

Evening Prayer for Life

“Among the vulnerable for whom the church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us. Nowadays efforts are made to deny them their human dignity and to do with them whatever one pleases, taking their lives and passing laws preventing anyone from standing in the way of this. ... Precisely because this involves the internal consistency of our message about the value of the human person, the church cannot be expected to change her position on this question... It is not ‘progressive’ to try to resolve problems by eliminating a human life...”

– Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation [Evangelii Gaudium](#) #213-214

Introductory Verse

Presider: O God, come to our as - sis - tance. *Assembly:* Lord, make haste to help us.

Presider: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it: *Assembly:* as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men. Al - le - lu - ia.

Hymn

Jesus, Show Us How to Pray

THE CALL

1. Je - sus, show us how to pray, Fac - ing
 2. When we ask our an - gry "why" When our
 3. When our hopes are hol - lowed out, All our
 4. God, our hope is out of reach. Hear us,

times that numb and stun. Are there an - y words to
 tears have just be - gun. Still, as you have prayed, we
 prayers roll in - to one, Filled with fear and nag - ging
 as you heard your Son! We know you re - spond to

say? "Not my will but yours be done."
 cry, "Not my will but yours be done!"
 doubt: "Not my will but yours be done!"
 each "Not my will but yours be done."

Psalm 34

Guimont



The Lord hears the cry of the poor.



Cantor: I will bless the Lord at all times;
praise of him is always in my mouth.
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad.

Assembly: The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
When the just cry out, the Lord hears,
and rescues them in all their distress.

Cantor: The Lord is close to the brokenhearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
All who trust in him shall not be condemned.

Assembly: Glory to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Ho-ly Spirit.
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forev-er. Amen. *Repeat antiphon*

Text: Verses, *The Revised Grail Psalms*, © 2010, Conception Abbey and The Grail, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.;
refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL
Music: Michel Guimont, © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

Psalm Prayer

Psalm 139

Guimont



I praise you, O Lord, for I am won-der-ful-ly made.

Text: *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL
Music: Michel Guimont, © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

Psalm Prayer

Scripture Reading

Silent Prayer

Prayer of Saint John Paul II from *Evangelium Vitae*

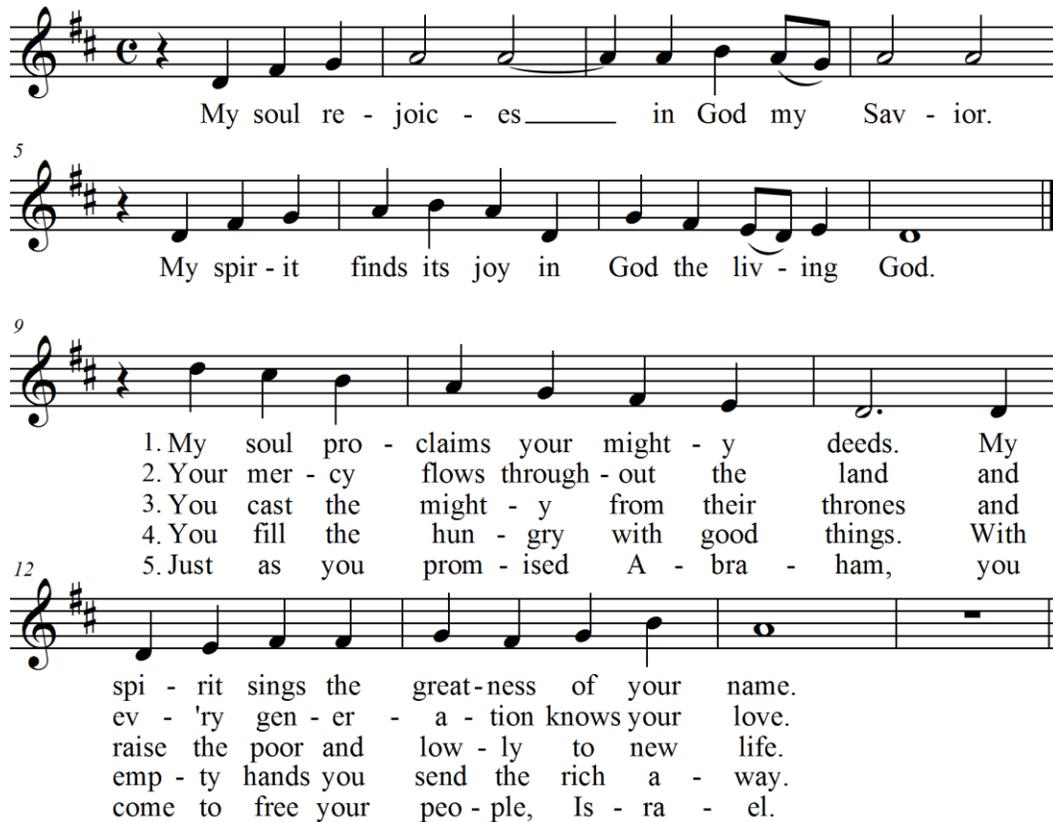
O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the living, to you do we entrust the cause of life. Look down, O Mother, upon the vast numbers of babies not allowed to be born, of the poor whose lives are made difficult, of men and women who are victims of brutal violence, of the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy.

Grant that all who believe in your Son may proclaim the Gospel of life with honesty and love to the people of our time. Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new, the joy of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in order to build, together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life.

—*Evangelium Vitae*, 105

Magnificat [stand]

Alstott



My soul re - joic - es _____ in God my Sav - ior.

5
My spir - it finds its joy in God the liv - ing God.

9
1. My soul pro - claims your might - y deeds. My
2. Your mer - cy flows through - out the land and
3. You cast the might - y from their thrones and
4. You fill the hun - gry with good things. With
12 5. Just as you prom - ised A - bra - ham, you
spi - rit sings the great - ness of your name.
ev - 'ry gen - er - a - tion knows your love.
raise the poor and low - ly to new life.
emp - ty hands you send the rich a - way.
come to free your peo - ple, Is - ra - el.

Text & tune: Owen Alstott, © 1984, 1991, by OCP Publications.

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Intercessions

Let us pray to God, the Father of Life and Font of all Mercy:

— **Lord, have mercy on all who have sinned against life.**

You knit us in our mother's womb,

— **Preserve all children from bodily harm
From the moment of conception.**

Your Son ennobled all human life when he became flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary,

— **Enlighten our minds to see the dignity of every human life
From its earliest embryonic beginnings.**

You are author of science and knowledge,

— **Bring an end to the destruction of human embryos
In research facilities and IVF clinics.**

You are the law-giver and ruler of the world,

— **Help us to overturn unjust laws that permit the destruction of innocent lives, and
guide our public officials to defend the littlest among us.**

You love those who are afflicted,

— **Help parents of unborn children with disabilities
To cherish the baby you have entrusted to their care.**

Your Son, Jesus, healed the sick,

— **Guide all doctors to be guardians of life,
Especially the lives of unborn children with serious health conditions.**

Lord, you are love and mercy itself,

— **Draw all who have acted against innocent human life
To repentance and forgiveness,
And heal them through an outpouring of grace.**

The Lord's Prayer

Cantor begins the chant.

Chanted

Concluding Prayer

Adoration [kneel]

Come Adore

Come adore this wondrous presence; Bow to Christ the source of grace!
Here is kept the ancient promise of God's earthly dwelling place.
Sight is blind before God's glory. Faith alone may see his face.

Glory be to God the Father, Praise to his co-equal Son,
Adoration to the Spirit, Bond of love, in God-head one.
Blest be God by all creation joyously while ages run!

Text: Thomas Aquinas, c. 1225-1274; tr. by James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010, © 1969.

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Tune: ST. THOMAS, 8 7 8 7 8 7; John F. Wade, 1711-1786

The Divine Praises

Blessed be God. Blessed be his holy name. Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.
Blessed be the name of Jesus. Blessed be his most sacred heart. Blessed be his most precious
blood. Blessed be Jesus in the most holy sacrament of the altar. Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the
Consoler. Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy. Blessed be her holy and
immaculate conception. Blessed be her glorious assumption. Blessed be the name of Mary,
virgin and mother. Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse. Blessed be God in his
angels and in his saints.

Reposition Hymn [stand]

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before thee!
All on earth thy scepter claim, all in heav'n above adore thee;
Infinite thy vast domain, everlasting is thy reign.

Text: *Grosser Gott, wir loben dich*; ascr. to Ignaz Franz, 1719-1790; tr. by Clarence Walworth, 1820-1900.

Tune: GROSSER GOTTE, 7 8 7 8 7 7; *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, c. 1774