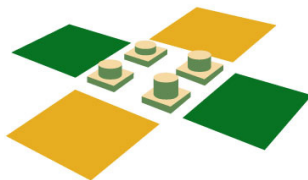


*Vespers and Compline  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
according to the  
Medieval Use of Salisbury*

*Congregational Booklet*

*Wednesday 8 June 2011  
Bangor Cathedral  
5.30 pm*



THE  
EXPERIENCE  
OF WORSHIP

Vespers and Compline are both ancient monastic services for evening and nightfall. They were adopted by the whole Western Church. By the end of the Middle Ages it was common for them to be sung together during the evening before retiring to bed.

When Archbishop Cranmer devised the Book of Common Prayer, he adopted elements from both services, combining them to form the familiar service of Evensong, as can be seen in the emphasis on the reciting of psalms and the inclusion of the canticles *Magnificat* (from Vespers) and *Nunc Dimittis* (from Compline). This evening the services are both sung entirely in Latin plainsong (with full translations in this book) in honour of Mary, mother of Jesus. This mirrors the daily practice of many religious communities throughout the Western Church (including this cathedral) up to the Reformation.

Special place was accorded the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Middle Ages, and a separate cycle of services was held in her honour on a daily basis, often involving the boy choristers of cathedrals and monasteries. This was particularly true in the British Isles. The emphasis on the Incarnation, which is still a feature of the Anglican Church, includes the importance of Mary's place as the Mother of the God who took on human form: Jesus, saviour and redeemer. The readings and prayers have a Marian theme and Compline is followed by the antiphon *Salve regina*, sung in the Lady Chapel near the statue of Mary – just as the medieval choristers of Bangor Cathedral would have done up until the Reformation.

As in the Middle Ages here at Bangor, the service is sung in Latin and the chants are those of the Use of Salisbury which was common to much of England and Wales at the time. This leaflet offers a guide to the service for those who wish to follow the texts. Alternatively it is possible to use the time to reflect on the divine gift of the Incarnation, and the part taken by Mary as representative of all women.

The chants for Vespers and Compline have all been transcribed from the Sarum Antiphoner of 1519–20, printed by Wolfgang Hopyl, the leading printer of liturgical chant who worked in Paris between the late 1480s and his death in 1523. The other Proper texts (including the psalms) are taken from the medieval Latin Breviary, and the closing antiphon *Salve Regina* from the 1519 edition of the Sarum Processional printed by Hopyl.

# Vespers

*All stand.*

## Introduction

V. Deus in adiutorium meum intende. R. Domine ad adiuvandum me festina.

V. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.

R. Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in secula seculorum. Amen. Alleluia.

*V: O God, make speed to save us. R. O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

*Alleluia.*

*All sit. Stand and turn east for the Gloria Patri at the end of each psalm.*

## Antiphon (incipit)

Post partum Virgo ... (*After giving birth ...*)

## Psalm 121 (122)

1 Letatus sum sum in his, que dicta sunt mihi: domum Domini ibimus.

2 Stantes erant pedes nostri in atriis tuis, Ierusalem.

3 Ierusalem, que edificatur ut civitas, cuius participatio eius in idipsum.

4 Illuc enim ascenderunt tribus, tribus Domini, testimonium Israel, ad confitendum nomini Domini.

5 Quia illic sederunt sedes in iudicio, sedes super domum David.

6 Interrogate que ad pacem sunt Ierusalem: et abundantia diligentibus te.

7 Fiat pax in virtute tua et abundantia in turribus tuis.

8 Propter fratres meos et proximos meos loquebar pacem de te.

9 Propter domum Domini Dei mei exquisivi bona tibi,

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto, Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in secula seculorum. Amen.

*1. I was glad when they said unto me : We will go into the house of the Lord.*

*2. Our feet shall stand in thy gates : O Jerusalem.*

*3. Jerusalem is built as a city : that is at unity in itself.*

*4. For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord : to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.*

*5. For there is the seat of judgement : even the seat of the house of David.*

6. *O pray for the peace of Jerusalem : they shall prosper that love thee.*  
7. *Peace be within thy walls : and plenteousness within thy palaces.*  
8. *For my brethren and companions' sakes : I will wish thee prosperity.*  
9. *Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God : I will seek to do thee good.*  
*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.*  
*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.*

## Psalm 122 (123)

1 Ad te levavi oculos meos, qui habitas in celis.  
2 Ecce sicut oculi servorum, in manibus dominorum suorum.  
3 Sicut oculi ancille in manibus dominæ sue: ita oculi nostri ad Dominum, Deum nostrum, donec misereatur nostri.  
4 Miserere nostri, Domine, miserere nostri: quia multum repleti sumus despectione:  
5 Quia multum repleta est anima nostra: opprobrium abundantibus, et despectio superbis. Gloria Patri.

1. *Unto thee lift I up mine eyes : O thou that dwellest in the heavens.*  
2. *Behold, even as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters.*  
3 *As the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress: even so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God, until he have mercy upon us.*  
4. *Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us : for we are utterly despised.*  
5. *Our soul is filled with the scornful reproof of the wealthy : and with the despitefulness of the proud. Glory be to the Father ...*

## Antiphon (complete)

Post partum Virgo inviolata permansisti: Dei Genitrix, intercede pro nobis.  
*After giving birth thou remainedst a virgin untainted; O Mother of God, intercede for us.*

## Chapter (Short Reading)

Beata es Maria que Dominum portasti creatorem mundi: genuisti qui te fecit et in eternum permanes virgo.

*Blessed art thou, O Virgin Mary, who didst bear the Creator of all things: Thou didst give birth to thy Maker, and forever remainedst a Virgin.*

## Hymn

1 Ave maris stella,  
Dei mater alma  
Atque semper virgo,  
Felix celi porta.

*Hail Star of the Sea,  
Nourishing Mother of God  
And forever virgin,  
Oh faithful gate to Heaven*

2 Sumens illud Ave  
Gabrielis ore,  
Funda nos in pace,  
Mutans Heve nomen.

*Taking that 'Hail',  
From the mouth of Gabriel,  
Founded us in peace,  
Changing Eve's name.*

3 Solve vincla reis,  
Profer lumen cecis,  
Mala nostra pelle,  
Bona cuncta posce.

*Loosen these chains,  
Revealer of light to the blind,  
Chase evils from us,  
Pray for all blessings.*

4 Monstra te esse matrem,  
Sumat per te preces,  
Qui pro nobis natus  
Tulit esse tuus.

*Show yourself to be the Mother,  
May he receive prayers through you  
Who, born for us,  
Endured to be yours.*

## Versicle

V. Diffusa est gratia in labiis tuis. R. Propterea benedixit te Deus in aeternum.  
*V. Grace is poured into thy lips R. Therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.*

*All stand for the Gospel canticle and collect.*

## Antiphon (incipit)

Sancta Maria ...  
*Holy Mary ...*

## Magnificat (Luke I)

1 Magnificat: anima mea Dominum.

2 Et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.

3 Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae: ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes.

4 Quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est: et sanctum nomen eius.

5 Et misericordia eius, a progenie et progenies: timentibus eum.

6 Fecit potentiam in brachio suo: dispersit superbos mente cordis sui.

7 Deposuit potentes de sede: et exaltavit humiles.

8 Esurientes implevit bonis: et divites dimisit inanes.

9 Suscepit Israel puerum suum: recordatus misericordiae suae.

10 Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros: Abraham, et semini eius in secula.

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: et in secula seculorum. Amen.

*1. My soul doth magnify the Lord*

*2. And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.*

*3. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden: for behold, from henceforth, all generations shall call me blessed.*

*4. For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name.*

*5. And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.*

*6. He hath showed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.*

*7. He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.*

*8. He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away.*

*9. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel : as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.*

## Magnificat antiphon (complete)

Sancta Maria succurre miseris, iuva pusillanimes, refove flebiles,  
ora pro populo, interveni pro clero, intercede pro devoto femineo sexu.

*Holy Mary, help those who suffer, strengthen the faint hearted, comfort the sorrowful:  
pray for the people, entreat for the clergy, intercede for all womankind promised to God.*

## Collect

V. Dominus vobiscum. R. Et cum spiritu tuo.

Oremus. Concede nos famulos tuos, quesumus, Domine Deus, perpetui mentis et corporis salute gaudere: et gloriosa beate Marie semper virginis intercessione a presenti liberari tristitia: et eterna perfrui letitia. Per Dóminum nóstrum Jésum Chrístum Fílium túum: Qui técum vívit et régnat, in unitáte Spíritus Sáncti. Déus, per omnia secula seculorum. Amen.

*V: The Lord be with you R: And with thy Spirit.*

*Let us pray. Grant to us Thy servants, we beseech Thee, O Lord God, that we may enjoy perpetual health of mind and body; and through the intercession of blessed Mary ever Virgin may be delivered from present sorrow and possess eternal joy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever, Amen.*

## Conclusion

V. Dominus vobiscum. R. Et cum spiritu tuo.

V. Benedicamus Domino. R. Deo gratias.

*V. The Lord be with you. R. And with thy spirit.*

*V. Let us bless the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.*

## Compline

### Introduction

V. Deus in adiutorium meum intende. R. Domine ad adiuvandum me festina.

V. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.

R. Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in secula seculorum. Amen. Alleluia.

*V: O God, make speed to save us. R. O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.*

*All sit. Stand and turn east for the Gloria Patri at the end of each psalm.*

## Antiphon (incipit)

Cum iocunditate.

*Let us celebrate with gladness.*

## Psalm 12 (13)

1 Usquequo, Domine, oblivisceris me in finem? usquequo avertis faciem tuam a me?

2 Quamdiu ponam consilia in anima mea; dolorem in corde meo per diem?

3 Usquequo exaltabitur inimicus meus super me? Respice, et exaudi me, Domine Deus meus.

4 Illumina oculos meos, ne umquam obdormiam in morte; 5 nequando dicat inimicus meus : Prævalui adversus eum.

5 Qui tribulant me exultabunt si motus fuero; ego autem in misericordia tua speravi.

6 Exultabit cor meum in salutari tuo. Cantabo Domino qui bona tribuit mihi; et psallam nomini Domini altissimi. Gloria Patri.

*1. How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord, for ever : how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?*

*2. How long shall I seek counsel in my soul, and be so vexed in my heart : how long shall mine enemies triumph over me?*

*3. Consider, and hear me, O Lord my God : lighten mine eyes, that I sleep not in death.*

*4. Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him : for if I be cast down, they that trouble me will rejoice at it.*

*5. But my trust is in thy mercy : and my heart is joyful in thy salvation.*

*6. I will sing of the Lord, because he hath dealt so lovingly with me : yea, I will praise the Name of the Lord most Highest. Glory be to the Father ...*

## Psalm 42 (43)

1 Judica me, Deus, et discerne causam meam de gente non sancta : ab homine iniquo et doloso erue me.

2 Quia tu es, Deus, fortitudo mea : quare me repulisti? et quare tristis incedo, dum affligit me inimicus?

3 Emitte lucem tuam et veritatem tuam : ipsa me deduxerunt, et adduxerunt in montem sanctum tuum, et in tabernacula tua.

4 Et introibo ad altare Dei, ad Deum qui lætificat juventutem meam.

5 Confitebor tibi in cithara, Deus, Deus meus. Quare tristis es, anima mea? et quare conturbas me?

6 Spera in Deo, quoniam adhuc confitebor illi: salutare vultus mei, et Deus meus.

Gloria Patri.



1. *Give sentence with me, O God, and defend my cause against the ungodly people : O deliver me from the deceitful and wicked man.*
2. *For thou art the God of my strength, why hast thou put me from thee : and why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresseth me?*
3. *O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me : and bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling.*
4. *And that I may go unto the altar of God, even unto the God of my joy and gladness : and upon the harp I will give thanks unto thee, O God, my God.*
5. *Why art thou so heavy, O my soul : and why art thou so disquieted within me?*
6. *O put thy trust in God : for I will yet give him thanks, which is the help of my countenance, and my God. Glory be to the Father ...*

### **Antiphon (complete)**

Cum iocunditate memoriam Beate Marie celebremus ut ipsa pro nobis intercedat ad Dominum Jesum Christum.

*Let us celebrate with gladness the memorial of the Blessed Virgin that she may intercede for us unto our Lord Jesus Christ.*

### **Chapter reading (Sirach 24:20)**

Sicut cynamomum et balsamum aromatizans odorem dedi : quasi myrrha electa dedi suavitatem odoris. R. Deo gratias

*I gave a sweet smell like cinnamon and aromatic balm: I yielded a sweet odour like the best myrrh. R. Thanks be to God.*

### **Hymn**

1 Virgo singularis,  
Inter omnes mitis,  
Nos, culpis solutos,  
Mites fac et castos.

*Singular Virgin,  
Mild among all,  
Having freed us from faults,  
Make us meek and chaste.*

2 Vitam presta puram,  
Iter para tutum,  
Ut videntes Iesum,  
Semper collemur.

*Keep our lives pure,  
Make safe the way,  
That seeing Jesus,  
We may for ever rejoice together.*

3 Sit laus Deo Patri,  
Summo Christo decus,  
Spiritui Sancto,  
Tribus honor unus. Amen.

*Praise be to God the Father  
Honour to Christ the Highest,  
To the Holy Spirit,  
One threefold honour. Amen.*

## Versicle

V Elegit eam Deus et preelegit eam. R. Et habitare eam facit in tabernaculo suo  
*V. God elected her, and pre-elected her. R. He made her to dwell in His tabernacle.*

*Stand for the Gospel canticle and the collect.*

## Antiphon (incipit)

Glorificamus.  
*We glorify thee.*

## Nunc dimittis. (St Luke ii. 29)

1 Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine, secundum verbum tuum in pace:  
2 Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum  
3 Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum:  
4 Lumen ad revelationem gentium, et gloriam plebis tue Israel.  
Gloria Patri.

*1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace : according to thy word.  
2 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
3 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
4 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father.*

## Antiphon (complete)

Glorificamus te Dei genitrix: quia ex te natus est Christus: salva omnes qui te glorificant.  
*We glorify thee, O mother of God, for of thee Christ was born: save all who glorify thee.*

## Collect

V. Dominus vobiscum. R. Et cum spiritu tuo.

Oremus. Concede nos famulos tuos quesumus Domine Deus, perpetua mentis et corporis salute gaudere: et gloriosa beate Marie semper virginis intercessione a presenti liberari tristitia: et eterna perfrui leticia. Per eundem Christum Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum Filium tuum. Amen.

*Let us pray. Grant us thy servants, Lord God, we pray, that we may be evermore joyful in health of soul and body; and through thee beseeching of the glorious Mary, ever-virgin, we may be delivered from our present sorrow, and know fully the joy without end. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.*

V. Dominus vobiscum. R. Et cum spiritu tuo.

V. *Benedicamus Domino.* R. *Deo gratias.*

*Sit or kneel as the singers process to the Lady Chapel for the Antiphon Ceremony.*

## *Antiphon of the Virgin Mary*

Salve Regina, mater misericordie, vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, Salve.

Ad te clamamus exules filii Eve.

Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes in hac lacrimarum valle.

Eya ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte,  
et Jhesum benedictum fructum ventris tui nobis post hoc exilium ostende.

Virgo mater ecclesie, eterna porta glorie, esto nobis refugium apud patrem et filium.

O clemens.

Virgo clemens, Virgo pia, Virgo dulcis, O Maria, exaudi preces omnium ad te pie clamantium. O pia.

Funde preces tuo nato, crucifixo, vulnerato, et pro nobis flagellato, spinis puncto, felle potato. O mitis.

Gloriosa dei mater, Cuius natus extat pater, Ora pro nobis omnibus, Qui tui memoriam agimus. O pulcra.

Dele culpas miserorum, Terge sordes peccatorum, Dona nobis beatorum, vitas tuis preciorum. O dulcis Maria.

*Hail, queen of compassion: our life, sweetness and hope – hail.*

*To you we cry, the banished children of Eve.*

*To you we sigh, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.*

*Therefore, our advocate, turn your eyes filled with compassion towards us.*

*And after this exile, reveal to us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.*

*O virgin mother of the church, gate of eternal glory, be to us a refuge in the presence of the Father and the Son. O kind ...*

*O kind, loving, gentle virgin, hear the prayers of all those who cry for you. O loving ...*

*Pour out our prayers to your Child who for us was crucified, wounded, beaten, pierced with thorns, given gall to drink. O gentle ...*

*Glorious mother of God begotten of the Father, pray for all those who remember you.  
O beautiful ...*

*Blot out the misdeeds of sinners, wipe clean the baseness of the penitents, grant us the life of  
the blessed by your prayer. O sweet Mary.*

## Versicle

V. Ave Maria, gracia plena, Dominus tecum. R Benedicta tu in mulieribus.

V. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. R. Blessed art thou among women.

## Collect

Oremus. Omnipotens sempiterne Deus, qui gloriose Virginis et Matris Marie corpus et animam, ut dignum Filii tui habitaculum effici mereretur, Spiritu Sancto cooperante, mirabiliter preparasti: da, ut cuius commemoratione letamur; eius pia intercessione, ab instantibus malis, a subitanea morte et improvisa liberemur. Per eundem Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum Filium tuum: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spiritus Sancti Deus, per omnia secula seculorum. Amen.

*Let us pray. Almighty, everlasting God, who by the cooperation of the Holy Spirit, didst prepare the body and soul of the glorious Virgin-Mother Mary to become a worthy dwelling for Thy Son; grant that we who rejoice in her commemoration, by her loving intercession, be delivered from present evils and from the everlasting death. Through the same Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.*

Latin Vespers and Compline this evening have been devised as part of the research project *The Experience of Worship in late Medieval Cathedral and Parish Church*, part of the UK-wide research programme, *Religion and Society*, funded jointly by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council. It is led by Professor John Harper, director of the International Centre for Sacred Music Studies, Bangor University. For further details see [www.experienceofworship.org.uk](http://www.experienceofworship.org.uk)

The project team offer their warmest thanks to the Dean and Chapter of Bangor Cathedral this evening for their hospitality and assistance.

