





ARCHDIOCESE OF
NEW ORLEANS

Solemn Vespers

*with the Profession of Faith & Oath of Fidelity of
the Most Reverend James Francis Checchio, JCD*

MONDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH OF NOVEMBER
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIVE

SAINT DOMINIC CHURCH
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA



HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV



HIS EMINENCE
CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE
APOSTOLIC NUNCIO TO THE UNITED STATES



HIS EXCELLENCY
THE MOST REVEREND
GREGORY MICHAEL AYMOND
ARCHBISHOP OF NEW ORLEANS



HIS EXCELLENCY
THE MOST REVEREND
JAMES FRANCIS CHECCHIO, JCD
COADJUTOR ARCHBISHOP OF NEW ORLEANS

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Evening Prayer

All stand.

PROCESSIONAL

Pilgrims of Hope

Hymn for the Jubilee Year 2025

INTRODUCTORY VERSE

Presider: God, ✠ come to my assistance.

All: **Lord, make haste to help me.**

Presider: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

All: **as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.**

HYMN

Shepherd of Souls

1. Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless
2. We would not live by bread a - lone,
3. Be known to us in break - ing bread,
4. Lord, sup with us in love di - vine;

Your cho - sen pil - grim flock With man - na in the
But by your word of grace, In strength of which we
But do not then de - part; Sav - ior, a - bide with
Your Bod - y and your Blood, That liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, With wa - ter from the rock.
tra - vel on To our a - bid - ing place.
us, and spread Your ta - ble in our heart.
heav'n - ly wine, Be our im - mor - tal food.

Sit.

Psalm 113

Antiphon: I will give you shepherds after **my own heart**;
and they will nourish you with knowledge and sound **teaching**.

The antiphon is repeated. Psalm sung alternating sides.

Side 1 is to the Presider's right, Side 2 is to the Presider's left.



Side 1: Praise, O servants **of the Lord**,
praise the name **of the Lord**!
May the name of the **Lord be blessed**
both now and **for evermore**!
From the rising of the sun **to its setting**
praised be the name **of the Lord**!

Side 2: High above all nations **is the Lord**,
above the hea-**vens his glory**.
Who is like the **Lord, our God**,
who has risen on high **to his throne**
yet stoops from the heights **to look down**,
to look down upon hea-**ven and earth**?

Side 1: From the dust he lifts **up the lowly**,
from his misery he rai-**ses the poor**
to set him in the com-**pany of princes**,
yes, with the princes **of his people**.
To the childless wife he **gives a home**
and gladdens her **heart with children**.

Side 2: Glory to the Father, and **to the Son**,
and to the **Ho-ly Spirit**:

Side 1: as it was in the beg-**inning, is now**,
and will be for **ever. A-men**.

All chant the antiphon.

Antiphon: I will give you shepherds after **my own heart**;
and they will nourish you with knowledge and sound **teaching**.

PSALM 146

Antiphon: I shall **feed my flock**;
I shall search for the lost and lead back those who **have strayed**.

*The antiphon is repeated. Psalm sung alternating sides.
Side 1 is to the Presider's right, Side 2 is to the Presider's left.*



Side 1: My soul, give praise **to the Lord**;
I will praise the Lord all **my days**,
make music to my God while **I live**.

Side 2: Put no **trust in princes**,
in mortal men in whom there is **no help**.
Take their breath, they re-**turn to clay**,
and their plans that day come **to nothing**.

Side 1: He is happy who is helped by **Ja-cob's God**,
whose hope is in the Lord **his God**,
who alone made hea-**ven and earth**,
the seas and all they **con-tain**.

Side 2: It is he who keeps **faith for ever**,
who is just to those who are **o-ppressed**.
It is he who gives bread **to the hungry**,
the Lord, who sets priso-**ners free**,

Side 1: the Lord who gives sight **to the blind**,
who raises up those who are **bowed down**,
the Lord, who pro-**TECTS the stranger**
and upholds the widow **and orphan**.

Side 2: It is the Lord who **loves the just**
but thwarts the path of **the wicked**.
The Lord will **reign for ever**,
Zion's God, from age **to age**.

Side 1: Glory to the Father, and **to the Son**,
and to the Ho-**ly Spirit**:

Side 2: as it was in the begin-**ning**, is **now**,
and will be for ever. **A-men**.

All chant the antiphon.

Antiphon: I shall **feed my flock**;
I shall search for the lost and lead back those who **have strayed**.

Ephesians 1:3-10

Antiphon: The **Good Shepherd**
laid down his life **for his sheep**.

*The antiphon is repeated. Canticle sung alternating sides.
Side 1 is to the Presider's right, Side 2 is to the Presider's left.*



Side 1: Praised be the **God and Father**
of our Lord **Je-sus Christ**,
who has bestowed on **us in Christ**
every spiritual blessing **in the heavens**.

Side 2: God chose **us in him**
before the **world began**,
to **be holy**
and blameless **in his sight**.

Side 1: He predestined us to be his adopted sons through **Je-sus Christ**,
such was his **will and pleasure**,
that all might praise the glo-ri-ous **favor**
he has bestowed on us in **his be-loved**.

Side 2: In him and through his blood,
we have **been re-deemed**,
and our **sins for-given**,
so immeasurably **gen-e-rous**
is God's fa-vor **to us**.

Side 1: God has given **us the wisdom**
to understand ful-ly the **mystery**,
the plan **he was pleased**
to de-cree in **Christ**.

Side 2: A plan to be **car-ried out**
in Christ, in the full-**ness of time**,
to bring all things into **one in him**,
in the heavens **and on earth**.

Side 1: Glory to the Father, and **to the Son**,
and to the **Ho-ly Spirit**:

Side 2: as it was in the begin-**ning, is now**,
and will be for **ever. A-men**.

All chant the antiphon.

Antiphon: The **Good Shepherd**
laid down his life **for his sheep**.

READING

1 Peter 5:1-4

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH AND OATH OF FIDELITY

Before assuming the office of coadjutor archbishop, Archbishop Checchio makes a Profession of Faith and takes an Oath of Fidelity before God and the Church.

In the Profession of Faith, he solemnly proclaims the Creed and affirms his wholehearted belief in all that the Catholic Church teaches, proclaims, and holds to be true. This public declaration manifests his full communion with the Church and his commitment to guard and hand on the deposit of faith in its integrity.

Then, placing his hand on the Book of the Gospels, he promises to serve and teach with faithfulness and obedience to the Church. In the Oath of Fidelity, the bishop pledges obedience and loyalty to the Pope and his successors, and promises to exercise his pastoral office with diligence, charity, and fidelity to the Gospel. Through this oath, he binds himself to uphold the unity of the Church, to teach and govern in accordance with its laws, and to serve the People of God entrusted to his care.

RESPONSORY

Reader: Priests of the Lord, give thanks and praise to the Lord.
All: **Priests of the Lord, give thanks and praise to the Lord.**

Reader: You of holy and humble heart, acclaim your Lord.
All: **give thanks and praise to the Lord.**

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
All: **Priests of the Lord, give thanks and praise to the Lord.**

Stand.

CANTICLE OF MARY

Antiphon: Priest of the **Most High God**
and mirror of **goodness**,
you were a good shepherd **to your people**
and pleasing to **the Lord**.

The antiphon is repeated. Canticle sung in unison.



My ✠ soul proclaims the greatness of the **Lord**,
my spirit rejoices in God **my Savior**
for he has looked with favor on his low-ly **servant**.

From this day all generations will **call me blessed**:
the Almighty has done great things **for me**,
and holy is **his Name**.

He has mercy on **those who fear him**
in every gen-er-**ation**.
He has shown the strength of his **arm**,
he has scattered the proud in their **con-ceit**.

He has cast down the mighty **from their thrones**,
and has lifted up **the lowly**.
He has filled the hungry **with good things**,
and the rich he has sent a-way **empty**.

He has come to the help of his ser-vant **Israel**
for he has remembered his promise of **mercy**,
the promise he made **to our fathers**,
to Abraham and his children **for ever**.

Glory to the Father, and **to the Son**,
and to the Ho-ly **Spirit**:
as it was in the begin-**ning**, is **now**,
and will be for ever. **A-men**.

All chant the antiphon.

Antiphon: Priest of the **Most High God**
and mirror of **goodness**,
you were a good shepherd **to your people**
and pleasing to **the Lord**.

INTERCESSIONS

All respond to each intercession:

Lord, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER

BLESSING

Presider: The Lord be with you,

All: **And with your spirit**

Presider: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

All: **Now and for ever**

Presider: Our help in in the name of the Lord.

All: **Who made heaven and earth.**

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

All: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

RECESSIONAL

March Triumphale

Thank You!

With hearts filled with joy and thanksgiving,
we extend our deepest gratitude to all who have gathered for this
solemn celebration of Vespers on the eve of the Mass of Welcome for
the Most Reverend James F. Checchio as Coadjutor Archbishop of New Orleans.

This sacred moment in the life of our local Church
is a time to give thanks to God for his enduring care
and for the faith of the people who make up this archdiocesan family.

This evening, as we join our voices in praise of God,
we do so with confidence that Christ, the Good Shepherd,
has granted to us a loving shepherd: one after his own heart.
We pray that Archbishop Checchio may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit,
filled with wisdom, courage and compassion,
and blessed with deep peace as he begins this new ministry among us.

WE ALSO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION
TO ALL WHO HAVE MADE THIS CELEBRATION POSSIBLE

To the clergy, religious, and lay faithful who have gathered in prayerful unity,
representing the many parishes, schools, offices and ministries of our Archdiocese;

To the readers, servers, musicians, masters of ceremonies,
and all who assisted in the preparation of this celebration;

To the Archdiocesan Office of Worship, the Archdiocesan Special Events Committee,
Reverend Wayne Paysse, the pastor of St. Dominic Church,
and the St. Dominic Parish and School community,
whose unseen hours of preparation made this celebration possible;

To His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan,
for his gracious presence and for the inspiring homily he shared with us this evening;

To Archbishop Checchio's family and friends who join us for this joyous occasion.
Your presence is a treasured reminder of the love and faith
that have shaped his vocation and continue to surround him in prayer and support;

Above all, we give thanks and praise to Almighty God,
the source of every blessing and the author of every vocation.

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