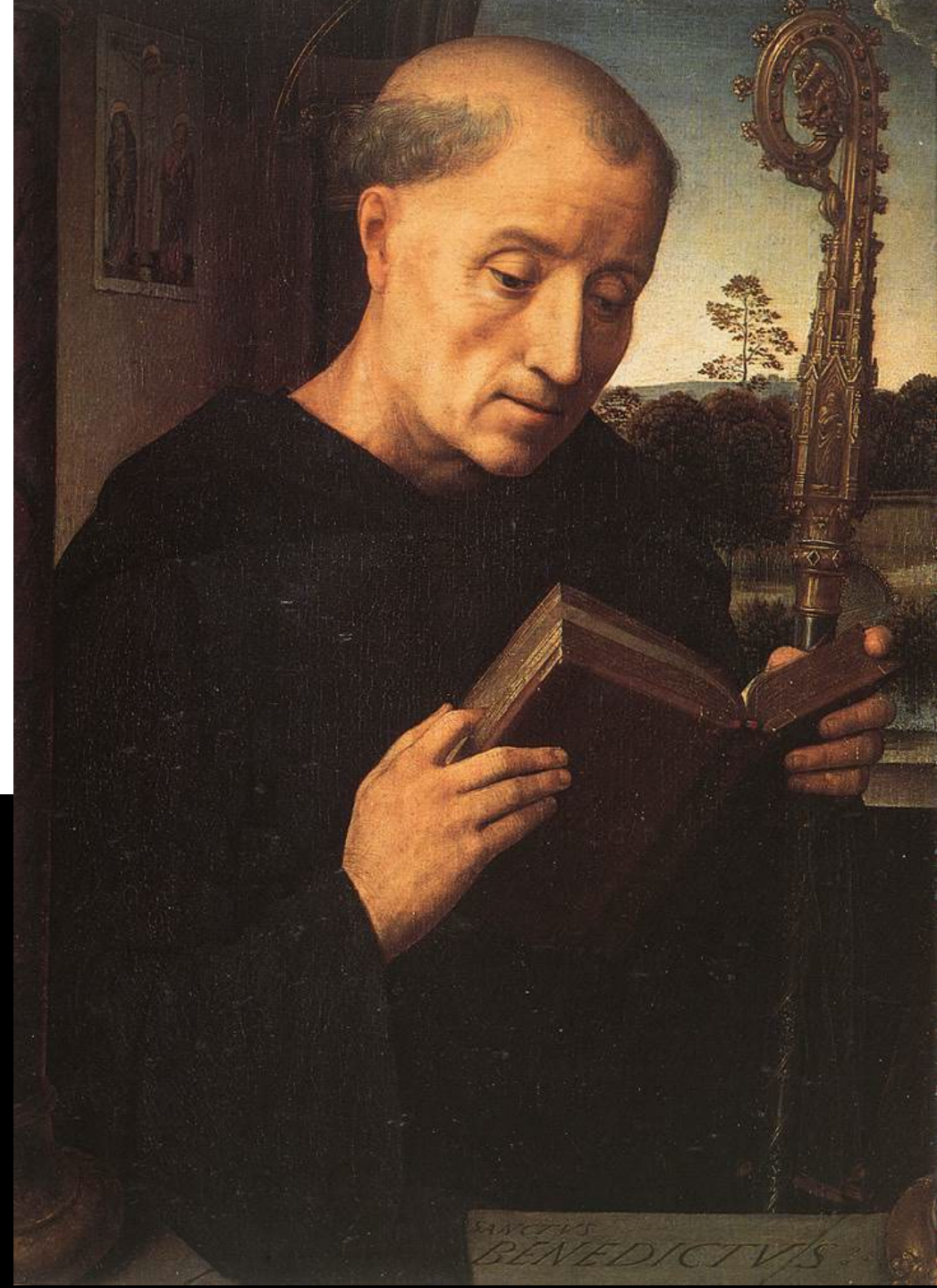




Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer
Memorial of St. Benedict
July 11, 2025



INTRODUCTION

Leader: God, + come to my assistance.

All: Lord, make haste to help me.

Leader: 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 for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

PSALMODY

Psalm 116:1-9 Thanksgiving

We must endure many trials before entering God's kingdom
(Acts 14:21)

Antiphon:

Leader: Lord, keep my soul from death,

All: **never let me stumble.**

Leader: I love the Lord for he has heard
the cry of my appeal;
for he turned his ear to me
in the day when I called him.

All: **They surrounded me, the snares of death, with the
anguish of the tomb;
they caught me, sorrow and distress.
I called on the Lord's name.**

O Lord, my God, deliver me!

**How gracious is the Lord, and just;
our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me.**

Turn back, my soul, to your rest
for the Lord has been good;
he has kept my soul from death,
my eyes from tears
and my feet from stumbling.

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.**

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.

Antiphon:

Leader: Lord, keep my soul from death,

All: **never let me stumble.**

Psalm Prayer

Leader: God of power and mercy, through your Son's passion and resurrection you have freed us from the bonds of death and the anguish of separation from you. Be ever with us on our pilgrimage; then we shall sing rather than weep. Keep our feet from stumbling, so that we may be able to follow you until we come to eternal rest.

Psalm 121: Guardian of his people
Never again will they hunger and thirst, never again know scorching heat
(Revelation 7:16)

Antiphon:

Leader: My help comes from the Lord,
All: **who made heaven and earth.**

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard.

The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night.

The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming both now and 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.

Antiphon:

Leader: My help comes from the Lord,
All: **who made heaven and earth.**

Psalm Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared a quiet place for us in
your Father's eternal home. Watch over our welfare on this
perilous journey, shade us from the burning heat of day, and
keep our lives free of evil until the end.

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

Antiphon

Leader: King of all the ages,
All: **your ways are perfect and true.**

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.**

Antiphon

Leader: The Lord is my strength, I shall always praise him,
All: **for he has become my Savior, alleluia.**

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

Reader: Just is the Lord, in justice he delights.

All: **Just is the Lord, in justice he delights.**

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Just is the Lord, in justice he delights.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Canticle of Mary: Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

Leader: He received the Lord’s blessing and the merciful saving power of God;

All: **such is the fortune of those who seek 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.

Antiphon:

Leader: He received the Lord’s blessing and the merciful saving power of God;

All: **such is the fortune of those who seek the Lord.**

INTERCESSIONS

Reader: 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.

All: **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.

May we be holy as you are holy.

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

May we be holy as you are holy.

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

May we be holy as you are holy.

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.

May we be holy as you are holy.

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

May we be holy as you are holy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God our Father,
you made Saint Benedict an outstanding guide
to teach men how to live in your service.
Grant that by preferring your love to everything else,
we may walk in the way of your commandments.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever
– **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

If a priest or deacon presides, he dismisses the people:

May the Lord Jesus, who loved children, bless you and
keep you in his love, now and for ever.
– **Amen.**

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

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

Go in peace.
– **Thanks be to God.**

*In the absence of a priest or deacon and in individual
recitation, Evening Prayer concludes:*

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