



# Night Prayer of the Church

CATHOLIC EDITION



## **GLORY BE**

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.



# Night Prayer of the Church

CATHOLIC EDITION

### **Night Prayer of the Church**

This booklet has been produced by the Home Mission Office which is part of the Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis at the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales in collaboration with Thy Kingdom Come.

### **Acknowledgements**

Some of the prayer themes have been inspired by the thresholds toward an encounter with Christ as outlined in Forming Intentional Disciples, written by Sherry Weddell in 2012.

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## Introduction

The Prayer of the Church has been the regular pattern of prayer for priests, religious and consecrated people to pray at different times of the day, each day of the year for hundreds of years. Many people from all walks of life also use this form of daily prayer.

For over a century it has been a tradition in the Catholic Church to pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the days between the Ascension and Pentecost.

In recent years many Christian denominations throughout the world have also been praying for this intention through a prayer initiative called 'Thy Kingdom Come'. By joining this initiative, we are therefore renewing our desire for the Kingdom of God to be made real in the lives of those we know and love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

This booklet has been produced for those who would like to use the Night Prayer of the Church between the Ascension and Pentecost as we pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit during this time.

By doing so we follow the example of the disciples who prayed continuously between the Ascension and Pentecost. Very few people have the time to pray continuously on their own, but at each moment someone, somewhere in the world will be praying the

Prayer of the Church. In other words, when praying Night Prayer we take part in the continuous prayer of the Church.

Throughout this journey from the Ascension to Pentecost we can pray for those we know and love to receive a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit, so that they might encounter the person of Jesus Christ and know how much God our Father loves them.

The basic structure of Night Prayer is as follows:

- Opening Refrain
- Hymn (choose one from the end of this booklet)
- Psalm(s)
- Scripture Reading
- Short Responsory
- Nunc Dimittis
- Concluding Prayer
- Anthem to the Blessed Virgin Mary (you can choose one from the end pages).

Whether praying on your own or as part of a group it would be better to take time to reflect on one part or leave space between the different elements of Night Prayer than to rush through it.

If you choose to pray in a group, it would be a good idea to appoint someone to lead the prayer. They should read the parts marked as 'leader' and begin the antiphons.

In addition to the normal format of Night Prayer, there is also an intention for each day.

Recurring texts such as Glory be, can be found on the front inside cover.

Suggested hymns for this season can be found at the end of this booklet.

When reading the Scripture and intention, perhaps there are particular people you would like to pray for. You are welcome to write their names below:

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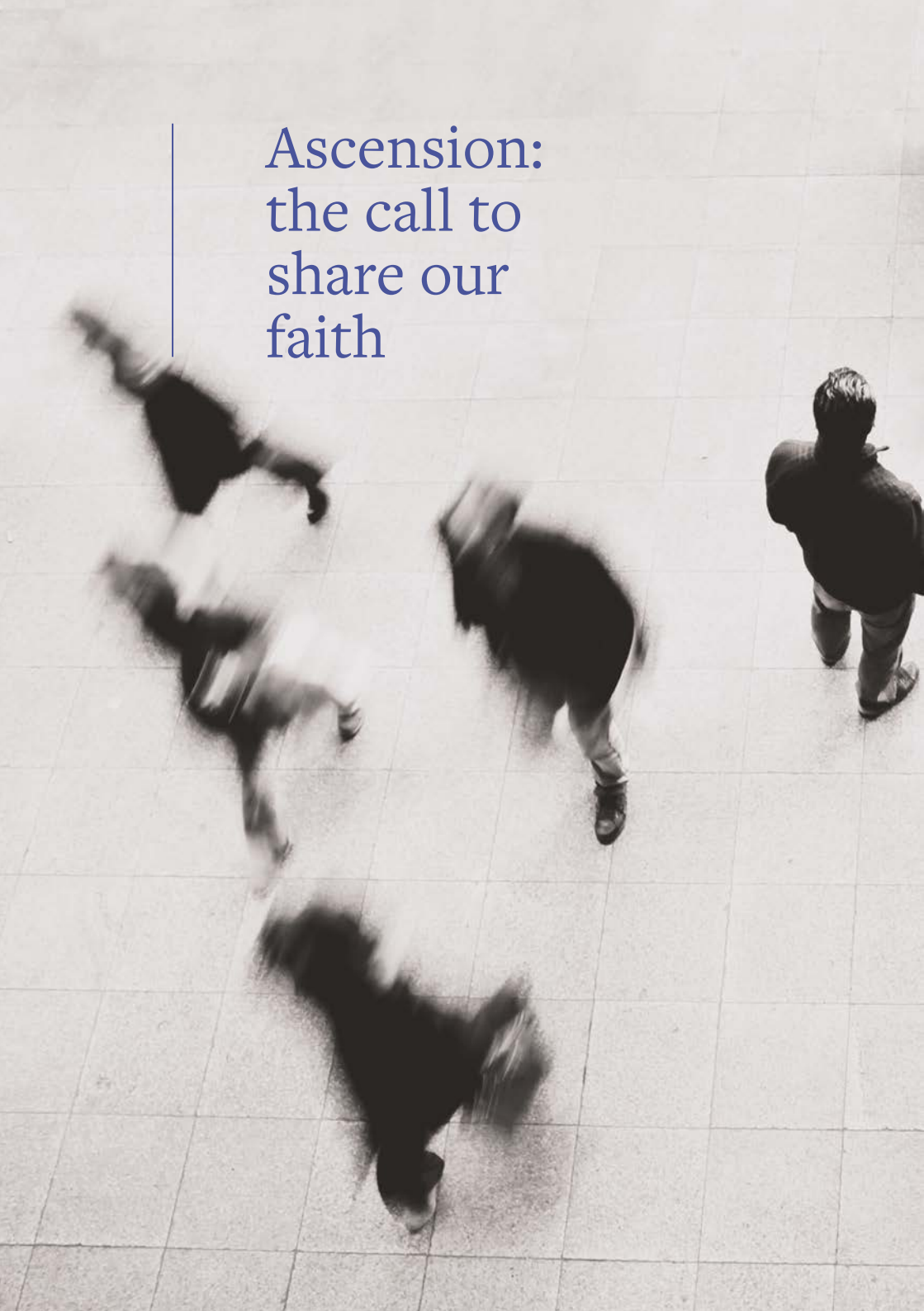
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Ascension:  
the call to  
share our  
faith





## ASCENSION THURSDAY

*Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations.* Matthew 28: 18–19a

### PRAYER INTENTION

**For all Christians to have the confidence to share the good news of Jesus Christ.**

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## THANKSGIVING

Psalm 4

*The Lord raised him from the dead and made him  
worthy of all admiration (St Augustine)*

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;\*  
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear  
me!

O men, how long will your hearts be closed,\*  
will you love what is futile and seek what is false?

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom  
he loves;\*  
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still.\*  
Make justice your sacrifice and trust in the Lord.

‘What can bring us happiness?’ many say.\*  
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

You have put into my heart a greater joy\*  
than they have from abundance of corn and new wine.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once\*  
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Antiphon 2:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**EVENING PRAYER IN  
THE TEMPLE**

Psalm 133(134)

*Praise our God, all you his servants, and all who  
revere him, both great and small (Revelation 19:5)*

O come, bless the Lord,\*  
all you who serve the Lord,  
who stand in the house of the Lord,\*  
in the courts of the house of our God.

Lift up your hands to the holy place\*  
and bless the Lord through the night.  
May the Lord bless you from Sion,\*  
he who made both heaven and earth.

**GLORY BE**

**Antiphon 2:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Deuteronomy 6: 4-7

*Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you  
shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and  
with all your soul, and with all your might. And these  
words which I command you this day shall be upon  
your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to  
your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in  
your house, and when you walk by the way, and when  
you lie down, and when you rise.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect  
us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with  
Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## NUNC DIMITTIS

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory  
of Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## **GLORY BE**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

Visit this house, we pray you, Lord:  
drive far away from it all the snares of the enemy.  
May your holy angels stay here and guard us in peace,  
and let your blessing be always upon us.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## **BLESSING**

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

## **ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Please select one from the end pages.

Know  
God  
Better

## FRIDAY AFTER ASCENSION

*My dear people, let us love one another, since love comes from God, and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.* 1 John 4:11–12

### PRAYER INTENTION

For all those who have lost sight of God, that they would see His love revealed in their lives.

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### PRAYER OF ONE WHO IS GRAVELY ILL

Psalm 87(88)

*This is your hour; this is the reign of darkness*  
(Luke 22:53)

Lord my God, I call for help by day; \*  
I cry at night before you.  
Let my prayer come into your presence.\*  
O turn your ear to my cry.

For my soul is filled with evils;\*  
my life is on the brink of the grave.  
I am reckoned as one in the tomb:\*  
I have reached the end of my strength,

like one alone among the dead;\*  
like the slain lying in their graves;  
like those you remember no more,\*  
cut off, as they are, from your hand.

You have laid me in the depths of the tomb,\*  
in places that are dark, in the depths.  
Your anger weighs down upon me:\*  
I am drowned beneath your waves.

You have taken away my friends\*  
and made me hateful in their sight.  
Imprisoned, I cannot escape;\*  
my eyes are sunken with grief.

I call to you, Lord, all the day long;\*  
to you I stretch out my hands.  
Will you work your wonders for the dead? \*  
Will the shades stand and praise you?

Will your love be told in the grave\*  
or your faithfulness among the dead?  
Will your wonders be known in the dark\*  
or your justice in the land of oblivion?



As for me, Lord, I call to you for help: \*  
in the morning my prayer comes before you.  
Lord, why do you reject me? \*  
Why do you hide your face?

Wretched, close to death from my youth, \*  
I have borne your trials; I am numb.  
Your fury has swept down upon me; \*  
your terrors have utterly destroyed me.

They surround me all the day like a flood, \*  
they assail me all together.  
Friend and neighbour you have taken away: \*  
my one companion is darkness.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 14:9

*Lord, you are in our midst, we are called by your  
name. Do not desert us, O Lord our God.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**Leader:** You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## **GLORY BE**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Give us grace, almighty God,  
so to unite ourselves in faith with your only Son,  
who underwent death and lay buried in the tomb  
that we may rise again in newness of life with him,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All:** Amen.

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.

# Trust



## SATURDAY AFTER ASCENSION

*If you trust in the Lord and do good, then you will live in the land and be secure. If you find your delight in the Lord, he will grant your heart's desire.*

Psalm 36:3-4

### PRAYER INTENTION

For those who feel isolated and alone, that they will develop meaningful relationships through a childlike trust in God.

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

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Psalm 4

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worthy of all admiration* (St Augustine)

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from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear  
me!

O men, how long will your hearts be closed,\*  
will you love what is futile and seek what is false?

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he  
loves;\*  
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be  
still.\*  
Make justice your sacrifice and trust in the Lord.

‘What can bring us happiness?’ Many say.\*  
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

You have put into my heart a greater joy\*  
Than they have from abundance of corn and new  
wine.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once\*  
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Antiphon 2:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**EVENING PRAYER IN  
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Psalm 133 (134)

*Praise our God, all you his servants, and all who  
revere him, both great and small (Revelation 19:5)*

O come, bless the Lord,\*  
all you who serve the Lord,  
who stand in the house of the Lord,\*  
in the courts of the house of our God.

Lift up your hands to the holy place\*  
and bless the Lord through the night.

May the Lord bless you from Sion,\*  
he who made both heaven and earth.

**GLORY BE**

**Antiphon 2:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

*Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord; and you  
shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and  
with all your soul, and with all your might. And these  
words which I command you this day shall be upon  
your heart, and you shall teach them diligently to  
your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in  
your house, and when you walk by the way, and when  
you lie down, and when you rise.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
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**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect  
us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with  
Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## NUNC DIMITTIS

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of  
Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.



## GLORY BE

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Come to visit us, Lord, this night,  
so that by your strength we may rise at daybreak  
to rejoice in the resurrection of Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.

# | Forgiveness



## SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION

*Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life. John 3: 16*

### PRAYER INTENTION

**For those in need of God's mercy, that they will know the joy of his forgiveness.**

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### IN THE SHELTER OF THE MOST HIGH

Psalm 90(91)

*Behold, I have given you power to tread underfoot  
serpents and scorpions (Luke 10:19)*

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High\*  
and abides in the shade of the Almighty  
says to the Lord: 'My refuge,\*  
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

It is he who will free you from the snare\*  
of the fowler who seeks to destroy you;  
he will conceal you with his pinions\*  
and under his wings you will find refuge.

You will not fear the terror of the night\*  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the plague that prowls in the darkness\*  
nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.

A thousand may fall at your side,\*  
ten thousand fall at your right,  
you, it will never approach;\*  
his faithfulness is buckler and shield.

Your eyes have only to look\*  
to see how the wicked are repaid,  
you who have said: 'Lord, my refuge!'\*  
and have made the Most High your dwelling.

Upon you no evil shall fall,\*  
no plague approach where you dwell.  
For you has he commanded his angels,\*  
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands\*  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread\*  
and trample the young lion and the dragon.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him;\*  
protect him for he knows my name.  
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.'\*  
I will save him in distress and give him glory.

With length of life I will content him;\*  
I shall let him see my saving power.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 22:4-5

*They will see the Lord face to face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. It will never be night again and they will not need lamplight or sunlight, because the Lord God will be shining on them. They will reign for ever and ever.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## **GLORY BE**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

God our Father,  
As we have celebrated today the mystery of the  
Lord's resurrection,  
grant our humble prayer:  
free us from harm  
that we may sleep in peace  
and rise in joy to sing your praise.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect  
end.

**All: Amen.**

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.



# | Openness



## MONDAY – FEAST OF ST MATTHIAS

*Look, I am standing at the door, knocking. If one of you hears me calling and opens the door, I will come in.* Revelation 3: 20a

### PRAYER INTENTION

**For the hearts of those we know and love to be more open to Christ who waits to be invited in.**

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**PRAYER OF A POOR  
MAN IN DISTRESS**

Psalm 85(86)

*Blessed be God who comforts us in all our sorrows*  
(2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

Turn your ear, O Lord, and give answer\*  
for I am poor and needy.  
Preserve my life, for I am faithful:\*  
save the servant who trusts in you.

You are my God, have mercy on me, Lord,\*  
for I cry to you all the day long.  
Give joy to your servant, O Lord,\*  
for to you I lift up my soul.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,\*  
full of love to all who call.  
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer\*  
and attend to the sound of my voice.

In the day of distress I will call\*  
and surely you will reply.  
Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord;\*  
nor work to compare with yours.

All the nations shall come to adore you\*  
and glorify your name, O Lord:  
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,\*  
you who alone are God.

Show me, Lord, your way †  
So that I may walk in your truth.\*  
Guide my heart to fear your name.

I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart \*  
and glorify your name for ever;  
for your love to me has been great: \*  
you have saved me from the depths of the grave.

The proud have risen against me; †  
ruthless men seek my life: \*  
to you they pay no heed.

But you, God of mercy and compassion, \*  
slow to anger, O Lord,  
abounding in love and truth, \*  
turn and take pity on me.

O give your strength to your servant \*  
and save your handmaid's son.  
Show me a sign of your favour †  
that my foes may see to their shame \*  
that you console me and give me your help.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**SCRIPTURE READING**      1 Thessalonians 5:9–10

*God chose us to possess salvation through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, who died for us in order that we might  
live together with him, whether we are alive or dead  
when he comes.*

## **SHORT RESPONSORY**

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

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**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect  
us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with  
Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory  
of Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord God,  
You chose Saint Matthias  
to complete the number of the twelve apostles.  
By his prayer, include us among your chosen ones,  
since we rejoice to see that the lot marked out for us  
is your love.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.

# | Curiosity



## 7<sup>TH</sup> TUESDAY OF EASTERTIDE

*Ask, and it will be given to you. Matthew 7: 7a*

### PRAYER INTENTION

For all those who are beginning to show an interest in matters of faith, that their curiosity will grow into a desire for the living God.

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### PRAYER IN DESOLATION

Psalm 142(143):1–11

*A man is made righteous not by obedience to the Law, but by faith in Jesus Christ (Galatians 2:16)*

Lord, listen to my prayer: †  
turn your ear to my appeal.\*  
You are faithful, you are just; give answer.  
Do not call your servant to judgment\*  
for no one is just in your sight.

The enemy pursues my soul;\*  
he has crushed my life to the ground;  
he has made me dwell in darkness\*  
like the dead, long forgotten.  
Therefore my spirit fails;\*  
my heart is numb within me.

I remember the days that are past;\*  
I ponder all your works.  
I muse on what your hand has wrought †  
and to you I stretch out my hands.\*  
Like a parched land my soul thirsts for you.

Lord, make haste and answer;\*  
for my spirit fails within me,  
Do not hide your face\*  
lest I become like those in the grave.

In the morning let me know your love\*  
for I put my trust in you.  
Make me know the way I should walk:\*  
to you I lift up my soul.

Rescue me, Lord, from my enemies;\*  
I have fled to you for refuge.  
Teach me to do your will\*



for you, O Lord, are my God.  
Let your good spirit guide me\*  
In ways that are level and smooth.

For your name's sake, Lord, save my life; \*  
in your justice save my soul from distress.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 5:8–9

*Be calm but vigilant, because your enemy the devil  
is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for  
someone to eat. Stand up to him, strong in faith.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## **GLORY BE**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

In your mercy, Lord,  
dispel the darkness of this night.  
Let your household so sleep in peace,  
that at the dawn of a new day,  
they may, with joy, waken in your name.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.

# Seeking



## 7<sup>TH</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EASTERTIDE

*Search, and you will find.* Matthew 7: 7b

### PRAYER INTENTION

**For those who seek God, that their search may lead them to find their heart's desire.**

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### CONFIDENT PRAYER IN DISTRESS

Psalm 30(31):1–6

*Father, into your hands I commend my spirit*  
(Luke 23:46)

In you, O Lord, I take refuge. \*  
Let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice, set me free,  
hear me and speedily rescue me.

Be a rock of refuge for me, \*  
a mighty stronghold to save me,  
for you are my rock, my stronghold. \*  
For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.

Release me from the snares they have hidden \*  
for you are my refuge, Lord.  
Into your hands I commend my spirit. \*  
It is you who will redeem me, Lord.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Antiphon 2:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**OUT OF THE DEPTHS** Psalm 129(130)  
**I CRY**

*He will save his people from their sins*  
(Matthew 1:21)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, \*  
Lord, hear my voice!  
O let your ears be attentive \*  
to the voice of my pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, \*  
Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness: \*  
For this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord,\*  
I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord\*  
more than watchman for daybreak.  
Let the watchman count on daybreak\*  
and Israel on the Lord.

Because with the Lord there is mercy\*  
and fulness of redemption,  
Israel indeed he will redeem\*  
from all its iniquity.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon 2:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 4:26–27

*Do not let resentment lead you into sin; the sunset  
must not find you still angry. Do not give the devil his  
opportunity.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**Leader:** You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory  
of Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant \*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation \*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles \*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## **GLORY BE**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.



## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,  
meek and humble of heart,  
you offer to those who follow you  
a yoke that is good to bear,  
a burden that is light.

Accept, we beg you, our prayer and work of this day,  
and grant us the rest we need  
that we may be ever more willing to serve you,  
who live and reign for ever and ever.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.

# | Encounter



## 7<sup>TH</sup> THURSDAY OF EASTERTIDE

*Knock, and the door will be opened to you.*

Matthew 7: 7c

### PRAYER INTENTION

**For us all to encounter the person of Jesus Christ and experience life lived to the full.**

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**THE LORD IS MY  
PORTION**

Psalm 15(16)

*God raised up Jesus, freeing him from the pains  
of death (Acts 2:24)*

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. †  
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.\*  
My happiness lies in you alone.'

He has put into my heart a marvellous love\*  
for the faithful ones who dwell in his land.  
Those who choose other gods increase their sorrows †  
Never will I offer their offerings of blood.\*  
Never will I take their name upon my lips.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;\*  
it is you yourself who are my prize.  
The lot marked out for me is my delight:\*  
welcome indeed the heritage that falls to me!

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,\*  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight;\*  
Since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;\*  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,\*  
nor let your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life, †  
The fulness of joy in your presence,\*  
at your right hand happiness for ever.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**SCRIPTURE READING**            1 Thessalonians 5:23

*May the God who gives us peace make you completely his, and keep your whole being, spirit, soul, and body, free from all fault, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

**All:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

**Leader:** You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth, alleluia, alleluia.

**All:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## NUNC DIMITTIS

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of  
Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect  
us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with  
Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord our God,  
restore us again by the repose of sleep  
after the fatigue of our daily work:  
so that, continually renewed by your help,  
we may serve you in body and soul.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.

# Freedom





## 7<sup>TH</sup> FRIDAY OF EASTERTIDE

*When Christ freed us, he meant for us to remain free.  
Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the  
yoke of slavery. Galatians 5: 1*

### PRAYER INTENTION

**For those who are held down by past experiences,  
hurt or pain, that they may know the freedom that  
Christ brings when we follow him.**

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

## Psalm

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### **PRAYER OF ONE WHO IS GRAVELY ILL**

Psalm 87(88)

*This is your hour; this is the reign of darkness*  
(Luke 22:53)

Lord my God, I call for help by day;\*  
I cry at night before you.  
† Let my prayer come into your presence.\*  
O turn your ear to my cry.

For my soul is filled with evils;\*  
my life is on the brink of the grave.  
I am reckoned as one in the tomb:\*  
I have reached the end of my strength,  
like one alone among the dead;\*  
like the slain lying in their graves;  
like those you remember no more,\*  
cut off, as they are, from your hand.

You have laid me in the depths of the tomb,\*  
in places that are dark, in the depths.  
Your anger weighs down upon me:\*  
I am drowned beneath your waves.

You have taken away my friends\*  
and made me hateful in their sight.  
Imprisoned, I cannot escape;\*  
my eyes are sunken with grief.

I call to you, Lord, all the day long;\*  
to you I stretch out my hands.  
Will you work your wonders for the dead? \*  
Will the shades stand and praise you?

Will your love be told in the grave \*  
Or your faithfulness among the dead?  
Will your wonders be known in the dark \*  
or your justice in the land of oblivion?

As for me, Lord, I call to you for help: \*  
in the morning my prayer comes before you.  
Lord, why do you reject me? \*  
Why do you hide your face?

Wretched, close to death from my youth, \*  
I have borne your trials; I am numb.  
Your fury has swept down upon me; \*  
your terrors have utterly destroyed me.

They surround me all the day like a flood, \*  
they assail me all together.  
Friend and neighbour you have taken away: \*  
my one companion is darkness.

## **GLORY BE**

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

Jeremiah 14:9

*Lord, you are in our midst, we are called by your  
name. Do not desert us, O Lord our God.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect  
us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with  
Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## NUNC DIMITTIS

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory  
of Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Give us grace, almighty God,  
so to unite ourselves in faith with your only Son,  
who underwent death and lay buried in the tomb  
that we may rise again in newness of life with him,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.

| Faith



## 7<sup>TH</sup> SATURDAY OF EASTERTIDE

*Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen.* Hebrews 11: 1

### PRAYER INTENTION

**For those who want to grow in faith, that we may all be filled with the hope of what is to come.**

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

### GLORY BE

### EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## THANKSGIVING

Psalm 4

*The Lord raised him from the dead and made him  
worthy of all admiration (St Augustine)*

When I call, answer me, O God of justice;\*  
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

O men, how long will your hearts be closed,\*  
will you love what is futile and seek what is false?

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom  
he loves;\*  
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still.\*  
Make justice your sacrifice and trust in the Lord.

‘What can bring us happiness?’ Many say.\*  
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

You have put into my heart a greater joy\*  
than they have from abundance of corn and new  
wine.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once\*  
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Antiphon 2:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



**EVENING PRAYER IN  
THE TEMPLE**

Psalm 133 (134)

*Praise our God, all you his servants, and all who  
revere him, both great and small (Revelation 19:5)*

O come, bless the Lord,\*  
all you who serve the Lord,  
who stand in the house of the Lord,\*  
in the courts of the house of our God.

Lift up your hands to the holy place\*  
and bless the Lord through the night.

May the Lord bless you from Sion,\*  
he who made both heaven and earth.

**GLORY BE**

**Antiphon 2:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

*Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you  
shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and  
with all your soul, and with all your might. And these  
words which I command you this day shall be upon  
your heart, and you shall teach them diligently to  
your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in  
your house, and when you walk by the way, and when  
you lie down, and when you rise.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect  
us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with  
Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## NUNC DIMITTIS

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of  
Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Come to visit us, Lord, this night,  
so that by your strength we may rise at daybreak  
to rejoice in the resurrection of Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.

# | Pentecost



# PENTECOST SUNDAY

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit.* Acts 2: 4a

## PRAYER INTENTION

For the whole Church to be filled with the Holy Spirit 'as by a new Pentecost'.<sup>1</sup>

**Leader:** O God, come to our aid.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

## GLORY BE

## EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Take a moment to reflect on your day. Thank God for the blessings received and seek forgiveness for the times you have given in to temptation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn** – please select one from the end pages.

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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<sup>1</sup> Pope John XXIII at the opening of Vatican II

## IN THE SHELTER OF THE MOST HIGH

Psalm 90(91)

*Behold, I have given you power to tread underfoot  
serpents and scorpions* (Luke 10:19)

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High\*  
and abides in the shade of the Almighty  
says to the Lord: 'My refuge,\*  
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

It is he who will free you from the snare\*  
of the fowler who seeks to destroy you;  
he will conceal you with his pinions\*  
and under his wings you will find refuge.

You will not fear the terror of the night\*  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the plague that prowls in the darkness\*  
nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.

A thousand my fall at your side,\*  
ten thousand fall at your right,  
you, it will never approach;\*  
his faithfulness is buckler and shield.

Your eyes have only to look\*  
to see how the wicked are repaid,  
you who have said: 'Lord, my refuge!'\*  
and have made the Most High your dwelling.

Upon you no evil shall fall,\*  
no plague approach where you dwell.  
For you has he commanded his angels,\*  
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands\*  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread\*  
and trample the young lion and the dragon.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him;\*  
protect him for he knows my name.  
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.'\*  
I will save him in distress and give him glory.

With length of life I will content him;\*  
I shall let him see my saving power.

## GLORY BE

**Antiphon 1:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 22:4-5

*They will see the Lord face to face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. It will never be night again and they will not need lamplight or sunlight, because the Lord God will be shining on them. They will reign for ever and ever.*

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**Leader:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All:** Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**Leader:** You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit.

**All: Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
alleluia, alleluia.**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect  
us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with  
Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

Canticle: Luke 2:29–32

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of  
Israel*

At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant\*  
to go in peace, according to your promise.

For my eyes have seen your salvation\*  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles\*  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

## **GLORY BE**

**Antiphon:** Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect  
us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with  
Christ and rest with him in peace, alleluia.



## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Visit this house, we pray you, Lord:  
drive far away from it all the snares of the enemy.  
May your holy angels stay here and guard us in peace,  
and let your blessing be always upon us.  
(We make our prayer) through our Lord.  
(Through Christ our Lord.)

## BLESSING

**Leader:** The Lord grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

**All: Amen.**

## ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please select one from the end pages.



# Hymns for Night Prayer

between The Ascension and Pentecost

**Now it is evening; time to cease from labour,**  
Father, according to thy will and pleasure,  
Through the night-season, have thy faithful people  
Safe in thy keeping.

Far from our dwellings drive the evil spirits;  
Under the shadow of thy wings protect us;  
Be thou our guardian through the hours of darkness,  
Strong to defend us.

Call we, ere sleeping, on the name of Jesus;  
Rise we at day-break, strong to serve thee better;  
Order our goings, well begun and ended,  
All to thy glory.

Fountain of goodness, bless the sick and needy;  
Visit the captive, solace the afflicted;  
Shelter the stranger, feed your starving children;  
Strengthen the dying.

Father, who neither slumberest nor sleepest,  
Thou, to whom darkness is as clear as noonday,  
Have us this night-time, for the sake of Jesus,  
Safe in thy keeping.

**Sweet Saviour, bless us ere we go;**  
thy word into our minds instil,  
and make our lukewarm hearts to glow  
with lowly love and fervent will.  
Through life's long day and death's dark night,  
O gentle Jesus, be our Light.

The day is done, its hours have run,  
and thou hast taken count of all,  
the scanty triumphs grace hath won,  
the broken vow, the frequent fall.  
Through life's long day and death's dark night,  
O gentle Jesus, be our Light.

For all we love, the poor, the sad,  
the sinful, unto thee we call;  
O let thy mercy make us glad:  
thou art our Jesus, and our All.  
Through life's long day and death's dark night,  
O gentle Jesus, be our Light.

**Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,**

Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares can destroy,  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

**Christ, the true light of us, true morn,**

Dispersing far the shades of night,  
Light whereof every light is born,  
Pledge of the beatific light.

Thou all the night our guardian be  
Whose watch no sleep or slumber knows;  
Thou be our peace, that stayed on thee  
Through darkness we may find repose.

Sleep then our eyes, but never sleep  
The watchful heaven-directed heart,  
And may thy hand in safety keep  
The servants whose desire thou art.

Look on us, thou, and at our side  
Our foes and thine repulse afar:  
Through every ill the faithful guide  
Who in thy blood redeemed are.

While soul within the body clings,  
Body and soul defend us, Lord.  
Sure in the shadow of thy wings,  
Kept in thy lasting watch and ward.

**Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;**

the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.  
Change and decay in all around I see.  
O Lord who changest not, abide with me.

Hold thou thy Cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

**Now thank we all our God,**

With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In Whom this world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms  
Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace,  
And guide us when perplexed;  
And guard us through all ills  
In this world, till the next!

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him Who reigns  
With Them in highest Heaven,  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and Heav'n adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.

