

*st mary's catholic church
greenville, south carolina*



*solemn vespers
of the
fourth sunday of lent*

Throughout this celebration of Vespers, we will observe several prolonged periods of sacred silence, during which we are not simply waiting for the next thing to happen; we are, rather, waiting upon the LORD. Sacred silence is active and attentive — an invitation to deeper prayer and interior stillness.

✠ OPENING VERSE AND RESPONSE ✠

At the ringing of the bells, all stand as the procession enters the church. Upon reaching the chair the celebrant intones the opening verse, and all join in singing the response and doxology:

All make the sign of the cross.

Presiding minister: O God, ✠ come to my as - sis-tance. *Assembly:* Lord, make haste to help me.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A-men.

All remain standing for the singing of the office hymn.



WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
 2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, Sor - row and
 4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a

Prince of glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down; Did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small: Love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
 Tune: ROCKINGHAM, LM; Adapted by Edward Miller, 1735-1807

All sit. Before each psalm the organist will introduce the psalm tone, and the schola will intone the antiphon. The people and the schola will sing the psalms in alternation, and each line of the psalms should be sung without pause for punctuation. Immediately following the doxology, the people and the schola sing the antiphon together.

✻ PSALMODY ✻



Antiphon: Lord, all-powerful King, / free us for the sake of your name. /
Schola Give us time to turn from our sins.

Psalm 110.1-5, 7

Schola The Lord's revelation to my Master:
"Sit on my right:
your foes I will put beneath your feet."

People The Lord will wield from Zion
your scepter of power:
rule in the midst of all your foes.

Schola A prince from the day of your birth
on the holy mountains;
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

People The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.
"You are a priest for ever,
a priest like Melchizedek of old."

Schola The Master standing at your right hand
will shatter kings in the day of his great wrath.

People He shall drink from the stream by the wayside
and therefore he shall lift up his head.

All 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.

Antiphon: Lord, all-powerful King, / free us for the sake of your name. /
All Give us time to turn from our sins.



Antiphon: Happy the man who shows mercy for the Lord's sake; /
Schola he will stand firm for ever.

Psalm 112

Schola Happy the man who fears the Lord,
who takes delight in his commands.
His sons will be powerful on earth;
the children of the upright are blessed.

People Riches and wealth are in his house;
his justice stands firm forever.
He is a light in the darkness for the upright;
he is generous, merciful, and just.

Schola The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honor.
The just man will never waver;
he will be remembered forever.

People He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.
With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
he will see the downfall of his foes.

Schola Open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm forever.
His head will be raised in glory.

People The wicked man sees and is angry,
grinds his teeth and fades away;
the desire of the wicked leads to doom.

All 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.

Antiphon: Happy the man who shows mercy for the Lord's sake; /
All he will stand firm for ever.

✠ READING ✠

1 Corinthians 9.24-25

While all the runners in the stadium take part in the race, the award goes to one man. In that case, run so as to win! Athletes deny themselves all sorts of things. They do this to win a crown of leaves that withers, but we a crown that is imperishable.

✠ ANTHEM ✠

Let Thy Merciful Ears

Thomas Weelkes

Let thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open unto the prayers of the humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them ask such things as shall please thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



RESPONSORY

Schola: Listen to us, O Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you.

People:

Listen to us, O Lord, and have mercy,
for we have sinned a - gainst you.

Schola: Christ Jesus, hear our humble petitions,

People:

For we have sinned a - gainst you.

Schola: Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People:

Listen to us, O Lord, and have mercy,
for we have sinned a - gainst you.



✻ CANTICLE OF MARY ✻

Magnificat (from the Short Service)

Orlando Gibbons

Antiphon: My son, you have been with me all the time and everything I have is yours. But we had to feast and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost to us and now has been found.

When Mary visited Elizabeth before their sons were born, Elizabeth proclaimed her faith in the Word made flesh, who then lived inside of His mother. Elizabeth cried out “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.” In response, Mary sang of her confidence in God’s love and providential plan for each of us, and this hymn of praise is known as the “Magnificat” from its first word in the Latin text. As the schola sings this canticle, all make the Sign of the Cross at the beginning of the text, which in the Revised Standard Version is rendered:

✻ My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm,
He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts,
he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree.
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away.
He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
As he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity forever.
(Luke 1.46-55)

Antiphon: My son, you have been with me all the time and everything I have is yours. But we had to feast and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost to us and now has been found.

✻ INTERCESSIONS ✻

The celebrant introduces the intercessions, and after each petition all respond:



Come, Lord to vis - it your fam - ily

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us offer the prayer Christ himself taught us:

✠ OUR FATHER ✠

Pa - ter no - ster, qui es in cae - lis: san - cti - fi - cé - tur
no - men tu - um; ad - vé - ni - at re - gnum tu - um;
fi - at vo - lún - tas tu - a, si - cut in cae - lo, et in ter - ra.
Pa - nem no - strum co - ti - di - á - num da no - bis hó - di - e;
et di - mít - te no - bis dé - bi - ta no - stra, si - cut et nos di -
mít - ti - mus de - bi - tó - ri - bus no - stris; et ne nos in -
dú - cas in ten - ta - ti - ó - nem; sed lí - be - ra nos a ma - lo.

Concluding Prayer

Blessing and Dismissal

Page two: Zanobi Strozzi. *Camaldolese Friars in Choir*. (1450).

Page seven: Tabernacle of Cherves, France. (c. 1220).

Page eight: *Simon of Cyrene Helps to Carry the Cross (detail)*. Saint Mary's Catholic Church Greenville, SC.