

The Saint Bede's Breviary: Companions of St. Luke Edition

Vespers for Tuesday after the Fifth Sunday in Lent

Opening Sentence

Worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him. *Psalm 96:9*

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 forever. Amen.

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 37: Part I *Noli aemulari*

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

¹ Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

² For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.

³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

⁴ Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.

⁶ He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.

⁷ Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.

⁸ Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁹ Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

¹⁰ For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.

¹¹ In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.

¹² But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.

¹³ The wicked plot against the righteous *
and gnash at them with their teeth.

¹⁴ The Lord laughs at the wicked, *
because he sees that their day will come.

¹⁵ The wicked draw their sword and bend their bow to strike down the poor and needy, *
to slaughter those who are upright in their ways.

¹⁶ Their sword shall go through their own heart, *
and their bow shall be broken.

¹⁷ The little that the righteous has *
is better than great riches of the wicked.

¹⁸ For the power of the wicked shall be broken, *
but the LORD upholds the righteous.

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 message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Psalm 37: Part II *Novit Dominus*

We proclaim Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God.

¹⁹ The LORD cares for the lives of the godly, *
and their inheritance shall last for ever.
²⁰ They shall not be ashamed in bad times, *
and in days of famine they shall have enough.
²¹ As for the wicked, they shall perish, *
and the enemies of the LORD, like the glory of the meadows, shall vanish; they shall vanish like smoke.
²² The wicked borrow and do not repay, *
but the righteous are generous in giving.
²³ Those who are blessed by God shall possess the land, *
but those who are cursed by him shall be destroyed.
²⁴ Our steps are directed by the LORD; *
he strengthens those in whose way he delights.
²⁵ If they stumble, they shall not fall headlong, *
for the LORD holds them by the hand.
²⁶ I have been young and now I am old, *
but never have I seen the righteous forsaken, or their children begging bread.
²⁷ The righteous are always generous in their lending, *
and their children shall be a blessing.
²⁸ Turn from evil, and do good, *
and dwell in the land for ever.
²⁹ For the LORD loves justice; *
he does not forsake his faithful ones.
³⁰ They shall be kept safe for ever, *
but the offspring of the wicked shall be destroyed.
³¹ The righteous shall possess the land *
and dwell in it for ever.
³² The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, *
and their tongue speaks what is right.
³³ The law of their God is in their heart, *
and their footsteps shall not falter.

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 proclaim Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Psalm 37: Part II (cont.)

God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

³⁴ The wicked spy on the righteous *
and seek occasion to kill them.

³⁵ The LORD will not abandon them to their hand, *
nor let them be found guilty when brought to trial.

³⁶ Wait upon the LORD and keep his way; *
he will raise you up to possess the land, and when the wicked are cut off, you will see it.

³⁷ I have seen the wicked in their arrogance, *
flourishing like a tree in full leaf.

³⁸ I went by, and behold, they were not there; *
I searched for them, but they could not be found.

³⁹ Mark those who are honest; observe the upright; *
for there is a future for the peaceable.

⁴⁰ Transgressors shall be destroyed, one and all; *
the future of the wicked is cut off.

⁴¹ But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

⁴² The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because they seek refuge in him.

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.

God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

The Lessons

A reading from 'Mark 9:42-50 (NRSV)'

If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to

enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

‘For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.’

Here ends the Reading.

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*
Luke 1:46-55

The light is with you for a little longer. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior, *
for you have looked with favor on your lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:*

you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your name.

You have mercy on those who fear you *

from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm *

and scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones *

and lifting up the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things *

and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the help of your servant Israel, *

for you have remembered your promise of mercy, The promise made to our forebears, *

to Abraham and his children forever

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The light is with you for a little longer. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.

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 forever. **Amen.**

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, through the incarnate Word you have caused us to be born anew of an imperishable and eternal seed: Look with compassion upon those who are being prepared for Holy Baptism, and grant that they may be built as living stones into a spiritual temple acceptable to you; 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 Aid against Perils

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer for Mission

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

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.***

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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 forever and ever. ***Amen.***

Ephesians 3:20

The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord announced to Mary

And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord

Be it unto me according to your word

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

And the Word was made flesh.

And dwelled among us.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

V: Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R: ***That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.***

Let us pray:

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***