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Morning and Evening Prayer in the Vincentian Community: In dialogue with the Father, in communion with Christ, and in the love of the Holy Spirit

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MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER IN THE VINCENTIAN COMMUNITY

In dialogue with the Father, in communion with Christ,
and in the love of the Holy Spirit

I VARIOUS ROLES

Each role should be carried out by different persons so that the celebration fits together as a harmonious collaborative effort of the community. Therefore, the accumulation of ministries by a single person should be avoided. All should be disposed to collaborate actively so as to contribute to the community's prayer.

1. Presider: begins the opening verse, tells what method to use in praying the Psalms, begins the antiphons, introduces the petitions, begins the Lord's Prayer, says the concluding prayer and (if a priest) gives the final blessing and dismisses the assembly.
2. Psalmist (or Soloist): proclaims all or part of a psalm or a canticle.
3. Reader: proclaims the "short reading," begins the responsory, and reads the petitions.
4. Intoner of the psalms: begins the individual psalms by reciting or singing the first verse.

II PSALMODY

The manner of praying the psalms can be varied according to the literary genre of the psalms themselves (*General Instruction on the Liturgy of the Hours*, 121-123, 279). A very helpful indication comes from the title given to each psalm, and especially from the brief introduction (didascalia), in italic type, taken generally from the Church Fathers. The theme thus highlighted can help the presider choose one of the modes of praying the psalms listed below. It is also good to take into account the length of the psalm, the makeup of the particular assembly, whether it is a feast day or not, etc.

Examples:

- a) verses recited by 2 alternating choirs: psalms pertaining to the People of God as a whole;
- b) psalm proclaimed in its entirety by a psalmist (or soloist): messianic and Christological psalms, or those expressive of the particular situation of

the author of the psalm;

- c) psalm in which verses are alternated between a psalmist and the assembly: psalms that pertain to any of the situations described above in a and b;
- d) psalm proclaimed by a psalmist with the antiphon repeated by the assembly after each verse or every two verses: psalms that pertain to the situations indicated in a and b;
- e) psalm proclaimed by the whole assembly together: very brief psalms that pertain to the People of God as a whole.

III STYLE OF PROCLAMATION

Whether reciting or singing the psalms, one should maintain:

- 1) a rigorous respect for the pauses indicated by the asterisk (*) and the flexa (†);
- 2) a rhythmic togetherness in praying the psalms in common, without jumping ahead or lagging behind.

IV THE USE OF SONG

Since our morning and evening prayer are liturgical acts, the use of song is indicated for the Liturgy of the Hours. Singing engages us in a fuller way as a worshiping community (cf. *General Instruction on the Liturgy of the Hours*, 270) as we praise and thank God. It is especially appropriate for solemnities and feasts, but is also helpful (with sobriety) in ordinary circumstances.

In Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer, almost any part can be sung: the opening verse, the hymn, the psalms and canticles (including the Benedictus and the Magnificat), and the Lord's Prayer. In practice, it is helpful to underline one or the other element, making the choice according to the circumstances and the capability of the assembly. If possible, the hymn should always be sung.

In singing one should be attentive to the asterisk and the flexa, as mentioned above, and one should pay particular attention to rhythm, to pitch, and to timing, according to the nature of the text and the melody.

Heaviness and slowness are to be avoided at all costs when singing in common, because they make the singing deadly and unappealing.

V SILENCE

The insertion of a brief meditative pause after each psalm and of a slightly longer pause after the short reading allows us to pray silently. Before the Lord's Prayer, a pause is made to provide space for spontaneous intercessions.

SUGGESTED WAYS OF PRAYING THE PSALMS IN COMMON

FIRST WEEK

SUNDAY

Evening Prayer I

Ps 141, 1-9

Soloist

Ps 142

Soloist; the assembly repeats the antiphon after each

verse

Cant - Phil 2, 6-11

Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

Morning Prayer

Ps 63

2 soloists

Cant - Dn 3

Soloist and the assembly as a litany

Ps 149

Sung

Evening Prayer II

Ps 110, 1-5,7

2 soloists (2nd, the words of God)

Ps 114

2 choirs

Cant - Rv 19, 1-7

Sung

MONDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 5, 2-10, 12-13

2 soloists

Cant - 1 Chr 29, 10-13

Sung

Ps 29

2 soloists

Evening Prayer

Ps 11

Soloist to the end of quotation; the assembly the rest

Ps 15

Soloist 1st verse; 2nd soloist to the end

Cant - Eph 1, 3-10

Sung

TUESDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 24	Soloist the questions; the assembly the rest
Cant - Tb 13, 1-8	2 choirs
Ps 33	Sung

Evening Prayer

Ps 20	2 choirs
Sal 21, 2-8,14	Between soloist and the assembly
Cant - Rv 4, 11; 5, 9,10,12	2 soloists.

WEDNESDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 36	Soloist 1-3; 2 nd soloist the rest
Cant - Jdt 16, 2-3;13-15	Sung, or 2 choirs
Sal 47	Sung, or 2 choirs

Evening Prayer

Ps 27, 1-6	2 soloists
Ps 27, 7-14	2 soloists
Cant - Col 1, 12-20	Sung

THURSDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 57	2 soloists
Cant - Jer 31, 10-14	2 soloists (one who speaks the "I" parts)
Sal 48	2 choirs

Evening Prayer

Ps 30	2 soloists
Ps 32	Soloist; the assembly repeats the antiphon after each verse
Cant - Rv 11, 17-18; 12, 10b-12a	Sung, or 2 choirs

FRIDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 51	Between soloist and the assembly
Cant - Is 45, 15-26	2 soloists
Ps 100	Sung

Evening Prayer
Ps 41 1st soloist v 1-3; 2nd soloist the rest
Ps 46 Between soloist and the assembly
Cant - Rv 15, 3-4 Sung

SATURDAY

Morning Prayer
Ps 119, 145-152 2 soloists
Cant - Ex 15, 1-4a,
8-13, 17-18 Sung
Sal 117 Sung

SECOND WEEK

SUNDAY

Evening Prayer I
Ps 119, 105-112 2 soloists
Ps 16 Soloist
Cant - Phil 2, 6-11 Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

Morning Prayer
Sal 118 Between soloist and the assembly
Cant - Dn 3, 32-57 Sung, or between soloist and the assembly as a litany
Ps 150 Sung

Evening Prayer II
Ps 110, 1-5, 7 2 soloists (2nd, the words of God)
Ps 115 2 choirs
Cant - Rv 19, 1-7 Sung

MONDAY

Morning Prayer
Ps 42 2 soloists
Cant - Sir 36, 1-5, 10-13 2 choirs
Ps 19A Sung

Evening Prayer
Ps 45, 2-10 1st soloist
Ps 45, 11-18 2nd soloist
Cant - Eph 1, 3-10 Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

TUESDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 43	2 soloists
Cant - Is 38, 10-14,17-20	Soloist
Ps 65	2 choirs

Evening Prayer

Ps 49, 1-13	2 soloists
Ps 49, 14-21	2 choirs
Cant - Rv 4, 11 ;5, 9-10,12	2 soloists

WEDNESDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 77	2 soloists
Cant - 1 Sm 2, 1-10	Sung, or between soloist and the assembly
Ps 97	2 choirs

Evening Prayer

Ps 62	2 soloists
Ps 67	Soloist; the assembly sings or recites verses 2 and 4
Cant - Col 1, 12-20	Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

THURSDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 80	Soloist; the assembly recites verses beginning "God of hosts"
Cant - Is 12, 1-6	2 choirs
Ps 81	Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

Evening Prayer

Ps 72,1-11	Between soloist and the assembly
Ps 72,12-19	Between soloist and the assembly
Cant - Rv 11, 17-18; 12,10b-12a	Sung, or 2 choirs

FRIDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 51 2 soloists
Cant - Hb 3, 2-4,13a,15-19 2 choirs
Ps 147 Sung

Evening Prayer

Ps 116, 1-9 Between soloist and the assembly
Ps 121 2 choirs
Cant - Rv 15, 3-4 Sung

SATURDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 92 Sung
Cant - Dt 32, 1-12 2 soloists
Ps 8 Sung

THIRD WEEK

SUNDAY

Evening Prayer I

Ps 113 2 choirs
Ps 116 Soloist
Cant Phil 2, 6-11 Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

Morning Prayer

Ps 93 2 choirs
Cant - Dn 3, 57-88,56 Between soloist and the assembly as a litany
Ps 148 Sung

Evening Prayer II

Ps 110, 1-5,7 2 soloists (2nd, the words of God)
Ps 111 2 choirs
Cant - Rv 19, 1-7 Sung

MONDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 84 Sung, or 2 choirs
Cant - Is 2, 2-5 2 soloists
Ps 96 Sung

Evening Prayer	
Ps 123	Soloist
Ps 124	2 choirs
Cant - Eph 1, 3-10	Sung

TUESDAY

Morning Prayer	
Ps 85	2 choirs
Cant - Is 26, 1-4, 7-9, 12	2 choirs
Ps 67	Soloist, the assembly sings or recites verses 2 and 4

Evening Prayer	
Ps 125	2 choirs
Ps 131	Soloist
Cant - Rv 4, 11; 5, 9-10,12	2 soloists

WEDNESDAY

Morning Prayer	
Ps 86	Between soloist and the assembly
Cant - Is 33, 13-16	2 soloists
Ps 98	Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

Evening Prayer	
Ps 126	2 choirs
Ps 127	2 soloists
Cant - Col 1, 12-20	Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

THURSDAY

Morning Prayer	
Ps 87	2 soloists
Cant - Is 40, 10-17	Between soloist and the assembly
Ps 99	Between soloist and the assembly

Evening Prayer	
Ps 132, 1-10	2 Soloists (2 nd , the text in quotation marks)
Ps 132, 11-18	2 Soloists (2 nd , the text in quotation marks)
Cant - Rv 11, 17-18; 12, 10b-12a	Sung, or 2 choirs

FRIDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 51	2 soloists
Cant - Jer 14, 17-21	Between soloist and the assembly
Ps 100	Sung, or 2 choirs

Evening Prayer

Ps 135, 1-12	2 choirs
Ps 135, 13-21	2 choirs
Cant - Rv 15, 3-4	Sung

SATURDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 119, 145-152	2 soloists
Cant - Wis 9, 1-6, 9-11	2 choirs
Ps 117	Sung

FOURTH WEEK

SUNDAY

Evening Prayer I

Ps 122	Sung
Ps 130	2 soloists
Cant Phil 2, 6-11	Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

Morning Prayer

Ps 118	Between soloist and the assembly
Cant - Dn 3, 52-57	Between soloist and the assembly as a litany
Ps 150	Sung

Evening Prayer II

Ps 110, 1-5. 7	2 soloists (2 nd , the words of God)
Ps 112	2 choirs
Cant - Rv 19, 1-7	Sung

MONDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 90	2 choirs
Cant - Is 42, 10-16	Soloist
Ps 135, 1-12	Sung, or 2 choirs

Evening Prayer

Ps 136, 1-9	Between soloist and the assembly as a litany
Ps 136, 10-26	Between soloist and the assembly as a litany
Cant - Eph 1,3-10	Sung

TUESDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 101	2 soloists
Cant - Dn 3,26-27.29.34-41	2 choirs
Ps 144, 1-10	Soloist

Evening Prayer

Ps 137, 1-6	Soloist
Ps 138	Between soloist and the assembly
Cant - Rv 4, 11; 5, 9-10,12	Sung

WEDNESDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 108	2 soloists (2 nd , what is in quotation marks)
Cant - Is 61, 10 - 62, 5	Between soloist and the assembly
Ps 146	2 choirs

Evening Prayer

Ps 139, 1-12	Between soloist and the assembly
Ps 139, 13-18, 23-24	Between soloist and the assembly
Cant - Col 1, 12-20	Sung, or between soloist and the assembly

THURSDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 143, 1-11	2 soloists
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Cant - Is 66, 10-14a	Soloist
Ps 147, 1-11	Sung

Evening Prayer

Ps 144, 1-8	2 choirs
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Ps 144, 9-15	2 choirs
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Cant - Rv 11, 17-18; 12, 10b-12a	Sung, or 2 choirs
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FRIDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 51	2 soloists
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Cant - Tb 13, 8-11, 13-15	2 choirs
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Ps 147	Sung
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Evening Prayer

Ps 145, 1-13	2 soloists
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Ps 145, 14-21	2 soloists
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Cant - Rv 15, 3-4	Sung
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SATURDAY

Morning Prayer

Ps 92	Sung
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Cant - Ez 36, 24-28	Soloist
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Ps 8	Sung
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(Translator: Robert J. Stone, C.M.)