Structure of Morning Prayer

INTRODUCTION

℣. Lord, open our lips.
℟. And we shall praise your name.

[Invitatory Psalm (Ps 94,99,66 or 23) with its antiphon.]

Hymn

Psalmody

Antiphon 1
A ‘morning psalm’
Antiphon repeated
Silent prayer
Antiphon 2
Old Testament canticle
Antiphon repeated
Silent prayer
Antiphon 3
A psalm of praise
Antiphon repeated
Silent prayer

Scripture Reading

Silent prayer

Short Responsory

Gospel Canticle

Benedictus antiphon
Canticle of Zechariah
Antiphon repeated

Intercessions

Invocations of praise
Silent prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Concluding Prayer

Blessing

Structure of Evening Prayer

INTRODUCTION

℣. O God, come to our aid.
℟. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Hymn

Psalmody

Antiphon 1
A psalm
Antiphon repeated
Silent prayer
Antiphon 2
A psalm
Antiphon repeated
Silent prayer
Antiphon 3
New Testament canticle
Antiphon repeated
Silent prayer

Scripture Reading

Silent prayer

Short Responsory

Gospel Canticle

Magnificat antiphon
Canticle of Mary
Antiphon repeated

Intercessions

Prayers of intercession
Final prayer always
for the faithful departed
Silent prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Concluding Prayer

Blessing

Celebrating Morning & Evening Prayer

Guidelines & Structures

This leaflet offers an overview of the structure of Morning and Evening Prayer. On the outside of the leaflet is the normal pattern for Morning and Evening Prayer from the Divine Office. On the inside of the leaflet structures for when Morning or Evening Prayer is joined to a celebration of Mass. There is also information about how the Office is celebrated on Solemnities, Feasts and Memoria.

To accompany this leaflet there is also a template for a small card available. This contains the information from the outside of the leaflet and scaled to a size that would make fit into an Office book.

Liturgy Office

England & Wales

This leaflet is one a series of resources prepared by the Liturgy Office to support parish celebrations of the Prayer of the Church. ©2006 Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales. Further resources can be found at www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/Hours
Joining Mass
to a Celebration of
Morning or Evening Prayer
In special cases, if the circumstances require it, a liturgical Hour
celebrated in public or in common may be joined more closely
with Mass, provided that they are both of the same Office. Care
should be taken to ensure that this is not pastorally harmful,
especially on Sundays.  

INTRODUCTORY RITES
Introduction
Hymn
or
Entrance Procession & Song
Greeting

PSALMODY
[Penitential Rite – omitted]
Gloria – where required

Liturgy of the Word
Readings etc.
Prayer of the Faithful (may be replaced by
Intercessions from the Office on Ferial day)

Liturgy of the Eucharist

COMMUNION RITE
Communion
Antiphon
Gospel Canticle
Antiphon repeated
Prayer after Communion

CONCLUDING RITE

When Evening Prayer follows Mass
Prayer after Communion
[Introduction and Hymn omitted]

PSALMODY
[Reading omitted]
Gospel Canticle
Magnificat antiphon
Canticle of Mary
Antiphon repeated

INTERCESSIONS & Lord’s Prayer omitted

CONCLUDING PRAYER
Blessing

Celebrating Solemnities

INTRODUCTION
[Invitatory Psalm (Pss 94,99,66 or 23) with its antiphon.]
Hymn
PSALMODY
Evening Prayer I
Morning Prayer
Evening Prayer II

SCRIPTURE READING
Silent prayer

SHORT RESPONSORY

GOSPEL CANTICLE:
Antiphon
Canticle
Antiphon repeated

INTERCESSIONS
P/C

The Lord’s Prayer

CONCLUDING PRAYER
P

Blessing

Celebrating Feasts

At the Office of Readings, Lauds and Vespers, everything is the
same as on a solemnity. (gilh 231)

P — Proper: specific texts for the celebration (e.g. The
Ascension of the Lord).

C — Common: texts for the type of celebration (e.g. Apostle
or Martyr).

F — Ferial: the ordinary day in the Office (e.g. Tuesday of
Week II).

1 If the proper is not complete, the common is used for the
parts that are lacking (gilh 226, 227)

2 In place of the Sunday psalms of the current week, the
Sunday psalms of another week may be substituted if de-
sired. (gilh 247)

3 if texts are proper, they are to be taken from the Office
of the saint. Otherwise they are taken either from the
Common or from the current ferial day. (gilh 235b)

Celebrating Memorials
There is no difference in the manner of arranging the Office
between an obligatory memoria, and, if it is decided to cel-
brate it, an optional memoria, except when the optional me-
memoria occurs during the privileged seasons. (gilh 234)

INTRODUCTION
[Invitatory Psalm (Pss 94,99,66 or 23) with its antiphon.]
P/C/F
Hymn
PSALMODY
Psalms and Antiphons
Psalmody
Silent prayer
Gospel Canticle:
Antiphon
Canticle
Antiphon repeated
INTERCESSIONS
P/C/F
The Lord’s Prayer
CONCLUDING PRAYER
Blessing

Memorias occurring
during the privileged seasons
Memorias are not commemorated on Sundays, solemnities,
feasts, Ash Wednesday, during Holy Week or the Octave of
Easter.

Between 17–24 December, the octave of Christmas and in
Lent obligatory memorias are not celebrated, Memorias that
occur in Lent are considered optional.

Those who wish to celebrate the Office of a Saint whose me-
memoria occurs during these seasons should add the antiphon
(from proper or else from the Common) and Prayer after the
Concluding Prayer. (gilh 237–239)