

Opening Prayer – *Bishop Scarfe Prays:*

Almighty and everlasting God, your precepts are the wisdom of a loving Father: Give us grace, following the teaching and example of your servant Benedict, to walk with loving and willing hearts in the school of the Lord's service; let your ears be open to our prayers; and prosper with your blessing the work of our hands; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Jubilee Ceremony

Superior: Sr. Martha and Brother Camillus, what do you ask?

Each Jubilarian says: The mercy of God and the grace of the Jubilee.

Superior: If you persevere to the end, you will assuredly be saved.

Sr. Martha says: 10 years ago, I, **Sr. Martha** promised my stability, my conversion of life, and my obedience in accordance with the Rule of Saint Benedict and the Constitution and Customary of the Companions of Saint Luke, in the presence of **Abbot Robert** who was then Superior. Today I renew and confirm this, my Profession, grateful and rejoicing for the past, humbly confident for the future, and relying on the mercy of God and the prayers of my Brothers and Sisters.

Superior: May God grant you eternal life.

Br. Camillus says: 10 years ago, I, **Br. Camillus** promised my stability, my conversion of life, and my obedience in accordance with the Rule of Saint Benedict and the Constitution and Customary of the Companions of Saint Luke, in the presence of **Abbot Robert** who was then Superior. Today I renew and confirm this, my Profession, grateful and rejoicing for the past, humbly confident for the future, and relying on the mercy of God and the prayers of my Brothers and Sisters.

Superior: May God grant you eternal life.

Sr. Martha and Br. Camillus say the Suscipe three times together

“Lord, establish me according to thy word, that I may live and do not disappoint me in my hope”.

Then:

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

The Superior says the following prayer:

Let us pray to the Lord,

Dear Brothers and Sisters, on behalf of God's servants, our *Brother Camillus and Sister Martha* that in his divine mercy he may lead *them* unharmed to the goal *they* long to attain.

Gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in love, you commanded our ancestors in the desert, to celebrate the jubilee at the appointed time, and to forgive all debts. You sent your Son to proclaim the good news to the poor, and to announce the acceptable year of the Lord. Grant to this, your servants **Brother Camillus and Sister Martha** perseverance in the observation of your commandments and of

the Rule, and with your help that (s)he attain the joys of the heavenly Jerusalem and the everlasting jubilation of glory.

Amen.

If Sr. Martha and Br. Camillus have not received their staff, the service ends here.

If Sr. Martha and Camillus have received a staff, hold it up so all can see it and the superior says:

Receive this staff, symbol of the Cross of Christ, the support of your old age. From now on may you use it less to sustain your bodily strength than to obtain spiritual fortitude from our Lord Jesus Christ, who in the Gospel called us to himself saying: 'Come to me all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.'

May he be blessed for ever.

Sr. Martha and Br. Camillus say: Amen.

Vespers for Saint Luke the Evangelist

Opening Sentence

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *John 8:12*

The Invitatory and Psalter

V: O God, make speed to save us.

R: O Lord, make haste to help us.

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

Alleluia

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*

O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The Psalm or Psalms Appointed

Psalm 113 *Laudate, pueri* Prayed by Derin Kyle

From the rising of the sun to its going down, let the Name of the Lord be praised, hallelujah.

¹ Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; *
praise the Name of the LORD.

² Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.

³ From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the LORD be praised.

⁴ The LORD is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.

⁵ Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high, *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

⁶ He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.

⁷ He sets them with the princes, *
with the princes of his people.

⁸ He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.

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

From the rising of the sun to its going down, let the Name of the Lord be praised, hallelujah.

Psalm 114 *In exitu Israel* Prayed by Br. Michael Anicetus

We give thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

¹ Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

² Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.

³ The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

⁴ The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.

⁵ What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

⁶ You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?

⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

⁸ Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

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

We give thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

Psalm 115 *Non nobis, Domine* **Prayed by Sr. Hildegard**

Our God is in heaven; whatever he wills to do he does, hallelujah.

¹ Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your Name give glory; *
because of your love and because of your faithfulness.

² Why should the heathen say, *
"Where then is their God?"

³ Our God is in heaven; *
whatever he wills to do he does.

⁴ Their idols are silver and gold, *
the work of human hands.

⁵ They have mouths, but they cannot speak; *
eyes have they, but they cannot see;

⁶ They have ears but they cannot hear; *
noses, but they cannot smell;

⁷ They have hands, but they cannot feel; feet, but they cannot walk; *
they make no sound with their throat.

⁸ Those who make them are like them, *
and so are all who put their trust in them.

⁹ O Israel, trust in the LORD; *
he is their help and their shield.

¹⁰ O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD; *
he is their help and their shield.

¹¹ You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; *
he is their help and their shield.

¹² The LORD has been mindful of us, and he will bless us; *
he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron;

¹³ He will bless those who fear the LORD, *
both small and great together.

¹⁴ May the LORD increase you more and more, *
you and your children after you.

¹⁵ May you be blessed by the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

¹⁶ The heaven of heavens is the LORD'S, *
but he entrusted the earth to its peoples.

¹⁷ The dead do not praise the LORD, *
nor all those who go down into silence;

¹⁸ But we will bless the LORD, *
from this time forth for evermore. Hallelujah!

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

Our God is in heaven; whatever he wills to do he does, hallelujah.

The Lessons

A reading from Acts 1:1-8 (NRSV) **Read by Sr. Martha**

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Here ends the Reading.

The Song of Mary *Magnificat* **Lead by Br. Camillus** *Luke 1:46-55*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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

Homily - **Father Sid Breese**

Renewal of Annual Profession

The Prior presents the Annually Professed:

Sr. Martha Says: Abbot David, I present **Br. Chrysostom**.

Superior: My Brother, what do you desire?

Br. Chrysostom responds: I desire to renew the Vow of my Profession in this Community for another year.

Superior: Do you freely and voluntarily renew your vow to the service of our Lord Jesus Christ and to the one holy catholic and apostolic Church?

Br. Chrysostom responds: I do.

Superior: Will you continue to live under your Baptismal vows as expressed by the Rule of St. Benedict, and the threefold Benedictine Vows of Stability, Obedience and Conversion of Life?

Br. Chrysostom responds: I do.

Superior: Will you continue to follow the teachings of the Gospels, and the constitution and Customary of the Companions of St. Luke?

Br. Chrysostom responds: I do.

Superior: May Almighty God who gave you the grace and the will to renew your Profession, help you to remain true to your vow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bishop Scarf: The Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you, perfect you in love and in holiness, and bring to fruition what has begun in you. **Amen.**

Superior: Let us pray.

Lord, grant to your servant the grace to continue steadfast in *his* holy vocation, growing in all virtues, and faithfully fulfilling *his* duties, that with singleness of heart *he* may prefer nothing to Christ and come with us and all your saints together to eternal life. **Amen.**

Renewal of Oblate Promises

The Prior or an appointed senior member presents the Oblates:

Sr. Martha: Abbot David, I present **Br. Anicetus** and **Sr. Hildegard**.

Superior: My Brother and Sister, what do you seek?

Each Answers individually: To renew the offering of myself to God as an Oblate of the Companions of Saint Luke.

Superior: May the grace and mercy of God be with you.

Superior: Do you freely and voluntarily desire to renew your Oblate promises made to Almighty God in the sight of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Holy Father Benedict, and all the angels and saints as an Oblate of the Companions of St. Luke?

Each Answers individually: I do.

Superior Do you renew your promise to dedicate yourself to the service of God and humanity by living into your Baptismal vows as expressed by the Rule of St. Benedict; and by the Constitution and Customary of the Companions of St. Luke, as appropriate to your state in life?

Each Answers individually: I do.

After each Oblate has made their Promise, the Superior says: May God strengthen you in your faith and continue within you the grace of perseverance in your offering of yourself to serve God and humanity in accordance with the spirit of the Rule of St. Benedict and of this Community. May God reward you according to his promises, and bring us together into everlasting life. **Amen.**

Bishop Scarfe: May the blessing of Almighty God, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

The Prayers

V: The Lord be with you.

R: *And also with you.*

Let us pray.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Suffrages A

Suffrages A **Lead by Sr. Cecilia and Sr. Gemma:**

Sr. Cecilia: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

Sr. Gemma: And grant us your salvation.

Sr. Cecilia: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Sr. Gemma: Let your people sing with joy.

Sr. Cecilia: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

Sr. Gemma: For only in you can we live in safety.

Sr. Cecilia: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

Sr. Gemma: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Sr. Cecilia: Let your way be known upon earth;

Sr. Gemma: Your saving health among all nations.

Sr. Cecilia: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Sr. Gemma: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Sr. Cecilia: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

Sr. Gemma: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who inspired your servant Luke the physician to set forth in the Gospel the love and healing power of your Son: Graciously continue in your Church this love and power to heal, to the praise and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The following prayers are led by Sr. Petra

Commemoration of Proper 24

Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and give to God what belongs to God.

V. Let my prayer, O Lord, be set forth.

R. In your prayer as incense. **Br. Joseph Florian**

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for the Presence of Christ

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.

[Include intercessions or thanksgivings here](#)

The General Thanksgiving

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

[\[Include authorized intercessions or thanksgivings-opens new window\]](#)

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Naming of a Novice

The Naming of Novices should take place following Vespers. This separation underlines the initiatory quality of the rite and its place in the discernment process, distinguishing it clearly from the commitment made in Annual or Solemn Profession.

Presentation

Sr. Joanna: Abbot David, I present to you Derin Kyle who has completed his initial period of discernment as a Postulant.

Questioning of the Candidate

Superior: My Brother, what do you ask?

Derin responds: By the mercy of God and the Order and drawn by the love of God, I ask you to teach me to follow Christ with the Gospel for my guide, according to the Rule of Saint Benedict and the customs of the Companions of Saint Luke.

Superior: May the grace and mercy of God be with you.

The Admonition

A brief passage from the Rule may be read, either from the Prologue or elsewhere, and the Superior may add a few words to the Postulants about the meaning of this step in the discernment process. Then the Superior shall say:

You have begun to learn that the way to God is hard and difficult. If you choose to continue on this path you must truly seek God, showing eagerness for the Work of God, for obedience, and for the trials that accompany true discernment. You have read the Rule under which we live and under which you are choosing to serve. If you are determined to follow it faithfully, welcome. If not, you are free to depart. Is it your desire to persevere in your intention?

Darin responds: It is, God being my helper.

Superior: My Brother, because Saint Benedict admonishes us that every time we begin a good work we should pray earnestly to the Lord to bring it to perfection, let us pray that what is not possible to us by our own efforts God's grace may supply to our Sisters.

The Superior announces the name by which the Novice is to be known in Community, and, if it is appropriate, says a brief word about the choice of name.

To Derin, the Superior announces: Be known henceforth among us as Brother N. **TBD**_____.

Superior to the new Novice: Dear Brother, as directed by the Rule of Saint Benedict, you are to be taught and guided on your journey by a senior selected by the Superior of this community. You will continue to be supported by the Formation Guide who has helped you during Postulancy during this period of training and discernment. Be open to their guidance and wisdom. Use their experience to learn to live the Rule. Be faithful in your reports, reflections, and in the *Opus Dei*, keeping I mind that they are available and willing to help make the 'rough places plain' in your journey to Christ.

To the Formation Guide: Dear **Sr. Toni**, I charge you to continue to be the Formation Guide for our new Novices as they begin their spiritual journey to Christ following the Blessed Benedict. You are to continue to be their servant, guide, and mentor, supporting them with your wisdom and example.

Bishop Scarfe: May the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20

V. Let us bless the Lord. *Alleluia.*

R. *Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia*