

Chapel of Saint Valentine

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

1 John 4:16b

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THE DAILY OFFICE

As presbyters of the World Christianity Ministries, the clergy of the Chapel of Saint Valentine are reminded of their obligation to pray the Daily Office as part of their role in the corporate prayer of the Church Universal. It is encouraged that this be done in chapel when practicable so that the laity have the chance to participate.

The Daily Office is not the private prayer of the individual cleric, but rather it is part of the cleric's participation in his or her role as the local representative of the Church.

The tradition of the Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Orthodox churches holds that the daily recitation of offices and the participation in the corporate reading of the scriptures as set out by the *Daily Office Lectionary*, and the observance of feasts, commemorations, memorials, and fasts of the church is one of the formative foundations of the ordained life. We are taught that this discipline, amongst the many other benefits derived, protects us from the individualism that is so often produced when we drift from forms of objective, systematic disciplines that tie us to the wider community, and leaves us isolated with only our own resources to fall back on.

Many clerics have found that their daily personal time for meditation fits naturally into the office after the scripture readings and intercession, and before the concluding rite. Many breviaries even suggest this in the rubrics. This is one way of combining both the corporate and the private dimensions of a particular cleric's prayer life into one unified prayer time.