

# COMMON OF MARTYRS

## VESPERS

BENEDICTINE COMMUNITIES  
TURVEY BEDFORDSHIRE

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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 shall be for ever, amen. Alleluia!

**HYMN**

M.Praetorius, 1571–1621

Christ, in whose pas - sion once was sown  
All vir - tue of all saints to be,  
For the white fields of these thy own  
We praise the seed and sow - er, thee.

Thine was the first and holiest grain  
To die and quicken and increase;  
And thence came these and died again,  
That spring and harvest should not cease.

From thee the martyrs, we from those,  
Each in thy grace's measure, spring;  
Their strength upon our weakness flows  
And guides us to the goal we sing.

These were thy great ones: we, thy least,  
One in desire and faith with them,  
Called by one Lord to keep one feast,  
Journey to one Jerusalem.

**ANTIPHON 1:** Whoever \* serves me must follow me, says the Lord, and my servant will be with me wherever I am.

Psalm 21A



My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
You are far from my plea and the cry of my distress.  
O my God, I call by day and you give no reply;  
I call by night and I find no peace.

Yet you, O God, are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
In you our fathers put their trust;  
they trusted and you set them free.  
When they cried to you, they escaped.  
In you they trusted and never in vain.

But I am a worm and no man,  
the butt of men, laughing-stock of the people.  
All who see me deride me.  
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.  
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;  
let him release him if this is his friend.'

Yes, it was you who took me from the womb,  
entrusted me to my mother's breast.  
To you I was committed from my birth,  
from my mother's womb you have been my God.  
Do not leave me alone in my distress;  
come close, there is none else to help.

Many bulls have surrounded me,  
fierce bulls of Bashan close me in.  
Against me they open wide their jaws,  
like lions rending and roaring.

Like water I am poured out,  
disjointed are all my bones.  
My heart has become like wax,  
it is melted within my breast.

Parched as burnt clay is my throat,  
my tongue cleaves to my jaws.

Many dogs have surrounded me,  
a band of the wicked beset me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet  
and lay me in the dust of death.

I can count every óne of my bones,  
These people stare at me and gloat;  
they divide my clóthing among them.  
They cast lots for my robe.

O Lord, do not léave me alone,  
my strength, make haste to help me!  
Rescue my sóul from the sword,  
my life from the grip of these dogs.  
Save my life from the jáws of these lions,  
my poor soul from the horns of these oxen.

Glory be to the Father, the Són and Holy Spirit,  
both now and for ever, amen.

**ANTIPHON 1:** Whoever \* serves me must follow me, says the Lord, and my  
servant will be with me wherever I am.



**ANTIPHON 2:** Jesus said: \* My Father will honour all who serve me.

Psalm 21B



I will téll of your náme to my brethren  
and praise you where they are assembled.  
( ‘You who fear the Lord give him práise;  
all sons of Jácob, give him glory.  
Revere him, Israel’s sons.

For hé has néver despised  
nor scorned the poverty of the poor.  
From him he has not hídden his face,  
but he heard the poor man when he cried.’

You are my práise in the gréat assembly.  
My vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
( The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.  
They shall praise the Lórd, those who seek him.  
May their hearts live for ever and ever!

( All the earth shall remember and return to the Lórd,  
all families of the nations wórship before him  
for the kingdom is the Lord’s; he is ruler of the nations.  
They shall wórship him, all the míghty of the earth;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

And my soul shall líve for him, my children serve him.  
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,  
declare his fáithfulness to péoples yet unborn:  
‘These things the Lord has done.’

Glory be to the Fáther, the Són and Holy Spirit,  
both now and for ever, amen.

**ANTIPHON 2:** Jesus said: \* My Father will honour all who serve me.

**ANTIPHON 3:** Christ \* has left us an example, that we should follow in his steps.

NT Canticle 18

(1 Peter 2:21–24)



( Christ suffered for you,  
leaving you an example  
that you should follow in his steps.

He committed no sin;  
no guile was found on his lips.

When he was reviled,  
he did not revile in return.

When he suffered,  
he did not threaten;

but he trusted to him  
who judges justly.

He himself bore our sins  
in his body on the tree,

That we might die to sin  
and live to righteousness.

It is by his wounds  
that you have been healed.

Glory be to the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit,  
both now and for ever, amen.

**ANTIPHON 3:** Christ \* has left us an example, that we should follow in his steps.





## SCRIPTURE READING

## RESPONSORY

You have tested us, God, and you have set us free. *(repeat)*

You have refined us like silver:

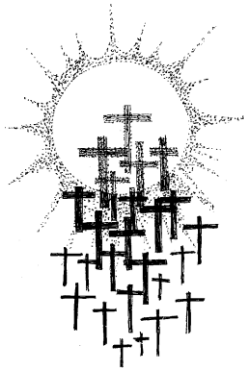
And you have set us free.

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

You have tested us, God, and you have set us free.

## MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

The saints \* will dwell in the kingdom of heaven: their peace will last for ever.



# MAGNIFICAT

Canticle of Mary

(Luke 1:46–55)



My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now  
and shall be for ever, amen.

**REPEAT ANTIPHON**

## **INTERCESSIONS**

**OUR FATHER**

*(said by the Superior)*

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

LET US BLESS THE LORD  
THANKS BE TO GOD

May the divine assistance remain always with us.  
And with our absent brothers and sisters. Amen.

