

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΣ ΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΟΣ
Apostolic Church of the Pleroma

Meditations of the Canonical Hours

The following readings may be performed daily, as you are able. The ACP celebrates seven Canonical Hours: Matins, Prime, Tierce, Sext, Nones, Vespers, and Complin. We realize that it may not be practical for all clergy to perform the readings at every appointed hour, every day. But you are encouraged to attempt this exercise, in its entirety, for six consecutive days, followed by the Holy Liturgy of the Pleromic Light on the seventh. This exercise is especially appropriate during the season of Lent, but may be repeated at any time. In addition, any part (that is, any Hour) may be performed on any day that you are able, as often as you are able. This exercise is also particularly useful when preparing to perform a Theurgic Operation.

Each of the Canonical Hours correspond to the hours of the day as follows (times should be in local standard time):

Matins - Midnight
Prime - 6:00 AM
Tierce - 9:00 AM
Sext - Noon
Nones - 3:00 PM
Vespers - 6:00 PM
Complin - 9:00 PM

Each reading should begin with the performance of the Invocation of the Archangels. If time does not permit, then at least perform the Qabalistic Cross portion. You will also perform the Qabalistic Cross to close the session. This, then, is the order of operations:

- Qabalistic Cross
- Invocation of the Archangels
- Canonical Reading
- Qabalistic Cross

The readings for the Canonical Hours are as follows:

Matins (Matthew 25:1-13)

"Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be compared to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now, five of them were foolish and five wise. For, the foolish took their lamps but did not take oil with them. But the wise took containers of oil with their lamps. The bridegroom was delayed, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight there was a shout, 'Behold, there is the bridegroom! God out to meet him.' Then all the virgins awakened and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones answered, saying, 'There should certainly not be enough for us and you. Go instead to those selling and buy some for yourselves.' And while they were away buying oil, the bridegroom came, and the ones prepared entered with him into the wedding celebration; and the door was shut. The other virgins came later saying, 'Lord, lord, open the door for us.' But he answered saying, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.' Keep alert, therefore, for you do not know the day nor the hour."

Prime (Luke 1:68-79)

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, because he visited and redeemed his people, and he raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of David his servant, just as he spoke through the mouth of his Holy Prophets from the Aeons, salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all those who hate us, to demonstrate mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the path which he swore to Abraham our father, to grant us, having been delivered from the hand of our enemies, to serve him fearlessly in holiness and righteousness before him, all our days. And you also, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give salvific gnosis to his people by a forgiveness of their sins through the tender mercies of our God, by which the Sun rising from on high will break upon us, to appear to the ones sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, to direct our feet into the way of peace."

Tierce (1 Thessalonians 5:1-6)

But concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need for anything to be written to you, for you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord comes as a thief in the night. Whenever they say, "We are in peace and security," then sudden destruction comes upon them, as birth pains come to her with a child in her womb, and they cannot escape. But you, brothers, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you as a thief; for you are all children of Light and children of the day. We are not of night or of darkness; therefore, let us not sleep as the rest, but let us keep awake and be sober.

Sext (Acts 22:6-16)

"And it happened to me as I was traveling and drawing near to Damascus at about noon; suddenly a bright light from heaven shone around me, and I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' And I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' And he said to me, 'I am Jesus, the Nazorean, whom you are persecuting.' Those who were with me saw the light, but they did not hear the voice speaking to me. And I said, 'What may I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Arise and go into Damascus; there you will be told about everything that has been assigned for you to do.' And because I had been blinded by the glory of that light, I entered Damascus being led by the hand by those who were with me."

"And a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, who was well spoken of by all the Jews living there, came to me and stood by me, and said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight!' And in that hour I looked up and saw him. And he said, 'The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will and to see the Righteous One, and to hear the call from his mouth because you will be a witness to him to all men of what you have seen and heard. Now what are you going to do? Arise, be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling upon his name.'"

Nones (John 9:1-11)

And passing along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked of him, "Who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man sinned, nor his parents, but that the works of God may be manifested in him. It is necessary for us to do the work of He who sent me while it is day. Night is coming, when no one is able to work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Having said this, he spat on the ground and made clay out of the saliva, and he annointed the man's eyes with the clay, and said to him, "Go and wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). he went, therefore, and washed, and returned able to see. Then his neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, were saying, "Is this not the man who sits and begs?" Some were saying, "This is he." Others were saying, "No, but he resembles him." The man was saying, "I am." Then they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" The man answered, "That man, the one called Jesus, made clay and annointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go into Siloam and wash.' Then I went, and when I washed, I saw."

Vespers (Matthew 24:23-31)

"If someone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ,' or 'there he is,' do not believe. For false Christs and false prophets will arise, and they will give great signs and wonders so as to deceive, if possible, even the elect. Behold, I have told you beforehand. If, then, they say to you, 'Look, he is in the desert,' do not go out there. 'Look in the inner rooms,' do not believe them. For as the lightning flashes from the East, shining unto the West, thus will be the coming of the Son of Man. Wherever the corpse may be, there the Eagles will be gathered together. Immediately after the tribulation of those days, the Sun will be darkened, and the Moon will not give its light, and the Stars will fall from heaven, and the Powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then will appear the Sign of the Son of Man in heaven; and then all the tribes of the Earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather together his Elect from the Four Winds, from one end of the heavens to the other."

Complin (Romans 13:8-10)

Owe no one anything, except to Love one another; for the one who Loves another has fulfilled the Law. For, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet," and any other commandment, is summed up in this word, "You shall Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does not work evil toward your neighbor; Love, therefore, is the Fullness of the Law."