BELMONT ABBEY



THE OFFICE OF

1ST & 2nd VESPERS

FOR THE SOLEMNITY

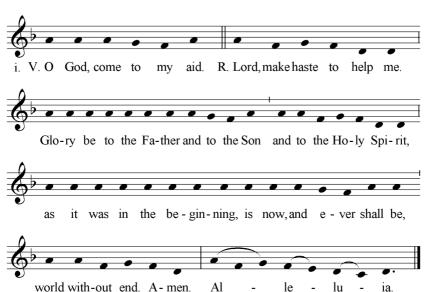
OF THE DEDICATION OF

THE ABBEY CHURCH

ORDER FOR THE OFFICE OF VESPERS

1. Introduction

On Solemnities



2. Psalmody - three Psalms and a NT Canticle with Antiphons

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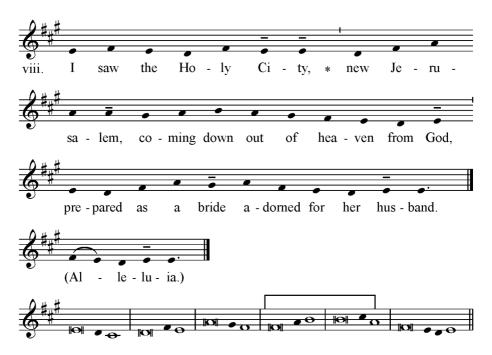
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

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

Repeated after each Psalm and Canticle

DEDICATION OF THE ABBEY CHURCH

4 September



First Vespers: Psalm 86

On the holy mountain is his city cherished by the Lord.
The Lord prefers the gates of Zion to all Jacob's dwellings.
Of you are told glorious things,
O city of God!

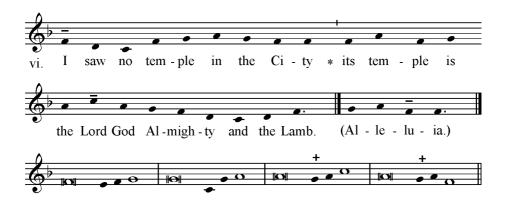
"Babylon and Egypt I will count among those who know me; Philistia, Tyre, Ethiopia, these will be her children and Zion shall be called 'Mother' for all shall be her children." It is he the Lord Most High, who gives each his place.
In his register of peoples he writes:
"These are her children"
and while they dance they will sing:
"In you all find their home."

Second Vespers: Psalm 112

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!

High above all nations is the Lord, above the heavens 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 heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly, from the dungheap he raises the poor to set him in the company of princes, yes, with the princes of his people. To the childless wife he gives a home and gladdens her heart with children.



First & Second Vespers: Psalm 64

To you our praise is due in Zion, O God.

To you we pay our vows, you who hear our prayer.

To you all flesh will come with its burden of sin.
Too heavy for us, our offences, but you wipe them away.

Blessed is he whom you choose and call to dwell in your courts.

We are filled with the blessings of your house, of your holy temple.

You keep your pledge with wonders, O God our saviour, the hope of all the earth and of far distant isles. You uphold the mountains with your strength, you are girded with power.
You still the roaring of the seas, †
[the roaring of their waves]
and the tumult of the peoples.

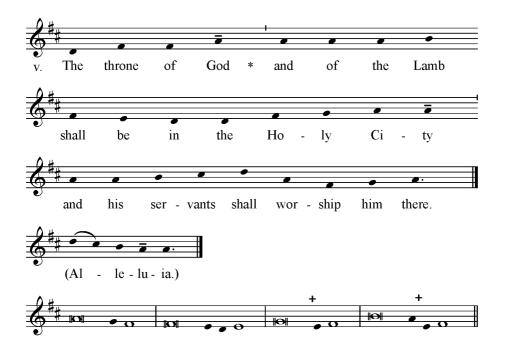
The ends of the earth stand in awe at the sight of your wonders. The lands of sunrise and sunset you fill with your joy.

You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain.

And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth.

You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing.



First Vespers: Psalm 83

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God.

The sparrow herself finds a home and the swallow a nest for her brood; she lays her young by your altars, Lord of hosts, my king and my God.

They are happy, who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise. They are happy, whose strength is in you, in whose hearts are the roads to Zion.

As they go through the Bitter Valley † they make it a place of springs [the autumn rain covers it with blessings]. They walk with ever growing strength, they will see the God of gods in Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer, give ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed.

One day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. The threshold of the house of God I prefer to the dwellings of the wicked.

For the Lord God is a rampart, a shield; he will give us his favour and glory. The Lord will not refuse any good to those who walk without blame.

Lord, God of hosts, happy the man who trusts in you!

Second Vespers: Psalm 47

The Lord is great and worthy to be praised in the city of our God. His holy mountain rises in beauty, the joy of all the earth.

Mount Zion, true pole of the earth, the Great King's city!
God, in the midst of its citadels, has shown himself its stronghold.

For the kings assembled together, together they advanced.
They saw; at once they were astounded; dismayed, they fled in fear.

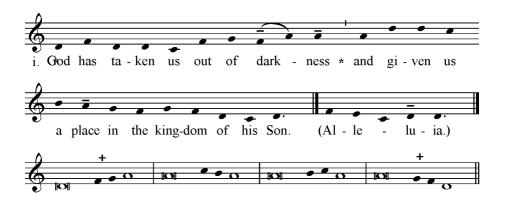
A trembling seized them there, like the pangs of birth.
By the east wind you have destroyed the ships of Tarshish.

As we have heard, so we have seen in the city of our God, in the city of the Lord of hosts which God upholds for ever.

O God, we ponder your love within your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name reaches the ends of the earth.

With justice your right hand is filled. Mount Zion rejoices; the people of Judah rejoice at the sight of your judgments. Walk through Zion, walk all round it; count the number of its towers. Review all its ramparts, examine its castles,

that you may tell the next generation that such is our God, our God for ever and always. It is he who leads us.



First & Second Vespers: Canticle: 1 Peter 2: 4-6, 7 & 9

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by men yet chosen and precious in the sight of God.

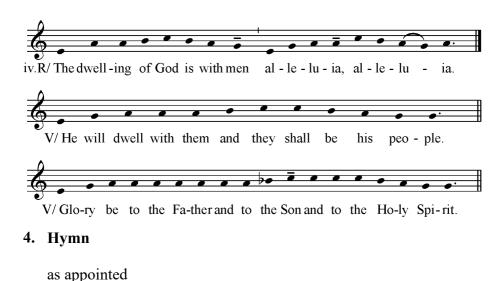
Let yourselves be built into a spiritual house like living stones, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices † acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

See, I am laying a stone in Zion, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame. You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of God who called you out of darkness into his own wonderful light.

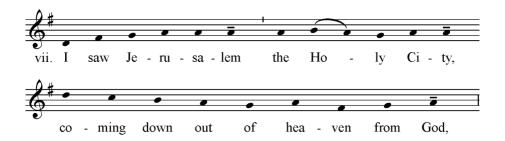
3. Short Scripture Reading

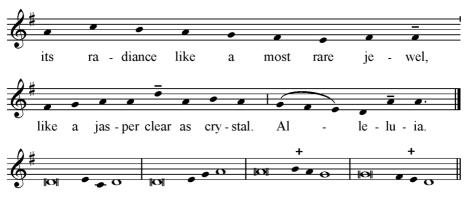
followed by a short silence and the Brief Respond

BRIEF RESPOND



5. Magnificat with Proper Antiphon





Luke 1:46-55

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her lowliness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted. He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly. He fills the hungry with good things sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy, the mercy promised to our fathers, to Abraham and his sons forever.

Antiphon

Glory Be

Antiphon

6. Intercessions with Kyrie Eleison



vi. R. Ký-ri - e e - lé - i - son.

7. The Lord's Prayer



8. Collect

9. Blessing and Conclusion

10. Blessing and Conclusion

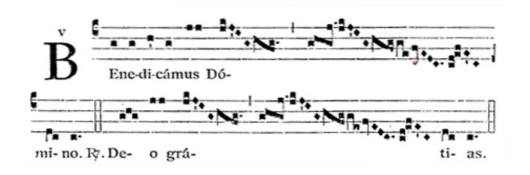
The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

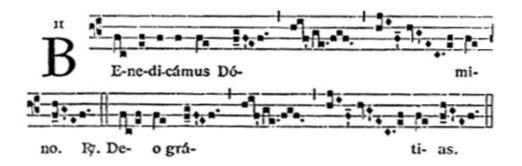
May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

On Solemnities









10. Solemn Antiphon to Our Lady

Following procession to the Lady Chapel

