Evening Prayer

Tuesday, March 4, 2008

Saint Casimir

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

Lift High the Cross

In the evening of this day, O Lord, we come to you,
contrite hearts and broken spirits, seeking to be made new;
for our sins are heavy burdens, and the way is long and steep;
grant us mercy, Lord, and pardon, as we cry to you and weep.

Let the cross of Jesus be the sign before our eyes,
his great love poured out in sorrow, his great death our sacrifice;
and the stone rolled back in glory, and the tomb forever bare:
this the sign that sins are conquered, this the gift beyond compare.

Now the evening lamps are lighted, and the darkness gathers near;
grant us peace beyond all asking, keep us safe from doubt and fear;
in the night may angels watch us, and at morning may we rise
to the glory of your mercy shining bright before our eyes.

Psalm 137 *I Give Thanks With My Whole Heart*

> *Ant. Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

I will confess to you, O Lord, with my whole heart, for you have heard the words of my mouth.

In the sight of the angels, I will sing to you; I will adore toward your holy temple, and I will confess to your name.

Your mercy and your truth, for you have magnified your holy oracle above all things.

In whatever day I will call upon you, hear me; you will increase virtue in my soul.

Let all the kings of the earth confess to you, O Lord; for they have heard all the words of your mouth.

And let them sing in the ways of the Lord; for the glory of the Lord is great.

For the Lord is exalted, yet he looks toward the humble; and he knows the lofty one from a distance.

If I walk in the midst of tribulation, you will enliven me; and you stretched forth your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand has saved me.

The Lord will repay on my behalf; O Lord, your mercy is forever; do not despise the works of your hands.

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. Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

Psalm 138 *Lord, You Have Searched Me*

> *Ant. Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

Lord, you have examined me and known me.

You have known my sitting down and my rising up.

You have understood my thoughts from afar; my path and my way of life you have investigated.

And you have foreseen all my ways; for there is no word on my tongue.

Behold, O Lord, you have known all things, the last and the first.

You have formed me, and you have placed your hand over me.

Knowledge of you has become a wonder to me; it has been made strong, and I am not able to attain it.

Where will I go from your spirit? And where will I flee from your face?

If I ascend into heaven, you are there; if I descend into hell, you are present.

If I take up my wings in early morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

even there your hand will lead me, and your right hand will hold me.

And I said: "Perhaps darkness will trample me down," and night will be my illumination in my delights.

For darkness will not be made dark by you, and night will be made bright like the day; as its darkness, so also its light.

For you have possessed my inmost being; you have received me from the womb of my mother.

I will confess to you, for you are fearfully magnified; your works are wonderful, as my soul knows very well.

My bone, which you made in secret, is not hidden from you, and my substance is in the lower regions of the earth.

Your eyes foresaw my imperfection, and all will be written in your book.

The days will be formed, and no one else is in them.

But to me, your friends have been greatly honored, O God; their principality has been greatly strengthened.

I will number them, and they will be multiplied beyond the sand.

I rose up and I am still with you.

But if only you would slay the wicked, O God; you men of blood, depart from me.

For you say in thought: "They will receive your cities in vain."

Have I not hated those who hate you, O Lord; and have I not wasted away over your enemies?

I have hated them with perfect hatred; they have become enemies to me.

Try me, O God, and know my heart; examine me, and know my paths.

And see if there is any way of iniquity in me, and lead me along the eternal way.

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. Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE (REVELATION 15:3–4)

Great and wonderful are your works, O Lord God Almighty.

Just and true are your ways, O King of the ages.

Who will not fear you, O Lord, and glorify your name?

For you alone are holy.

For all nations will approach and adore in your sight,

because your judgments have been made manifest.

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

HEBREWS 4:15–16

We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

RESPONSORY

V. Turn to me, O Lord, and have mercy on me.

R. Give your strength to your servant.

V. Do not forsake me, O Lord;

R. be not far from me, O my God.

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

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

> *Ant. Turn to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness.*

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. Turn to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness.*

EVENING INTERCESSIONS

At the close of this Lenten day, let us lay our prayers before the Lord, saying:

For the church, that this Lenten season may lead to a deeper love of God and neighbor: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, have mercy.*

For catechumens preparing for Easter baptism, that their formation in faith may be fruitful: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, have mercy.*

For those suffering from addiction, violence, or poverty, that they may find relief and support: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, have mercy.*

For those we have hurt or neglected, that God may heal the wounds we have caused: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, have mercy.*

For all who are dying, that they may face death with hope and peace: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, have mercy.*

For the faithful departed, that they may come to the fullness of life: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, have mercy.*

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

God of compassion, have mercy on us and on all sinners. Turn our hearts toward you in this holy season and grant us the grace of true repentance; through Christ our Lord. 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

AVE REGINA CAELORUM

Hail, O Queen of heaven enthroned! Hail, by angels Mistress owned! Root of Jesse, Gate of morn, whence the world's true Light was born: glorious Virgin, joy to thee, loveliest whom in heaven they see: fairest thou where

all are fair, plead with Christ our sins to spare.