

An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) - led by Fr. Rodney

The responder on behalf of all is Stephen Ringer

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord
Who made heaven and earth.

A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.

The following or other suitable words of penitence may be used

Most merciful God, we confess to you, before the whole company of heaven and one another, that we have sinned in thought, word and deed and in what we have failed to do. Forgive us our sins, heal us by your Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia.

The following or another suitable hymn may be said or sung

Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world we pray,
That with thy wonted favour thou
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

From all ill dreams defend our eyes
From nightly fears and fantasies;
Tread underfoot our ghostly foe,
That no pollution we may know.

O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son;
Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,
Doth live and reign eternally.

The Word of God

Psalms - One or more of the following psalms may be used.

Psalm 4

1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness; ♦
you set me at liberty when I was in trouble; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 How long will you nobles dishonour my glory; ♦
how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?

3 But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness; ♦
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

4 Stand in awe, and sin not; ♦
commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.

5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness ♦
and put your trust in the Lord.

6 There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?' ♦
Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.

7 You have put gladness in my heart, ♦
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

8 In peace I will lie down and sleep, ♦
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 91

1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High ♦
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,

2 Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, ♦
my God, in whom I put my trust.'

3 For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler ♦
and from the deadly pestilence.

4 He shall cover you with his wings and you shall be safe under his feathers; ♦
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.

5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, ♦
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

6 Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, ♦
nor of the sickness that destroys at noon-day.

7 Though a thousand fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, ♦
yet it shall not come near you.

8 Your eyes have only to behold ♦
to see the reward of the wicked.

9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge ♦
and the Most High your stronghold,

10 There shall no evil happen to you, ♦
neither shall any plague come near your tent.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, ♦
to keep you in all your ways.

12 They shall bear you in their hands, ♦
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; ♦
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

14 Because they have set their love upon me, therefore will I deliver them; ♦
I will lift them up, because they know my name.

15 They will call upon me and I will answer them; ♦
I am with them in trouble, I will deliver them and bring them to honour.

16 With long life will I satisfy them ♦
and show them my salvation.

Psalm 134

1 Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, ♦
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.

2 Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary ♦
and bless the Lord.

3 The Lord who made heaven and earth ♦
give you blessing out of Zion.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Scripture Reading -

Gospel - Matthew 20:1-16 read by Irene Poole

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The Kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, he found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Reflection

The following responsory may be said

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Alleluia, alleluia. Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Gospel Cantic

The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung

Save us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep may rest in peace.

1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: ♦ your word has been fulfilled.

2 My own eyes have seen the salvation ♦ which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

3 A light to reveal you to the nations ♦ and the glory of your people Israel.

Luke 2.29-32

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now

and shall be for ever. Amen. Save us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep may rest in peace.

Prayers led by Sylvia Williams

Lord God, as we celebrate the moment in time when you accepted your mother into eternity, we also remember her care for your Son and for each one of us, a love which reflects your own immeasurable love as the God who is love itself.

Lord hear us..Lord, graciously hear us

We remember Bishop Rose and Bishop Justin as they challenge us to treasure and care for our beautiful but often broken world. May their prayers inspire us to cherish the wonders of creation, of the environment and of a humanity which is so often in need of tenderness.

Lord hear us..Lord, graciously hear us

We remember governments and organisations across the world which are empowered to make a difference. As, together, we reflect on climate change and what needs to be done to save our world, may decision-making be guided by wisdom, vision and courage.

Lord hear us..Lord, graciously hear us

We remember young people who are dreaming of a hope-filled future beyond exam results. May their joy and enthusiasm inject laughter and energy into the lives of the people they meet and with whom they live and work.

Lord hear us..Lord, graciously hear us

We remember all those who are facing catastrophic changes to their lives and livelihoods as a result of wildfires, drought, floods and political uncertainty. May they find the hope and support that they desperately need at this time. May the emergency services discover the strength to cope with situations which overstretch their capacities.

Lord hear us..Lord, graciously hear us

We remember families as they enjoy their summer holidays. May their time together strengthen their love for each other and be a source of great happiness.

Lord hear us..Lord, graciously hear us

We remember all those who are gradually returning to work after the limitations of the pandemic. May they know job security and may the opportunity to come together once again with friends and colleagues fill them with hope and encouragement.

Lord hear us..Lord, graciously hear us

Let us pray for all who have died...those recently departed: Louisa Shilling, Bishop Merwyn Castle

We pray for those whose anniversary of death occurs this month:

Olivia Mason, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Douglas Nurney, Eric Warren, Gordon Garwood - Warren, William Livermore, Gerald Abbey, Frederick Skeet.

Lord hear us..Lord, graciously hear us

Lord of life and love, be with us. Stay with us. Guide us towards you and each other.
Amen

For people of our nation

Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you. In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster. Do it again, we pray. Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders, Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers. Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve. Lord Jesus Christ, in these challenging and fearful days, turn your face towards us, have mercy upon us, and heal our land, we pray. **Amen.**

We keep a moment of silence.....

The Collect

O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promises, which surpass every human desire. 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**

Silence may be kept.

Visit our homes, O Lord, we pray, and drive far from them all the snares of the enemy; may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace, and may your blessing be always upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;
For you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,
For the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,
So do we look for you, O Christ.
Come with the dawning of the day
And make yourself known in the breaking of the bread.

The Lord bless us and watch over us;
the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;
the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace. **Amen.**