

Solemn Pontifical Vespers

SYMBOLS USED

Abbreviations

AC	Acolyte	CrB	Crosier Bearer
Acs	Acolytes	ADI (ADII)	Assistant Deacon (I/II)
AP	Assistant Priest	ADs	Assistant Deacons
BB	Bookbearer	MB	Mitre Bearer
B	Bishop	MCI (MCII)	Master of Ceremonies (I/II)
Bub	Bugia Bearer	SD	Subdeacon
D	Deacon	Th	Thurifer

Positions

a) Procession and Recession

ACI MCI AP ADI MB BB
Th (SD) B
ACII MCII SD ADII CrB Bub

b) At the Altar

I I
McII SD B AP McI

ADII ADI

Bub BB CrB MB

General Remarks

a) Vestments:

B: Amice, surplice, cope, stole, (**B** has mitre on when he sits or walks from altar to the throne or the other way around.)

AP, ADs, SD, Bearers like in a pontifical high Mass

b) Tasks:

AP Holds book for **B** for *ÒDeus in adjutórium...Ó*, for the 1st antiphon, the hymn, the *Magnificat* antiphon, and the orations.

For this the **BB** comes to **AP**, gives him the book, **AP** goes between **BB** and **Bub** before the bishop, reverence, **B** sings, reverence, back to stool, hands back the book.

AD's Help **B** vesting, hold the cope open when **B** walks or is incensed. **ADI** puts mitre on and off, shows intonations in the book to **B**.

BB, Bub Whenever the book is necessary they approach **AP**, give him the book, and go with him before **B**. **Bub** is to **AP's** right. **BB** and **Bub** make genuflection as reverence, when **AP** bows.

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CrB Receives the gives the crosier, genuflecting with the usual kisses.

Th Genuflects for the imposition of incense.

Ceremony

Entrance

- In the sacristy **B** puts incense into the thurible with **AP** and **Th**. **Th** with the thurible and **Ac**'s genuflect alone. **Th** goes to his place. **Ac**'s put candles on the credence and go to their places.
- *Arrival at altar*
- **B** gives away the crosier to **CB**, mitre to **ADI** to **MB**, genuflection, kneeling.
- **McI** gives signal to stand, second genuflection, reception of mitre, **MB** to **ADI** to **B**, reception of crosier from **CB**.
- All go to the throne, except **SD** and **McII**, who go to their places on the Epistle side. **Th** takes the thurible to the sacristy. At the throne the **B** gives away crosier to **CB** and mitre to **ADI** to **MB**, at the side of the throne nearest the altar.

Psalms

- **AP, BB and Bub** come to **B**, reverence: *Deus in adjutórium...*, bow at *Glória* towards the cross (not the bearers), intonation of the first antiphon. **ADI** holds the cope for **B** during *Deus in adjutórium*.
- After the intonation of the psalm, **B** sits down and receives mitre, from **ADI** from **MB**.
- All sit except **MC**'s and bearers
- The **SD** and **McII** have the four antiphons intoned, therefore, after the *Glória* **McII** goes before **SD**, gives him the book and they go to the different people after reverences to the **B** and the altar.

2nd Antiphon = **ADI**

3rd Antiphon = **AP**

4th Antiphon = **the most dignified in choir**

5th Antiphon = **ADII**

After the intonation they return to their places, **SD** gives back the book and sits down. **Th** leaves the chapel during 5th psalm to prepare the thurible.

Chapter, Hymn and Versicle

- During the repetition of the 5th psalm **SD** and **McII** go to the area where the Epistle is usually sung, after having made reverences to the altar and to the **B**.
- There the **SD** sings the Chapter, after this they return to their places.
- For the Chapter the **B** gives away the mitre, and stands.
- **AP, BB and Bub** come for the intonation of the Hymn.

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- The cantors sing the versicle in the middle of the choir.
- Meanwhile the **Th** returns to his place.

Magnificat

- **AP**, **BB** and **Bub** come for the intonation of the *Magnificat* Antiphon. Thereafter **B** sits down and receives mitre from **ADI**, as before.
- **Th** comes to the throne, gives the boat to **AP**, reverence, imposition of incense kneeling, reverence, then **Th** returns to his place at the credence table with the thurible.
- **B** stands up with mitre for *Magnificat*, **ADI** holds cope for the sign of the cross, then **B** receives crosier and goes with all ministers from the throne to the altar. **B** gives away crosier and mitre. Then a general genuflection.
- **B** goes up to the altar with the **AD's**. **AP** goes around to the Epistle side, where he receive the thurible from the **Th**. **AP** goes up to the **B** and give him the thurible, with the usual kisses. During the incensation he is on the Epistle side in plano.
- **AD's** hold the cope and support **B** for the genuflections, if **B** recites the *Magnificat* then they alternate with him.
- After the incensation of the altar, **AP** takes the thurible at the Epistle side, gives it to the thurible and returns to the altar steps for the reverence.
- **Th** then joins them to the left without the boat.
- **B** and **AD's** arrive in the meantime at the foot of the altar, then a general genuflection.
- **B** receives crosier and mitre as usual and returns to the throne, followed by **Th**.
- At the throne **B** gives away crosier, **Th** gives **AP** thurible, reverence, incensation of **B**, reverence. (If benediction follows **McII** prepares for it)
- If the *Magnificat* is not yet finished **B** gives away mitre and receives crosier and waits standing until the end of the *Magnificat*. Thereafter he gives away crosier sits down and receives mitre.
- In the meantime, **AP** gave the thurible back to the **Th**, who gives it to the **SD** who arrived in the meantime from his place. Then with **Th** to his left reverence, incenses **AP**, **ADI**, with usual bows before and after, then reverence to **B**, then incenses **ADII**, reverence, then priests in choir, seminarians and then he goes to his place, where he hands the thurible to the **Th**.
- **Th** then incenses **SD**, **McI**, **McII**, **AC's** and faithful.
- For the *Glória Patri*, the **B** gives away mitre, stands up, and receives crosier. At the *sicut erat*, **B** gives away crosier sits down and receives mitre.
- At the *sicut erat*, the **Ac's** take their candles from the credence table, go to the middle of the altar genuflect and place themselves at the sides of the throne facing each other and next to the bearers.

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Orations and end

B gives away mitre, stands up, **AP**, **BB** and **Bub** go to **B**, who then sings the oration (and commemorations). Then they return to their places. Cantors sing *Benedicámus*, **B** receives mitre.

If no benediction then:

B gives solemn blessing from the throne, receiving the crosier after *Omnípotens Deus*, all then go to the altar. General genuflection and recession.

If there is benediction **ADI** acts as deacon.

Positions for benediction

