

Liturgy of the Word and Spiritual Communion for Christmastide

## Notes

This service is intended for use on Sundays and some feast days. It is a version of the Liturgy of the Word, which turns on the Our Father into an act of spiritual communion, undertaken in the words of the Anima Christi.

The bulk of the service inheres in the readings and the intercessions. These will be sent out each week.

The Te Deum is included at the end, since it is every day during the Christmas Octave. I have used the Tudor version, since the words have a greater umph.

+ In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Angel said, "You shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save the people from their sins. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. We confess our sins in penitence and faith:

God our Father, You sent Your Son, full of grace and truth; forgive our failure to receive Him: Kyrie eleison.

Jesus our Saviour, You were born in poverty and laid in a manger; forgive our greed and rejection of Your ways: Christe eleison.

Your servant Mary responded joyfully to Your call; forgive the hardness of our hearts: Kyrie eleison.

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Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins and bring us to life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man: thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death: thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God: in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come: to be our Judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants: whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy Saints : in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people : and bless thine heritage.

Govern them: and lift them up for ever.

Day by day: we magnify thee;

And we worship thy Name: ever world without end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord: to keep us this day without sin.

O Lord, have mercy upon us: have mercy upon us.

O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us: as our trust is in thee.

O Lord, in thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.

+ The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen. Yet the synagogue denied what Esaias had descried: Blindness fell upon the guide.

If her prophets speak in vain, let her heed a gentile strain, and, from mystic Sybil, gain Light and leading.

No longer then delay, hear what the Scriptures say, why be cast away a race forlorn?

Turn and this Child behold, that very Son, of old In God's writ foretold, a maid hath borne.

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## Prayer after Communion.

Amen.

WE praise thee, O God: we acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee: the Father everlasting.

To thee all Angels cry aloud: the heavens, and all the powers therein.

To thee Cherubin and Seraphin: continually do cry,

Holy, Holy, Holy: Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty: of thy glory.

The glorious company of the Apostles: praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets: praise thee.

The noble army of Martyrs: praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world : doth acknowledge thee;

The Father : of an infinite Majesty;

Thine honourable, true: and only Son;

Also the Holy Ghost: the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory: O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son : of the Father.

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Glory be to God on high. And in earth peace, goodwill towards men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King,

God the Father almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ:

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord;

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high,

+ in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Let us pray:

The Collect of the Day.

Amen.

**First Reading** 

**Psalm** 

Gospel

The **Intercessions** follow; these will include petitions from the weekly cycle; and may include the Covid 19 prayer in the notes; at the end:

These and the prayers of my Christian community I lay before God in union with our Lady, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine and all the saints:

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed by Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us Thy peace.

In place of receiving Holy Communion, you should use the prayer over the page:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me;

Body of Christ, save me;

Blood of Christ, refresh me;

Water from the side of Christ, wash me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesu, hear me.

Within Thy wounds, hide me.

Do not permit me to be separated from Thee;

From the malicious enemy defend me,

In the hour of my death call me

And bid me come to Thee,

That with Thy saints I may praise Thee;

For ever and ever. Amen.

It is appropriate that a time of reflexion follows. If, like the Vicar, you have a mind that easily lured by the frivolous and ephemeral, you might use the following to help stay on task:

Come rejoicing, Faithful men, with rapture singing. Alleluya! Monarchs' Monarch, from a holy maiden springing, mighty wonder!

Angel of the Counsel here, Sun from star he doth appear, born of maiden:

He a sun who knows no night, She a star whose paler light Fadeth never.

As a star its kindred ray, Mary doth her Child display, Like in nature;

Still undimmed the star shines on, and the maiden bears a Son, pure as ever.

Lebanon his cedar tall to the hyssop on the wall lowly bendeth; From the highest, him we name Word of God, to human frame now descendeth.

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