



Office of Readings
Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Friday 19 June 2020

O God, come to our aid.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen. Alleluia.

In ancient times God spoke to us
Through prophets, and in varied ways,
But now he speaks through Christ his Son,
His radiance through eternal days.
To God the Father of the world,
His Son through whom he made all things,
And Holy Spirit, bond of love,
All glad creation glory sings.

Stanbrook Abbey Hymnal

Psalm 35 (36)
The sinner's wickedness; God's goodness

In you is the source of life; we drink from the stream of your goodness.

Sin speaks to the sinner in the depths of his heart:
There is no fear of God before his eyes.
Sin flatters himself in his mind,
that he knows not his guilt.
In his mouth are mischief and deceit,
All wisdom is gone.
He plots the defeat of goodness as he lies on his bed,
He has set his foot on evils ways, he clings to what is evil.
Your love, Lord, reaches to heaven.
your truth to the sky.
Your justice is like God's mountain.
your judgements like the deep.
To both man and beasts you give protection.



O Lord, how precious is your love!
My God, the sons of men find refuge in the shelter of your wings;
A feast on the riches of your house,
They drink from the stream of your delight.
In you is the source of life,
And in your light we see light.
Keep on loving those you know do justice for upright hearts.
Let the foot of the proud not crush me
Nor the hand of the wicked cast me out.
See how evildoers fall, flung down
They shall never arise

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen.

In you is the source of life; we drink from the stream of your goodness.

Psalm 60 (61)
An exile's prayer

When my heart was faint, you raised me up.

O God hear my cry
Listen to my prayer
From the end of the earth I call,
My heart is faint.
On the rock too high for me to reach
Set me on high
Oh you who have been my refuge, my tower against the foe.
Let me dwell in your tent forever
And hide in the shelter of your wings.
For you, O God, hear my prayer;
Grant me the heritage of those who fear you
May you lengthen the life of the king,
May his years cover many generations,
May he sit enthroned before God.
Let love and truth be his protection.
So I will always praise your name,
And day after day
Fulfil my vows.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son



and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.

Amen.

When my heart was faint, you raised me up.

Psalm 97 (98)

The Lord has brought salvation

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand, his holy arm,
have brought his salvation.

The Lord has shown his salvation
Has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth
have seen the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord, all the earth.

Bring out your joy
Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the sound of music.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn,
Acclaim the king, the Lord.

Let the sea and all within it thunder.

The world and all its peoples
The rivers will clap their hands,
and the hills ring out their joy.

Rejoice at the presence of the Lord
for he comes to rule the earth.

You will rule the world in justice,
and the peoples with fairness.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.

Amen.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.



V. I will remember what the Lord has done.

R. I will remember the wonders he has worked from the beginning.

First Reading

Romans 8:28-39

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

After saying this, what can we add? With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! Not only has he died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God’s right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. As scripture promised: *For your sake we are being massacred daily, and reckoned as sheep for the slaughter.* These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Responsory

R. God brought us to life in Christ when we were dead through our sins, * because he loved us with so great a love.

V. This was to show for all ages to come how infinitely rich he is in grace, * because he loved us with so great a love.

Second Reading

A reading from the works of St Bonaventure

With you is the source of life

You who have been redeemed, consider who it is who hangs on the cross for you, whose death gives life to the dead, whose passing is mourned by heaven and earth, while even the hard stones are split. Consider how great he is; consider what he is.

In order that the Church might be formed from the side of Christ as he slept on the cross, in order that the word of scripture might be fulfilled – ‘They shall look on him whom they have pierced’ –



God's providence decreed that one of the soldiers should open his sacred side with a spear, so that blood with water might flow out to pay the price of our salvation. This blood, which flowed from its source in the secret recesses of his heart, gave the sacraments of the Church power to confer the life of grace, and for those who already live in Christ was a draught of living water welling up to eternal life.

Arise, then, bride of Christ, be like the dove that nests in the rock-face at the mouth of a cavern, and there, like a sparrow which finds its home, do not cease to keep vigil; there, like a turtle-dove, hide the fledglings of your chaste love; place your lips there to draw water from the wells of your Saviour. For this is the spring flowing from the middle of paradise; it divides and becomes four rivers, then spreads through all devout hearts, and waters the whole world and makes it fruitful.

O soul devoted to God, whoever you may be, run to this source of life and light with eager longing. And with the power of your inmost heart cry out to him: 'O indescribable beauty of God the most high! O pure radiance of everlasting light! O life that gives life to all life! O light that illuminates every light, and preserves in its undying splendour the myriad flames that have shone before the throne of your godhead from the dawn of time!

'O water eternal and inaccessible, clear and sweet, flowing from the spring that is hidden from the eyes of all mortal men; the spring whose depths cannot be plumbed, whose height cannot be measured, whose shores cannot be charted, whose purity cannot be muddied.'

From this source flows the river which makes glad the city of God, so that with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving we sing to you our hymns of praise, and by experience prove that with you is the fountain of life; and in your light we shall see light.

Responsory

R. Bless the Lord, my soul, remembering all he has done for you; * he rescues your life from deadly peril, crowns you with the gifts of his kindness and compassion.

V. O taste and see that the Lord is good: * he rescues your life from deadly peril, crowns you with the gifts of his kindness and compassion.

Hymn

Te Deum

We praise you; O God, we acclaim you as the Lord
Everlasting Father,
all the world bows down before you.
All the angels sing your praise,
The hosts of heaven and all angelic powers,
All the cherubim and seraphim call out to you,
In unending song:
"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts:
heaven and earth are filled with majesty and glory!"
The glorious band of Apostles –
The noble company of prophets –



The white robes of men who shed their blood for Christ -
all sing your praise.
And to the ends of the earth,
Your holy Church proclaims her faith in you.
Father whose majesty is boundless,
Your true and only Son who is to be adored.
The Holy Spirit, sent to be our advocate.
You, Christ:
Are the king of glory, Son of the Eternal Father.
When you took our human nature to save mankind,
You did not shrink from birth in the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the power of death,
Opening the Father's kingdom to all who believe in you.
Enthroned at God's right hand,
In the glory of the Father,
You will come in judgement according to your promise.
You redeemed your people by your precious blood.
Come, we implore you, to our aid.
Grant us with the saints a place in eternal glory.

Let us pray.

Almighty God and Father,
we glory in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, your beloved Son,
as we call to mind the great things his love has done for us.
Fill us with the grace that flows in abundance
from the Heart of Jesus, the source of heaven's gifts.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.
– *Thanks be to God.*