

**“CONGREGATION OF  
OUR LADY OF CHARITY  
OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD”**

**A COMPANION VOLUME  
MASSES AND LITURGY OF THE HOURS  
PROPER**

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**APPROVED BY THE CONGREGATION  
FOR SACRAMENTS AND DIVINE WORSHIP**

*For the Liturgical Proper*

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity  
of the Good Shepherd

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“CONGREGATION OF OUR LADY OF CHARITY  
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A COMPANION VOLUME  
to  
MASSES AND LITURGY OF THE HOURS  
PROPER

Blessed Maria Droste, virgin  
June 8 memorial mass

Saint Mary Euphrasia Pelletier  
Foundress  
April 24 Solemnity  
Liturgy of the Hours

Christ the Good Shepherd  
Patronal feast of the Congregation  
Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Liturgy of the Hours

Note: If the feast of St. Mary Euphrasia Pelletier falls on Sunday ` (during paschal time only), it is anticipated on April 23

**JUNE 8**  
**BLESSED MARIA DROSTE ZU VISCHERING**  
**(Sister Mary of the Divine Heart)**  
**Memorial**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

By her life entirely consecrated to God, Blessed Maria Droste merited to hear this call: "Come, spouse of Christ. Receive forever the crown which the Lord has prepared for you."

**OPENING PRAYER**

God, our Father, you inflamed the heart of Blessed Maria Droste zu Vischering with a burning love for You and for her brothers and sisters. Inspire us by her example to come to know the inexhaustible treasures in the heart of Jesus, your Son. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord

**FIRST READING**

Ezekiel 34:11-16 or  
Ephesians 3: 14-19

For the Lord Yahweh says this: "Look, I myself shall take care of my flock and look after it. As a shepherd looks after his flock when he is with his scattered sheep, so shall I

look after my sheep. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered on the day of clouds and darkness. I shall bring them back from the peoples where they are; I shall gather them back from the countries and bring them back to their own land. I shall pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the inhabited parts of the country. I shall feed them in good pasturage; the highest mountains of Israel will be their grazing ground. There they will rest in good grazing grounds; they will browse in rich pastures on the mountains of Israel. I myself shall pasture my sheep, I myself shall give them rest - declares the Lord Yahweh. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the injured and make the sick strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them."

## **RESPONSE**

Psalm 23:1-6

### **R. MY SHEPHERD IS LORD, I HAVE ALL I NEED**

My shepherd is Lord, I have all I need, giving me rest in green and pleasant fields, reviving my soul by finding fresh water, guiding my ways with a shepherd's care. **R**

Though I should walk in death's dark valley, I fear no evil with you by my side, Your shepherd's staff to comfort me. **R**.

You spread my table in sight of my foes, anoint my head, my cup runs over; you tend me with love always loyal. I dwell with the Lord as long as I live. **R**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The Lord said: I have chosen you from the midst of the world so that you can go and bear fruit, fruit that will last

## **GOSPEL**

JOHN 15:9-17

I have loved you just as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in His love. I have told you this, so that my own joy may be in you, and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: Love one another, as I have loved you. No one can have greater love than to lay down His life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; so that the Father will give you anything you ask Him in my name. My command to you is to love one another.

## **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

### **PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Accept, Lord, the humble homage which we present to you on the feast of Blessed Maria Droste. By this pure and perfect sacrifice make us burn with love in your presence. Through Jesus Christ our Lord

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

My beloved is mine and I am his. He pastures His flock among the lilies.

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

By this nourishment which you have given us, Lord, we have renewed our strength, and we ask you again, after the example of Blessed Maria Droste, to carry in our bodies the passion of Jesus. We seek to live only for you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**APRIL 24**  
**SAINT MARY EUPHRASIA, Virgin**  
**Solemnity**

**EVENING PRAYER I**

**HYMN**

Ant 1     Let us go to God with love for he has loved us  
          so much, Alleluia.

**Psalm 113**

Hallelujah!  
Servants of God, praise,  
praise the name of the Lord.

Bless the Lord's  
name now and always.  
praise the Lord's name,  
here and in every place,  
from east to west.

The Lord towers above nations;  
God's glory shines over the heavens.  
Who compares to our God?  
Who is enthroned so high?

The Lord bends down  
to see heaven and earth,

to raise the weak from the dust,  
and seat them with princes,  
to lift up the poor from the mire,  
and place them among the great.  
The childless, no longer alone,  
rejoice now in many children. Hallelujah!

Ant 2     Let us suffer all for God, lose all for God, and  
          we will find all in God, Alleluia.

### **Psalm 147**

Praise God!  
How good it is to sing praise!  
How lovely the sound!

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem,  
gathering the outcast,  
healing the brokenhearted,  
binding their aching wounds.

God fixes the number of stars,  
calling each by name.  
Great is our God and powerful,  
wise beyond all telling.  
The Lord upholds the poor,  
but lets the wicked fall

Sing thanks to the Lord,  
sound the harp.  
The Lord stretches the clouds,  
sending rain to the earth,  
clothing mountains with green.

The Lord feeds the cattle  
and young ravens when they call.  
A horse's strength, a runner's speed  
they count for nothing!  
The Lord favors the reverent,  
those who trust in God's mercy

Jerusalem, give glory!  
Praise God with song, O Zion!  
For the Lord strengthens your gates  
guarding your children within,  
The Lord fills your land with peace,  
giving you golden wheat

God speaks,  
the word speeds forth.  
The Lord sends heavy snow,  
and scatters frost;  
the Lord hurls chunks of hail.  
Who can stand such cold?

God speaks, the ice melts;  
God breathes, the streams flow. God

speaks the word to Israel,  
for Israel, laws and decrees.  
God has not done this for others;  
no others receive this wisdom. Hallelujah!

Ant 3 Blessed are the merciful. They shall obtain  
mercy. Alleluia.

### **CANTICLE Rev. 19:1-7**

Alleluia!  
Salvation, glory and power to God!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Right and sure the judgments of God!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Alleluia!  
Praise our God, you faithful servants!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
In awe praise God, you small and great!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Alleluia!  
The Lord God almighty rules!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Be glad, rejoice, give glory to God!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

## READING II

Corinthians 5:18-20

It is all God's work; he reconciled us to himself through Christ and he gave us the ministry of reconciliation. I mean, God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not holding anyone's faults against them, but entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were urging you through us, and in the name of Christ we appeal to you to be reconciled to God.

## RESPONSE

I bless the Lord who gives me council. At night my heart is awake.

- I bless the Lord who gives...

I keep the Lord always before me. Since he is at my right hand I shall not fear.

- At night my heart is awake.

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

- I bless the Lord who gives...

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant.      The glory of God, the salvation of souls; this is  
            my life, Alleluia

## **INTERCESSIONS**

United with Saint Mary Euphrasia, let us beg the Lord and say to him:

### **We Pray To You, Lord Of Glory.**

St. Mary Euphrasia said: When the Church speaks, I believe as though Christ himself has spoken.

- Lord, keep us obedient to the teaching and directives of the Pope and bishops.

St. Mary Euphrasia said: Be saints because you are serving a Holy God whose will is that you become saints. Herein are found all the desires of my heart.

- Lord, sustain in us the desire to follow her example.

St. Mary Euphrasia said: Our Congregation is founded on charity. What is there more beautiful and desirable than this sisterly love, one for the other.

- Lord, fill our hearts with mutual charity.

St. Mary Euphrasia said: To accomplish the will of God, I would travel the whole world.

- Lord, increase in our hearts apostolic and missionary zeal.

St. Mary Euphrasia said: Never forget that you will conquer hearts to Our Lord only by charity.

- Lord, make us attentive and full of gentleness for all in moral and physical distress.

Before dying, St. Mary Euphrasia said: Oh, how beautiful heaven is. I see Our Lord, in the midst of the elect, refreshing them with the springs of His delights.

- Lord, welcome into your eternal glory and happiness our deceased Sisters and all those who have died.

## **PRAYER**

O God, who granted St. Mary Euphrasia, the virgin, to follow in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd, graciously grant that we who imitate her example on earth, may in heaven attain the reward held out to the merciful. Through our Lord Jesus Christ...

## **OFFICE OF READINGS**

### **HYMN**

Ant 1     Let us go to God with love for he has loved us so much, Alleluia.

## Psalm 19B

### Part I

The sky tells the glory of God,  
tells the genius of God's work.  
Day carries the news to day,  
night brings the message to night,

without a word, without a sound,  
without a voice being heard.  
and yet their message fills the world,  
their news reaches its rim.

There God has pitched a tent  
for the sun to rest and rise renewed,  
like a bridegroom rising from bed,  
an athlete eager to run the race.

It springs from the edge of the earth,  
runs a course across the sky,  
to win the race at heaven's end.  
Nothing on earth escapes its heat.

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

## Part II

God's perfect law  
revives the soul.  
God's stable rule  
guides the simple

God's just demands  
delight the heart.  
God's clear commands  
sharpen vision.

God's faultless decrees  
stand for ever.  
God's right judgments  
keep their truth.

Their worth is more than gold,  
the purest gold.  
Their taste is richer than honey,  
sweet from the comb

Keeping them makes me rich;  
they bring me light;  
yet faults hide within us  
forgive me mine.

Keep my pride in check,  
break its grip.

I shall be free of blame  
for deadly sin

Keep my words and thoughts  
pleasing to you.  
Lord, you are my Savior;  
you are my Rock

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

### **PSALM 45** (in three parts)

A great song fills my heart,  
I will recite it to the king,  
my tongue as skilled as the scribal pen.

#### ***For the king***

Unrivalled in beauty,  
gracious in speech  
how God has blessed you!

Hero, take up your sword,  
majestic in your armor.  
Ride on for truth,  
show justice to the poor,  
wield your power boldly.

Your weapons are ready;  
nations fall beneath your might,  
your enemies lose heart.

Your throne is as lasting  
as the everlasting God.  
Integrity is the law of your land.

Because you love justice and hate evil,  
God, your God, anoints you  
above your peers with festive oil.

Your clothes are fragrant  
with myrrh and aloes  
and cinnamon flowers.  
Music of strings welcomes  
you to the ivory palace  
and lifts your heart.

Royal women honor you.  
On your right hand the queen,  
wearing gold of Ophir

***For the queen***

Mark these words, daughter:  
leave your family behind,  
forget your father's house.

The king desires your beauty.  
He is your lord.

Tyre comes with gifts; t  
he wealthy honor you.

The robes of the queen are  
embroidered with gold.

In brilliant attire  
she is led to the king;  
her attendants follow.

In high spirits  
they enter the royal palace.

***To the king***

Your sons will inherit  
the throne your fathers held.  
They shall reign throughout the land.

Every age will recall your name.  
This song will fix it in their memory.

**RESPONSE**

Who are my mother and my brothers? Alleluia.  
- Those who hear the Word of God, Alleluia.

## READING I

## I Corinthians 7:25-35

About people remaining virgin, I have no direction from the Lord, but I give my own opinion as a person who has been granted the Lord's mercy to be faithful. Well then because of the stress which is weighing upon us, the right thing seems to be this: it is good for people to stay as they are. If you are joined to a wife, do not seek to be released; if you are freed of a wife, do not look for a wife. However, if you do, get married, that is not a sin, and it is not sinful for a virgin to, enter upon marriage. But such people will have the hardship consequent on human nature, and I would like you to be without that.

What I mean, is that the time has become limited, and from now on those who have wives should live as though they had none; and those who mourn as though they were not mourning; those who enjoy life as though they did not enjoy it; those who have been buying property as though they had no possessions; and those who are involved with the world, as though they were people not engrossed in it. Because this world as we know it is passing away.

I should like you to have your minds free from all worry. The unmarried man gives his mind to the Lord's affairs and to how he can please the Lord; but the man who is married, gives his mind to the affairs of this

world and to how he can please his wife, and he is divided in mind. So, too, the unmarried woman, and the virgin, gives her mind to the Lord's affairs and to being holy in body and spirit; but the married woman gives her mind to the affairs of this world and to how she can please her husband. I am saying this only to help you, not to put a bridle on you, but so that everything is as it should be, and you are able to give your undivided attention to the Lord.

## **RESPONSE**

Phil.2:2-4 and Thess.5:14-15

Be united in love, be humble enough to consider the other person as better than yourself.

- Think not of your interests first, but of other people's.

Welcome the weak; be patient towards all; always seek one another's good and the good of all.

- Think not of your interests first, but of other people's.

## **READING II**

Conferences of St Mary  
Euphrasia Ch, VI

Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd is the Divine Original that we must strive to reproduce in our whole conduct. We must endeavour on our side to form ourselves to the spirit of this Adorable Master and live

His very life, since He has deigned to associate us with His work, to allow us, to discharge His office, so to say, in the fold into which He has brought so many lost sheep. You will effect no good, my dear daughters, you will not possess the spirit of our vocation until you become animated with the thoughts, sentiments and affection of the Good Shepherd of whom you should be the living images in the midst of your flocks

## **RESPONSE**

Phil.2:5

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

- Become animated with the thoughts, sentiments and affection of the Good Shepherd.

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

**PRAYER:** (same as Evening Prayer I)

## **INVITATORY ANT.**

Virgins follow the Lamb wherever He goes. Come, let us adore Him (alleluia)

## **MORNING PRAYER**

## **HYMN**

Antiphons (same as for Evening Prayer I)

### **Psalm 63**

God, my God, you I crave;  
my soul thirsts for you,  
my body aches for you,  
like a dry and weary land.  
Let me gaze on you in your temple,  
a vision of strength and glory.

Your love is better than life;  
my speech is full of praise.  
I give you a lifetime of worship;  
my hands lifted in prayer.  
I feast at a rich table;  
my lips sing out your praise.  
On my bed I lie awake;  
your memory fills the night.  
You have been my help;  
I rejoice beneath your wings.  
Yes, I cling to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

Let those who want me dead  
end up deep in the grave!  
They will die by the sword,  
their bodies food for jackals.  
(But let the king take joy in God.)

All who swear the truth be praised;  
every lying mouth be shut.

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

## **CANTICLE**

Daniel 3:56-88

Bless God beyond the stars.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God across the earth.  
Praise and glory for ever.

Bless God, angels.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, heavens.  
Praise and glory.

Bless God, waters.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, energy.  
Praise and glory.

Bless God, sun and moon.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, galaxies.  
Praise and glory for ever.

Bless God, rainstorm and dew.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, gales and winds.  
Praise and glory

Bless God, fire and heat.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, frost and cold.  
Praise and glory.

Bless God, dew and snow.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, ice and cold.  
Praise and glory.

Bless God, frost and sleet.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, night and day.  
Praise and glory

Bless God, light and darkness.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, lightning and clouds.  
Praise and glory for ever.

Bless God, earth and sea.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, mountains and hills.  
Praise and glory

Bless God, trees and plants.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, fountains and springs.  
Praise and glory  
Bless God, rivers and seas.  
Praise and glory  
Bless God, fishes and whales.  
Praise and glory

Bless God, birds of the air.  
Praise and glory.  
Bless God, beasts of the earth.  
Praise and glory for ever

## **READING**

Song of Songs 6:2, 3

My Beloved went down to his garden, to the beds of spices, to pasture his flock in the gardens and gather lilies. I am my Beloved's, and my Beloved is mine. He pastures his flock among the lilies.

## **RESPONSE**

Be joyful in the Lord. Exult you just.-

- Be joyful...

Rejoice all you upright hearts

- Exult you just.

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

- Be joyful...

## **CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH**

**Ant.** The glory of God the Salvation of souls. This is my life. Alleluia

## **INTERCESSIONS**

On this feast of St. Mary Euphrasia, let us pray to the Lord, Lord Hear Us.

### **Lord Graciously Hear Us.**

Let us understand your love from the early hours of the morning

- that today your joy may be our strength.

Lord, may our eyes be raised towards you without ceasing

- that we may respond eagerly to your call.

May your grace open our hearts to the need of our neighbor:

- do not allow them to find in us other than our love for them.

To those who are called to perfect chastity for the Kingdom of heaven,

- grant the grace to faithfully follow your Son.

## **OUR FATHER...**

**PRAYER:** (same as Evening Prayer I)

### **MIDDAY PRAYER**

#### **HYMN**

Antiphon Let us go to God with love for he has loved us so much, Alleluia.

#### **Psalm 121**

If I look to the mountains,  
will they come to my aid?  
My help is the Lord  
who made earth and the heavens.

May God, ever wakeful,  
keep you from stumbling;  
the guardian of Israel neither rests nor sleeps.

God shields you,  
a protector by your side.  
The sun shall not harm you by day  
nor the moon at night.

God shelters you from evil,  
securing your life.

God watches over you near and far,  
now and always.

### **Psalm 123**

I gaze at the heavens,  
searching for you, my God

A slave watches the master's hand,  
a servant girl, the hand of her mistress,  
but our eyes rest on you, O God,  
awaiting your kindness

Have mercy, God, have mercy.  
We have swallowed enough scorn,  
stomached enough sneers  
the scoffs of the rich,  
the mockery of the proud.

### **Psalm 124**

Say it, Israel!  
If God had not been with us,  
if God had not been for us when  
enemies rose against us,

they would have swallowed us  
in their anger,  
and the raging waters

would have swept us away,  
rushing, surging,  
thundering over us.

Thank God  
for saving our flesh from their teeth,  
for tearing the trapper's net  
so we could flutter away like birds.  
God is our help,  
God, creator of earth and sky

## **READING**

Proverbs 31:29-30

Many women have done admirable things, but you surpass them all! Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who fears Yahweh is the one to praise

## **RESPONSE**

Who are my mother and my brothers? Alleluia.

- Those who listen to the word of God, Alleluia

## **EVENING PRAYER II**

Same as Evening Prayer I except:

## **Psalm 110:1-5, 7**

God decrees to the king:

“I confer my power on you  
to trample your enemies.  
I will expand your kingdom  
from Zion and beyond.  
Wipe out all who resist”

“Your people stand behind you  
on the day you take command.  
You are splendid as dawn,  
fresh as the dew.”

God’s oath stands: “I pronounce you  
priest and king for ever.”  
Through him God destroys kings,  
and judges nations

The day of wrath  
brings carnage world-wide.  
The king drinks  
from a wayside stream  
and is refreshed.

## **Psalm 122**

With joy I heard them say,  
“We must go to God’s house!”

And now, Jerusalem, we stand  
inside your gates.

Jerusalem, the city so built  
that city and temple are one.  
To you the tribes must come,  
every tribe of the Lord.

It is the law of Israel  
to honor God's name.  
The seats of law are here,  
the thrones of David's line.

Pray peace for Jerusalem:  
happiness for your homes,  
safety inside your walls,  
peace in your great houses.

For love of family and friends I say,  
"Peace be with you!"  
For love of God's own house  
I pray for your good.

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

**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD**  
Patronal Feast of the Congregation  
Solemnity

**EVENING PRAYER I**

**HYMN** Of Paschal Time

Ant 1 I am the Good Shepherd: I know my sheep  
and my sheep know me, Alleluia.

**Psalm 113**  
(see page 10)

Ant 2 I have other sheep which are not of this fold.  
These also I must lead, Alleluia.

**Psalm 23**

You are my shepherd, Lord, you are all I need.  
You give me rest in green and pleasant fields,  
you revive my life by finding fresh water,  
you guide my ways with a shepherd's care.

Though I should walk in death's valley,  
I fear no evil with you by my side,  
your shepherd's staff to comfort me.

You spread my table in sight of my foes,  
anoint my head, my cup runs over;  
you tend me with love always loyal.  
I dwell with you Lord, as long as I live.

Ant 3     My sheep hear my voice. There will be only  
           one fold and one shepherd, Alleluia.

### **CANTICLE Col. 1:12-20**

Give thanks to the Father,  
who made us fit  
for the holy community of light

and rescued us from darkness,  
finding room for us  
in the realm of the beloved Son,  
making straight our crooked lives,  
forgiving our sin.

Christ mirrors the God we cannot see.  
Christ is the primal power of creation.

Through Christ the universe was made,  
things seen and unseen,  
thrones, authorities, forces, powers.  
Everything was created  
through Christ and for Christ.

Before anything came to be, Christ was,  
and the universe is held together by Christ.

Christ is the head of the body, the Church,  
its beginning,  
the first born from the dead,  
and in all things first.

By God's good pleasure,  
Christ encompassed  
the full measure of power,

reconciling creation with its Source  
and making the universe whole  
by the blood of the cross

## **READING**

I Peter 2:24-25

He was bearing our sins in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our sins and live for uprightness; through his bruises you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## **RESPONSE**

The Good Shepherd gives his life for his sheep,

Alleluia, Alleluia.

He has come that we may have life,

Alleluia, Alleluia.

- The Good Shepherd gives...

That we may have fullness of life,

- Alleluia, Alleluia.

Glory to the Father...

- The Good Shepherd gives...

## **CANTICLE OF MARY**

**Ant.** I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives his life for his sheep. Alleluia.

## **INTERCESSIONS**

Let us invoke Jesus who became our guide and shepherd to lead us to the Father saying:

***Jesus, Good Shepherd, Save Us.***

You who assembled your flock and led them to feed in good pasture,

- protect your church in unity that she may be strengthened in faith and charity under the guidance of the Pope and bishops.

You who know your sheep and give them eternal life,  
- keep in your love those who are' consecrated to you.

You who call each one by name,  
- grant to those who are called to your service to hear your voice and to follow it courageously.

You who go after the lost sheep and bring it back on your shoulders with joy,  
- give us understanding and a welcoming spirit to all who are in distress.

You who give your life for your sheep,  
- welcome into your glory those who have spent their lives in your service.

**OUR FATHER...**

### **PRAYER**

Almighty and ever living God, lead us to the joys of heaven that your flock may arrive in spite of their weakness, there where their pastor has entered victorious. He who lives and reigns

**OFFICE OF READINGS**  
Common of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Psalm 24**

God owns this planet  
and all its riches.  
The earth and every creature  
belong to God.

God set the land on top of the seas  
and anchored it in the deep.

Who is fit to climb God's mountain and  
stand in that holy place?

Whoever has integrity:  
not chasing shadows,  
not living lies."

God will bless them;  
their savior will bring justice.  
These people long to see the Lord;  
they seek the face of Jacob's God.

Stretch toward heaven, you gates.  
Open high and wide;  
let the glorious sovereign enter.

Who is this splendid ruler?  
The Lord of power and might,  
the conqueror of chaos.

Stretch toward heaven, you gates.  
Open high and wide;  
let the glorious sovereign enter.

Who is this splendid ruler?  
The Lord of heaven's might; this splendid ruler is God

### **Psalm 66**

All earth, shout with joy to God!  
Sing to the glory of the Name!  
Give glorious praise!  
Say: "How awesome your works!"

Because of your mighty strength,  
your enemies cringe before you.  
All earth bows before you, sings to you,  
sings to your name.

Come, see God's wonders,  
tremendous deeds for the people:  
God turned sea into land.  
They crossed the river on foot.

Let us rejoice then in God,

who rules forever with might,  
keeping a watch on all nations.  
Let no rebels raise their heads!

Bless our God, you peoples,  
loudly sound God's praise.  
God kept our spirits alive,  
and kept our feet from stumbling.

You, God, have tested us,  
refined us like silver in fire.  
You led us into a trap  
You put a weight on our backs.

You let others beat us down.  
We passed through water and fire.  
Then you brought us relief.

## **READING I**

Revelation 12:1-8

Now a great sign appeared in heaven; a woman, robed with the sun, standing on the moon, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and in labor, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky; there was a huge red dragon with seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail swept a third of the stars from the sky and hurled them to the ground, and the dragon stopped in front of the

woman as she was at the point of giving birth, so that he could eat the child as soon as it was born. The woman was delivered of a boy, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had prepared a place for her to be looked after for twelve hundred and sixty days.

And now war broke out in heaven, when Michael with his angels attacked the dragon. The dragon fought back with the angels but they were defeated and driven out of heaven.

## **RESPONSE**

Alleluia!

- Alleluia!

He conquered the world. Those who believe in the Son of God come with the water and the blood, Jesus Christ!

- Alleluia!

Victorious by the precious blood of the lamb without fault and without stain predestined before the beginning of the world, blood of Christ!

- Alleluia!

## READING II

Conferences of St Mary  
Euphrasia Ch. VI

Our Lord appears to have always had a special predilection for the title of Shepherd. The rulers of His people had been named shepherds, and He chose as His first adorers at His birth not only the poor, but poor shepherds. And the reason for this was, because their conduct towards their flocks presents better than any other figure, God's tenderness and solicitude for His dear sheep. For how does a shepherd act? He forgets himself, he frequently endures hunger and thirst, he is overwhelmed with fatigue and labour. But this matters little to him, provided his sheep do not suffer, and he recovers those that were lost. What pains he takes to lead his flock to good pastures.

## RESPONSE

The Good Shepherd gave himself that you may have life. Let yourself be led by his voice and follow him singing:

- You are the door of the kingdom, Alleluia

You are the way to the Father, Alleluia. The Lord has his eyes on his faithful, on those who hope in his love. To preserve us from death, to keep us alive in times of famine.

- You are the door of the kingdom, Alleluia.  
You are the way to the Father, Alleluia

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

### **PRAYER**

(Same as Evening Prayer I)

### **INVITATORY ANT**

People chosen by God, come and adore your Lord and pastor.

### **HYMN** of Paschal time

Ant 1 I myself will care for and watch over my sheep, Alleluia.

### **Psalm 63**

(see page 25)

Ant 2 I will look for the lost sheep. I will bring back the stray, Alleluia.

### **CANTICLE**

Daniel 3:56-88

(see page 26)

Ant 3 I will watch over and feed in justice the sheep who are strong, Alleluia

## Psalm 149

Sing a new song, you faithful, praise  
God in the assembly.  
Israel, rejoice in your Maker,  
Zion, in your king.  
Dance in the Lord's name,  
sounding harp and tambourine

The Lord delights  
in saving a helpless people.  
Revel in God's glory,  
join in clan by clan.  
Shout praise from your throat,  
sword flashing in hand

to discipline nations  
and punish the wicked,  
to shackle the mighty  
and chain the proud,  
and execute God's sentence.  
This is your glory. Hallelujah!

### READING

Revelation 7:13-17

One of the elders then spoke and asked me, "Who are these people, dressed in white robes, and where have they come from?" I answered him, "You can tell me, sir." Then he said, "These are the people who have been through the

great trial; they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb. That is why they are standing in front of God's throne and serving him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; sun and scorching wind will never plague them, because the Lamb who is .at the heart of the throne will be their shepherd and will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.

## **RESPONSE**

I am the door of the sheepfold, Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Whoever enters by me will be saved, Alleluia, Alleluia.

- I am the door.

They will find their pasture, Alleluia, Alleluia.  
- Whoever enters by me will be saved, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father...

- I am the door. . .

## **CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH**

**Ant.** The Lord is my Shepherd. There is nothing I shall want. Alleluia.

## **INTERCESSIONS**

Let us invoke the risen Christ who never ceases to intercede for us and say:

### **Eternal Shepherd, Save Us.**

Eternal Shepherd, look upon your people who have awakened to a new day,

- lead us to the true nourishment which is your word and your bread.

Do not allow us to be attracted by the wolf who devours or by the thief who takes flight,

- be the Good Shepherd whose voice we hear.

You act through those who preach your name and you confirm the Word.

- strengthen us to be courageous witnesses of your resurrection today.

Help us to turn away from sin and to seek true life,

- be yourself the joy that no one can take away.

## **OUR FATHER...**

## **PRAYER**

Almighty and ever living God, give us new strength from the courage of Christ our Shepherd and lead us to join the saints in heaven, where he lives and reigns.

## **MIDDAY PRAYER**

**HYMN** of the day

Antiphon: I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives his life for his sheep, Alleluia.

**Psalm 23**  
(see page 35)

## **Psalm 76**

God, you are made known in Judah;  
in Israel your name is great.  
You set up your tent in Jerusalem  
and your dwelling place in Zion.  
It was there you broke the flashing arrows,  
the shield, the sword, the armor.

You, O Lord, are resplendent,  
more majestic than the everlasting mountains.

The warriors, despoiled, slept in death;  
the hands of the soldiers were powerless.  
At your threat, O God of Jacob,  
horse and rider lay stunned

You, you alone, strike terror.  
Who shall stand when your anger is roused?  
You uttered your sentence from the heavens;  
the earth in terror was still  
when you arose to judge,  
to save the humble of the earth

Human anger will serve to praise you;  
those who survive it rejoice in you.  
Make vows to your God and fulfill them.  
Let all pay tribute to him who strikes terror,  
who cuts short the breath of rulers,  
who strikes terror in the leaders of the earth

## **READING**

Hebrews 13:29-21

I pray that the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood that sealed an eternal covenant, may prepare you to do his will in every kind of good action; effecting in us all whatever is acceptable to himself through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever, Amen.

## **RESPONSE**

The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I shall want,  
Alleluia.

- Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, Alleluia.

## **PRAYER**

### **EVENING PRAYER II**

Same as Evening Prayer I except:

- Ant 1    The Good Shepherd calls his sheep by name  
Alleluia.

### **Psalm 110** (see page 33)

- Ant 2    My sheep listen to my voice, I know them and  
they follow me, Alleluia.

### **Psalm 114**

Israel marches out of Egypt,  
breaking with an alien people.  
Judah becomes a temple, Israel,  
God's home

The sea pulls back,  
the Jordan flees in retreat.  
Mountains jump like rams,  
hills like lambs in fear.

Why shrink back, O sea?  
Jordan, why recoil?  
Why shudder, you mountains?  
Why quiver, you hills?

Ant 3        My sheep will never be lost; no one will  
              take them from me Alleluia

**CANTICLE Rev 19:1, 5-7**  
(see page 13)

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Luke 1 68-79

Praise to the Lord, the God of Israel,  
who cares for the people and frees them.

God raises from David's house  
a child with power to save.  
In the ancient past  
God promised through prophets  
to save us from enemy hands,  
from the grip of all who hate us.

God favored our ancestors  
and kept the covenant,  
the pledge to our father Abraham:  
freedom from fear  
and from all our enemies,  
to serve before the Lord,  
to be holy and just all our days.

Now, child, you are called prophet  
of the Most High,  
to prepare paths for God  
by teaching salvation  
through forgiveness of sin.

For our tender-hearted God  
comes as dawn from heaven,  
light for those shadowed by death,  
guide for our feet on the way to peace

## CANTICLE OF MARY

Luke 1:46-55

I boast of God's greatness;  
I delight in my Savior,  
who smiled on this lowly maid.  
Now all peoples call me blest.

For God, wonderful in power,  
has used the strength for me.  
Holy is the Lord!  
whose mercy embraces  
the faithful, one generation to the next.

God's mighty arm strikes  
down the proud, pulls tyrants from thrones,  
but lifts up the poor:  
the starving are filled,  
the rich go hungry.

God rescues lowly Israel,  
remembering the mercy  
promised to our ancestors,  
to Abraham's heirs for ever

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