

November 17

**REMEMBRANCE OF ALL DECEASED FRIARS, SISTERS, PARENTS, RELATIVES
AND FRIENDS OF OUR ORDER**

Invitatory

Ant. Come, let us worship the Lord, the hope of all the living.

Invitatory Psalm, as in the Ordinary.

Office of Readings

HYMN

An appropriate hymn may be sung.

PSALMODY

One of the series of antiphons (A, B, C) may be chosen.

Antiphon 1

Ser.A He who acts with justice will dwell on the Lord's holy mountain.

Ser.B All are justified through the gift of grace by being redeemed in Christ Jesus.

Ser.C I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be hindered.

Psalm 15

Who is worthy to stand in God's presence?

Whoever does God's will endures forever (1 John 2:17).

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent
and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart;
he who does not slander with his tongue;

he who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord;

he who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

Psalm-prayer

God of everlasting love, receive into your dwelling place our brothers and sisters who, as disciples of Christ, laboured to build a world of justice and peace.

Antiphon 1

Ser. A He who acts with justice will dwell on the Lord's holy mountain.

Ser. B All are justified through the gift of grace by being redeemed in Christ Jesus.

Ser. C I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be hindered.

Antiphon 2

Ser. A From you my judgment comes forth; your eyes discern the truth.

Ser. B justified by faith, we are at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ser. C In my flesh I shall see God: this is the hope I carry within me.

Psalm 17

Prayer of the afflicted who trust in the Lord

I guarded them with your name which you gave me; I kept careful watch and not one of them was lost (John 17:12).

Lord, hear a cause that is just,

pay heed to my cry.

Turn your ear to my prayer:

no deceit is on my lips.

From you may my judgment come forth.

Your eyes discern the truth.

You search my heart, you visit me by night.

You test me and you find in me no wrong.

My words are not sinful as are men's words.

I kept from violence because of your word,

I kept my feet in your paths;

there was no faltering in my steps.

I am here and I call, you will hear me, O God.

Turn your ear to me; hear my words.

Display your great love, you whose right hand saves
your friends from those who rebel against them.

Guard me as the apple of your eye.

Hide me in the shadow of your wings

from the violent attack of the wicked.

Psalm-prayer

Father, you are always at work revealing the wonders of your love through the unceasing action of your Holy Spirit. Receive our prayers for our departed brothers and sisters and pour out on them the riches of your mercy.

Antiphon 2

Ser. A From you my judgment comes forth; your eyes discern the truth.

Ser. B justified by faith, we are at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ser. C In my flesh I shall see God: this is the hope I carry within me.

Antiphon 3

Ser. A You, O Lord, are my lamp, a light in my darkness.

Ser. B justified by his grace, we are heirs, in hope, of eternal life.

Ser. C I had heard of you by word of mouth, but now my eye has seen you.

Psalm 18:21-30

Thanksgiving for salvation and victory

Whatever you do work at it with your whole being. Do it for the Lord rather than for others, since you know full well you will receive an inheritance from him as your reward
(Colossians 3:23-24).

He rewarded me because I was just,
repaid me, for my hands were clean,
for I have kept the way of the Lord,
and have not fallen away from my God.

For his judgments are all before me:
I have never neglected his commands.
I have always been upright before him;
I have kept myself from guilt.

He repaid me because I was just
and my hands were clean in his eyes.
You are loving with those who love you:
you show yourself perfect with the perfect.

With the sincere you show yourself sincere,
but the cunning you outdo in cunning.
For you save a humble people
but humble the eyes that are proud.

You, O Lord, are my lamp,
my God who lightens my darkness.
With you I can break through any barrier,
with my God I can scale any wall.

Psalm-prayer

Lord our God, you have given us the gift of your Son, the light that scatters the darkness. Through his death and resurrection forgive the sins of our friends who have gone before us on life's journey. May they enter into your kingdom to be one with you forever.

Antiphon 3

Ser. A You, O Lord, are my lamp, a light in my darkness.

Ser. B justified by his grace, we are heirs, in hope, of eternal life.

Ser. C I had heard of you by word of mouth, but now my eye has seen you.

V. Let him who has ears heed the Spirit's word to the
churches!

R. The victor will eat from the tree of life which grows in the garden of God.

FIRST READING

From the letter of the apostle Paul to the Romans 6:3-18

If we have died with Christ, we believe that we are also to live with him

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful

body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him. As to his death, he died to sin once and for all; as to his life, he lives for God. Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as [being] dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

Therefore, sin must not reign over your mortal bodies so that you obey their desires. And do not present the parts of your bodies to sin as weapons for wickedness, but present yourselves to God as raised from the dead to life and the parts of your bodies to God as weapons for righteousness. For sin is not to have any power over you, since you are not under the law but under grace.

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? Of course not! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, although you were once slaves of sin, you have become obedient from the heart to the pattern of teaching to which you were entrusted. Freed from sin, you have become slaves of righteousness.

RESPONSORY

V. Christ is now raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep; at his coming all who belong to him will come to life again.

R. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

V. At the end of time Christ will hand over the kingdom to God the Father.

R. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

SECOND READING

Choose one of the following readings.

From a Treatise on Death by Saint Cyprian, bishop and martyr
(N. 21-22, 26; CSEL 3, p. 310-311, 313-314)

We know that our departed brothers and sisters have gone on before us

I am the resurrection: whoever believes in me, though he should die, will come to life, and whoever is alive and believes in me will never die. If we believe in Christ let us have faith in his words and promises, that we who are not to die forever may come in joyful security to Christ with whom we are to conquer and reign for eternity.

In the meanwhile we die: we pass by death to immortality, eternal life cannot succeed unless it has befallen us to depart from here. This is not an end, but a passage and, the journey of time being traversed, a crossing over to eternity. Would we not hasten to better things? Who would not pray to be more quickly changed and formed to the image of Christ and to the dignity of heavenly grace? The apostle Paul declares: *Our citizenship is in heaven: from there also we look for the Lord, Jesus Christ, who will give a new form to this lowly body of ours and remake it like that body of his glory.* Christ the Lord also promises that we shall be such, since he prays to his Father that we may be with him and may rejoice with him in the heavenly kingdom saying: *Father, I will that where I am they also whom you have given me may be with me and may see my glory which you gave me before the world was made.* He who is to come to the abode of Christ, to the glory of the heavenly kingdom, ought not to grieve and mourn but rather, in accordance with the promise of the Lord, in accordance with faith in the truth, to rejoice in this his departure and translation.

We ought never to forget, beloved, that we have renounced the world. We are living here now as aliens and only for a time. When the day of our homecoming puts an end to our exile, frees us from the bonds of the world and restores us to paradise and to a kingdom, we should welcome it. What person, stationed in a foreign land, would not want to return home as soon as possible? Well, we look upon paradise as our home, and a great crowd of our loved ones awaits us there; a countless

throng of parents, brothers, sisters and children longs for us to join them. Assured though they are of their own salvation, they are still concerned about ours. What joy both for them and for us to see one another and embrace! O, the delight of that heavenly kingdom where there is no fear of death! O, the supreme and endless bliss of everlasting life!

There is the glorious band of apostles; there, the exultant assembly of prophets; there, the innumerable host of martyrs crowned for their glorious victory in combat and death. There, in triumph, are the virgins who subdued their passions by the strength of continence. There, the merciful are rewarded, those who fulfilled the demands of justice by providing for the poor. In obedience to the Lord's command they turned their earthly patrimony into heavenly treasure.

My dear brothers and sisters let all our longing be to join them as soon as we may. May God see our desire, may Christ see this resolve that springs from faith, for he will give the rewards of his love more abundantly to those who have longed for him more fervently.

RESPONSORY See John 11:25-27

V. I am the resurrection and the life; those who believe in me, though they should die, Will come to life.

R. Whoever believes in me will never die.

V. Lord, I believe that you are the Son of God who came into the world. R. Whoever believes in me will never die.

Alternative.

From the Ritual of the Order of Servants of Mary for the Remembrance of Deceased Brothers and Sisters

(Rome, 1975, p. 7-9)

Prayer for the deceased flows from the faith and communion of the Servants

The event of death calls attention to the very meaning of our existence: as a journey does not end in a dark void, but in the luminous fullness of him who is our life; as a serious risk, even if its outcome is not uncertain for the person who believes in him who is our security and our peace; as a fruitful seed which, while corrupting in temporal death, is destined to produce the copious abundance of eternal life. Numerous passages of Sacred Scripture support our faith reminding us of our final destiny, our supernal hopes, the life which awaits us when the last enemy -death- will be wiped away and *God will be all in all*. Those who freely choose to follow Christ, he wonderfully associates with himself in his glorious destiny: *Whoever would be in my personal service must follow me; and then, wherever I am, there too, my servant will be. Whoever is in my personal service will be honoured by my Father. O Father! I will that those whom you have entrusted to me shall be at my side where I am: I want them to behold my glory.* There is one Common destiny for Head and members; in fact, *if we have died with him we shall also live with him.*

To us Servants of the Virgin Mary, whom an ancient family custom invites to place our interior gaze frequently upon the mystery of the cross, it will not be difficult to discern in the fact of death an event of life: there, the Servant of the Lord performs his supreme service to God his Father, and to people, his friends; there, the Handmaid of the Lord, at the foot of the cross of her dying son, is the servant of life and Mother of the living; there, the wisdom of God, confounding the best laid plans of humans, transforms loss into gain, the drops of water and blood, witness of a death that has already come, into a powerful and irresistible river of life.

Death inflicts a wound upon the local community, the province and the whole Order. A presence ceases: *Man's days are like grass; he blossoms like the flowers of the field: a wind passes over them and they cease to be.* His work and commitment to serve fall to another. His voice is no longer heard in common prayer. His witness is no longer there to see. His place at table remains empty and there is one less voice to be heard as we converse with one another. AE of this is painful, to be sure, yet this absence which is felt by all does not interrupt our fraternity. It continues even

though in a different way. In fact, it spreads and is strengthened within the Mystical Body of Christ. Our dialogue continues, our friendship endures, our love grows in anticipation of that day when our entire family will gather in our Father's house and the threads that seemed to be broken will meet to form a garment nothing can tear or consume. Our deceased brothers and sisters, clothed in the purifying mercy of God and the prayers of the Church, become citizens of the eternal Jerusalem and share in the banquet of the kingdom. In each of them we have a special friend and intercessor who is concerned about us who are still pilgrims here on earth.

Our suffrages spring from our common faith and our religious communion. Our Order has always been particularly careful in carrying out this act of imploration and friendship. The most ancient Servite legislation – the *Constitutiones antiquae* - dedicate Chapter V to suffrages for the deceased of the Order. And there is reason for pleasant surprise when we note in this ancient legislation both the abundance of suffrages prescribed, and the breadth of love which these suffrages express. They are not limited to members of the Order, but with affection and appreciation are prescribed for our parents and benefactors as well.

RESPONSORY See Romans 6:6; 2 Corinthians 4:14

V. If we have died with Christ,

R. we believe that we are also to live with him.

V We know that he who raised up the Lord Jesus will raise us up along with him.

R. We believe that we are also to live with him.

Prayer, as in Morning Prayer.

Morning Prayer

HYMN

An appropriate hymn may be sung.

PSALMODY

Ant. 1 The Lord is good, a refuge on the day of distress; he cares for those who have recourse to him.

Psalm 23

The Good Shepherd

In the valley of darkness I fear no evil for you who have conquered the kingdom of death are with me (Arnobius the Younger).

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me

in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall
I dwell for ever and ever.

Psalm-prayer

Lord, shepherd of your people, we praise and thank you because you guide your children safely out of the valley of darkness into rich and pleasant pastures. Strengthen your Church in its faith and hope that our brothers and sisters who have died in your peace will dwell in your home forever,

Ant. The Lord is good, a refuge on the day of distress; he cares for those who have recourse to him.

Ant. 2 Trust in the Lord and do good that you may dwell in the land and enjoy security.

Canticle Tobit 13:1-8
God afflicts but only to heal

He saves us, not because of any righteous deeds we have done, but because of his mercy (Titus 3:5).

Blessed be God who lives forever,
because his kingdom lasts for all ages.

For he scourges and then has mercy;
he casts down to the depths of the nether world,
and he brings up from the great abyss.
No one can escape his hand.

Praise him, you Israelites, before the Gentiles,
for though he has scattered you among them,
he has shown you his greatness even there.

Exalt him before every living being,
because he is the Lord our God,
our Father and God forever.

He scourged you for your iniquities,
but will again have mercy on you all,
He will gather you from all the Gentiles
among whom you have been scattered.

When you turn back to him with all your heart,
to do what is right before him,
then he will turn back to you,
and no longer hide his face from you.

So now consider what he has done for you,
and praise him with full voice.
Bless the Lord of righteousness,
and exalt the King of the ages.

In the land of my exile I praise him,
and show his power and majesty to a sinful nation.
"Turn back, you sinners! do the right before him
perhaps he may look with favour upon you
and show you mercy.

"As for me, I exalt my God,
and my spirit rejoices in the King of heaven.
Let all men speak of his majesty,
and sing his praises in Jerusalem."

Canticle-prayer

God our Father, you live and reign forever, and show your greatness in all your works. Accept the praise and blessing of the Servants of Mary, and hear our prayers for those who have died in your peace. In your goodness grant them your love and mercy.

Ant. Trust in the Lord and do good that you may dwell in the land and enjoy security. Ant. 3 Be strong, let your heart take courage, all who hope in the Lord.

Psalm 147

The power and goodness of God

Jesus died to gather into one all the dispersed children of God (John 11:51-52).

Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving:
to him our praise is due.
The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name.

Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust.
O sing to the Lord, giving thanks;
sing psalms to our God with the harp.

He covers the heavens with clouds;
he prepares the rain for the earth,
making mountains sprout with grass
and with plants to serve man's needs.
He provides the beasts with their food
and young ravens that call upon him.

His delight is not in horses
nor his pleasure in warriors' strength.
The Lord delights in those who revere him,
in those who wait for his love.

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you.
He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command.
He showers down snow white as wool,
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

He hurls down hailstones like crumbs.
The waters are frozen at his touch;
he sends forth his word and it melts them:
at the breath of his mouth the waters flow.

He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees.

Psalm-prayer

Lord our God, you look with love on all that lives. You heal the broken-hearted and bind up their wounds. Remember the bond of love that unites us with our brothers and sisters who have been called from this life. Grant that we may share their company for ever in the fullness of life in Christ.

Ant. Be strong, let your heart take courage, all who hope in the Lord.

READING Romans 8:8-11

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you.

RESPONSORY See Job 19:25, 27

V. I know that my Redeemer lives. On the last day I will be raised up from the earth.

R. I know that my Redeemer lives. On the last day I will be raised up from the earth.

V. This is the hope I carry within me.

R. On the last day I will be raised up from the earth.

V. Glory to the Father ...

R. I know that ...

CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant. Jesus said to Mary, " Go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God!' "

INTERCESSIONS

Let us praise God the Father who gave us his Son through whom we will triumph over death, and

let us pray with confidence:

May the Spirit perfect in us the redemption of Christ.

We praise you, O Lord, for we have been baptized into the death and resurrection of your Son.

- Grant that by this mystery of salvation we may remember always to look beyond this life.

We glorify you, O Lord, for in yourself you have fixed the goal of our journey.

- Grant that in contemplating you we may find the highest good to which our hearts aspire.

We bless you, O Lord, because you receive so kindly those who die in your name.

- May we live seeking you always and ever watchful for the coming of your Son.

We acclaim you, O Lord, for you have mercifully consoled us in every tribulation.

- Grant that we may likewise give comfort to the sorrowful and share with them our hope.

We thank you, O Lord, for you have raised Jesus from the dead.

- Strengthen us in our faith in the resurrection and bring us to the certainty that after our death we will live forever.

(United with Christ who rose from the dead at this hour to give hope to all the living, we say:)

Our Father ...

PRAYER

God, our Father, glory of all who serve you, our deceased brothers and sisters once shared in the mystery of Jesus by Baptism, Eucharist and their life in religious community. Grant that they may enjoy the fullness of this mystery in life with you forever. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and, ever.

Daytime Prayer

HYMN

An appropriate hymn may be sung.

PSALMODY

Midmorning

Ant. May my mouth speak the praise of the Lord, and may all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

Midday

Ant. Happy the one whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord God.

Midafternoon

Ant. Your kindness, O Lord, endures forever; forsake not the work of your hands.

Psalm 70

O God, come to my aid

Lord, save us, we are lost (Matthew 8:25).

O God, make haste to my rescue,
Lord, come to my aid!
Let there be shame and confusion
on those who seek my life.

O let them turn back in confusion,
who delight in my harm,
let them retreat, covered with shame,

who jeer at my lot.

Let there be rejoicing and gladness
for all who seek you.
Let them say for ever: "God is great,"
who love your saving help.

As for me, wretched and poor,
come to me, O God.
You are my rescuer, my help,
O Lord, do not delay

Psalm-prayer

God, our help and deliverer, do not abandon us among the many temptations of life but deliver us from evil and turn our tears and struggles into joy.

Psalm 85

Our salvation is near

God blessed the land when our Saviour came to earth (Origen).

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.

Psalm-prayer

Show us your mercy, Lord; our misery is known to us. May no evil desires prevail over us, for your glory and love dwell in our hearts.

Psalm 86

The prayer of the poor in distress

Blessed be God who comforts us in all our trials (2 Cor. 1:3, 4).

Turn your ear, O Lord, and give answer
for I am poor and needy.
Preserve my life, for I am faithful:
save the servant who trusts in you.

You are my God, have mercy on me, Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.
Give joy to your servant,
O Lord, for to you I lift up my soul.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice.

In the day of distress I will call
and surely you will reply.
Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord;
nor work to compare with yours.

All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God.

Show me, Lord, your way
so that I may walk in your truth.
Guide my heart to fear your name.

I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart
and glorify your name for ever;
for your love to me has been great:
you have saved me from the depths of the grave.

The Proud have risen against me;
ruthless men seek my life:
to you they pay no heed.

But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me.

O give your strength to your servant

and save your handmaid's son.
Show me a sign of your favour
that my foes may see to their shame
that you console me and give me your help.

Psalm-prayer

God of mercy and goodness, when Christ called out to you in torment, you heard him and gave him victory over death because of his love for you. We already know the affection you have for us; fill us with a greater love of your name and we will proclaim you more boldly before others and happily lead them to celebrate your glory.

Midmorning

Ant. May my mouth speak the praise of the Lord, and may all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

READING 2 Corinthians 4:17-18; 5:1

This momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal. For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a budding from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

V. Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life.

R. I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.

Midday

Ant. Happy the one whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord God.

READING 1 John 3:2

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

V. Send forth your light and your fidelity; they shall lead me on.

R. Bring me to your holy mountain, to your dwelling place.

Midafternoon

Ant. Your kindness, O Lord, endures forever; forsake not the work of your hands.

READING Revelation 20:11-12

Next I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls.

V. One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek:

R. to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Prayer, as in Morning Prayer.

Evening Prayer

HYMN

An appropriate hymn may be sung.

PSALMODY

Ant.1 The desire of the afflicted you hear, O Lord, strengthening their hearts.

Psalm 16

The Lord himself is my heritage

*A prophet said that he was not abandoned to the nether world, nor did his body undergo corruption
(Acts 2:30-31).*

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: "You are my God.
My happiness lies in you alone."

He has put into my heart a marvellous love
for the faithful ones who dwell in his land.
Those who choose other gods increase their sorrow.
Never will I offer their offerings of blood.
Never will I take their name upon my lips.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.
The lot marked out for me is my delight:
welcome indeed the heritage that falls to me!

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
Who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight;
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay!

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever.

Psalm-prayer

Lord our God, our protection and our strength, in your Son you have made known to us the way that leads to life. Do not forget our brothers and sisters who have been called from this family to yourself, but grant them the fullness of joy forever in the vision of your glory.

Ant. The desire of the afflicted you hear, O Lord, strengthening our hearts. Ant. 2 May your kindness, O Lord, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

Psalm 34

God the saviour of the just

*Christ has robbed death of its power and has brought life and immortality into clear light through
the gospel (2 Timothy 1:10).*

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.

The humble shall hear and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress.

The angel of the Lord is encamped
around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

Revere the Lord, you his saints.
They lack nothing, those who revere him.
Strong lions suffer want and go hungry
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Psalm-prayer

Father, you hear the prayer of the poor who call to you; save us in all our difficulties and fill our deceased brothers and sisters with your light and your riches.

Ant. May your kindness, O Lord, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

Ant. 3 Arise, Lord, and help us. Redeem us for your kindness' sake.

Canticle 1 Peter 2:21-24

The voluntary suffering of Christ, servant of God

Christ suffered for you,
and left you an example
to have you follow in his footsteps.

He did no wrong;
no deceit was found in his mouth.
When he was insulted he returned no insult.

When he was made to suffer,
he did not counter with threats.
Instead he delivered himself up to the
One who judges justly.

In his own body
he brought your sins to the cross,
so that all of us, dead to sin,
could live in accord with God's will.

By his wounds you were healed.

Canticle-prayer

Lord, our deceased brothers and sisters were healed by the wounds of your Son who brought their

sins to the cross. Receive them now into your kingdom.

Ant. Arise, Lord, and help us. Redeem us for your kindness' sake.

READING Romans 8:14-17

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, *Abba*, "Father!" The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may, also be glorified with him.

RESPONSORY

V. Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

R. Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

V. He does not deal with us according to our sins,

R. slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

V. Glory to the Father...

R. Merciful and gracious...

CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. The night shall be no more: the Lord God shall give them light, and they shall reign forever.

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to Christ Jesus, the first-born from the dead and now exalted in the glory of the Father:

You alone, O Lord, have the words of eternal life.

Christ, you have taught us that where our heart is, there our treasure is as well.

-Grant that as we are involved in the workings of this world, we may seek after the new heaven and the new earth.

Christ, you have lovingly embraced all who labour and are burdened.

- Grant that we may gladly work to relieve the sorrows of all.

Christ, you wept at the death of Lazarus and were sympathetic to the grief of his sisters.

- In our grief lessen the burden of our sorrow.

Christ, you promised eternal life to those who have left all things for your name.

-Grant to our sisters and brothers and all who have been close to us, that they may rejoice in communion with you and Our Lady.

Christ, you promised to call "blessed of your Father" all who assisted their neighbours to possess the Kingdom.

- Receive into that life which has no end all our relatives, benefactors and friends who have loved us in deed and in truth.

(That we may merit to enter the Kingdom with our sins forgiven, let us pray to God, in the words which Jesus taught us:)

Our Father ...

PRAYER

God, our Father glory of all who serve you, our deceased brothers and sisters once shared in the mystery of Jesus by Baptism, Eucharist and their life in religious community. Grant that they may enjoy the fullness of this mystery in life with you forever. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Note: Some biblical texts are taken from: The New American Bible <http://www.vatican.va/archives/>