

# Psalms in Season

*Music for the psalms in Catholic life*



## Feasts and Solemnities

The Presentation of the Lord  
(Candlemas)  
St David, Patron of Wales  
St Patrick, Patron of Ireland  
St Joseph  
The Annunciation of the Lord  
St George, Patron of England  
Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest  
The Nativity of St John the Baptist  
SS Peter and Paul, Apostles  
The Transfiguration of the Lord

The Assumption of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary  
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
All Saints  
All Souls  
The Dedication of the Lateran  
Basilica  
St Andrew  
The Immaculate Conception of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
St Dominic

Simon Hetherington

Concordat cum Originali: Christopher Thomas

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## ***The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)***

### The LORD of hosts, he is the king of glory!

*Lectionary No. 524*  
Psalm 24(23):7. 8. 9. 10. R. 10bc

The musical score is written for a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is D major (two sharps) and the time signature is 3/4. The vocal line consists of five measures with lyrics: 'The LORD of hosts, he is the king of glory!'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

1/. O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

3/. O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

2/. Who is this king of glory?  
The LORD, the mighty, the valiant;  
the LORD, the valiant in war.

4/. Who is this king of glory?  
He, the LORD of hosts,  
he is the king of glory.

## *Saint David, Patron of Wales*

Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the LORD.

*Lectionary No. 536b*

Psalm 1:1-2. 3. 4, 6. R. Psalm 40(39):5a

Bless-ed the man who has placed his trust in the LORD.

(Verse 1 only)

1/. Blessed indeed is the man  
 who follows not the counsel of the wicked,  
 nor stands in the path with sinners,  
 nor abides in the company of scorners,  
 but whose delight is the law of the LORD,  
 and who ponders his law day and night.

2/. He is like a tree that is planted  
 beside the flowing waters,  
 that yields its fruit in due season,  
 and whose leaves shall never fade;  
 and all that he does shall prosper.

3/. Not so are the wicked, not so!  
 For they, like winnowed chaff,  
 shall be driven away by the wind.  
 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
 but the way of the wicked will perish.

## ***St Patrick, Patron of Ireland***

Go into all the world and proclaim the good news.

*Lectionary No. 541*

Psalm 117(116):1. 2. R. Mark 16:15

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a soprano or alto clef, and the piano accompaniment is in a bass clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 2/4. The lyrics are: "Go in - to all the world and pro - claim the good news." The second system continues the piano accompaniment with chords and moving lines in both staves.

1/. O praise the LORD, all you nations;  
acclaim him, all you peoples!

2/. For his mercy has prevailed over us;  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for ever.

## Saint Joseph

His descendants shall continue for ever.

Lectionary No. 543  
 Psalm 89(88):2-3. 4-5. 27, 29. R. 37a

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "His des-cen-dants shall con-tin-ue for ev-er." The melody features a triplet of eighth notes on the word "con-tin-ue" and another triplet of eighth notes on the word "ev-er".

1/. I will sing for ever of your mercies, O LORD;  
 through all ages my mouth will proclaim your fidelity.  
 I have declared your mercy is established for ever;  
 your fidelity stands firm as the heavens.

2/. 'With my chosen one I have made a covenant;  
 I have sworn to David my servant:  
 I will establish your descendants for ever,  
 and set up your throne through all ages.'

3/. 'He will call out to me: "You are my father,  
 my God, the rock of my salvation".  
 I will keep my faithful love for him always;  
 with him my covenant shall last.'

## *The Annunciation of the Lord*

### Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

*Lectionary No. 545*  
Psalm 40(39):7-8a. 8b-9. 10. 11. R. 8a, 9a

The musical score is written in 3/4 time. The first system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics 'Be - hold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.' are written below the notes. The piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The second system is a piano accompaniment for a second verse, marked 'Omit for verse 2'. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature.

1/. You delight not in sacrifice and offering,  
but in an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and sin offering.  
Then I said, 'Behold, I have come.'

2/. In the scroll of the book it stands written of me:  
'I delight to do your will, O my God;  
your instruction lies deep within me.'

3/. Your uprightness I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
You know it, O LORD.

4/. Your saving help I have not hidden in my heart;  
of your faithfulness and salvation I have spoken.  
I made no secret of your merciful love  
and your faithfulness to the great assembly.

## *Saint George, Martyr, Patron of England*

Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

*Lectionary No. 553*

Psalm 126(125):1-2a. 2c-3. 4-5. 6. R.5

Those who are sow - ing in tears will sing when they reap.

1/. When the LORD brought back the exiles of Sion,  
we thought we were dreaming.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our tongues, songs of joy.

2/. Then they said among the nations,  
'What great deeds the LORD worked for them!'  
What great deeds the LORD worked for us!  
Indeed, we were glad.

3/. Bring back our exiles, O LORD,  
as streams in the Negeb.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap.

4/. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
bearing seed for the sowing;  
they come back, they come back with a song,  
bearing their sheaves.

## ***Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest*** ***Year A***

Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

*Lectionary No. 572*

Psalm 40(39):7-8a. 10-11b. 17. R. 8a, 9a

Be - hold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

*Repeat for verse 2*

1/. You delight not in sacrifice and offering,  
but in an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and sin offering.  
Then I said, 'Behold, I have come.'

2/. Your uprightness I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
You know it, O LORD.  
Your saving help I have not hidden in my heart;  
of your faithfulness and salvation I have spoken.

3/. O let there be rejoicing and gladness  
for all who seek you.  
Let them ever say, 'The LORD is great,'  
who long for your salvation.



## Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest Year B

You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.

Lectionary No. 572  
Psalm 110(109):1. 2. 3. R. 4bc

You are a priest for ev - er, acc-ord-ing to the ord-er of Mel-chi-ze-dek.

Verse 3 only

1/. The LORD's revelation to my lord:  
'Sit at my right hand,  
until I make your foes your footstool.'

2/. The LORD will send from Sion  
your sceptre of power:  
rule in the midst of your foes.

3/. With you is princely rule  
on the day of your power.  
In holy splendour, from the womb before the dawn,  
I have begotten you.

## Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest Year C

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Lectionary No. 572  
Psalm 23(22):2-3. 5. 6. R. 1

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

*Verse 1 only*

1/. Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me;  
he revives my soul.  
He guides me along the right path,  
for the sake of his name.

2/. You have prepared a table before me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.

3/. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell  
for length of days unending.

## *The Nativity of St John the Baptist*

### *Vigil Mass*

From my mother's womb, you have drawn me forth.

*Lectionary No. 586*

Psalm 71(70):1-2. 3-4a. 5-6a. 15ab, 17. R. 6b

The image shows a musical score for the text "From my mother's womb, you have drawn me forth." It consists of two systems of music. The first system features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff, both in 2/4 time. The vocal line has a melody that rises and then falls, with lyrics written below the notes. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines. The second system continues the piano accompaniment, showing more complex chordal textures and rhythmic patterns.

- 1/. In you, O LORD, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your uprightness, rescue me, free me;  
incline your ear to me and save me.
- 2/. Be my rock, my constant refuge,  
a mighty stronghold to save me,  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
My God, free me from the hand of the wicked.
- 3/. It is you, O LORD, who are my hope,  
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.  
On you I have leaned from my birth;  
from my mother's womb, you have drawn me forth.
- 4/. My mouth will tell of your justice,  
and all the day long of your salvation.  
O God, you have taught me from my youth  
and I proclaim your wonders still.

***The Nativity of St John the Baptist***  
***Mass during the Day***  
 I thank you who wonderfully made me.

*Lectionary No. 587*  
 Psalm 139(138):1-3. 13-14. 15. R. 14a

I thank you who\_ won - der - fully made me.

*Omit for verse 1*

1/. O LORD, you search me and you know me.  
 You yourself know my resting and my rising;  
 you discern my thoughts from afar.  
 You mark when I walk or lie down;  
 you know all my ways through and through.

2/. For it was you who formed my inmost being,  
 knit me together in my mother's womb.  
 I thank you who wonderfully made me;  
 how wonderful are your works,  
 which my soul knows well.

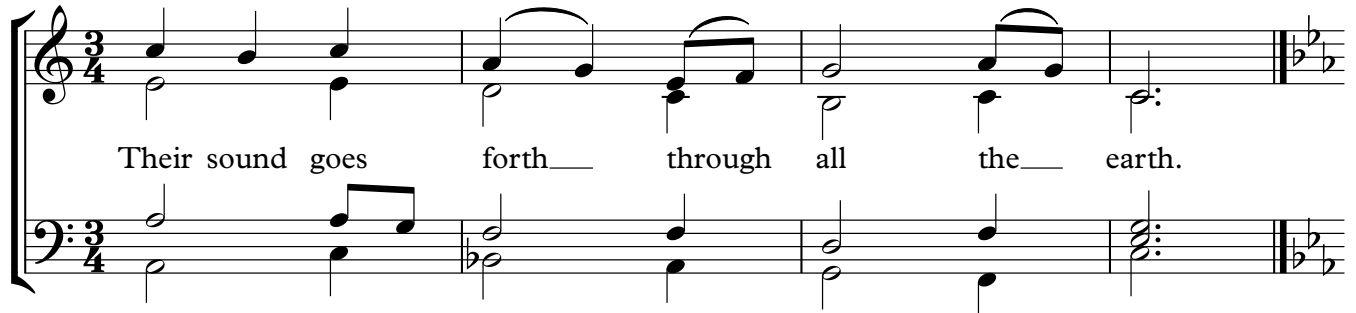
3/. My frame was not hidden from you,  
 when I was being fashioned in secret  
 and moulded in the depths of the earth.

**Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles**  
**Vigil Mass**

Their sound goes forth through all the earth.

*Lectionary No. 590*  
 Psalm 19(18):2-3. 4-5. R. 5a

*Response*



Their sound goes forth through all the earth.



1/. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament pro



claims the work of his hands. Day unto day breathes forth a

*To Response*



word, and night unto night imparts the knowledge.

2/. No speech, no word, whose voice goes un-heed-ed; their sound goes

forth through all the earth, their mess-age to the

ut - most bounds of the world. *To Response*

***Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles  
Mass during the Day***

From all my terrors the LORD set me free.

*Lectionary No. 591*  
Psalm 34(33):2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R. 5

From all my terr- ors\_ the LORD set me free.

1/. I will bless the LORD at all times,  
praise of him is always in my mouth.  
In the LORD my soul shall make its boast;  
the humble shall hear and be glad.

2/. Glorify the LORD with me;  
together let us praise his name.  
I sought the LORD, and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free.

3/. Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This lowly one called; the LORD heard,  
and rescued him from all his distress.

4/. The angel of the LORD is encamped  
around those who fear him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the LORD is good.  
Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

## The Transfiguration of the Lord

The LORD is king, most high above all the earth.

Lectionary No. 614

Psalm 97(96):1-2. 5-6. 9. R. 1a, 9b

The LORD is king, most high ab - ove all the earth.

Omit for verse 3 | Repeat for verse 2

1/. The LORD is king, let earth rejoice;  
let the many islands be glad.  
Cloud and darkness surround him;  
justice and right are the foundation of his throne.

2/. The mountains melt like wax  
before the face of the LORD,  
before the face of the Lord of all the earth.  
The skies proclaim his justice;  
all peoples see his glory.

3/. For you indeed are the LORD,  
most high above all the earth  
exalted far above all gods.



## *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary* *Vigil Mass*

Go up, LORD, to the place of your rest,  
you and the ark of your strength.

*Lectionary No. 621*

Psalm 132(131):6-7. 9-10. 13-14. R. 8

Go up, LORD, to the place of your rest, you and the ark of your strength.

1/. We heard of it at Ephrata;  
we found it in the plains of Yearim.  
'Let us go to the place of his dwelling;  
let us bow down at his footstool.'

2/. Your priests shall be clothed with justice;  
your faithful shall ring out their joy.  
For the sake of David your servant,  
do not reject your anointed.

3/. For the LORD has chosen Sion;  
he has desired it for his dwelling:  
'This is my resting place from age to age;  
here have I desired to dwell.'

***The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary***  
***Mass during the Day***  
 On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

*Lectionary No. 622*

Psalm 45(44):10. 11. 12. 16. R. 10b

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

- 1/. The daughters of kings are those whom you favour.  
 On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
- 2/. Listen O daughter; pay heed and give ear:  
 forget your own people and your father's house.
- 3/. So will the king desire your beauty.  
 He is your lord, pay homage to him.
- 4/. They are escorted amid gladness and joy;  
 they pass within the palace of the king.

## The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

### Never forget the deeds of the Lord!

Lectionary No. 638

Psalm 78(77):1-2. 34-35. 36-37. 38. R. cf. 7b

Nev - er for - get the deeds of the Lord!

1/. Give ear, my people to my teaching;  
incline your ear to the words of my mouth.  
I will open my mouth in a parable  
and utter hidden lessons of the past.

2/. When he slew them, then they sought him,  
repented and earnestly sought God.  
They would remember that God was their rock,  
God the Most High their redeemer.

3/. Yet they deceived him with their mouths;  
they lied to him with their tongues.  
For their hearts were not steadfast towards him;  
they were not faithful to his covenant.

4/. Yet he who is full of compassion  
forgave them their sin and spared them.  
So often he held back his anger,  
and did not stir up all his rage.

## *All Saints*

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

*Lectionary No. 667*  
Psalm 24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6. R. cf. 6

Such are the peo - ple who seek\_ your face, O Lord.

1/. The LORD's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world, and those who dwell in it.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the rivers he made it firm.

2/. Who shall climb the mountain of the LORD?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The clean of hands and pure of heart,  
whose soul is not set on vain things.

3/. Blessings from the LORD shall he receive,  
and right reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the people who seek him,  
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

**All Souls' Day**  
**Year A (1st alternative response)**  
 The LORD is my light and my salvation.

*Lectionary No. 668*  
 Psalm 27(26):1. 4. 7, 8c, 9a. 13-14. R. 1a

The LORD is my light and my sal - va - tion.

*Repeat these bars for verse 2*

1/. The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
 whom shall I fear?  
 The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
 whom should I dread?

2/. There is one thing I ask of the LORD,  
 only this do I seek:  
 to live in the house of the LORD  
 all the days of my life,  
 to gaze on the beauty of the LORD,  
 to enquire at his Temple.

3/. O LORD, hear my voice when I call;  
 have mercy and answer me.  
 It is your face, O LORD, that I seek;  
 hide not your face from me.

4/. I believe I shall see the LORD's goodness  
 in the land of the living.  
 Wait for the LORD; be strong;  
 Be stout-hearted, and wait for the LORD!

**All Souls' Day****Year A (2nd alternative response)**

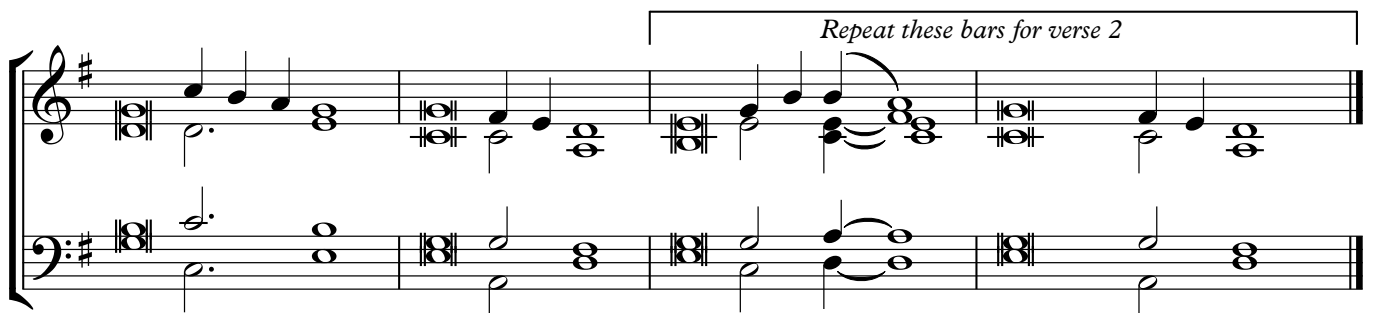
I believe I shall see the LORD's goodness in the land of the living.

*Lectionary No. 668*

Psalm 27(26):1. 4. 7, 8c, 9a. 13-14 R. 13



I be-lieve I shall see the LORD's good-ness in the land of the liv-ing.



*Repeat these bars for verse 2*

1/. The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?  
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
whom should I dread?

3/. O LORD, hear my voice when I call;  
have mercy and answer me.  
It is your face, O LORD, that I seek;  
hide not your face from me.

2/. There is one thing I ask of the LORD,  
only this do I seek:  
to live in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,  
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD,  
to enquire at his Temple.

4/. I believe I shall see the LORD's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Wait for the LORD; be strong;  
Be stout-hearted, and wait for the LORD!.

***All Souls' Day***  
***Year B (1st alternative response)***  
**Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.**

*Lectionary No. 668*  
 Psalm 130(129):1-2. 3-4. 5-6b. 6c-8. R. cf. 1

Musical score for the first line of the psalm. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD." The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The piano accompaniment starts with a half note G3 in the bass and a half note Bb3 in the treble.

Musical score for the second line of the psalm. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "LORD, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the sound of my pleadings." The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The piano accompaniment starts with a half note G3 in the bass and a half note Bb3 in the treble. A bracket above the score indicates "Repeat bars for verse 4" over the final four measures of the line.

1/. Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;  
 LORD, hear my voice!  
 O let your ears be attentive  
 to the sound of my pleadings.

2/. If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
 LORD, who could stand?  
 But with you is found forgiveness,  
 that you may be revered.

3/. I long for you, O LORD,  
 my soul longs for his word.  
 My soul awaits the LORD  
 more than watchmen for daybreak.

4/. More than watchmen for daybreak,  
 let Israel hope for the LORD.  
 For with the LORD there is mercy  
 in him is plentiful redemption.  
 It is he who will redeem Israel  
 from all its iniquities.

**All Souls' Day**  
**Year B (2nd alternative response)**  
 I wait for the Lord; I hope in his word.

*Lectionary No. 668*  
 Psalm 130(129):1-2. 3-4. 5-6b. 6c-8. R. cf. 5

I wait for the Lord; I hope in his word.

Repeat bars for verse 4

1/. Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;  
 LORD, hear my voice!  
 O let your ears be attentive  
 to the sound of my pleadings.

2/. If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
 LORD, who could stand?  
 But with you is found forgiveness,  
 that you may be revered.

3/. I long for you, O LORD,  
 my soul longs for his word.  
 My soul awaits the LORD  
 more than watchmen for daybreak.

4/. More than watchmen for daybreak,  
 let Israel hope for the LORD.  
 For with the LORD there is mercy  
 in him is plentiful redemption.  
 It is he who will redeem Israel  
 from all its iniquities.



## All Souls' Day Year C

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

*Lectionary No. 668*

Psalm 63(62):2. 3-4. 5-6, 8-9. R. 2b

For you my soul is thirst - ing, O Lord, my God.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1/. O God, you <u>are</u> my God, at <u>dawn</u> I seek you;<br/>for you my soul <u>is</u> thirsting.<br/>For you my flesh <u>is</u> pining,<br/>like a dry, weary land <u>without</u> water.</p>              | <p>3/. I <u>will</u> bless you <u>all</u> my life;<br/>in your name I will lift up <u>my</u> hands.<br/>My soul shall be filled as <u>with</u> a banquet;<br/>with joyful lips, my <u>mouth</u> shall praise you.</p> |
| <p>2/. I have come <u>before</u> you <u>in</u> the sanctuary,<br/>to behold your strength and <u>your</u> glory.<br/>Your loving mercy is <u>better</u> than life;<br/>my lips will <u>speak</u> your praise.</p> | <p>4/. For <u>you</u> have been <u>my</u> strength;<br/>in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.<br/>My soul clings <u>fast</u> to you;<br/>your right <u>hand</u> upholds me.</p>                                      |

## ***The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica***

The waters of a city give joy to God's city,  
the holy place, the abode of the Most High.

*Lectionary No. 671*

Psalm 46(45):2-3. 5-6, 8-9. R. 5

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains the first line of the text: 'The waters of a river give joy to God's city, the'. The second system contains the second line: 'holy place, the abode of the Most High.'. The third system is a piano accompaniment consisting of chords and arpeggiated figures in both hands. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some chords in the bass clef.

1/. God is for us a refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in time of distress:  
so we shall not fear though the earth should rock,  
though the mountains quake to the heart of the sea.

2/. The waters of a river give joy to God's city,  
the holy place, the abode of the Most High.  
God is in her midst, she cannot be shaken;  
God will help her at the dawning of the day.

3/. The LORD of hosts is with us:  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.  
Come and behold the works of the LORD,  
the awesome deeds he has done on the earth.

## St Andrew, Patron of Scotland

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Lectionary No. 684

Psalm 31(30):3c-4. 6, 7b, 8a. 16bc, 17. R. 6a

In - to your hands, O Lord, I comm - end my spi - rit.

1/. Be a rock of refuge for me,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

2/. Into your hands I commend my spirit.  
You will redeem me, O LORD, O faithful God.  
As for me, I trust in the LORD:  
Let me be glad and rejoice in your mercy.

3/. From the hands of my enemies deliver me,  
and from those who pursue me.  
Let your face shine on your servant.  
Save me in your merciful love.

## ***Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary***

O sing a new song to the LORD, for he has worked wonders.

*Lectionary No. 689*

Psalm 98(97):1. 2-3b. 3c-4. R. cf. 1a

O sing a new song to the LORD, for he has worked wonders.

Verse 3 only

1/. O sing a new song to the LORD,  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation.

2/. The LORD has made known his salvation;  
has shown his deliverance to the nations.  
He has remembered his merciful love  
and his truth for the house of Israel.

3/. All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song,  
and sing out your praise.

**St Dominic**

Proclaim the wonders of the LORD among all the peoples.

*Lectionary No. 721-5*

Psalm 96(95):1-2a. 2b-3. 7-8a. 10. R. 3

Pro - claim the wonders of the

LORD a - mong all the peo ples.

1/. O sing a new song to the LORD;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.  
O sing to the LORD; bless his name.

2/. Proclaim his salvation day by day.  
Tell among the nations his glory,  
and his wonders among all the peoples.

3/. Ascribe to the LORD, you families of peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and power;  
ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name.

4/. Say to the nations, 'The LORD is king.'  
The world he made firm in its place;  
he will judge the peoples in fairness.