Hymn (from the common of the dedication of a church)

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone;
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever,
and her confidence alone

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain;
what they gain from thee forever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign

To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today!
With thy faithful loving-kindness
hear thy people as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls always

Laud and honor to the Father,
laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one;
one in might and one in glory,
while unending ages run.

Amen

I nocturnal

The theme of the first nocturnal is the mystery of iniquity (2 Thess 2: 7), the mystery of evil, source of all injustice, conflict and division. The psalmist denounces the reality of injustice which expands; In his eyes, the foundation of the world is ruined (Psalm 11 (3)). In the Bible, the foundation of the world symbolises justice and equity established by God Himself with His Laws. God has given to man the duty of maintaining the balance of equity and justice. The psalmist dreadfully observes the inverting of the order established by God, and invokes His intervention (Psalm 94 (1-2)) certain that his desires will be fulfilled and thus, certain of the reestablishment of Justice (Psalm 11 (6-7)). Presupposed to the establishment of Peace throughout the world and even within the Church is the reestablishment of the order willed by God.

Psalm 11 (10)

*Refrain: If the foundations are destroyed,
what can the righteous do?'*

To the leader. Of David.

¹*In the LORD I take refuge; how can you say to me,*

*'Flee like a bird to the mountains;**

²*for look, the wicked bend the bow,*

*they have fitted their arrow to the string,
to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart.*

³*If the foundations are destroyed,
what can the righteous do?'*

⁴*The LORD is in his holy temple;
the LORD's throne is in heaven.
His eyes behold, his gaze examines humankind.*

⁵*The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked,
and his soul hates the lover of violence.*

⁶*On the wicked he will rain coals of fire and sulphur;
a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup.*

⁷*For the LORD is righteous;
he loves righteous deeds;*

*Refrain: If the foundations are destroyed,
what can the righteous do?'*

Psalm 94 (93)

*Refrain: for justice will return to the righteous,
and all the upright in heart will follow it.*

¹*O LORD, you God of vengeance,
you God of vengeance, shine forth!*

²*Rise up, O judge of the earth;
give to the proud what they deserve!*

³*O LORD, how long shall the wicked,
how long shall the wicked exult?*

⁴*They pour out their arrogant words;
all the evildoers boast.*

⁵*They crush your people, O LORD,
and afflict your heritage.*

⁶*They kill the widow and the stranger,
they murder the orphan,*

⁷*and they say, 'The LORD does not see;
the God of Jacob does not perceive.'*

⁸*Understand, O dullest of the people;
fools, when will you be wise?*

⁹*He who planted the ear, does he not hear?
He who formed the eye, does he not see?*

¹⁰*He who disciplines the nations,*

*he who teaches knowledge to humankind,
does he not chastise?*

¹¹*The LORD knows our thoughts,*
that they are but an empty breath.*

¹²*Happy are those whom you discipline, O LORD,
and whom you teach out of your law,*

¹³*giving them respite from days of trouble,
until a pit is dug for the wicked.*

¹⁴*For the LORD will not forsake his people;
he will not abandon his heritage;*

¹⁵*for justice will return to the righteous,
and all the upright in heart will follow it.*

¹⁶*Who rises up for me against the wicked?
Who stands up for me against evildoers?*

¹⁷*If the LORD had not been my help,
my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence.*

¹⁸*When I thought, 'My foot is slipping',
your steadfast love, O LORD, held me up.*

¹⁹*When the cares of my heart are many,
your consolations cheer my soul.*

²⁰*Can wicked rulers be allied with you,
those who contrive mischief by statute?*

²¹*They band together against the life of the righteous,
and condemn the innocent to death.*

²²*But the LORD has become my stronghold,
and my God the rock of my refuge.*

²³*He will repay them for their iniquity
and wipe them out for their wickedness;
the LORD our God will wipe them out.*

*Refrain: for justice will return to the righteous,
and all the upright in heart will follow it.*

Reading (from the Letter to the Romans)

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until

now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in* hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes* for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes* with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God,* who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit* intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good* for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.* ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?

³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.* ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rom 8: 18-39

II nocturnal

The theme of the second nocturnal concerns the quest for Peace for Jerusalem in the intermediary time, which runs from the Resurrection of Christ until His return at the end of history. Already today, many pilgrims from all parts of the world climb the Holy Mountain, but Jerusalem remains a city of contradictions and divisions, even within the Church. All the promises – old and new – referring to the Holy City seem to be denied; the word of God however cannot fail: *I bring near my deliverance, it is not far off, and my salvation will not tarry; I will put salvation in Zion, for Israel my glory (Is 46: 13)*. The Saturday prayer therefore takes place in a climate of expectation with regard to the realization of Christ's promises, for which we incessantly pray to God.

(As a sign of unity between the Churches, it is suggested to read a psalm in Latin and a psalm in Greek)

Psalm 122 (121)

Refrain: *Pray for the peace of Jerusalem*

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

¹I was glad when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the LORD!'
²Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
³Jerusalem — built as a city
that is bound firmly together.
⁴To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
⁵For there the thrones for judgement were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.
⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
'May they prosper who love you.
⁷Peace be within your walls,
and security within your towers.'
⁸For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, 'Peace be within you.'
⁹For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.

Refrain: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem

Psalm 125 (124)

Refrain:

*For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest on
the land allotted to the righteous*

A Song of Ascents.

¹Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount
Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides for ever.
²As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds his people,
from this time on and for evermore.
³For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,

¹ canticum graduum huic David
laetatus sum in his quae dicta sunt mihi
in domum Domini ibimus
² stantes erant pedes nostri
in atriis tuis Hierusalem
³ Hierusalem quae aedificatur
ut civitas cuius participatio eius in id ipsum
⁴ illic enim ascenderunt tribus tribus Domini
testimonium Israhel
ad confitendum nomini Domini
⁵ quia illic sederunt sedes in iudicium
sedes super domum David
⁶ rogate quae ad pacem sunt Hierusalem
et abundantia diligentibus te
⁷ fiat pax in virtute tua
et abundantia in turribus tuis
⁸ propter fratres meos et proximos meos loquebar
pacem de te
⁹ propter domum Domini Dei nostri quaesivi
bona tibi.

¹ Ὡιδὴ τῶν ἀναβαθμῶν.
Οἱ πεποιθότες ἐπὶ κύριον
ὡς ὄρος Σιών·
οὐ σαλευθήσεται εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα ὁ κατοικῶν
² Ἱερουσαλημ ὄρη κύκλω αὐτῆς,
καὶ κύριος κύκλω τοῦ λαοῦ αὐτοῦ
ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν καὶ ἕως τοῦ αἰῶνος.
³ ὅτι οὐκ ἀφήσει

*so that the righteous may not stretch out
their hands to do wrong.*

⁴*Do good, O LORD, to those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts.*

⁵*But those who turn aside to their own crooked
ways
the LORD will lead away with evildoers.
Peace be upon Israel!*

Refrain:

*For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest on
the land allotted to the righteous*

τὴν ῥάβδον τῶν ἀμαρτωλῶν
ἐπὶ τὸν κλῆρον τῶν δικαίων,
ὅπως ἂν μὴ ἐκτείνωσιν οἱ δίκαιοι
ἐν ἀνομίᾳ χειρὰς αὐτῶν.

⁴ ἀγάθυνον, κύριε,

τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς
καὶ τοῖς εὐθέσι τῇ καρδίᾳ·

⁵ τοὺς δὲ ἐκκλίνοντας εἰς τὰς στραγγαλιὰς

ἀπάξει κύριος

μετὰ τῶν ἐργαζομένων τὴν ἀνομίαν.

εἰρήνη ἐπὶ τὸν Ἰσραηλ.

Reading (from the book of the prophet Isaiah)

²*The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.*

²*In days to come*

*the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.*

³ *Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'*

*For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*

⁴*He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.*

⁵*O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!*

Is 2: 1-5

III nocturnal

The theme of the third nocturnal concerns the eschatological times. The people of God confidently awaits the end times with "high foreheads" (Luke 21: 36; Acts 7:9); meanwhile, the signs of the times warning of the imminence of God's judgement in history (Psalm 46 (2-4)) can be seen already with the eyes of faith. The Lord's visit must not create fear, however, even if it always implies the temporary judgement of mankind and history. All the prophecies of judgement are followed by consolations, the measure of which is always much greater than the measure of punishment. As God has promised, wars shall cease (Psalm 46: 10) and Jerusalem will be a source of inexhaustible grace (Psalm 87: 7) for all peoples (Is 60: 4-10). God asks his followers to remain firm in their faith, sober and vigilant as they await to be invested with the strength that comes from above; it is the effusion of the Holy Spirit on the Church that will accomplish God's promises (Luke 24: 44-49).

(As a sign of peace between the people who live in the Holy Land, it is suggested to read a psalm in Hebrew and a psalm in Arabic)

Psalm 46 (45)

*Refrain: He makes wars cease
to the end of the earth*

To the leader. Of the Korahites.

According to Alamoth. A Song.

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present* help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

³though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah

⁴There is a river whose streams
make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city;* it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶The nations are in an uproar,
the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.* Selah

⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD;

א לְמִנְצָחַ לְבְנֵי־קִרְחַ
עַל־עֲלָמוֹת שִׁיר:
ב יְאֱלֹהִים לָנוּ מִחֹסֶה וְעִז
עֲזָרָה בְּצָרוֹת נִמְצָא מְאֹד:
ג עַל־כֵּן לֹא־נִירָא בְּהַמְיֹר אֲרָץ
וּבְמוֹט הָרִים בְּלֵב יַמִּים:
ד יִהְיֶמוּ יַחְמְרוּ מִיַּמֵּי
יַרְעִשׁוּ־הָרִים בְּגִאוֹתָו סֵלָה:
ה נָהַר פְּלִגְיוֹ
יִשְׁמְחוּ עִיר־אֱלֹהִים
קֹדֶשׁ מִשְׁכְּנֵי עֲלִיוֹן:
ו יְאֱלֹהִים בְּקִרְבָּהּ בַּל־תִּמְוֹט
יִעֲזָרֶה אֱלֹהִים לְפָנֹת בְּקָר:
ז הִמְוֹ גּוֹיִם
מִטּוֹ מִמְּלָכוֹת
נָתַן בְּקוֹלוֹ תִמְוֹג אֲרָץ:
ח יִהְיֶה צְבָאוֹת עִמָּנוּ
מִשְׁגָּב־לָנוּ אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב סֵלָה:
ט לְכוּ־תִזּוּ מִפְּעֻלוֹת יְהוָה

see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹He makes wars cease

to the end of the earth;

he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;

he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰'Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.'

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah*

Refrain: He makes wars cease

to the end of the earth

Psalm 46 (45) transliterated

Refrain: He makes wars cease

to the end of the earth

To the leader. Of the Korahites.

According to Alamoth. A Song.

2 Elohîm lànu maHašè wa^c oz

^cezrà wezarot nimzà me-od.

3 ^cAl ken lo nir-à be hamîr aretz

uwemòt harim belèv iammim.

4 iehemù, Hamrù meimàw

ir^cashù harim bega-avatò. Šela.

5 nahàr pelagàw

iesammeHù^c ir elohim

qedòsh mishkene^celiòn.

6 Elohîm beqirbà, bal timmòt

ie^cazreha elohim lifnòt bòqer.

7 hamù goim, màtu mamlahot

natàn beqolò tamùg aretz.

אֲשֶׁר-שָׁם שְׁמוֹת בְּאֶרֶץ:

י מִשְׁבֵּית מִלְחָמוֹת

עַד-קֶצֶה הָאָרֶץ

קָשֶׁת יִשָּׁבֵר וְקַצֵּץ חֲנִית

עֲגָלוֹת יִשְׂרָף בְּאֵשׁ:

יֵא תִרְפוּ וְיָדְעוּ כִּי-אֲנֹכִי אֱלֹהִים

אָרוּם בְּגוֹיִם אָרוּם בְּאֶרֶץ:

יב יְהוָה צִבְאוֹת עִמָּנוּ

מִשָּׁנֵב-לָנוּ אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב סֵלָה:

א לַמְנַצֵּחַ לְבְנֵי-קִרַח

עַל-עֲלָמוֹת שִׁיר:

ב אֱלֹהִים לָנוּ מִחֶסֶד וְעֹז

עֲזָרָה בְּצָרוֹת נִמְצָא מֵאֵד:

ג עַל-כֵּן לֹא-יִירָא בְּהַמִּיר אֶרֶץ

וּבְמוֹט חָרִים בְּלֵב יַמַּיִם:

ד יִתְמוּ יִחַמְרוּ מִיַּמּוֹ

יִרְעֹשׁוּ-הָרִים בְּגֵאוֹתָו סֵלָה:

ה גִּדְהָר פִּלְגָיו

יִשְׁמְחוּ עִיר-אֱלֹהִים

קָדַשׁ מִשְׁכְּנֵי עֲלִיוֹן:

ו אֱלֹהִים בְּקִרְבָּה בַל-תִּמְוֹט

יַעֲזֹרָה אֱלֹהִים לְפָנֹת בְּקָר:

ז הָמוּ גוֹיִם מָטוּ מִמְלָכוֹת

נָתַן בְּקוֹלוֹ תִמְוֹג אֶרֶץ:

8 Adonai zeva-òt 'immànu
 Misgàv lanu elohè ia^caqòv. Şela.

9 Lehù, Hazù mif'alòt Adonai
 asher sàm shammòt ba-àretz.

10 Mashbit milHamòt
 'ad qzè ha aretz
 qèshet ieshabber we qizzèz Hanit
 'agalòt isròf ba èsh .

11 harpù ud^cù ki ano^hi elohim
 Arùm wagoim arum ba-àretz.

12 Adonai zwa-òt 'immànu
 Misgàv lanu elohè ia^caqòw. Şela

ח יהוה צבאות עמנו
 משגב לנו אלהי יעקב סלה:

ט לכו תזו מפעלות יהוה
 אשר שם שמות בארץ:

י משבית מלחמות
 עד קצה הארץ

יא קשת ישר וקצץ חנית
 עגלות ישרף באש:

יב הרפו ורעו כי אנכי אלהים
 ארום בנוים ארום בארץ:

יג יהוה צבאות עמנו
 משגב לנו אלהי יעקב סלה:

Refrain: He makes wars cease
 to the end of the earth

Psalm 87 (86)

Refrain: Singers and dancers alike say,
 'All my springs are in you.'

Of the Korahites. A Psalm. A Song.

¹On the holy mount
 stands the city he founded;

² the LORD loves the gates of Zion
 more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

³Glorious things are spoken of you,
 O city of God. Selah

⁴Among those who know me
 I mention Rahab and Babylon;
 Philistia too, and Tyre, with Ethiopia* —

| | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|------|
| לִינִי | قورح | مزمور | نشيد |
| ١ على | الجبال | المقدسة | التي |
| أساسها | † | | |
| ٢ الربُّ | يُوْتِرُ | أبوابَ | |
| صهيونَ | * | | |
| على | جميع | مساكن | |
| يعقوبَ | | | |
| ٣ لقد | قيلتِ | الأمجادُ | |
| فيكِ | * | | |
| يا | مدينة | الله | سلاه |
| ٤ أذكرُ | رهَبَ | وبابلَ | |
| لمعارفي | † | | |
| هوذا | فلسطينُ | وصورُ | |

'This one was born there,' they say.

⁵And of Zion it shall be said,

'This one and that one were born in it';
for the Most High himself will establish it.

⁶The LORD records, as he registers the peoples,

'This one was born there.' Selah

⁷Singers and dancers alike say,

'All my springs are in you.'

Refrain: Singers and dancers alike say,

'All my springs are in you.'

مَعَ كُوشَ : *
« فِيهَا وُلِدَ فُلَانٌ » .
٥ أَمَّا صِهْيُونُ فَيُقَالُ
فِيهَا : †
« كُلُّ لِي نَسَانِ *
وُلِدَ فِيهَا » *
وَالْعَلِيُّ هُوَ الَّذِي تَبَّتْهَا
٦ الرَّبُّ يُدَوِّنُ
فِي سِجْلِ
* الشُّعُوبِ
أَنَّ فُلَانًا وُلِدَ
فِيهَا . سِلاهُ
٧ فَيَقُولُ الْمُرْتَمُونَ
وَالرَّاقِصُونَ : *
« فِيكَ جَمِيعُ يَنَابِيعِي
» . «

Psalm 87 (86) transliterated

Refrain: Singers and dancers alike say,

'All my springs are in you.'

Of the Korahites. A Psalm. A Song.

^cala-l-jibàl el-muqàddasa asàsuha;

² Arràbbu iuathiru abuàba šihiùna

^cala jiamiⁱ masakini ia^cqùb.

³ Làqad qìlati-l-amja-du fiki

ia madìnata-l-lah. Şilah.

⁴ Adkuru ràhaba ua babel

Li ma^càrifì

لِيَنِي قورَح . مَزْمُور . تَشِيد .
١ عَلَى الْجِبَالِ الْمُقَدَّسَةِ
أَسَاسُهَا †
٢ الرَّبُّ يُؤَثِّرُ أَبْوَابَ
صِهْيُونِ *
عَلَى جَمِيعِ مَسَاكِنِ
يَعْقُوبَ .
٣ لَقَدْ قِيلَتْ قِيلَتْ
* فِيكَ
يَا مَدِينَةَ اللَّهِ . سِلاهُ
٤ أَدْكُرُ رَهَبَ وَبَابِلَ
لِمَعَارِفِي †

hùadha falistìn ua şuru ma^ca kush
fiha ùlida fulàn

5 'Ammā Şihîùna faiuqàlu fiha
kùllu insàn ùlida fiha
ual-^caliu hua-l-adhî thabbàtaha .

6 Arràbbu iudàuuinu fi sijilli shsu^cùb:
inna fulànan ùlida fiha

7 Faiaqùlu-l-murannimùna uarràqışùna
fiki jiami^ci ianàbì^ci.

Refrain: Singers and dancers alike say,
'All my springs are in you.'

هُوَذَا قَلِسْطِينُ وَصُورُ
مَعَ كُوشَ : *
« فِيهَا وُلْدَ فُلَانٍ » .

٥ أَمَّا صِهْيُونُ فَيُقَالُ
فِيهَا : †
« كُلُّ لِمَ نِسَانِ
وُلْدَ فِيهَا » *

وَالْعَلِيِّ هُوَ الَّذِي تَبَّتْهَا
٦ الرَّبُّ يُدَوِّنُ فِي
سِجِلِّ الشُّعُوبِ *
أَنَّ فُلَانًا وُلْدَ فِيهَا .
سِيَلَاه

٧ فَيَقُولُ الْمُرْتَمُونَ
وَالرَّاقِصُونَ : *
« فِيكَ جَمِيعُ
يَنَابِيعِي » .

Legend :

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Ş= ܫ et ܫ | H= ܢ | Sh= ܫ et ܫ | Tz= ܛ |
| Q= ܩ et ܩ | ^c A= ܥ et ܥ | - = splitting of hamza | Dh= ܕ |

Reading (from the book of the prophet Isaiah)

⁶⁰Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,*
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

⁷All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you,
the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you;
they shall be acceptable on my altar,
and I will glorify my glorious house.

⁸Who are these that fly like a cloud,
and like doves to their windows?

⁹For the coastlands shall wait for me,
the ships of Tarshish first,
to bring your children from far away,
their silver and gold with them,
for the name of the LORD your God,
and for the Holy One of Israel,
because he has glorified you.

¹⁰Foreigners shall build up your walls,
and their kings shall minister to you;
for in my wrath I struck you down,
but in my favour I have had mercy on you.

¹¹Your gates shall always be open;
day and night they shall not be shut,
so that nations shall bring you their wealth,
with their kings led in procession.

¹²For the nation and kingdom
that will not serve you shall perish;
those nations shall be utterly laid waste.

¹³The glory of Lebanon shall come to you,
the cypress, the plane, and the pine,
to beautify the place of my sanctuary;
and I will glorify where my feet rest.

¹⁴The descendants of those who oppressed you
shall come bending low to you,
and all who despised you
shall bow down at your feet;

*they shall call you the City of the LORD,
 the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.*

¹⁵*Whereas you have been forsaken and hated,
 with no one passing through,
 I will make you majestic for ever,
 a joy from age to age.*

¹⁶*You shall suck the milk of nations,
 you shall suck the breasts of kings;
 and you shall know that I, the LORD, am your Saviour
 and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.*

¹⁷*Instead of bronze I will bring gold,
 instead of iron I will bring silver;
 instead of wood, bronze,
 instead of stones, iron.
 I will appoint Peace as your o Refrainer
 and Righteousness as your taskmaster.*

¹⁸*Violence shall no more be heard in your land,
 devastation or destruction within your borders;
 you shall call your walls Salvation,
 and your gates Praise.*

¹⁹*The sun shall no longer be
 your light by day,
 nor for brightness shall the moon
 give light to you by night;*
 but the LORD will be your everlasting light,
 and your God will be your glory.*

²⁰*Your sun shall no more go down,
 or your moon withdraw itself;
 for the LORD will be your everlasting light,
 and your days of mourning shall be ended.*

²¹*Your people shall all be righteous;
 they shall possess the land for ever.
 They are the shoot that I planted, the work of my hands,
 so that I might be glorified.*

²²*The least of them shall become a clan,
 and the smallest one a mighty nation;
 I am the LORD;
 in its time I will accomplish it quickly.*

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Gospel (according to Luke)

⁴⁴Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.'
⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah* is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses* of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

Luke 24: 44-49



Intercessions

(After the mandatory intercessions, a solemn invocation of Divine Mercy, and the invocation of the three intentions of the extraordinary prayer of the Church for Reconciliation, Unity and Peace is suggested, together with a possibility for personal intentions)



Patristic reading

(The reading is chosen by the celebrant, if possible on the theme of the Holy Saturday's expectation or rest)



Oration

O God, who with living and chosen stones prepares the time of your glory, send your Holy Spirit upon the Church, so that He might edify your believing people to form the heavenly Jerusalem. In the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, Our Lord, who is God and lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

Amen