

WEDNESDAY 7th APRIL: COMPLINE

PREPARATION

Stand

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

Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

A SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

Brethren, be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist, steadfast in the faith.

1 Peter 5: 8, 9

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Thanks be to God.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised.

THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm 134

1 Behold now, praise the Lord, ■
all ye servant of the Lord.

2 Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord ■
even in the courts of the house of our God.

3 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary ■
and praise the Lord.

4 The Lord that made heaven and earth ■
give thee blessing out of Zion.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

A READING

St. Mark 16:1-9

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do

not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterwards Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.

ADDRESS

RESPONSORY

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

For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

HYMN

Before the ending of the day,
creator of the world, we pray
that thou with wonted love wouldst keep
thy watch around us while we sleep.

O let no evil dreams be near,
or phantoms of the night appear;
our ghostly enemy restrain,
lest aught of sin our bodies stain.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,
from death to endless life restored;
whom with the Father, we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

The following responsory may be said:

Keep me as the apple of an eye.

Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,

that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

THE GOSPEL CANTICLE

NUNC DIMITTIS

The Song of Simeon Luke 2: 29-32

1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, ■
according to thy word.

2 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, ■
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

3 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles ■

and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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

PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

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. Amen.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers,
to be praised and glorified above all for ever;

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Let us praise him and magnify him for ever.

Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven
to be praised and glorified above all for ever.

The Almighty and most merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing.
Amen.

CONFESSION

A prayerful examination of the past day may be undertaken after which the following or other suitable words of penitence may be used

**We confess to God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
That we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, Through our own grievous fault. Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.
Almighty God, have mercy upon us, Forgive us all our sins, Deliver us from all evil, Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, And bring us to life everlasting; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The priest, when present, pronounces the absolution.

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us
that thy people may rejoice in thee?

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us
and grant us thy salvation.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.

O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

O Lord, hear our prayer

and let our cry come unto thee.

Let us pray.

THE COLLECTS

Visit, we beseech thee, O Lord, our homes,
and drive away all the snares of the enemy;
Let thy holy angels dwell therein
to preserve us in peace;
and may thy blessing be upon us evermore;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, through your only begotten Son Jesus Christ you have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE ENDING

DISMISSAL

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.
For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

The Lord be with you
and with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

BLESSING

**May Christ, who heals us through his blood, bless us.
May he restore in us whatever is lacking in our faith
and set us at liberty to worship him in freedom
through our words and deeds. Amen.**