

The Book of Occasional Services • 2003

Conforming to General Convention 2003

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Church Publishing
445 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10016

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Rogation Procession

The Rogation Days are traditionally observed on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday before Ascension Day. They may, however, be observed on other days, depending on local conditions and the convenience of the congregation.

Anciently, the observance consisted of an outdoor procession which culminated in a special celebration of the Eucharist. In more recent centuries, the procession has frequently taken place on a Sunday afternoon, apart from the Eucharist.

If the Rogation Procession is held on a Sunday or Principal Feast, it should take place apart from or following the Proper Eucharist of the Day. Under these conditions the procession concludes with a suitable prayer and a blessing.

Hymns, psalms, canticles, and anthems are sung during the procession. The following are appropriate:

Canticle 1 or 12 (Benedicite)

Psalm 103 (Refrain: "Bless the Lord, O my soul")

Psalm 104 (Refrain: "Hallelujah").

At suitable places the procession may halt for appropriate Bible readings and prayers.

In addition to the readings listed on page 930 of the Prayer Book, any of the following passages are appropriate:

Genesis 8:13-23	Ezekiel 34:25-31
Leviticus 26:1-13(14-20)	James 4:7-11
Deuteronomy 8:1-10(11-20)	Matthew 6:25-34
Hosea 2:18-23	John 12:23-26

Suitable prayers include the following: Prayers 1, 29, 34, 38, 40-44, and Thanksgivings 1, 8, 9 from the section "Prayers and Thanksgivings" in the Prayer Book. Also, the following

Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessing be upon this (seed, livestock, plough, forest, _____) and grant that *it* may serve to your glory and the welfare of your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Customarily, the Great Litany is begun as the procession enters the church. The following petitions may be inserted following the third petition on page 151 of the Prayer Book:

That it may please thee to grant favorable weather, temperate rain, and fruitful seasons, that there may be food and drink for all thy creatures,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless the lands and waters, and all who work upon them to bring forth food and all things needful for thy people,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to look with favor upon all who care for the earth, the water, and the air, that the riches of thy creation may abound from age to age,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

At the conclusion of the Litany, after the Kyries, the Eucharist begins with the Salutation and one of the Proper Collects for Rogation Days.

If the procession cannot take place out of doors, the service may begin with the Great Litany, which may be sung in procession in the church.

If the Liturgy does not begin with the Great Litany, it is suggested that Form V be used for the Prayers of the People, and that the following petitions be added after the eighth petition on page 390:

For favorable weather, temperate rains, and fruitful seasons, that there may be food and drink for all your creatures, we pray to you, O Lord.

For your blessing upon the lands and waters, and all who work upon them to bring forth food and all things needful for your people, we pray to you, O Lord.

For all who care for the earth, the water, and the air, that the riches of your creation may abound from age to age, we pray to you, O Lord.