



# THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL

## VESPERS

BENEDICTINE COMMUNITIES  
TURVEY BEDFORDSHIRE

**25 January**

These pages are provided for the private use of those who join the communities in the chapel at Turvey Abbey for Vespers via the Turvey Abbey YouTube channel.

Psalms(1963 edition) © The Grail

Magnificat © The Grail

clip art © Turvey Abbey

layout © Turvey Abbey



[www.turveyabbey.org.uk/](http://www.turveyabbey.org.uk/)

## THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL

## VESPERS

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**

Paul the preacher, Paul the poet,  
Fearless fighter for the truth,  
Mystic, pioneer, and prophet,  
Builder of the Church's youth;

Foremost of Gamaliel's pupils,  
Pharisee of Christian fame,  
Great apostle of the Gentiles,  
We as Gentiles bless thy name.

Loyal Jew, yet born a Roman,  
Citizen, yet slave of Christ,  
Wealth, position, kindred, freedom,  
To thy Lord were sacrificed.

Still today we need thy teaching,  
Stern yet loving, hard yet true:  
Only those who share his passion  
Can their lives in Christ renew.

Paul the fiery, Paul the saintly,  
Worship with us at thy feast;  
May our love to Christ be strengthened,  
And our faith through thee increased;

Till, when faith no more is needed,  
There where faith and sight are one,  
We in heav'n shall praise the Father  
In the Spirit through the Son.

**ANTIPHON 1:** I planted, Apollos watered, but it is God who gave the increase.

Psalm 18

The heavens proclaim the glory of God  
and the firmament shows forth the work of his hands.  
Day unto day takes up the story  
and night unto night makes known the message.

No speech, no word, no voice is heard  
yet their span extends through all the earth,  
their words to the utmost bounds of the world.

There he has placed a tent for the sun;  
it comes forth like a bridegroom coming from his tent,  
rejoices like a champion to run its course.

At the end of the sky is the rising of the sun;  
to the furthest end of the sky is its course.  
There is nothing concealed from its burning heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just.

They are more to be desired than gold,  
than the purest of gold  
and sweeter are they than honey,  
than honey from the comb.

So in them your servant finds instruction;  
great reward is in their keeping.  
But who can detect all his errors?  
From hidden faults acquit me.

From presumption restrain your servant  
and let it not rule me.  
Then shall I be blameless,  
clean from grave sin.

May the spoken words of my mouth,  
the thoughts of my heart,  
win favour in your sight, O Lord,  
my rescuer, my rock!

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.

**ANTIPHON 1:** I planted, \* Apollos watered, but it is God who gave the  
increase.

**ANTIPHON 2:** I have not \* lost confidence, because I know in whom I have  
put my trust.

### Psalm 32

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,  
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.  
O sing him a song that is new,  
play loudly, with all your skill.

For the word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love.

By his word the heavens were made,  
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.  
He collects the waves of the ocean;  
he stores up the depths of the sea.

Let all the earth fear the Lord,  
all who live in the world revere him.  
He spoke; and it came to be.  
He commanded; it sprang into being.

He frustrates the designs of the nations,  
he defeats the plans of the peoples.  
His own designs shall stand for ever,  
the plans of his heart from age to age.

They are happy, whose God is the Lord,  
the people he has chosen as his own.  
From the heavens the Lord looks forth,  
he sees all the children of men.

From the place where he dwells he gazes  
on all the dwellers on the earth,  
he who shapes the hearts of them all  
and considers all their deeds.

A king is not saved by his army,  
nor a warrior preserved by his strength.  
A vain hope for safety is the horse;  
despite its power it cannot save.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
In him do our hearts find joy.  
We trust in his holy name.

May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.

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.

**ANTIPHON 2:** I have not \* lost confidence, because I know in whom I have  
put my trust.

### ANTIPHON 3



God \* chose us in his Son, and made us his



ad - opt - ed child - ren.

### NT Canticle 10

(Ephesians 1: 3-10)



Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

He chose us in him  
before the foundation of the world,  
that we should be holy  
and blameless before him.

He destined us in love  
to be his sons through Jesus Christ,  
according to the purpose of his will,  
( to the praise of his glorious grace,  
which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of his grace  
which he lavished upon us.

He has made known to us in all wisdom and insight  
the mystery of his will,  
according to his purpose  
which he set forth in Christ.

His purpose he set forth in Christ  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
to unite all things in him,  
things in heaven and things on earth.

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**

**ANTIPHON 4:** The Lord \* stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the pagans might hear the full message.

Psalm 115

I trusted, even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted,'  
and when I said in my alarm:  
'No man can be trusted.'

How can I repay the Lord  
for his goodness to me?  
The cup of salvation I will raise;  
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people.  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

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.

**ANTIPHON 4:** The Lord \* stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the pagans might hear the full message.



## SCRIPTURE READING

## RESPONSORY

I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart! *(repeat)*

I will tell of your name among the peoples:

With all my heart!

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

I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart!

## MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON

Saint Paul, \* apostle, preacher of the truth, teacher of the nations, pray for us to God who chose you.



## 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.

