



A MONTH OF READINGS ON THE

PRECIOUS BLOOD

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*The month of the
Precious Blood should be
preached daily in our churches
and we should not
be looking for needless
excuses....*

(Ven. Giovanni Merlini)

INTRODUCTION

I suspect that Merlini's admonition to the Missionaries of the Precious Blood might have something to do with wondering where they would get enough material for a month's worth of sermons. With this contribution, appearing many years after its long-unavailable predecessor, I hope to assist those committed to the spirituality of the Precious Blood to deepen their acquaintance with the richness of reflection on a topic dear to them from a variety of authors. I hope too that observance of the month traditionally dedicated to the mystery of Christ's Blood might likewise be enhanced by this volume's encouragement to do so prayerfully after the model of the Office of Readings from the Liturgy of the Hours. To that end it follows the familiar pattern of invitatory-hymn-psalms-readings-responsory-collect. The readings from Scripture follow a one-year cursus while those taken from other sources follow a three-year cycle according to the Sunday Lectionary patterns of Years A, B and C. Among these latter writings, I have tried to include voices that are familiar as well as some that, hopefully, will be new to readers. The psalms and, in particular, its antiphons are taken from a little-known 2014 recording of an office composed in honor of a reputed relic of the Precious Blood in Norway. The entire composition, sung by the Schola Sanctae Sunnivae, entitled *In festo susceptionis sanguinis Domini* is readily available from vendors such as Amazon and the entire text of the liturgy with English translation can be found at <http://www.2L.no/e-book/2L114.pdf>.

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INVITATORY

(The following "Canticle of the Blood" may be used daily as an Invitatory)

*Come,
let us adore Christ, the Son of God,
who has redeemed us with his blood.*

Clap your hands, all you peoples,
sing unto God with a voice of jubilation.

For you, God, glorious and mighty,
have shown us mercy.

You have not spared your only Son,
but delivered him up in our behalf.

That you might redeem us
from our sins in Christ's own blood;

That justified in the blood of Jesus
you might turn your anger from us;

That we who were separated
might be reconciled through the blood of Christ.

O God, my God, what can I render to you
for all the good you have bestowed upon me?

I will take the chalice of salvation,
and I will call upon the power of Christ's blood.

Sing to Jesus, all you saints,
and make known the memory of his holiness.

For Christ indeed has loved us and washed us in his blood
and has become our helper and redeemer.

May Christ be blessed forever
who has wrought such wonders in us.

Blessed be Jesus for all ages,
and may the heavens and the earth be filled with the praises of
his love.

*Come, let us adore Christ, the Son of God,
who has redeemed us with his blood.*

Amen.

(St. Maria de Mattias, +1866)

HYMNS

Use any of the follow hymns at choice

Grant, Lord, that we, your servants all,
Saved by the tide of cleansing Blood,
No more 'neath sin's dominion fall
Nor fear the thought of death's dark flood!

Your varied love each spirit bless,
The humble cheer, the proud control;
Check in each heart its vain excess,
But raise the meek and humble soul.

This favor, Father, we entreat;
This blessing, grant, eternal Son
And Holy Spirit, Paraclete,
Both now and while the ages run.



What shall I offer to the Lord
His praises to proclaim?
The saving cup I will take up
And call upon God's name.

The blood of calves or rams or goats
Could never cleanse our sin.
For only Christ's blood without price
Can wash the heart within.

How precious in the eyes of God
The sacrifice of faith!
Your servant Lord, was Christ your Son,
Your servant to his death.

I eat his flesh and drink his blood:
Our mystic unity.
So may I be your servant, too.
So may you set me free.

Then I shall call upon your name
In thankfulness and praise,
And drink of everlasting life
For everlasting days.



No Weight of Gold or Silver

Glory Be to Jesus, Who in Bitter Pains

The Lamb's High Banquet Called to Share

Rock of Ages, Cleft For Me

PSALMODY

Series I

Antiphon 1

Author of everyone's salvation, Jesus, who are our refuge, We, your servants, bowing and unworthy, call upon you, those whom you thought worthy to redeem with your own blood, see fit to unite us with the companies of the patriarchs.



Psalm 8

How great is your name, O Lord our God, *
through all the earth!

Your majesty is praised above the heavens; *
on the lips of children and of babes
you have found praise to foil your enemy, *
to silence the foe and the rebel.

When I see the heavens, the work of your hands, *
the moon and the stars which you arranged,
what is man that you should keep him in mind, *
mortal man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him little less than a god; *
with glory and honor you crowned him,
gave him power over the works of your hands, *
put all things under his feet.

All of them, sheep and cattle, *
yes, even the savage beasts,
birds of the air, and fish *
that make their way through the waters.

How great is your name, O Lord our God *
through all the earth!

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.



PSALMODY

Series I

Antiphon 2

The city is truly blessed which your Godhead illuminates, Jerusalem adorned with celestial stones, into whose dwellings deem it fit to lead us, whom you set free, Lord Jesus, with your blood.



Psalm 19A

The heavens proclaim the glory of God *
and the firmament shows forth the work of his hands.
Day unto day takes up the story *
and night unto night makes known the message.

No speech, no word, no voice is heard †
yet their span extends through all the earth, *
their words to the utmost bounds of the world.

There he has placed a tent for the sun; †
it comes forth like a bridegroom coming from his tent, *
rejoices like a champion to run its course.

At the end of the sky is the rising of the sun; †
to the furthest end of the sky is its course. *
There is nothing concealed from its burning heat.

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.



PSALMODY

Series I

Antiphon 3

Most merciful Lord, who for the sake of our wretchedness endured the punishment of death at the hands of the wicked, set free from the infernal abyss those you have redeemed and blot out all their sins in lasting oblivion, those for whom you gave up your revered body and poured forth your precious blood.



Psalm 24

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, *
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas; *
on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? *
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart, †
who desires not worthless things, *
who has not sworn so as to deceive his neighbor.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord *
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him, *
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

O gates, lift high your heads; †
grow higher, ancient doors. *
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory? †
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant, *
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads; †
grow higher, ancient doors. *
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is he, the king of glory? †
He, the Lord of armies, *
he is the king of glory.

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.



PSALMODY

Series II

Antiphon 1

Lord, Almighty King, from the princes of darkness and from the regions of punishment free your humble servants, for whom you paid the price of your blood. Lord Christ, lead us to the fellowship of your elect, with whom we may rejoice forever.



Psalm 46

God is for us a refuge and strength, *
a helper close at hand, in time of distress:
so we shall not fear though the earth should rock, *
though the mountains fall into the depths of the sea,
even though its waters rage and foam, *
even though the mountains be shaken by its waves.

The Lord of hosts is with us: *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

The waters of a river give joy to God's city, *
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
God is within, it cannot be shaken; *
God will help it at the dawning of the day.
Nations are in tumult, kingdoms are shaken: *
he lifts his voice, the earth shrinks away.

The Lord of hosts is with us: *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come, consider the works of the Lord, *
the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth.
He puts an end to wars over all the earth; †
the bow he breaks, the spear he snaps. *
He burns the shields with fire.
"Be still and know that I am God, *
supreme among the nations, supreme on the earth!"

The Lord of hosts is with us: *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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



PSALMODY

Series II

Antiphon 2

Guard your flock, Lord, you who deigned to assume the cross for the sake of mankind, shedding your blood as the price of our salvation. Alleluia.



Psalm 100

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. †
Serve the Lord with gladness. *
Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God. †
He made us, we belong to him, *
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Go within his gates, giving thanks. †
Enter his courts with songs of praise. *
Give thanks to him and bless his name.

Indeed, how good is the Lord, †
eternal his merciful love. *
He is faithful from age to age.

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 3

Have compassion on your servants, most bounteous God, that they may be among the number of your elect, whom you deigned to redeem with your own blood.

Psalm 72

O God, give your judgment to the king, *
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice *
and your poor in right judgment.

May the mountains bring forth peace for the people *
and the hills, justice.
May he defend the poor of the people †
and save the children of the needy *
and crush the oppressor.

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PSALMODY

Series II

Psalm 72 (continued)

He shall endure like the sun and the moon *
from age to age.
He shall descend like rain on the meadow, *
like raindrops on the earth.

In his days justice shall flourish *
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea, *
from the Great River to earth's bounds.
Before him his enemies shall fall, *
his foes lick the dust.
The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts *
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba *
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, *
all nations shall serve him.

For he shall save the poor when they cry *
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak *
and save the lives of the poor.

From oppression he will rescue their lives, *
to him their blood is dear. Long may he live, *
may the gold of Sheba be given him.
They shall pray for him without ceasing *
and bless him all the day.

May corn be abundant in the land *
to the peaks of the mountains.
May its fruit rustle like Lebanon; †
may men flourish in the cities *
like grass on the earth.

May his name be blessed for ever *
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him, *
all nations bless his name.
Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel, *
who alone works wonders,
ever blessed his glorious name. *
Let his glory fill the earth.
Amen! Amen!

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.

PSALMODY

Series III

Antiphon 1

May the grace of God, through Jesus Christ, who freed us with the price of His blood free us from the princes of darkness and set us in the celestial home, rejoicing with Him in everlasting glory.



Psalm 96

O sing a new song to the Lord, †
sing to the Lord, all the earth. *
O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

Proclaim his help day by day, †
tell among the nations his glory *
and his wonders among all the peoples.

The Lord is great and worthy of praise, †
to be feared above all gods; *
the gods of the heathens are naught.

It was the Lord who made the heavens, †
his are majesty and state and power *
and splendor in his holy place.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples, †
give the Lord glory and power, *
give the Lord the glory of his name.

Bring an offering and enter his courts, †
worship the Lord in his temple. *
O earth, tremble before him.

Proclaim to the nations: "God is king." †
The world he made firm in its place; *
he will judge the peoples in fairness.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, *
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears rejoice, *
all the trees of the wood shout for joy

at the presence of the Lord for he comes, *
he comes to rule the earth.
With justice he will rule the world, *
he will judge the peoples with his truth.

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.



PSALMODY

Series III

Antiphon 2

Lord, fount of mercy, in which is washed away the contamination of our sins, graciously succour your redeemed family; and having redeemed them with the shedding of your precious blood, after their human life, with their sins remitted, benignly grant them, good shepherd, a place in Paradise.



Psalm 96

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed; †
the Lord has robed himself with might, *
he has girded himself with power.

The world you made firm, not to be moved; †
your throne has stood firm from of old. *
From all eternity, O Lord, you are.

The waters have lifted up, O Lord, †
the waters have lifted up their voice, *
the waters have lifted up their thunder.

Greater than the roar of mighty waters †
more glorious than the surgings of the sea, *
the Lord is glorious on high.

Truly your decrees are to be trusted. †
Holiness is fitting to your house, *
O Lord, until the end of time.

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.



PSALMODY

Series III

Antiphon 3

Hail, King of kings and Lord, who loved your flock solely through your tenderness and did not shrink from being the reviled object on the cross. Hail, our sweet Lord, our cure and our curer. O most holy Lord, we beg to be preserved by your blood, we for whose sake you became the death of hell.



Psalm 99

The Lord is king; the peoples tremble. †
He is throned on the cherubim; the earth quakes. *
The Lord is great in Zion.

He is supreme over all the peoples. †
Let them praise his name, so terrible and great. *
He is holy, full of power.

You are a king who loves what is right; †
you have established equity, justice and right; *
you have established them in Jacob.

Exalt the Lord our God; †
bow down before Zion, his footstool. *
He the Lord is holy.

Among his priests were Aaron and Moses, †
among those who invoked his name was Samuel. *
They invoked the Lord and he answered.

To them he spoke in the pillar of cloud. †
They did his will; they kept the law, *
which he, the Lord, had given.

O Lord our God, you answered them. †
For them you were a God who forgives; *
yet you punished all their offenses.

Exalt the Lord our God; †
bow down before his holy mountain *
for the Lord our God is holy.

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.



COLLECTS

Use one of the following at choice

Almighty and eternal God, you have appointed your only-begotten Son the Redeemer of the world, and willed to be appeased by his Blood. Grant we beg of you, that we may worthily adore this price of our salvation, and through its power be safeguarded from the evils of the present life, so that we may rejoice in its fruits forever in heaven. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.
(Feast of the Precious Blood; Traditional)



Father, who through the blood of Jesus your Son, the Lamb sacrificed on the cross, redeemed us, sanctified us, and made us your people; grant that all may accept this gift of your love, celebrate it joyfully in the Spirit, and drink of it in the Eucharistic chalice, the sign of your covenant and blessing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
(Feast of the Precious Blood; Contemporary)

O God, who by the Precious Blood of your Only Begotten Son have redeemed the whole world, preserve in us the work of your mercy, so that, ever honoring the mystery of our salvation, we may merit to obtain its fruits. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
(Votive Mass The Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ)

Remember your mercies, O Lord, and with your eternal protection sanctify your servants, for whom Christ your Son, by the shedding of his Blood, established the Paschal Mystery. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. R. Amen.
(Good Friday)

O God, who for your glory and the salvation of the human race willed to establish Christ as the eternal High Priest, grant that the people he has gained for you by his Blood may, through their participation in his memorial, experience the power of his Cross and Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
(Votive Mass of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest)

...continued on next page.

COLLECTS

Use at choice

O God, whose mercies are without number and whose treasure of goodness is infinite, graciously increase the faith of the people consecrated to you, that all may grasp and rightly understand by whose love they have been created, through whose Blood they have been redeemed, and by whose Spirit they have been reborn. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
(Votive Mass The Mercy of God)

O God, author of our freedom and of our salvation, listen to the voice of our pleading and grant that those you have redeemed by the shedding of your Son's Blood may have life through you and, under your protection, rejoice forever unharmed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
(Friday of the Fourth Week of Easter)



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 1

A reading from the Book of Leviticus (17:10-14)

If anyone of the house of Israel or of the aliens who reside among them eats any blood, I will set my face against that person who eats blood, and will cut that person off from the people. For the life of the flesh is in the blood; and I have given it to you for making atonement for your lives on the altar; for, as life, it is the blood that makes atonement. Therefore I have said to the people of Israel: No person among you shall eat blood, nor shall any alien who resides among you eat blood. And anyone of the people of Israel, or of the aliens who reside among them, who hunts down an animal or bird that may be eaten shall pour out its blood and cover it with earth. For the life of every creature—its blood is its life; therefore I have said to the people of Israel: You shall not eat the blood of any creature, for the life of every creature is its blood; whoever eats it shall be cut off.

Responsory

Of old it was decreed by the Lord: Make sure that you do not partake of the blood
-- *for blood is life.*

Jesus said to them: Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink his blood, you shall not have life in you. The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has life everlasting. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.
-- *for blood is life.*



Day 2

A reading from the Book of Exodus (12:1-13)

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take

READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 2

...continued.

some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

Responsory

By faith Moses celebrated the Passover and the sprinkling of blood.
-- God had something better in view for us.

You know that you were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ as a Lamb without blemish and without spot.
-- God had something better in view for us.



Day 3

A reading from the Book of Exodus (24:3-8)

Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice, and said, 'All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do.' And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. He rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and set up twelve pillars, corresponding to the twelve tribes of Israel. He sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt-offerings and sacrificed oxen as offerings of well-being to the Lord. Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he dashed against the altar. Then he took the book of the covenant, and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, 'All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.' Moses took the blood and dashed it on the people, and said, 'See the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.'

READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 3

Responsory

Moses took the blood and dashed it on the people, and said, --
-- "See the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you."

We have come to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the
sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.
-- "See the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you."



Day 4

A reading from the Book of Leviticus (16:11-19)

Aaron shall present the bull as a sin-offering for himself, and shall make atonement for himself and for his house; he shall slaughter the bull as a sin-offering for himself. He shall take a censer full of coals of fire from the altar before the Lord, and two handfuls of crushed sweet incense, and he shall bring it inside the curtain and put the incense on the fire before the Lord, so that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy-seat that is upon the covenant, or he will die. He shall take some of the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it with his finger on the front of the mercy-seat, and before the mercy-seat he shall sprinkle the blood with his finger seven times.

He shall slaughter the goat of the sin-offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the curtain, and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, sprinkling it upon the mercy-seat and before the mercy-seat. Thus he shall make atonement for the sanctuary, because of the uncleannesses of the people of Israel, and because of their transgressions, all their sins; and so he shall do for the tent of meeting, which remains with them in the midst of their uncleannesses. No one shall be in the tent of meeting from the time he enters to make atonement in the sanctuary until he comes out and has made atonement for himself and for his house and for all the assembly of Israel. Then he shall go out to the altar that is before the Lord and make atonement on its behalf, and shall take some of the blood of the bull and of the blood of the goat, and put it on each of the horns of the altar. He shall sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it and hallow it from the uncleannesses of the people of Israel.

READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 4

Responsory

Today the Lord is making this agreement with you: you are to be a people peculiarly his own, as he promised you, and provided you keep all his commandments. Then Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, saying

-- "This is the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you.

In like manner Jesus took also the cup after the supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which shall be shed for you."

-- "This is the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you.



Day 5

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (22:14-20)

When the hour came, [Jesus] took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

Responsory

Know that in this bread is the body of Christ which hung upon the cross, and in this cup, the blood of Christ which flowed from his side. Take, therefore, and eat his body; take and drink his blood, -- and you will become members of his body.

Eat this sacred food, so that your bond of unity with Christ may never be broken. Drink this sacred blood, the price he paid for you, so that you may never lose heart because of your sinfulness. – and you will become members of his body.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:53-58)

[Jesus said,] 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

Responsory

And while they were at supper, Jesus, taking a cup, gave thanks and gave it to them, saying, "All of you drink of this."
-- "For this is my blood of the new covenant."

Which is being shed for many for the forgiveness of sins.
- "For this is my blood of the new covenant."



Day 7

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (19:31-37)

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, 'None of his bones shall be broken.' And again another passage of scripture says, 'They will look on the one whom they have pierced.'

READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 7

Responsory

When the soldiers came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers opened his side with a lance,
-- and immediately there came out blood and water.

For these things came to pass that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not a bone of him shall you break."
-- and immediately there came out blood and water.



Day 8

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 20:25-28)

[Paul said,] 'And now I know that none of you, among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom, will ever see my face again. Therefore I declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God. Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son.

Responsory

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?
-- You were bought with a great price.

Therefore glorify God in your body.
-- You were bought with a great price.



Day 9

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (Romans 3:21-26)

But now, irrespective of law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 9

Responsory

Once you were estranged from God, at enmity with him in heart and mind, and your deeds were evil. But now, by Christ's death in his mortal body,

– God has reconciled you to himself.

God made Christ's sacrificial death the means of expiating the sins of all believers.

– God has reconciled you to himself.



Day 10

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (Romans 5:6-11)

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Responsory

Justified by the blood of Christ,
--we shall be saved by him from God's wrath.

He gave himself as an offering to God, a gift of pleasing fragrance
– we shall be saved by him from God's wrath.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 11

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians
(1 Corinthians 10:14-22)

Therefore, my dear friends, flee from the worship of idols. I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Consider the people of Israel; are not those who eat the sacrifices partners in the altar? What do I imply then? That food sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Or are we provoking the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he? (1 Corinthians 10:14-22)

Responsory

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because we who are many are one bread and one body

-- for we all partake of the one bread and one cup.

Whosoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup unworthily, will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord

-- for we all partake of the one bread and one cup.



Day 12

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians
(1 Corinthians 11:23-29)

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians. For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord. Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For all who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgement against themselves.

READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 12

Responsory

Know that in this bread is the body of Christ which hung upon the cross, and in this cup, the blood of Christ which flowed from his side. Take, therefore, and eat his body; take and drink his blood,
– and you will become members of his body.

Eat this sacred food, so that your bond of unity with Christ may never be broken. Drink this sacred blood, the price he paid for you, so that you may never lose heart because of your sinfulness.
– and you will become members of his body.



Day 13

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians
(Ephesians 1:3-10)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Responsory

God has predestined us for adoption as children through Jesus Christ
-- in whom we have redemption through his blood.

The forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us
-- in whom we have redemption through his blood.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 14

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians
(Ephesians 2:13-16)

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.

Responsory

You who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

-- For he is our peace, who has made both one.

So that he might create in himself one new humanity

-- For he is our peace, who has made both one.



Day 15

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians
(Colossians 1:15-20)

[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Responsory

God was pleased to reconcile all things in Christ
– making peace through the blood of his cross.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell
– making peace through the blood of his cross.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 16

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 9:11-22)

When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God! For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, because a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant. Where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. Hence not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. For when every commandment had been told to all the people by Moses in accordance with the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the scroll itself and all the people, saying, 'This is the blood of the covenant that God has ordained for you.' And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Responsory

If the blood of goats and bulls sanctified those who were defiled -- how much more will the blood of Christ purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God.

Not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood -- how much more will the blood of Christ purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 17

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 9:23-28)

It was necessary for the sketches of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves need better sacrifices than these. For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgement, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Responsory

Christ came as the high priest of the good things which are to be.
Not with the blood of goats or calves, but with his own blood
– he entered the holy place once for all, and won our eternal salvation.

He did not enter a holy place fashioned by man, he entered heaven itself.

– he entered the holy place once for all, and won our eternal salvation.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 18

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 10:1-10)

Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach. Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshippers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God”
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’

When he said above, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Responsory

It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.
Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said
-- but a body you have prepared for me.

‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and
offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’
-but a body you have prepared for me.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 19

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 10:19-31)

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. For if we willfully persist in sin after having received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful prospect of judgement, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. Anyone who has violated the law of Moses dies without mercy 'on the testimony of two or three witnesses.' How much worse punishment do you think will be deserved by those who have spurned the Son of God, profaned the blood of the covenant by which they were sanctified, and outraged the Spirit of grace? For we know the one who said, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay.' And again, 'The Lord will judge his people.' It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Responsory

We have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,
-- by the new and living way that he opened for us.

We have a great priest over the house of God. Let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience
-- by the new and living way that he opened for us.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 20

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 12:18-24)

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Responsory

Lord, the blood of your Son, our brother, cries out to you from the earth.

– Blessed the earth that drank in the blood of the Redeemer.

The blood he shed is more eloquent than the blood of Abel.

– Blessed the earth that drank in the blood of the Redeemer.



Day 21

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 13:7-16)

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings; for it is well for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by regulations about food, which have not benefited those who observe them. We have an altar from which those who officiate in the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also suffered outside the city gate in order to sanctify the people by his own blood. Let us then go to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 21

Responsory

That he might sanctify the people with his own blood, Jesus suffered without the gate.

-- Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.

You have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.

-- Let us go forth therefore unto him without the gate, bearing his reproach.



Day 22

A reading from the First Letter of St. Peter (1 Peter 1:1-9)

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who have been chosen and destined by God the Father and sanctified by the Spirit to be obedient to Jesus Christ and to be sprinkled with his blood: May grace and peace be yours in abundance. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Responsory

The price of your redemption was not something of fleeting value like gold or silver, but the costly shedding of the blood of Christ, the lamb without blemish.

– Through him, in the one Spirit, we can approach the Father.

The blood of Jesus Christ washes away all our sins.

– Through him, in the one Spirit, we can approach the Father.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 23

A reading from the First Letter of St. Peter (1 Peter 1:17-21)

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Responsory

The price of your redemption was not something of fleeting value like gold or silver, but the costly shedding of the blood of Christ -- the lamb without blemish.

The blood of Jesus Christ washes away all our sins
- the lamb without blemish.



Day 24

A reading from the First Letter of St. John (1 John 1:5-10)

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Responsory

God is light and in him there is no darkness at all
-- and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another
-- and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 25

A reading from the First Letter of St. John (1 John 5:61-2)

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Responsory

This is the one who came in water and blood, Jesus Christ
– not in water only, but in water and blood.

It is the Spirit who gives testimony, because the Spirit is truth
– not in water only, but in water and blood.



Day 26

A reading from the book of Revelation (Revelation 1:1-8)

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place; he made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and who keep what is written in it; for the time is near. John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 26

Responsory

Christ loved us, and poured out his blood to free us from our sins.
- He has made of us a kingdom of priests.

Live then in love, even as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.
- He has made of us a kingdom of priests.



Day 27

A reading from the book of Revelation (Revelation 5:6-10)

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

‘You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and people and nation;
you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God,
and they will reign on earth.’

Responsory

They sang a new canticle, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals.”

-- For you were slain, and have redeemed us for God with your
blood.

And you made them for our God a kingdom and priests, and they
shall reign over the earth.

-- For you were slain, and have redeemed us for God with your
blood.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 28

A reading from the book of Revelation (Revelation 5:11-14)

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!' Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honour and glory and might
for ever and ever!'

And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' And the elders fell down and worshipped.

Responsory

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!"
– for ever and ever.

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might
-- for ever and ever!"



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 29

A reading from the book of Revelation (Revelation 7-9-17)

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.'

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Responsory

The redeemed cried out in a loud voice:

-- Salvation comes from our God and from the Lamb.

To our God be blessing, glory and wisdom.

-- Salvation comes from our God and from the Lamb.



READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 30

A reading from the book of Revelation (Revelation 12: 7-12)

And war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,
'Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,
for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.
But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony,
for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
Rejoice then, you heavens
and those who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you
with great wrath,
because he knows that his time is short!'

Responsory

Alleluia! for the Lord, our God Almighty, now reigns!
-- for the marriage of the Lamb has come.

His spouse has prepared herself in fine linen, the just deeds of the saints.
-- for the marriage of the Lamb has come.



Day 31

A reading from the book of Revelation (Revelation 19:11-16)

Then I saw heaven opened, and there was a white horse! Its rider is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems; and he has a name inscribed that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, wearing fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron; he will tread the wine press of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed, 'King of kings and Lord of lords'.

READINGS & RESPORIES

Day 31

Responsory

He is clothed in a garment sprinkled with blood,
-- and his name is called the Word of God.

On his garment and on his thigh a name written: King of kings and
Lord of lords
-- and his name is called the Word of God.





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