

St Mary's Church, Shalford
Parish of Shalford and Peasmarsh

Night Prayer - Compline

The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (completorium). It's a time of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day.

Preparation

Music

Light a candle - the light of Christ with you as we begin.

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 follows.

Prayer of penitence:

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.

The Office Hymn is sung or said:

Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That, with thy wonted favor, 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 not 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. Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

One of the following psalms is said.

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 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.

At the end of the psalm, the following

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 is said

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*

The following responsory is 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. Alleluia, alleluia.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

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

**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

An additional prayer for the day may be added here

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.

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.
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.**



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