

St Mary's Church, North Mymms
An Order for Night Prayer



Compline

Preparation

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

All Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord

All who made heaven and earth.

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

All 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.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

All 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 hymn may be sung

Before the ending of the day,

Creator of the world, we pray

That you, with steadfast love, would keep

Your watch around us while we sleep.

*From evil dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Tread underfoot our deadly foe
That we no sinful thought may know.*

*O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath
Our souls are raised to life from death.*

The Word of God

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.

***All 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

One of the following short lessons or another suitable passage is read

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us and we are called by your name; leave us not, O Lord our God. (*Jeremiah 14.9*)

(or)

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him, strong in the faith. (*1 Peter 5.8, 9*)

(or)

The servants of the Lamb shall see the face of God, whose name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night: they will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever. (*Revelation 22.4, 5*)

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

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

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

All I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

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

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

All Hide me under the shadow of your wings

Gospel Canticle

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

**All 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*)

**All 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.**

**All 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

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy,

All let us pray to the Lord:

That God may establish among the nations his sceptre of righteousness,

All let us pray to the Lord:

That we may seek Christ in the scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread,

All let us pray to the Lord:

That God may bind up the broken-hearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen,

All let us pray to the Lord:

That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death,

All let us pray to the Lord:

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world,

All let us pray to the Lord:

Let us commend the world, which Christ will judge, to the mercy and protection of God.

Open prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

The Collect

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray,
and in your great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Silence may be kept.

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,
and drive far from it 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.

All 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;

All for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,

All for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,

All so do we look for you, O Christ.

[Come with the dawning of the day

All 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.

All Amen.

