

- WOMEN.** a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.
- MEN.** Glory be to the father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit
- ALL.** As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon

- ALL.** Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake, watch over us as we sleep, that awake we may keep watch with Christ and asleep rest in His Peace.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

- LEADER.** Let us pray,

Lord, be with us throughout this night so that when day comes we may rise from sleep to rejoice in the resurrection of your Christ, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

- ALL.** Amen

Blessing

- LEADER.** May the All-powerful Lord grant us a restful night and a peaceful death.
- ALL.** Amen

Marian Antiphon

Salve Regina, Mater misericordiae,
 Vita dulcedo et spes nostra salve.
 Ad te clamamus exsules filii Hevae.
 Ad te suspiramus gementes et flentes,
 in hac lacrimarum valle.
 Eia ergo advocata nostra,
 illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte.
 Et Iesum benedictum fructum ventris tui
 nobis post hoc exsiliu ostende.
 O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo Maria.

Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy.
 Hail our light, 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,
 thine eyes of mercy towards us
 and after this, our exile,
 show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
 O clement! O Loving! O sweet Virgin Mary!

Table of Contents

Introduction.....2

 Appropriate Attire.....2

 Prayer Instructions.....2

Lord's Day Prayer.....4

 Opening Hymn.....4

 Lighting of the Candle.....5

 Blessing of the Meal.....6

 Blessing of the Wine and Bread.....6

Compline (Night Prayer).....8

 Opening.....8

 Penitential Rite.....8

 Psalmody.....8

 Gospel Canticle.....9

 Responsory.....10

 Closing Prayer.....11

 Marian Antiphon.....11

Introduction

The Lord's Day Celebration is a tradition in many charismatic Catholic communities. It is a celebration within close fellowship of family and friends to thank the Lord our God for creation and salvation, as well as all of the blessings He has bestowed upon the individuals within the community. By sharing a meal – and thus sharing nourishment and life – we come closer together in Christ and can strengthen each other through our mutual love.

Appropriate Attire

In honoring our God in a formal community gathering, we should dress ourselves appropriately. We wish to show God and each other respect by looking our best. The best description available for the level of dress used is *business casual* – i.e. wear what you would feel comfortable wearing in a slightly relaxed professional office environment. First, jeans are not acceptable, nor are any garments containing rips, tears, or patches.

Men should wear slacks or khakis as well as a shirt and tie, or similar. Optional items include vests, sweaters, etc. For women, this gets a tad more complicated. A dress, suit-dress, or blouse and slacks or skirt are all acceptable (though a skirt is preferred, as this is a somewhat traditional affair). Use your best judgment. Please keep modesty in mind, and refrain from wearing anything you would not feel comfortable wearing in Church. Also, refrain from overly elaborate dresses, jewelery, and other accessories.

Prayer Instructions

The remainder of this booklet contains prayer which all attendants will recite together, and hymns or praise and worship that we will sing together. Some rules:

ROLE. These are to designate who is speaking a given sentence or paragraph. These are not to be read. The role label is always in red, all caps, and on the far left of the page.

(directions) These are instructions are not to be read, but contain instructional text. These are smaller than the regular type, in italic, and red, and is surrounded by parentheses.

Label These are labels for miscellaneous uses. They are the same as

READING

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

LEADER. A reading from the book of Deuteronomy:

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

The word of the Lord

ALL. Thanks be to God.

(Pause to contemplate the reading, a brief meditation or homily may be placed here)

RESPONSORY

LEADER. Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

ALL. Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

LEADER. You have redeemed us, Lord God of Truth,

ALL. I commend my spirit.

LEADER. Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

ALL. Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Luke 2:29-32

(Stand)

Antiphon

ALL. Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake, watch over us as we sleep, that awake we may keep watch with Christ and asleep rest in His Peace.

(Sign of the Cross)

WOMEN. Lord, now you let your servant go in peace, your word has been fulfilled:

MEN. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people:

- WOMEN.** O men, how long will your hearts be closed, will you love what is futile and seek what is false?
- MEN.** It is the Lord who grants favors to those whom he loves; the Lord hears me whenever I call him.
- WOMEN.** Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still. Make justice your sacrifice and trust in the Lord.
- MEN.** “What can bring us happiness?” many say. Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.
- WOMEN.** You have put into my heart a greater joy than they have from abundance of corn and new wine.
- MEN.** I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.
- WOMEN.** Glory be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
- ALL.** As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

Antiphon I

- ALL.** Have mercy, Lord, and hear my prayer.

(pause to contemplate previous psalm)

Antiphon II

- ALL.** In the silent hours of the night, bless the Lord.

Psalm 134 *Evening prayer in the Temple*

- MEN.** O Come, bless the Lord, all who serve the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of the Lord.
- WOMEN.** Lift up your hands to the holy place, and bless the Lord through the night! May the Lord bless you from Zion, he who made both heaven and earth!
- MEN.** Glory be the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit
- ALL.** As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.
- Antiphon II**
- ALL.** In the silent hours of the night, bless the Lord.

the standard text, but red in color.

Header These are section headers, and are used to aid one in finding one's place in the text. These are not to be spoken.

So the basic rule is, if it's different than the body text in typeface, style, emphasis, size, or color, do not read it aloud!

There are three roles in the Lord's Day prayer – **STEWARD**, **MATRON**, and **ALL**. **STEWARD** should be a somewhat patriarchal male figurehead within the community, and takes the role of leading the prayer before meal. **MATRON** similarly should be a (preferably) matriarchal female in the community, and assists the **STEWARD**. **ALL** is simply everyone else.

For night prayer, there are more roles: **LEADER**, **WOMEN**, **MEN**, and **ALL**. The **LEADER** should be chosen ahead of time. If a priest or deacon is present, that person should be the **LEADER**. The other three should be pretty self-explanatory.

Opening Hymn – Come Thou Font of Every Blessing

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love
2. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

Compline (Night Prayer)

(Corresponds with page 1035-1037 in Christian Prayer)

OPENING

(Stand and make the sign of the cross)

- LEADER.** God come to my assistance
- ALL.** Lord make haste to help me
- LEADER.** Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
- ALL.** As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

PENITENTIAL RITE

- LEADER.** Coming together as God's family, with confidence let us ask the Father's forgiveness, for he is full of gentleness and compassion.

(brief pause for examination of conscience)

- LEADER.** I confess...
- ALL.** to almighty God, and to you my brothers and sisters that I have sinned through my own fault: in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and what I have failed to do. And I ask Blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angels and saints, and you my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord, our God.
- LEADER.** May the almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life
- ALL.** Amen.

OPENING HYMN

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

PSALMODY

Antiphon I

- ALL.** Have mercy, Lord, and hear my prayer.

Psalm 4

Thanksgiving

- MEN.** When I call, answer me, O God of justice; from anguish you released me; have mercy and hear me!

- ALL.** The desires of every living thing is fulfilled by Your hand.
- STEWARD.** Blessed are You, Lord, God of All Creation, Who bring forth bread from the earth. You have provided us this meal that we may eat and be thankful.
- Brothers and sisters, this is the Lord's day. Mindful of His grace and mercy, let us share this meal in fellowship.
- ALL.** Amen.

The Lighting of the Candle

- MATRON.** In the beginning, there was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.
- ALL.** Through Him all things were made, and nothing was made except through Him.
- MATRON.** In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- ALL.** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- MATRON.** Heavenly Father, in honor of Your Son, Light of the World and King of Mercy, we are about to kindle the light for the Lord's Day. On this day your Son, Jesus, rose from the dead and brought forth the new creation. May our celebration of His resurrection this day be filled with Your peace and heavenly blessing. Be gracious to us and send Your Holy Spirit to dwell more abundantly in us.
- Father of Mercy, continue Your loving kindness toward us. Make us worthy to walk in the way of Your Son, loyal to Your teaching, and unwavering in love and service. Keep far from us all anxiety, darkness, and evil. Grant that peace, light, and joy ever abide among us.
- ALL.** For in You is the fountain of life; in Your light do we see life.
- (The MATRON lights the candle and receive the following blessing.)*
- MATRON.** Blessed are You, Lord our God, who created light on the first day and sent us Your only begotten Son to begin the new creation. Blessed are You, Lord our God, who brings us joy as we dwell in Your light for this, the Lord's Day.
- ALL.** Amen.
- Psalm 118:1-4,26-29**
- STEWARD.** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
- ALL.** His love endures forever.
- STEWARD.** Let the house of Israel say:

ALL. “God's love endures forever!”

STEWARD. Let the house of David say:

ALL. “God's love endures forever!”

STEWARD. Let those who fear the Lord say:

ALL. “God's love endures forever!”

STEWARD. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

ALL. We bless you from the house of the Lord.

STEWARD. The Lord is our God, and has given us light.

ALL. Go forward and process with leafy branches, even unto the altar.

STEWARD. You are my God, I give you thanks.

ALL. My God, I will exalt you!

STEWARD. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

ALL. His love endures forever.

Blessing of the Meal and Setting Aside of the Day

STEWARD. Brothers and sisters, this is the Lord's Day.

ALL. Let us welcome it in joy and peace.

STEWARD. Today we lay aside the concerns of the week so we may honor the Lord and celebrate His resurrection. Today we cease our work, to worship God and remember the eternal life to which He calls us.

ALL. The Lord himself is with us, to refresh us and give us strength.

STEWARD. Let us welcome among us our God and give Him glory.

ALL. Let us love one another in Christ.

STEWARD. May the Holy Spirit be with us, to deepen our devotion to the Lord, and to increase our zeal for our vocation.

Blessing of the Wine and Bread

(The MATRON pours the wine, and hands it to the STEWARD. The STEWARD raises it, and recites the following prayer:)

STEWARD. Let us praise the Lord, our God, with this symbol of joy and thank Him for the blessings of the past week. We thank Him for health, fortitude, and wisdom; for our life together in Christ; for the strength wrought by our trials and temptations; for the happiness that has come through our labors, and the blessings of the time to come.

Let us praise Him for this day: for the great blessing He has bestowed on us in Christ. It is through His eternal sacrifice that we may receive the fullness of grace. We, who were dead through sin, are brought to life together with Christ, who defeated death, so that we may live and reign with Him eternally. Lord, our God, through Christ, Your son, You bring us into Your heavenly Kingdom.

ALL. We live with Him, now, through the Holy Spirit, and we look for the day when we will dwell with Him in Your eternal Kingdom.

STEWARD. Blessed are You, Lord, God of All Creation, Who have created the fruit of the vine.

ALL. Amen.

STEWARD. Blessed are You, Lord our God, You grant us true rest in Your Son, Jesus, and give us this day for the celebration of His redeeming work. We welcome this day rejoicing, and look to His resurrection and the new creation founded in Him. Look graciously upon us, Your servants, and show your glory.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, who favor your people in the days set aside to honor You.

ALL. Amen.

(STEWARD drinks from the cup and passes it left, as each person drinks, he publicly thanks the Lord for blessings bestowed on him.)

STEWARD. Our eyes look upon You, O Lord, and You give us this food in due season.