

# Holy Saturday

Verse O God, come to our aid.

Response 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).

## Hymn

A suitable hymn may be sung, or said.

## Psalmody:

Psalm 4

**Antiphon:** Lord, have mercy and hear me..

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;  
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

O men, how long will your hearts be closed,  
will you love what is futile and seek what is false?

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves;  
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still.  
Make justice your sacrifice and trust in the Lord.

'What can bring us happiness?' many say.  
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

You have put into my heart a greater joy  
than they have from abundance of corn and new wine.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once  
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

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. .

**Antiphon:** Lord, have mercy and hear me..

Psalm 133(134)

**Antiphon:** Bless the Lord through the night.

O come, bless the Lord,  
all you who serve the Lord,  
who stand in the house of the Lord,  
in the courts of our God.

Lift up your hands to the holy place  
and bless the Lord through the night.  
May the Lord bless you from Sion,  
he who made both heaven and earth.

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.

**Antiphon:** Bless the Lord through the night.

## Scripture Reading

From an ancient homily for today.

See, my servant will act wisely;  
he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted  
What is happening? Today there is a great silence over the  
earth, a great silence, and stillness, a great silence because  
the King sleeps;  
the earth was in terror and was still because God slept in  
the flesh and raised up those who were sleeping from the  
ages.

God has died in the flesh, and the underworld has trem-  
bled.  
Truly he goes to seek out our first parent like a lost sheep;  
he wishes to visit those who sit in darkness and in the  
shadow of death.

He goes to free the prisoner Adam and his fellow-prisoner  
Eve from their pains, he who is God, and Adam's son.

## Short Responsory

Response Into your hands, Lord I commend my spirit. R/

Verse You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth. R/

Verse Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. R/

## Canticle

The Nunc Dimittis Luke 2:29-32

Antiphon: Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. (Alleluia)

At last, all powerful Master,  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,

the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Glory be to the Father . . .

Antiphon: Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace. (Alleluia)

## Concluding Prayer

Come to visit us, Lord, this night,  
so that by your strength we may rise at daybreak  
to rejoice in the resurrection of Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

## Blessing

The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. Amen.

## Anthem to our Blessed Lady

The Office usually concludes with an anthem to our Lady, such as the Salve Regina here