

A Method for Reciting the Liturgy of the Hours in Community

Updated February 2018

Items in RED (the rubrics) in the breviary are not spoken aloud.

The Glory to the Father is recited as an ordinary strophe, not split as in the rosary.

The Leader checks that all know the page numbers and where the division is between side one and side two. Wait till all are ready to start. Allow a moment's silence to become recollected.

The Cantors set the pace. All listen closely and stay in harmony.

Morning Prayer

Invitatory

All STAND

Leader: (while all make a small sign of the Cross on the lips) **Lord, open my lips.**

All: And my mouth will proclaim your praise.

Leader: Antiphon. All join in or all repeat (according to local custom)

Leader: recites the strophes, including the Glory to the Father, alone.

All repeat the antiphon between the strophes.

OR use the same method as for the psalmody (according to local custom).

Leader: Antiphon, starts it, all join in

Hymn

Leader or music coordinator begins the hymn, all join in.

Psalmody

All SIT

Cantor I: Antiphon I. All join in or all repeat (according to local custom)

Cantor I: Psalm, begins the first strophe, side one joins in.

Side two takes the second strophe, side one the next strophe, and so on.

Cantor I: Antiphon I, starts it, all join in

(The psalm prayer is optional)

Cantor I or Leader (according to local custom): **Psalm-prayer,** recites it alone.

Cantor II: Antiphon II. All join in or all repeat (according to local custom)

Cantor II: Canticle, begins the first strophe, side two joins in.

Side one takes the second strophe, side two the next strophe, and so on.

Cantor II: Antiphon I, starts it, all join in.

Cantor I: Antiphon III. All join in or all repeat (according to local custom).

Continue the same as above.

Cantor I or Leader (according to local custom): **Psalm-prayer**, recites it alone.

Reading

Reader stands or sits (according to local custom). Use a strong, clear voice.

May say “a reading from...” or not (according to local custom).

Brief pause after the reading.

Responsory

Reader recites the part before the dash. All respond with the part following the dash.

Canticle of Zechariah

All STAND

Leader: Antiphon. All join in or all repeat (according to local custom)

The Canticle (all make the sign of the Cross) may be recited by the Leader, or all together, or in alternate strophes as with the psalmody (according to local custom).

Leader: Antiphon, starts it, all join in.

Intercessions

Leader reads the invitation to prayer (the line in *italics* is optional), reads the lead sentences, not preceded by a red dash. All respond with the parts after the dash.

Individual intentions (optional)

Leader: “And for what else shall we pray?”

Our Father

Leader starts it, all join in.

Closing prayer

Leader recites it alone.

Conclusion

Leader (if there is no priest or deacon present): “May the Lord bless us...”

All join in or not (according to local custom). (All make the sign of the Cross)

Evening Prayer

All STAND

Leader: (all make the sign of the Cross) **God, come to my assistance.**

All: Lord, make haste to help me.

Leader: “**Glory to the Father...**” All: “As it was in the beginning...”

Leader or music coordinator begins the hymn, all join in.

Psalmody

All SIT

Cantor I: Antiphon I. All join in or all repeat (according to local custom)

Cantor I: Psalm, begins the first strophe, side one joins in.

Side two takes the second strophe, side one the next strophe, and so on.

Cantor I: Antiphon I starts it, all join in

(The psalm prayer is optional)

Cantor I or Leader (according to local custom): **Psalm-prayer,** recites it alone.

Cantor II: Antiphon II. All join in or all repeat (according to local custom)

Cantor II: Psalm, begins the first strophe, side two joins in.

Side one takes the second strophe, side two the next strophe, and so on.

Cantor II: Antiphon I, starts it, all join in.

Cantor II or Leader (according to local custom): **Psalm-prayer,** recites it alone.

Cantor I: Antiphon III. All join in or all repeat (according to local custom).

Continue the same as above.

Reading

Reader stands or sits (according to local custom). Use a strong, clear voice.

May say “a reading from...” or not (according to local custom).

Brief pause after the reading.

Responsory

Reader recites the part before the dash. All respond with the part following the dash.

Canticle of Mary

All STAND

Leader: Antiphon. All join in or all repeat (according to local custom)

The Canticle (all make the sign of the Cross) may be recited by the Leader, or all together, or in alternate strophes as with the psalmody (according to local custom).

Leader: Antiphon, starts it, all join in.

Intercessions

Leader reads the invitation to prayer (the line in *italics* is optional), reads the lead sentences, not preceded by a red dash. All respond with the parts after the dash.

Individual intentions (optional)

Leader: “For what else shall we pray?”

Our Father

Leader starts it, all join in.

Closing prayer

Leader Prayer recites alone.

Conclusion

Leader (if there is no priest or deacon present): “May the Lord bless us...”

All join in or not (according to local custom). (All make the sign of the Cross)