

# MIDDAY PRAYER

Wednesday of the 25th Week in Ordinary Time

Wednesday, September 23, 2015

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle  
Washington, DC

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POPE FRANCIS

*with the*

*Catholic Bishops of the United States*

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# PRELUDE

## Duo Seraphim

Jacobus Gallus (Handl)  
(1550–1591)

*Two Seraphim proclaimed to each other,  
“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord, the God of power and might.”  
Heaven and earth are full of his glory.*

## Os Justi

Anton Bruckner  
(1824–1896)

*The mouths of the just speak of wisdom; their tongues  
tell what is just. God’s law is in their hearts; their steps  
will be saved from stumbling. Alleluia.*

## Tout puissant (from 4 petites prières de St. François d’Assise)

Francis Poulenc  
(1899–1963)

*Almighty, most holy, most high and sovereign God;  
To you, who alone are universal and all good, we offer praise, glory, gratitude, honor,  
blessing; May we forever bring to you everything that is good. Amen.*

## Seigneur, Je Vous en Prie (from 4 petites prières de St. François d’Assise)

Francis Poulenc  
(1899–1963)

*Lord, I pray, that the burning and gentle power of your love absorbs my soul  
And removes it from all that is lower than heaven,  
So that I may die of love for your love  
Since you have chosen to die for love of my love.*

## Toccata in F Major, BuxWV 156

Dieterich Buxtehude  
(c. 1637–1707)

## Ave Maria

Gustav Holst  
(1874–1934)

## Psalm 92

Robert LeBlanc  
(b. 1948)

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord. It is good to praise your name, O Lord Most high.*

## Hymne à la Vierge

Pierre Villette  
(1926–1998)

*O beautiful Virgin Mary, in God your soul discovers perfect love.  
It cloaks you with the mantle of Grace like a betrothed adorned with her jewels.*

*Alleluia, alleluia. I will sing your praise, Lord, for you have looked after me,  
For you have covered me with the veil of innocence, for you have made me before the day,  
For you have made me go before the gushing of fountains.*

*You were born before the hills, O wisdom of God, the way to salvation.  
Happy is he who walks in your footsteps, who prepares his heart to listen to your advice.*

*You were present before the stars, Mother of the Creator, in the very depths of heaven.  
When God was creating the world, working with Him you shared His heart.*

## O Bone Jesu

Fernando Moruja  
(1960–2004)

*O blessed Jesus, have mercy on us.  
For you have created us and redeemed us by your most precious blood.*

## Adagio (from Sinfonia Festiva)

Daniel Gawthrop  
(b. 1949)

## Notre Père

Maurice Durufle  
(1902–1986)

# THE ORDER OF CELEBRATION

## ARRIVAL

The Holy Father is greeted at the main entrance to the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle by the rector. He proceeds down the main aisle to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for a brief time of private prayer. He then proceeds through the sanctuary to the sacristy to vest for Midday Prayer.

## PROCESSION

The Holy Father proceeds with the other ministers to his chair, as the choir sings.

**Tu Es Petrus**

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina  
(1525–1594)

## INTRODUCTORY VERSE

Making the Sign of the Cross, the Holy Father says the Introductory Verse.

The Holy Father:

Deus, in adiutórium meum inténde.

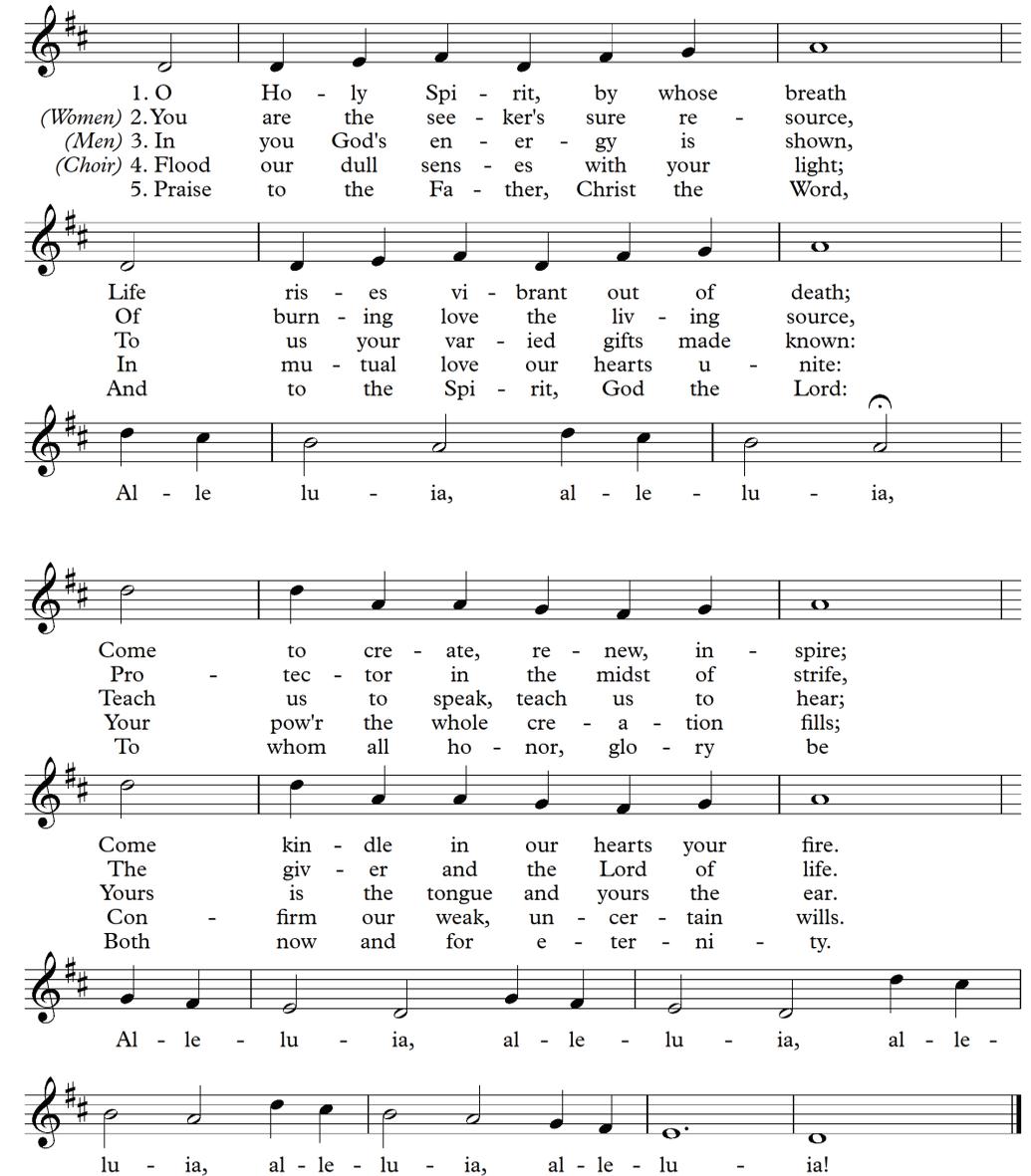
**R/. Dómine, ad adiuvándum me festína.**

Glória Patri et Fílio et Spirítui Sancto.

**R/. Sicut erat in princípío et nunc et semper,  
et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Allelúia.**

## HYMN

### O Holy Spirit by Whose Breath



1. O Ho - ly Spi - rit, by whose breath  
(Women) 2. You are the see - ker's sure re - source,  
(Men) 3. In you God's en - er - gy is shown,  
(Choir) 4. Flood our dull sens - es with your light;  
5. Praise to the Fa - ther, Christ the Word,  
Life ris - es vi - brant out of death;  
Of burn - ing love the liv - ing source,  
To us your var - ied gifts made known:  
In mu - tual love our hearts u - nite:  
And to the Spi - rit, God the Lord:  
Al - le lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
Come to cre - ate, re - new, in - spire;  
Pro - tec - tor in the midst of strife,  
Teach us to speak, teach us to hear;  
Your pow'r the whole cre - a - tion fills;  
To whom all ho - nor, glo - ry be  
Come kin - dle in our hearts your fire.  
The giv - er and the Lord of life.  
Yours is the tongue and yours the ear.  
Con - firm our weak, un - cer - tain wills.  
Both now and for e - ter - ni - ty.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: *Veni Creator Spiritus*; attr. to Rabanus Maurus (776-865); trans. by John W. Grant (1919-2006)  
Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623; arr. Julian Wachner (b. 1969)

Following the hymn, all are seated. The choir leads the chanting of the Psalmody with their proper antiphons.

# PSALMODY

## Antiphon I

*Cantor, then assembly*



Lord, may you be for ev-er blessed; teach me the ways of holiness.

### Psalm 119:9-16 II (Beth)



**Schola:** How shall the young remain sinless?  
By obeying your word.  
I have sought you with all my heart:  
let me not stray from your commands.

**All:** I treasure your promise in my heart  
lest I sin against you.  
Blessed are you, O Lord;  
teach me your statutes.

**Schola:** With my tongue I have recounted  
the decrees of your lips.  
I rejoiced to do your will  
as though all riches were mine.

**All:** I will ponder all your precepts  
and consider your paths.  
I take delight in your statutes;  
I will not forget your word.

**All:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be for ever. Amen.

## Antiphon

*Schola, then all repeat*



Lord, may you be for ev-er blessed; teach me the ways of holiness.

**A moment of silent prayer follows.**

## Antiphon II

*Cantor, then assembly, and following each verse.*



### Psalm 17

#### I

Lord, hear a cause that is just,  
pay heed to my cry.  
Turn your ear to my prayer:  
no deceit is on my lips.

From you may my judgment come forth.  
Your eyes discern the truth. (*Antiphon*)

You search my heart, you visit me by night.  
You test me and you find in me no wrong.  
My words are not sinful as are men's words.

I kept from violence because of your word,  
I kept my feet in your paths;  
there was no faltering in my steps. (*Antiphon*)

I am here and I call, you will hear me, O God.  
Turn your ear to me; hear my words.  
Display your great love, you whose right hand saves  
your friends from those who rebel against them.

Guard me as the apple of your eye.  
Hide me in the shadow of your wings  
from the violent attack of the wicked. (*Antiphon*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be for ever. Amen. (*Antiphon*)

A moment of silent prayer follows.

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## Antiphon III

Rise up, O Lord, and rescue me. (*Choir only*)

### Psalm 17

#### II



**Cantor:** My foes encircle me with deadly intent.\*  
Their hearts tight shut, their mouths speak proudly.

**All:** They advance against me,\*  
and now they surround me.

**Cantor:** Their eyes are watching to strike me to the ground\*  
as though they were lions ready to claw /  
or like some young lion crouched in hiding.

**All:** Lord, arise, confront them, strike them down!\*  
Let your sword rescue my soul from the wicked;

**Cantor:** let your hand, O Lord, rescue me from men,\*  
from men whose reward is in this present life.

**All:** You give them their fill of your treasures:\*  
they rejoice in abundance of offspring /  
and leave their wealth to their children.

**Cantor:** As for me, in my justice I shall see your face\*  
and be filled, when I awake, with the sight of your glory.

**All:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son,\*  
and to the Holy Spirit;

**All:** as it was in the beginning, is now,\*  
and will be for ever. Amen.

## Antiphon

Rise up, O Lord, and rescue me. (*Choir only*)

A moment of silent prayer follows.

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## READING

**1 Peter 1:15-16**

Become holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct,  
after the likeness of the holy One who called you;  
remember, Scripture says, "Be holy, for I am holy."

## HOMILY

## RESPONSE

May your priests be robed with holiness.

**R/. Let your people dance for joy.**

## PRAYER

The Holy Father:

Oremus.

Omnípotens et miséricors Deus,  
qui nos die média respiráre concédis,  
quos cópimus propítius intuére labóres,  
et, sanans quæ delíquimus,  
fac eos ad finem tibi plácitum perveníre.

Per Christum Dóminum nostrum.

**R/. Amen.**

## FINAL BLESSING

The liturgy concludes with the Pontifical Blessing.

The Holy Father:

Dóminus vobíscum.

**R/. Et cum spíritu tuo.**

Sit nomen Dómini benedíctum.

**R/. Ex hoc nunc et usque in sáeculum.**

Adiutórium nostrum in nómine Dómini.

**R/. Qui fecit cælum et terram.**

Benedícat vos omnípotens Deus,  
Pater, ✠ et Fílius, ✠ et Spíritus ✠ Sanctus.

**R/. Amen.**

## REMARKS

Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, and the Most Rev. Joseph E. Kurtz, archbishop of Louisville and president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, offer remarks.

The Holy Father then greets a selected group of bishops and officials from the USCCB at the sanctuary gates, and then returns to the sacristy.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

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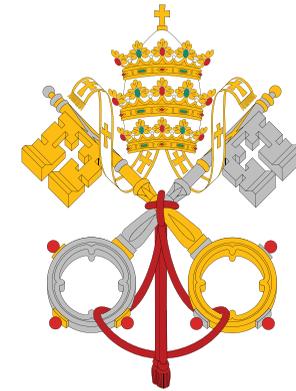
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