

Daily Prayers at a Roman Hearth

By Virginia Carper

The Earth Mother

Ceres Mater,
Earth Mother
Our Mother
Your child offers to You,
My labors
My fruits,
My love,
Receive my offerings.

Spirits of Home and Family

Oh *Lares*, Watchers of the Home
Guardians of the Family
My *Juno*, My Protector,
I offer this incense to You.
I pray that You will defend
Against things seen and unseen.

The Ancestors

Salvete Di Parentes!
My father and others near and far,
Beer you loved,
Beer I offer.
Beer for everyone!
I pray that you share your wisdom.

The Gods

Salvete Capitoline Trio!

Watching over all things Roman.

Iuppiter Maximus Optimus, Jupiter, Best and Brightest.

Juno, in all Her Aspects

Stern Minerva, Patroness of artisans and scientists.

Salvete Dii Consentes!

Neptunus of the life-giving Waters.

Mars Silvanus, Defender of the land

Gracious Venus, our Friend,

Apollo Mendiculus, the Healer

Diana of the Woods,

Volcanus, Smelter of Metals

Vesta of the Eternal Flame

Mercurius, Fleet-footed Patron of merchants

Ceres of the Earth.

Salvete Dii Indigites!

Ancient Gods of the land,

Heroes from long ago,

I greet You!

Welcome Mighty Ones and Holy Powers,

Welcome Nature Spirits and Ancestors,

May you find hospitality at my fire!

Notes:

I offer beer to my ancestors, who are Anglo-Saxon. Traditional Roman offerings are milk, honey, oil, and salt.

Neptunus – Neptune, Volcanus – Volcan, Mercurius - Mercury