



New
Personalist
Movement

season of hope

advent vespers

“Let's not beat around the bush. In the Magnificat we read: bring down the powerful, raise up the humble. That's theology.

How to bring down the powerful, how to raise up the humble?

This is politics.”

mario tronti

magnificat [the song of mary]

[READER]

My soul magnifies the Lord,
And my spirit rejoices in
God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in
her lowliness;
henceforth all ages will call
me blessed.
The Almighty works marvels
for me.
Holy is his name!

*[TOGETHER
AS GROUP]*

His mercy is from age to age,
On those who hear him.
He puts forth his arm in strength,
And scatters the proud-hearted.
He casts down the mighty from
their thrones
And raises the lowly.
He fills the starving with good
things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy,
the mercy promised to our fathers,
For Abraham and his sons for
ever.

opening prayer

[MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS]

O God, come to our aid.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen. Alleluia.

o sapientia [the o antiphons]

O Wisdom,
from the mouth of the Most High,
You reach to the very ends of the earth,
mightily and sweetly ordering all things:
Come, teach us
To judge justly,
To seek truth.



psalm 2

[TOGETHER] Strengthen us in our weakness, Lord:
Behold, our God will come, and save us, alleluia.

*Why do the nations conspire,
and the peoples plot in vain?
They arise, the kings of the earth;
princes plot against the LORD and his Anointed.
“Let us break their fetters.
Let us cast off their yoke.”*

He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the LORD is laughing them to scorn.
Then he will speak in his anger,
his rage will strike them with terror.
“It is I who have appointed my king
on Sion, my holy mountain.”

I will announce the decree of the LORD:
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son.
It is I who have begotten you this day.

*Ask of me and I will give you
the nations as your inheritance,
and the ends of the earth as your possession.*

With a rod of iron you will rule them;
like a potter’s jar you will shatter them.”
So now, O kings, understand;
take warning, rulers of the earth.

[TOGETHER] Strengthen us in our weakness, Lord;
Behold, our God will come, and save us, alleluia

psalm 9

[TOGETHER] You forsake not those who seek you, O Lord.

I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart;
all your wonders I will confess.

*I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing Psalms to your name, O Most High.*

See how my enemies turn back,
how they stumble and perish before you.

*You upheld the justice of my cause;
you sat enthroned, an upright judge.*

You have rebuked the nations,
destroyed the wicked;
you have wiped out their name forever and ever.

*The foe is destroyed, eternally ruined.
You uprooted their cities;
their memory has perished.*

But the LORD sits enthroned forever;
he has set up his throne for judgment.

*He will judge the world with justice;
he will govern the peoples with equity.*

For the oppressed,
the LORD will be a stronghold,
a stronghold in times of distress.

*Those who know your name will trust you;
you will not forsake those who seek you, O LORD.*

[TOGETHER] You forsake not those who seek you, O Lord.

o adonai

O Adonai,
Lord of the House of Israel,
Who appeared to Moses
In the fire of the burning bush,
Who on Sinai gave him the law,
Come, deliver us,
Outstretch your arm.

alma redemptorist mater

Mother of our Redeemer,
gate of heaven
star of the sea:
We are fallen.
Help us rise.
Wonder of the universe,
You gave flesh
To the creator of all things,
Ever-Virgin Mother,
Joy of angels,
have mercy on us.

o radix jesse

O Root of Jesse,
You stand as a sign to all peoples;
You silence kings,
To you, every nation prays,
Come, liberate us,
delay no longer.



psalm 12

[TOGETHER] Strike them with terror, O LORD;
let the nations know they are but men.

Sing Psalms to the Lord who dwells in Sion.
Tell his mighty works among the peoples,

*for the Avenger of Blood has remembered them,
has not forgotten the cry of the poor.*

Have mercy on me, O Lord;
see how I suffer from my foes,
you who raise me
from the gates of death,
that I may recount all your praise
at the gates of daughter Sion,
and rejoice in your salvation.

*The nations have fallen
in the pit which they made;
their feet have been caught
in the snare they laid.*

The Lord has revealed himself;
he has given judgment.
The wicked are snared
by the work of their hands.

*Let the wicked go down to the grave,
all the nations forgetful of God:
for the needy shall not always be forgotten,
nor the hopes of the poor ever perish.*

Arise, O Lord, let human strength not prevail!
Let the nations be judged before you.

[TOGETHER] Strike them with terror, O LORD;
let the nations know they are but men.

o clavis david

O Key of David,
sceptre of the House of Israel;
you open
and no one can shut;
you shut
and no one can open:
Come, break open the prisons
Set your captive people free



psalm 113

[TOGETHER] Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor

Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blest both now and forevermore
From the rising of the sun to its setting, praised be the name of the Lord!

[TOGETHER] Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor

*High above all nations is the Lord, above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the LORD, our God, who dwells on high,
who lowers himself to look down upon heaven and earth?*

[TOGETHER] Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor

From the dust he lifts up the lowly, from the ash heap he raises the poor,
to set them in the company of princes, yes, with the princes of his people.
To the childless wife he gives a home as a joyful mother of children.

[TOGETHER] Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor

o oriens

O Morning Star,
Splendour of light eternal
Sun of justice
Come, illuminate our darkness
drive out the shadow of death.

rorate caeli [abridged]

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let justice pour forth from the skies:
Let the earth be opened
And bud forth a Saviour.

The heavens declare the glory of God:
And the firmament proclaims the work of His hands.
Day to day pours forth speech;
night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech, nor is there language
where their voice is not heard;
Yet their sound has gone forth through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let justice pour forth from the skies:
let the earth be opened
and bud forth a Saviour.



o rex gentium

O King of the nations,
Desire of every heart,
Who makes whole what is broken,
Come, save the people
You fashioned from dust.

credo of hope

slightly revised from a prayer by rev. allan boesack

V

It is not true
that creation
and the human family
are doomed
to destruction and loss.

R

*This is true:
For God so loved the world
that he gave his only begotten Son,
That whoever believes in him
shall not perish,
but have everlasting life.*

It is not true
that we must accept
inhumanity and
discrimination,
hunger and poverty,
death and destruction

*This is true:
I have come
that they may have life,
and that abundantly.*

It is not true
that violence and hatred
should have the last word,
and that war and destruction
rule forever

*This is true:
For unto us a child is born,
and unto us a Son is given,
and the government
shall be upon his shoulder,*

*And his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
the Everlasting,
the Prince of Peace.*

It is not true
that we are simply victims
of the powers of evil
who seek to rule our world—

*This is true:
To me is given authority
in heaven and on earth,
And lo, I am with you,
even unto the end of the world.*

It is not true
that we have to wait
for those who are specially gifted,
who are the prophets of the church,
before we can be peacemakers

*This is true:
I will pour out my Spirit
on all flesh,
And your sons and daughters shall
prophesy,
your young shall see visions,
and your old
shall have dreams*

It is not true
that our hopes for liberation of
humankind,
of justice,
of human dignity,
of peace
are not meant
for this earth
and this history

*This is true:
The hour comes,
and it is now,
that true worshipers
shall worship the Father
in spirit and in truth.*

[TOGETHER]

So: let us live in hope,
even hope against hope.
Let us see visions of love
and peace
and justice.
Let us affirm
with humility,
with joy,
with faith,
with courage:
Jesus Christ—the Life of the world.

o emmanuel

O Emmanuel,
our king and our lawgiver,
the hope of the nations
and their Saviour:
Come, save us,
O Lord
our God.



intercessions

[READER] We pray to our Lord, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

[TOGETHER] *Come, and remain with us, Lord.*

[READER] Isaiah declared you would judge the mighty
and bring justice for the poor.

[TOGETHER] *Come, and remain with us, Lord.*

Zechariah said you would bring peace to the nations

Release prisoners

And restore hope to those trapped in despair

– *Come, and remain with us, Lord.*

Malachi saw you would judge the oppressor,

And return a dead world to life,

– *Come, and remain with us, Lord.*

Gabriel announced your coming to the Virgin Mary:

Son of the most High, come to claim your kingdom.

– *Come, and remain with us, Lord.*

John the Baptist rejoiced to see your day:

come, bring us your salvation.

– *Come, and remain with us, Lord.*

Simeon acknowledged you, Light of the World:

bring your light to all men of goodwill.

– *Come, and remain with us, Lord.*

We look for you as watchmen look for the dawn:

you are the sun that will wake the dead to new life.

– *Come, and remain with us, Lord.*

closing prayers

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.

Grant, almighty God,
that looking forward in faith to the feast of our Lord's birth,
we may have renewed in us the hope our Saviour brings
be replenished in our faith in Him
and against the darkness of this passing age,
the powers and dominions who oppress Your people
and all the lies of the enemy
resolved to love,
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord bless us,
and keep us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

[MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS]



prayer of the rebels

A prayer by Blessed Teresio Olivelli, an Italian antifascist partisan martyred in 1945 while defending a fellow prisoner. Translated by the Christian Vitalist International.

LORD,

You who raised Your Cross - symbol of contradictions – among men,
who preached and suffered the revolt of the spirit
against the deceitfulness and self-interest
of the ruling class
and the inert deafness of the masses,
to us who are oppressed by an onerous and cruel yoke,
the yoke which both within us
and before our existence
has trampled on
You, who are the fount of free lives,
give us the power of rebellion.

GOD,

You who are Truth and Freedom,
make us free
breathe intensely into our purpose,
tend to our will,
multiply our strengths,
clothe us with your armor:
for this we pray to you, Lord.

YOU,

who were rejected,
reviled,
betrayed,
persecuted,
crucified,
in this hour of shadows
sustain us with Your victory:
in poverty be provisions,
in danger support,
in bitterness comfort.

In the shadow of the Adversary,
make us clear and right.
In torture, our lips are clamped shut.
Break them open,
do not let us waver.
If we fall, unite our blood with Your innocent blood,
and with Your death,
so that justice and charity
may blossom in the world.

YOU,
who said “I am the resurrection and the life”,
create a life
both strict and generous
in the pain of humanity.
Lord, who watches over our families,
free us from the temptation of affections.
In the windy mountains
and in the catacombs of the cities,
from the depths of the prisons
we pray to You:
may the peace
which you alone
know how to give
be within us.

GOD,
of peace and of armies,
Lord who brings the sword and joy,
listen to our prayer,
REBELS FOR LOVE

