

*(The priest, vested in a violet cope, blesses the candles which are placed near the altar.)*

P: Dóminus vobíscum.  
R: Et cum spírítu tuo.  
P: Orémus.

Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus, qui ómnia ex nihilo creásti, et jussu tuo per ópera apum hunc liquorem ad perfectionem cærei hunc fecísti: et qui hodiérna die petitióne justí Simeónis implésti: te humíliter deprecámur; ut has candélas ad usus hóminum et sanitátem córporum et animárum, sive in terra sive in aquis, per invocatióne tui sanctíssimi nóminis et per intercessióne beátæ Mariæ semper Vírginis, cujus hódie festa devóte celebrántur, et per preces ómnium Sanctórum tuórum, bene ✠ dicere et sancti ✠ ficáre dignéris: et hujus plebis tuæ, quæ illas honorífice in mánibus desiderat portare teque cantando laudare, exáudias voces de cælo sancto tuo et de sede majestátis tuæ: et propítius sis ómnibus clamántibus ad te, quos redemísti pretiósó Sanguine Filii tui: Qui tecum vivat et regnat.

R: Amen.  
P: Orémus.

Omnípotens sempitérne Deus, qui hodiérna die Unigénitum tuum ulnis sancti Simeónis in templo sancto tuo suscipiéndum præsentásti: tuam súpplices deprecámur cleméntiam; ut has candélas, quas nos fámuli tui, in tui nóminis magnificéntiam suscipiéntes, gestáre cúpimus luce accénsas, bene ✠ dicere et sancti ✠ ficáre atque lúmine supérnæ benedictióis accéndere dignéris: quatenus eas tibi Dómino, Deo nostro, offeréndo digni, et sancto igne dulcíssimæ caritátis tuæ succénsi, in templo sancto glóriæ tuæ præsentári mereámur. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum.

R: Amen.  
P: Orémus.

Dómine Jesu Christe, lux vera, quæ illúminas omnem hóminem veniéntem in hunc mundum: effúnde bene ✠ dictióne tuam super hos cæreos, et sancti ✠ fica eos lúmine grátia tuæ, et concéde propítius; ut, sicut hæc luminária igne visíbili accénsa noctúrnas depéllunt ténebras; ita corda nostra invisíbili igne, id est, Sancti Spírítus splendóre illustráta, ónium vítiórum scæcitáte cáreant: ut, órgáto mentis óculo, ea cernere póssimus, quæ tibi sunt plácita et nostræ salúti útilia; quatenus post hujus sæculi caliginósa discrímína ad lucem indeficiéntem pervenire mereámur. Per te, Christe Jesu, Salvátor mundi, qui in Trinitáte perfécta visis et regnas Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

R: Amen.  
P: Orémus.

Omnípotens sempitérne Deus, qui per Móysen fámulum tuum puríssimum ólei liquórem ad luminária ante conspéctum tuum júgiter concinnánda præparári jussísti: bene ✠ dictióis tuæ grátiam super hos cæreos benígnus infúnde; quatenus sic adminístrent lumen extérius, ut, te donánte, lumen Spírítus tui nostris non desit méntibus intérius. Per Christum Dóminum nostrum.

R: Amen.  
P: Orémus.

Dómine Jesu Christe, qui hodiérna die, in nostræ carnis substántia inter hómines apárens, a paréntibus in templo es præsentátus: quem Simeon venerábilis senex, lúmine Spírítus tui irradiátus, agnóvit, suscepit et benedíxit: præsta propítius; ut, ejúsdem Spírítus Sancti grátia illumináti atque edócti, te veráciter agnoscámus et fidéliter diligámus: Qui cum Deo Patre in unitate ejúsdem Spírítus Sancti visis et regnas Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

R: Amen.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF CANDLES

Antiphon. Luke 2: 32

Lumen ad revelatióne géntium et glóriam plebis tuæ Israël.

*(The antiphon is repeated after every verse.)*

Canticle of Simeon (Choir)

(Luke 2: 29-31)

Nunc dimíttis servum tuum, Dómine, secúndum verbum tuum in pace.

Lumen...

Quia vidérunt óculi mei salutáre tuum.

Lumen...

Quod parásti ante fáciem ónium populorum.

Lumen...

Glória Patri, et Filio, et Spírítui Sancto.

Lumen...

Sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum.

Amen.

Lumen...

P: Dóminus vobíscum.  
R: Et cum spírítu tuo.  
P: Orémus.

Exáudi, quæsumus, Dómine, plebem tuam: et, quæ extrinsécus ánnua tríbuís devotióne venerári, intérius asséqui grátia tuæ luce concéde. Per Christum, Dóminum nostrum.

R: Amen.

#### PROCESSION

P: Procedámus in pace.

R: In nómine Christi. Amen.

#### Antiphon

Adórna thálamum tuum, Sion, et súscipe Regem Christum: ampléctere Mariám, quæ est cæléstis porta: ipsa enim portat Regem glóriæ novi lúminis: subístit Virgo, addúcens mánibus Filium ante lucíferum génitum: quem accípiens Simeon in ulnas suas, prædicávit pópulis, Dóminum eum esse vitæ et mortis et Salvátorem mundi.

#### Antiphon

Luke 2: 26, 27 et 28-29

Respónsum accépit Simeon a Spírítu Sancto, non visúrum se mortem, nisi vidéret Christum Dómini: et cum indúcerent Púerum in templum, accépit eum in ulnas suas, et benedíxit Deum, et dixit: Nunc dimíttis servum tuum, Dómine, in pace. Cum indúcerent púerum Jesum parentes ejus, ut fácerent secúndum consuetúdinem legis pro eo, ipse accépit eum in ulnas suas.

*(On entering the church, the choir sings:)*

#### Responsory.

Obtulérunt pro eo Dómino par túrturum, aut duos pullos columbárum: Sicut scriptum est in lege Dómini. Postquam impléti sunt dies purgatióis Mariæ, secúndum legem Moyysi, tulérunt Jesum in Jerúsalem, ut sísterent eum Dómino. Sicut scriptum est in lege Dómini. Glória Patri, et Filio, et Spírítui Sancto. Sicut scriptum est in lege Dómini.

*(The priest now vests in white to begin Mass. The Prayers at the Foot are omitted and the Mass begins with the Introit.)*

P: The Lord be with you.  
R: And with your spirit.  
P: Let us pray.

O holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God, Who hast created all things out of nothing, and by Thy word hast caused this liquid through the work of bees to come to the perfection of wax, and Who on this day didst fulfill the petition of just Simeon; deign, we humbly beseech Thee, to bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ these candles for the uses of men, for the health of bodies and of souls, whether on the land or on the waters, by the invocation of Thy most holy name, and by the intercession of the blessed Mary ever virgin, whose festival we this day celebrate and by the prayers of all Thy saints; and graciously, from Thy holy heaven and the seat of Thy majesty, hear the voices of this Thy people which desireth to carry these candles in their hands, unto Thy honor, and to praise Thee with singing; and be merciful to all who call upon Thee, whom Thou hast redeemed with the most precious blood of Thy Son. Who with Thee liveth and reigneth.

R: Amen.  
P: Let us pray.

Almighty, everlasting God, Who on this day didst present Thine only-begotten Son to be taken in holy Simeon's arms in Thy holy temple, we humbly entreat Thy clemency that these candles which we, Thy servants, would take in our hands for the magnifying of Thy name, to carry them lighted, Thou wilt deign to bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ and to kindle with the light of Thy supernal benediction so that by offering them to Thee, our Lord God, we may deserve to be presented worthily, lighted with the holy fire of Thy most dear charity, in the holy temple of Thy glory. Through the same our Lord.

R: Amen.  
P: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the true Light, Who enlightenest every man that cometh into this world, pour forth Thy blessing ✠ upon these waxen candles and sanctify ✠ them with the light of Thy grace; and be pleased to grant that, as these lights, kindled with visible fire, dispel the darkness of night, so our hearts, being enlightened with invisible fire, even the effulgence of the Holy Spirit, may be delivered from the blindness of every vice, that with the eye of the mind purified we may be able to discern those things which are pleasing to Thee and useful for our salvation; whereby, after the dark trials of this world, we may be found worthy to enter into the light that is never obscured; through Thee, Christ Jesus, Saviour of the world, Who in perfect Trinity livest and reignest, God, world without end.

R: Amen.  
P: Let us pray.

Almighty, eternal God, Who through Thy servant Moses didst order the purest of oil to be prepared for the continual furnishing of the lamps before Thy presence, graciously pour upon these waxen candles the grace of Thy benediction ✠, whereby they may so serve us for outward light that, by Thy gift, the inward light of the Spirit may not be wanting to our minds. Through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.  
P: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who on this day appearing among men in the substance of flesh, wast presented by Thy parents in the temple, and Whom the venerable old man Simeon, being filled with the light of Thy Spirit, recognized, took up, and blessed, be pleased to grant that we, enlightened and taught by the grace of the same Holy Spirit, may know Thee rightly and love Thee faithfully. Who with God the Father livest and reignest in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end.

R: Amen.

A light to the revelation of the Gentiles: and for the glory of Thy people Israel.

A light...

Because mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.

A light...

Which Thou hast prepared, before the face of all peoples.

A light...

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

A light...

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

A light...

P: The Lord be with you.  
R: And with your spirit.  
P: Let us pray.

Harken to Thy people, we beseech Thee, O Lord; and what Thou dost give us year after year to venerate devoutly, outwardly, grant us to follow it inwardly with the light of Thy grace. Through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.

P: Let us go forth in peace.

R: In the name of Christ. Amen.

Deck thy bridal chamber, O Sion, and receive Christ, thy King; embrace Mary, who is the gate of heaven; for she carries the King of glory of the new light; a virgin, she standeth bringing in her hands the Son begotten before the day-star; and receiving Him in his arms, Simeon hath declared to the nations that He is the Lord of life and death, and Saviour of the world.

Simeon received an answer from the Holy Spirit, that he should not see death until he had seen the Christ of the Lord; and when they brought the Child into the temple he took Him in his arms, and blessed God, and said: Now, O Lord, dost Thou dismiss Thy servant in peace. When His parents brought the child Jesus into the temple, to do in His behalf according to the custom of the law, he took Him in his arms.

They offered in His behalf a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. As it is written in the law of the Lord. After Mary's days of purification were fulfilled, according to the law of Moses, they carried Jesus to Jerusalem, to set Him before the Lord. As it is written in the law of the Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it is written in the law of the Lord.