

**An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) for  
Cyprian Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258 -  
led by Mary Tanner**  
**The responder on behalf of all is Gerald-  
ine Nurney**

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, be-  
fore 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 trou-  
ble; 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 Al-  
mighty,**

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 - Luke 7:31-35 read by Wendy Curto

Jesus went on to say, "To what, then, can I compare the people of this generation? What are they like? They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling out to each other:

"'We played the pipe for you,  
and you did not dance;  
we sang a dirge,  
and you did not cry.'

For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by all her children."

#### 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 Canticle

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 Robin Crowther

Lord God, today we hear your call that following Jesus means accompanying him in the good times and the bad. Yet Calvary led to the joys of Easter and to new life and hope. Today we come before you, bringing our prayers, confident that you are waiting and listening to even the unspoken longings of our hearts.

Lord, in your mercy [Hear our prayer](#)

Let us pray for all Christians as they proclaim the Gospel message to the world. May their inspiration lead us to discover Jesus and the enormity of his loving care for each one of us.

Lord, in your mercy [Hear our prayer](#)

Let us pray for Governments, organisations and communities as they prepare for the World Climate Conference in November. May we work together to protect and nurture our beautiful and often fragile world.

Lord, in your mercy [Hear our prayer](#)

Let us pray for the people of Afghanistan at this time of uncertainty and fear. May they find hope and freedom amid the changes which are taking place in their country.

Lord, in your mercy [Hear our prayer](#)

Let us pray for all those who are forced to abandon their homes and everything they hold dear in their search for security and freedom. May they rediscover laughter despite their tears and homesickness.

Lord, in your mercy [Hear our prayer](#)

Let us pray for our country as we search for ways to provide for the needs of the most vulnerable members of society. May decisions be guided by wisdom and a genuine desire to work for the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

Lord, in your mercy [Hear our prayer](#)

Let us pray for families, teachers and students at the start of the new academic year. May the new beginnings encourage warm friendships, greater confidence, happiness and generosity.

Lord, in your mercy [Hear our prayer](#)

Let us pray for all who have died...those recently departed:

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

Harry Sidebottom, Gladys Brigand, Jamie Hiscock, Carolyn Horner, Pat Hodges, Ivy Fawcett, Michael Kilby, Iris Weeks, Peggy Richardson, Geoffrey Pynegar, Michael Wright, George Maskell, Olive Boulton, Michael Brown, Richard Thampson, James Little.

Lord, in your mercy [Hear our prayer](#)

Loving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, watch over, protect and bless us as we try to come ever closer to you and to 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

Holy God, who brought Cyprian to faith in Christ, made him a bishop in the Church and crowned his witness with a martyr's death: grant that, after his example, we may love the Church and her teachings, find your forgiveness within her fellowship and so come to share the heavenly banquet you have prepared for us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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.**