

## Vespers St. Peter Claver

God, + come to my assistance.  
– Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
– as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

### HYMN

1. Jesus, Redeemer of us all,  
eternal crown of saints above,  
with loving mercy heed our prayer,  
who raise our voice to you this day.
  
  2. Your faithful people celebrate  
with yearly feast and solemn praise  
this Saint revered for holiness,  
who once confessed your sacred name.
  
  3. He passed with calm and peaceful step  
beyond the cares this world can hold;  
with constant faith and hope in you  
he trod salvation's path to life.
  
  4. And rightly he held back his heart  
from fleeting joys that fade and fail;  
rejoicing now with angel choirs,  
he finds reward in heaven above.
  
  5. O gracious Lord, grant us, we pray,  
that we may follow in his steps;  
then by his prayer, forgive our sin,  
and free your servants from their guilt.
- D. To you, O Christ, most loving King,  
and to the Father, glory be,  
one with the Spirit Paraclete  
from age to age for evermore. Amen.

Melody: 8 8 8 8 (LM)

Ant. 1 God found him pure and strong; he will have everlasting glory.

**Psalm 15**

**Who is worthy to stand in God's presence?**

*You have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God (Hebrews 12:22).*

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent \*  
and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault; \*  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart; \*  
he who does not slander with his tongue;

he who does no wrong to his brother, \*  
who casts no slur on his neighbor,  
who holds the godless in disdain, \*  
but honors those who fear the Lord;

he who keeps his pledge, come what may; \*  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent. \*  
Such a man will stand firm forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, \*  
and will be for ever. Amen.

Ant. 1 God found him pure and strong; he will have everlasting glory.

Ant. 2 God's saints will be filled with his love and mercy; he watches over his chosen ones.

**Psalm 112**

**The happiness of the just man**

Live as children born of the light. Light produces every kind of goodness and justice and *truth* (Ephesians 5:8-9).

Happy the man who fears the Lord, \*  
who takes delight in all his commands.  
His sons will be powerful on earth; \*  
the children of the upright are blessed.

Riches and wealth are in his house; \*  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
He is a light in the darkness for the upright: \*  
he is generous, merciful and just.

The good man takes pity and lends, \*  
he conducts his affairs with honor.  
The just man will never waver: \*  
he will be remembered for ever.

He has no fear of evil news; \*  
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.  
With a steadfast heart he will not fear; \*  
he will see the downfall of his foes.

Open-handed, he gives to the poor; †  
his justice stands firm for ever. \*  
His head will be raised in glory.

The wicked man sees and is angry, †  
grinds his teeth and fades away; \*  
the desire of the wicked leads to doom.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, \*  
and will be for ever. Amen.

Ant. 2      God's saints will be filled with his love and mercy; he watches over his chosen ones.

Ant. 3      The whole earth echoes with the melody of heaven where the saints are singing before the throne of God and the Lamb.

**Canticle: Revelation 15:3-4**  
**Hymn of adoration**

Mighty and wonderful are your works, \*  
Lord God Almighty!  
Righteous and true are your ways, \*  
O King of the nations!

Who would dare refuse you honor, \*  
or the glory due your name, O Lord?

Since you alone are holy, \*  
all nations shall come  
and worship in your presence. \*  
Your mighty deeds are clearly seen.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, \*  
and will be for ever. Amen.

Ant. 3        The whole earth echoes with the melody of heaven where the saints are singing  
before the throne of God and the Lamb.

**READING**                      **Romans 8:28-30**

We know that God makes all things work together for the good of those who have been called according to his decree. Those whom he foreknew he predestined to share the image of his Son, that the Son might be the first-born of many brothers. Those he predestined he likewise called; those he called, he also justified; and those he justified, he in turn glorified.

**RESPONSORY**

Just is the Lord, in justice he delights.  
---Just is the Lord, in justice he delights.

He looks with favor on the upright man;  
---in justice he delights.

Glory to the Father...  
---Just is the Lord, in justice he delights.

**CANTICLE OF MARY**

Ant.    I tell you most solemnly, what you did for the least of men you did for me. Come, my  
Father delights in you; receive the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the  
world.

**Luke 1:46-55**  
**The soul rejoices in the Lord**

My + soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, †  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly 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 generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

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 away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant 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 Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, \*  
and will be for ever. Amen.

Ant. I tell you most solemnly, what you did for the least of men you did for me. Come, my  
Father delights in you; receive the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the  
world.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to the Father, the source of all holiness, and ask him to lead us to holiness of life  
through the example and intercession of his saints:  
*May we be holy as you are holy.*

Holy Father, you want us to be called your sons and truly to be such,  
---grant that your holy Church may proclaim you throughout the world.

Holy Father, you want us to walk worthily and please you in all we do,  
---let us abound in doing good works.

Holy Father, you have reconciled us to yourself through Christ,  
---preserve us in your name so that all may be one.

Holy Father, you have called us to a heavenly banquet  
---through the bread that came down from heaven make us worthy to grow in perfect  
love.

Holy Father, forgive the offenses of every sinner,  
---let the dead perceive the light of your countenance.

Our Father...

## PRAYER

O God, who made Saint Peter Claver a slave of slaves  
and strengthened him  
with wonderful charity and patience  
as he came to their help,  
grant, through his intercession,  
that, seeking the things of Jesus Christ,  
we may love our neighbor in deeds and in truth.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
— Amen.

May the Lord bless us,  
protect us from all evil  
and bring us to everlasting life.  
— Amen.

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