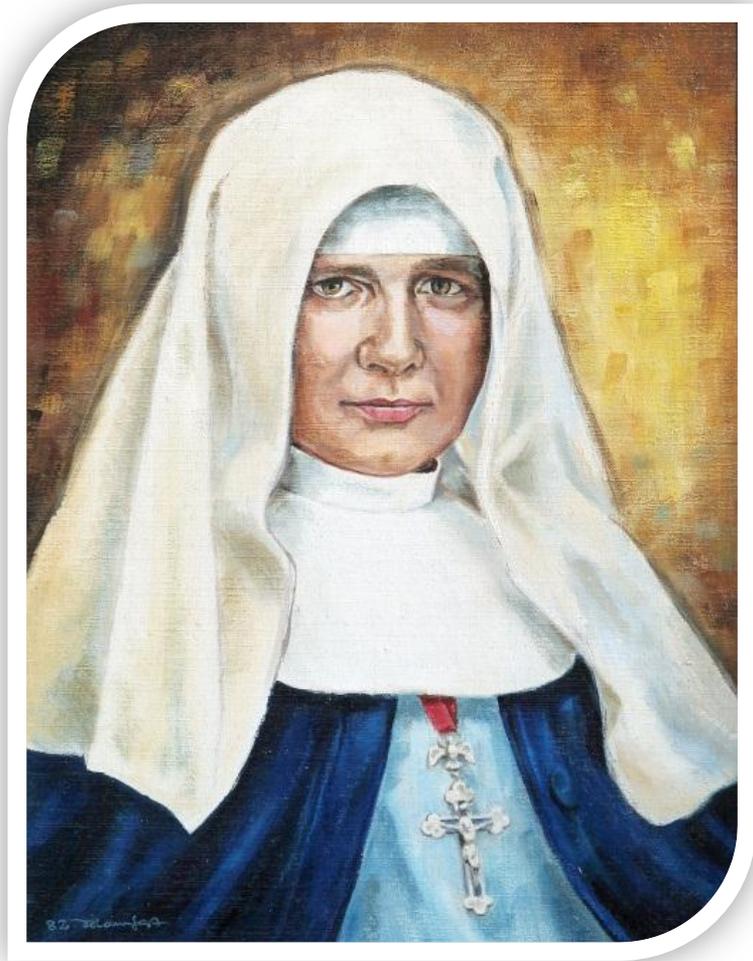


Blessed Maria Helena Stollenwerk
Evening Praise



“With Gratitude to God”

L : God, come to our assistance.

A : Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son...

Hymn:

L: Ant: If we think of Mother Maria Stollenwerk, we find ourselves before a great feminine personality and missionary pioneer, although she was not able to fulfill her great desire, to be sent on mission herself. (*Pope John Paul II's homily at Beatification of Blessed Maria Helena*)

1 : Shout joyfully to the Lord, all you lands; worship the Lord with cries of gladness; come before Him with joyful song.

2 : Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong, whose people we are, God's well-tended flock.

1 : Enter the temple gates with praise, its court with thanksgiving. Give thanks to God, bless his name.

2 : Good indeed is the Lord, whose love endures forever, whose faithfulness lasts through every age.

(Psalm 100)

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son...

All: Ant: If we think of Mother Maria Stollenwerk, we find ourselves before a great feminine personality and missionary pioneer, although she was not able to fulfill her great desire, to be sent on mission herself. (*Pope John Paul II's homily at Beatification of Blessed Maria Helena*)

L: Ant :In brief, we can state that the whole life of Blessed Maria Helena was a sign of her being touched by God. (Pope John Paul II)

1 : O Lord, our God, how awesome is your name through all the earth! You have set our majesty above the heavens!

2 : Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have drawn a defense against your foes, to silence enemy and avenger. When I see your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars that you set in place –

1 : What are humans that you are mindful of them, mere mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them little less than a god, crowned them with glory and honor.

2 : You have given them rule over the works of your hands, put all things at their feet: All sheep and oxen, even the beast of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever swims the paths of the seas. (Psalm 8)

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son...

All: Ant :In brief, we can state that the whole life of Blessed Maria Helena was a sign of her being touched by God. (Pope John Paul II)

L: Ant: The Holy Spirit inspired Blessed Maria Helena to proclaim the Gospel, and, as St. Paul said, to become all things to all people. (Pope John Paul II)

1: The favors of the Lord I will recall, the glorious deeds of the Lord. Because of all he has done for us; for he is good to the house of Israel, He has favored us according to his mercy and his great kindness.

2: He said: They are indeed my people, children who are not disloyal; So he became their savior in their every affliction. It was not a messenger or an angel, but he himself who save them. (Isaiah 63:7-9)

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son...

All: Ant: The Holy Spirit inspired Blessed Maria Helena to proclaim the Gospel, and, as St. Paul said, to become all things to all people. (Pope John Paul II)

Reading: from *Faithful to the Spirit*

by Anselm Gruen, OSB.

In her personal way, Helena fulfilled the law of Christ: “Bear on another’s burdens” (Gal 6:2). The basic principle of her life was as follows: “To God the honor, to my neighbor the benefit, to myself the burden”. That is a simple saying, but it releases an immense power. It spurred her on to work unceasingly for the glory of God, to look to God in all that she did. Her basic principle did not let her rest in her care for people. As superior, she understood very quickly how difficult it was to care for sisters who were physically exhausted, or for sisters who had difficult personalities that cut them off from others. In her care for her sisters, the last part of the motto was a consolation... Helena did not let the sisters know that her office was sometimes burdensome. She radiated joy, satisfaction, encouragement, and gratitude for her vocation, and for a life with Christ. (p. 123)

Response

Bend my heart to do your will, by your word, give me life.

- **Bend my heart to do your will, by your word, give me life.**

Keep the promise you have made to your servant.

- **By your word, give me life.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son...

- **Bend my heart to do your will, by your word, give me life.**

All: Ant : Blessed Maria Helena saw the Holy Spirit as the driving force of all missionary activity. (Pope John Paul II)

Magnificat: My Soul Rejoices by Owen Alstott

MY SOUL REJOICES

(Organ: p. 728)

Owen Alstott

REFRAIN:



My soul re-joic - es___ in God, my_ Sav - ior. My spir - it finds its

Fine VERSES:



joy in God, the liv - ing God.____

1. My soul pro - claims your
2. Your mer - cy flows through -
3. You cast the might - y
4. You fill the hun - gry
5. Just as you prom - ised



1. might - y deeds. My spir - it sings the great - ness of your name.
2. out the land and ev - 'ry gen - er - a : tion knows your love.
3. from their thrones and raise the poor and low - ly to new life.
4. with good things. With emp - ty hands you send the rich a - way.
5. A - bra - ham, you come to free your peo - ple, Is - ra - el.

to Refrain

Text: cf. Lk 1:46-55. Text and music © 1984, 1991, OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

All: Ant : Blessed Maria Helena saw the Holy Spirit as the driving force of all missionary activity. (Pope John Paul II)

Concluding Prayers

For the haunting rhythm of our universe,

- We thank you, our Creator.

For the still, stretching reaches of our universe,

- We thank you, our Creator.

For giving each of us life,

- We thank you, our Creator.

For giving us a history and a destiny,

- We thank you, our Creator.

For becoming, yourself, human among us,

- We thank you, our Creator.

For loving us enough to offer your life for us,

- We thank you, our Creator.

For drawing us into the mystery of life and love,

- We thank you, our Creator.

For touching our lives with stars and blades of grass,

- We thank you, our Creator.

For calling us into your service, to bring your love to others,

- We thank you, our Creator.

Our Father

L : Lord, our God,

All: We are grateful for all the graces and benefits we receive in community. We esteem and love our Congregation and our Founders. Help us to further its growth and development, pray for each of its members daily, and remain loyal to our Congregation and to one another. With special love and gratitude, we remain united with our parents and families and

remember them in our daily prayers. Our charism and spirituality unite us in a special way to the Society of the Divine Word and the Holy Spirit Sisters of Perpetual Adoration. Support them in their service to you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and rules with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (from Constitutions 311, 312, 313)

L : The Lord bless us and keep us!

The Lord let his face shine upon us and be gracious to us!

The Lord look upon us kindly and give us his peace!

All: Amen.



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