Evening Prayer

Friday, February 6, 2004

Saints Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

OPENING

O God, come to my assistance.

Lord, make haste to help me.

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.

HYMN

O Gracious Light

O gracious light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed;
now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Now let our voices join the song of those who stand before your throne,
while evening spreads her peaceful wings
and day's long labor nears its end.

Grant us, O Lord, a quiet night,
a clean heart, and a will made new;
and when the morning light returns,
may we arise and follow you.

PSALMODY

Psalm 116 *Praise the Lord, All Nations*

> *Ant. Praise the Lord, all you nations.*

Praise the Lord, all nations; praise him, all peoples.

For his mercy has been strengthened upon us; and the truth of the Lord remains forever.

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.

> *Ant. Praise the Lord, all you nations.*

Psalm 120 *I Lift My Eyes to the Mountains*

> *Ant. I lift up my eyes to the mountains; from where will my help come?*

I have lifted up my eyes to the mountains, from which help will come to me.

My help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

May he not allow your foot to be moved; may he not slumber who guards you.

Behold, he who guards Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your guardian; the Lord is your protection at your right hand.

The sun will not burn you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord guards you from all evil; may the Lord guard your soul.

May the Lord guard your going out and your coming in, from this time forward and forevermore.

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.

> *Ant. I lift up my eyes to the mountains; from where will my help come?*

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE (REVELATION 5:9–14)

Worthy are you to take the book and to open its seals;

for you were slain, and you have redeemed us for God in your blood.

And you have made us into a kingdom and priests for our God.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

To him who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb: blessing and honor and glory and power, forever and ever.

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.

SHORT READING

1 JOHN 4:16

God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.

RESPONSORY

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

V. Blessed be the name of the Lord,

R. now and forever.

GOSPEL CANTICLE: MAGNIFICAT (LUKE 1:46-55)

THE CANTICLE OF MARY (MAGNIFICAT) (LUKE 1:46–55)

> *Ant. My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.*

My soul magnifies the Lord.

And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

Because he has regarded the humility of his handmaid; for behold, from henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Because he who is powerful has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

And his mercy is from generation to generation for those who fear him.

He has shown might with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.

He has deposed the powerful from their seat, and he has exalted the humble.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has received Israel, his servant, being mindful of his mercy.

As he spoke to our fathers: to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

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.

> *Ant. My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.*

EVENING INTERCESSIONS

As evening comes, let us lift our hearts to God in prayer, saying:

For the holy church throughout the world, that it may be a sign of your love and a servant of your kingdom: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all who exercised authority today, that their decisions may have served justice and the common good: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those who worked in our communities today, especially those whose work is dangerous or poorly rewarded: we pray to you, O Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the sick and the suffering, for the lonely and the grieving, that the evening may bring them comfort: we pray to you, O Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those who will not sleep safely tonight, for the homeless, the hungry, and those in danger, that your providence may reach them: we pray to you, O Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the faithful departed, especially those we remember with love, that they may rest in your peace: we pray to you, O Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as the Lord himself has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, you are the light that no darkness can overcome. As evening falls, let your light guard us from all harm and your love keep us through the night; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless us: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MARIAN ANTIPHON

SALVE REGINA

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy; our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.