

**October 4**

**OUR HOLY FATHER,  
FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DEACON,  
FOUNDER OF THE THREE ORDERS**

**Solemnity**

**MORNING PRAYER**

**INVITATORY**

**Lord, + open my lips,  
- And my mouth will proclaim your praise.**

**Ant.** Come, let us adore Christ the King who exalts the humble.

**Psalm 95**

**A call to praise God**

*Encourage each other daily while it is still today Hebrews 3:13*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord  
and shout with joy to the Rock who saves us.  
Let us approach him with praise and thanksgiving  
and sing joyful songs to the Lord.**

**Ant.** Come, let us adore Christ the King who exalts the humble.

**The Lord is God, the mighty God,  
the great king over all the gods.  
He holds in his hands the depths of the earth  
and the highest mountains as well.  
He made the sea; it belongs to him,  
the dry land, too, for it was formed by his hands.**

**Ant.** Come, let us adore Christ the King who exalts the humble.

**Come, then, let us bow down and worship,  
bending the knee before the Lord, our maker.  
For he is our God and we are his people,  
the flock he shepherds.**

**Ant.** Come, let us adore Christ the King who exalts the humble.

**Today, listen to the voice of the Lord:  
Do not grow stubborn, as your fathers did  
in the wilderness,  
when at Meriba and Massah  
they challenged me and provoked me,  
Although they had seen all of my works.**

**Ant.** Come, let us adore Christ the King who exalts the humble.

**Forty years I endured that generation.  
I said, They are a people whose hearts go astray  
and they do not know my ways.  
So I swore in my anger,  
They shall not enter into my rest.**

**Ant.** Come, let us adore Christ the King who exalts the humble.

**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.**

**Ant.** Come, let us adore Christ the King who exalts the humble.

## HYMN

Fair virtue's pride and Minor's guide,  
Saint Francis, heaven's prize does find  
in you, the Vine of life divine,  
O Christ, redeemer of mankind.

Brethren, acclaim our Father's name  
who with the blest now reigns on high;  
let grief give way, joy be our lay,  
with songs of praise rejoice the sky.

Rapt from the earth to heaven's post  
his wondrous signs show him to be;  
so does he live, for Christ does give  
the gifts that last eternally.

For prayers while here to you most dear  
has he attained to glory's height,  
whom you now crown, whom you now own,  
O God of mercy infinite.

Close in his train let them remain  
who forth from Egypt's land would speed,  
with him in sight, mid glowing light,  
the standards of the King proceed.

Our worthy guide, in hand and side,  
is wounded with the King's own seal;  
the dawn is nigh, night's shadows fly,  
now across the sky the sun does steal.

This leader sure, like star secure,  
will guide our feet and show our eyes  
what things to shun, what must be done,  
to win the joys of paradise.

Unto the King your flock bring,  
 you who have crushed the foe of all;  
 may you precede, our way straight lead  
 unto the Lamb's high banquet-hall

## PSALMODY

**Ant. 1** He was found just and perfect  
 and in the time of wrath was made a reconciliation.

Psalm 63:2-9

### **A soul thirsting for God**

*Whoever has left the darkness of sin, yearns for God.*

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
 for you my soul is thirsting.  
 My body pines for you  
 like a dry, weary land without water.  
 So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
 to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,  
 my lips will speak your praise.  
 So I will bless you all my life,  
 in your name I will lift up my hands.  
 My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
 my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.  
 On you I muse through the night  
 for you have been my help;  
 in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
 My soul clings to you;  
 your right hand holds me fast.

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.

**Ant.** He was found just and perfect  
and in the time of wrath was made a reconciliation.

**Ant. 2** God's praise was ever on his lips;  
he called upon the stars, spirits,  
birds and all creation to praise the Creator.

**Canticle Daniel 3:57-88, 56**

**Let all creatures praise the Lord**

*All you servants of the Lord, sing praise to him* Revelation 19:5

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.

Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord.

You heavens, bless the Lord.

All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord.

All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.

Sun and moon, bless the Lord.

Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord.

All you winds, bless the Lord.

Fire and heat, bless the Lord.

Cold and chill, bless the Lord.

Dew and rain, bless the Lord.

Frost and chill, bless the Lord.

Ice and snow, bless the Lord.

Nights and days, bless the Lord.

Light and darkness, bless the Lord.

Lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord.

Let the earth bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord.  
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.  
You springs, bless the Lord.  
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.  
You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord.  
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.  
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord.  
You sons of men, bless the Lord.

O Israel, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord.  
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.  
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven.  
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever.

*(At the end of the canticle the Glory to the Father is not said.)*

**Ant.** God's praise was ever on his lips;  
he called upon the stars, spirits,  
birds and all creation to praise the Creator.

**Ant. 3** The Lord raised up the lowly one  
and exalted him to the ends of the earth.

**Psalm 1-9**

**The joy of God's holy people**

*Let the sons of the Church, the children of the new people,  
rejoice in Christ, their King (Hesychius).*

Sing a new song to the Lord,  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel rejoice in its maker,  
let Zion's sons exult in their king.  
Let them praise his name with dancing  
and make music with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.  
He crowns the poor with salvation.  
Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,  
in shout for joy and take their rest.  
Let the praise of God be on their lips  
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations  
and punishment to all the peoples;  
to bind their kings in chains  
and their nobles in fetters of iron;  
to carry out the sentence pre-ordained;  
this honor is for all his faithful.

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.

**Ant. 3** The Lord raised up the lowly one  
and exalted him to the ends of the earth.

**READING**

Galatians 1:15-16, 24

**It pleased God who set me apart  
and called me by his favor to reveal his Son to me,  
that I might spread among the Gentiles  
the good tidings concerning him.  
And they gave glory to the Lord on my account.**

**RESPONSORY**

**My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.**  
– My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

**My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the Lord.**  
– cry out for the living God.  
and your hand has come down upon me.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:**  
– My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

**GOSPEL CANTICLE**

**Ant.** I have joyfully shared Christ's sufferings  
and now I rejoice exultantly when his glory is revealed.

**Canticle of Zechariah**

Luke 1:68-79

The Messiah and his forerunner

Blessed + be the Lord, the God of Israel;  
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,  
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old  
that he would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.



He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
to give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

**Ant.** I have joyfully shared Christ's sufferings  
and now I rejoice exultantly when his glory is revealed.

## INTERCESSIONS

**Let us humbly pray to Christ our Lord  
who built up the Church with his blood  
and mercifully called us to follow Francis and say:**

*Lord, keep us in your holy service.*

**Lord, you came to preach the gospel to the poor  
teach us to spread your kingdom by word and deed  
– and to build it up effectively among our fellow men. (R.)**

**Lord, you are the light of the world  
and teacher of holiness,  
– grant that we may firmly cling to the true faith  
and proclaim your name to the ends of the earth. (R.)**

**Lord, you gave your disciples the commandment of love  
to be observed in a special manner,  
– grant that we may strive to do good to all men. (R.)**

**Lord, you are the Wisdom of the eternal Father  
– enlighten our minds to profess the truth in love  
and ever think what is true and holy. (R.)**

**Christ our Savior,  
you did not consider it beneath your dignity  
to do manual labor,  
– direct the work of our hands  
so that all may see our good works  
and give glory to God the Father. (R.)**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**At the Savior's command  
and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to say:**

He extends his hands and, together with the people, continues:

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

**O** God, by whose gift our Holy Father Francis  
was conformed to Christ in poverty and humility,  
grant that, by walking in Francis' footsteps,  
we may follow your Son,  
and, through joyful charity,  
come to be united with you.  
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.

The people reply:

Amen.

## DISMISSAL

If a Priest or Deacon presides, he dismisses the people:

**The Lord be with you.**

The people reply:

And with your spirit.

The Priest or Deacon blesses the people, saying:

**May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.**

Then he adds:

**Go in peace.**

The people reply:

Thanks be to God.

In the absence of a Priest or Deacon and in individual recitation, Morning Prayer concludes::

**May the Lord + bless us,  
protect us from all evil  
and bring us to everlasting life.**

The people reply:

Amen.