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suggestions?](#)

12/20/2023

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

*The Rites to welcome new Postulants and Novice Oblates may be offered before either Matins or Vespers begins. You can access the appropriate rite below.*

New Postulant Rite

Novice Oblates Rite

## Vespers for Eve of Saint Thomas the Apostle

(Eve of Saint Thomas the Apostle)

*Vespers provided here can be prayed privately, or in community virtually or at convocation. These rubrics (instructions) provide guidance for virtual and convocation services.*

- When the service is prayed virtually, prayers and responses should be said by each participant, even though each person's response cannot be heard.*
- At the Magnificat which begins after the daily antiphon, and during the final blessing, everyone should make the sign of the cross across their chest, represented in the service as (✙).*
- Portions of Vespers at convocation may be chanted. Chant tones will be distributed before the service.*
- At convocation: All Stand. Prayed by the Leader*

**Commemoration of Winter Ember Wednesday and Commemoration of Third Sunday of Advent**

## Opening Sentence

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. *Psalm 74:15,16*

## The Invitatory

V: (✠) O God, make speed to save us.

R: O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Members bow their heads while praying the phrase before \* in the Gloria Patri*

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 (*omit during Lent*)

**O Gracious Light** *Phos hilaron*

*At convocation, remain standing and it is prayed by the leader*

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 Psalms Appointed

*When the service is prayed virtually the first reader appointed prays the antiphon and first verse of each psalm, the Gloria Patri and repeats the antiphon. The second reader appointed prays the second verse. The two readers alternate praying the remaining verses.*

*In convocation, For each psalm, all stand and the leader begins begin with the antiphon and the first verse. All sit at the second verse and the psalm is said antiphonally by seating section. All rise for the last verse of each psalm for the Gloria Patri and closing antiphon.*

## **Psalm 122** *Lætatus sum*

*Remain steadfast and you will see the power of the Lord helping us.*

<sup>1</sup> I was glad when they said to me, \*

"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

<sup>2</sup> Now our feet are standing \*

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> Jerusalem is built as a city \*

that is at unity with itself;

<sup>4</sup> To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, \*

the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> For there are the thrones of judgment, \*

the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup> Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*

"May they prosper who love you.

<sup>7</sup> Peace be within your walls \*

and quietness within your towers.

<sup>8</sup> For my brethren and companions' sake, \*

I pray for your prosperity.

<sup>9</sup> Because of the house of the LORD our God, \*

I will seek to do you good."

*Members bow their heads while praying the phrase before \* in the Gloria Patri*

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.

*Remain steadfast and you will see the power of the Lord helping us.*

*There is to be a short pause before beginning the next psalm*

**Psalm 123** *Ad te levavi oculos meos*

*To you, O Lord, I have lifted up my soul; come and deliver me, Lord, for I flee to you for refuge.*

<sup>1</sup> To you I lift up my eyes, \*  
to you enthroned in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, \*  
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

<sup>3</sup> So our eyes look to the LORD our God, \*  
until he show us his mercy.

<sup>4</sup> Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, \*  
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

<sup>5</sup> Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, \*  
and of the derision of the proud.

*Members bow their heads while praying the phrase before \* in the Gloria Patri*

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.

*To you, O Lord, I have lifted up my soul; come and deliver me, Lord, for I flee to you for refuge.*

*There is to be a short pause before beginning the next psalm*

**Psalm 133** *Ecce, quam bonum!*

*Come, Lord, and do not delay; turn your face to your people, Israel.*

<sup>1</sup> Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
when brethren live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup> It is like fine oil upon the head \*  
that runs down upon the beard,

<sup>3</sup> Upon the beard of Aaron, \*

and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

<sup>4</sup> It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

<sup>5</sup> For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: \*  
life for evermore.

*Members bow their heads while praying the phrase before \* in the Gloria Patri*

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.

*Come, Lord, and do not delay; turn your face to your people, Israel.*

*There is to be a short pause before moving to the Lessons*

## The Lessons

*For the virtual service, the lesson is read by a selected reader*

*At convocation, Sit for the reading*

A reading from 'Revelation 21:1-4, 21:9-14 (NRSV)'

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on

the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Here ends the Reading.

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

*For the virtual service, the leader or a selected reader prays the entire canticle including the opening antiphon and the Gloria Patri, and the closing antiphon.*

*At convocation, the leader prays the opening antiphon and the first verse of the canticle and the people pray the rest of the Canticle, the Gloria Patri and the closing antiphon together.*

O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

(✠) 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.

O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

*For the virtual service and the service at convocation, A second reading may be inserted here by the leader using the “Readings from the Desert” and can be accessed using this [LINK](#) .*

*The Rite of Naming and Clothing of Novices may begin here. To access the Rite, click the link below.*

Naming and  
Clothing of Novices

The Rite of Full  
Oblation

## The Prayers

*At Convocation, All remain standing*

V: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

Let us pray.

*The virtual service: the leader or a reader prays the Lord's Prayer.*

*Convocation service, the leader and the people say the Lord's Prayer together*

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.

*For the virtual service, the first reader begin and a second reader say the response.*

*For the convocation service, All remain standing for the all Prayers following. The leader begins and the members respond.*

## Suffrages B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,  
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,  
*We entreat you, O Lord.*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,  
*We entreat you, O Lord.*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,  
*We entreat you, O Lord.*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear,  
and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,  
*We entreat you, O Lord.*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in  
the communion of [the glorious and ever-blessed Virgin Mary,  
St. Michael the Defender, \_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints,  
entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,  
*We entreat you, O Lord.*

*Collect of the Day*

*Virtual Service: Prayed by an appointed member.*

*For the convocation service, The collects are prayed by the leader.*

Ever-living God, who strengthened your apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in your Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in your sight: through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*Commemoration of Winter Ember Wednesday*

And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.



Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, in your divine providence you have appointed various orders in your Church: Give your grace, we humbly pray, to all who are [now] called to any office and ministry for your people; and so fill them with the truth of your doctrine and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve before you, to the glory of your great Name and for the benefit of your holy Church; 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.

*Commemoration of Third Sunday of Advent*

The One who is coming after me existed before me, I am not worthy to untie his sandals.

V. Drop down, heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down Righteous One.

**R. Let the earth open, and bring forth a Savior.**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*A Collect for Protection*

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Prayer for Mission*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

*At convocation, a hymn may be sung here.*

*Pause and add prayers for healing, and intercessory and thanksgiving prayers here.*

*For both the virtual and convocation services, these prayers are said by the leader. Members will have an opportunity to offer personal prayer requests.*

### *A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

*For the virtual service, prayed by an appointed member.*

*For the convocation service, prayed by all members together.*

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.

*For both the virtual service and at convocation, this is prayed by the leader:*

(✠)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*

## The Supplication

O Lord, arise, help us;

*And deliver us for your Name's sake.*

O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that you did in their days, and in the old time before them.

*O Lord, arise, help us; and deliver us for your Name's sake.*

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 Lord, arise, help us; and deliver us for your Name's sake.*

V. From our enemies defend us, O Christ;

R. Graciously behold our afflictions.

V. With pity behold the sorrows of our hearts;

R. Mercifully forgive the sins of your people.

V. Favorably with mercy hear our prayers;

R. O Son of David, have mercy upon us.

V. Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, O Christ;

R. Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us, O Lord Christ.

Let us pray.

We humbly implore you, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and, for the glory of your Name, turn from us all those evils that we most justly have deserved; and grant that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in your mercy, and evermore serve you in holiness and pureness of living, to your honor and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Angelus

*In the virtual service, the leader appoints a member to begin praying the Angelus and a second person and pray the response.*

*In convocation, the leader begins the prayer, and the responses are said by all.*

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.*

*For all services, members bow their heads here*

*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.*

*In convocation, this prayer is said by all.*

*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.*

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