

Holy Week and Easter at All Saints



Readings and Prayers for Compline

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week

Compline

for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week

Introduction

Opening and Confession

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.

**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.

**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.**

Evening Hymn

**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.**

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866),
based on *Te lucis ante terminum*
(Latin, before 11thC)

Psalms and readings for each day are on the following pages:

Monday – see below.

Tuesday – page 6.

Wednesday – page 8.

Psalm and reading for Monday

Psalm 139

Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

**You mark out my journeys and my resting place
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

For there is not a word on my tongue,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

**You encompass me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go then from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

**If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

Even there your hand shall lead me,
your right hand hold me fast.

**If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me
and the light around me turn to night,'**

Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as clear as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.

**For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.

**My frame was not hidden from you, when I was made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.**

Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished;
already in your book were all my members written,

**As day by day they were fashioned
when as yet there was none of them.**

How deep are your counsels to me, O God!
How great is the sum of them!

**If I count them, they are more in number than the sand,
and at the end, I am still in your presence.**

**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.**

Matthew 21.23-46

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.'

‘What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

‘Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.’

Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures:

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes”?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.’

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The responsory which follows is on page 10.

Psalm and reading for Tuesday

Psalm 91

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
**Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold,
my God, in whom I put my trust.'**

For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence.

He shall cover you with his wings

**and you shall be safe under his feathers;
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.**

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

**Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.**

Though a thousand fall at your side

and ten thousand at your right hand,
yet it shall not come near you.

**Your eyes have only to behold
to see the reward of the wicked.**

Because you have made the Lord your refuge
and the Most High your stronghold,

**There shall no evil happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near your tent.**

For he shall give his angels charge over you,

to keep you in all your ways.

**They shall bear you in their hands,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

You shall tread upon the lion and adder;
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

**Because they have set their love upon me,
therefore will I deliver them;**

I will lift them up, because they know my name.

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.

**With long life will I satisfy them
and show them my salvation.**

**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.**

Matthew 22.34-40

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

The responsory which follows is on page 10.

Psalm and reading for Wednesday

Psalm 143

Hear my prayer, O Lord;
give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness;
answer me in your righteousness.

**Do not enter into judgement with your servant,
for no one living is righteous before you.**

For the enemy has pursued me,
crushing my life to the ground,
making me sit in darkness like those long dead.

**Therefore my spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is appalled.**

I remember the days of old,
I think about all your deeds,
I meditate on the works of your hands.

**I stretch out my hands to you;
my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**

Answer me quickly, O Lord;
my spirit fails.

Do not hide your face from me,
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

**Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning,
for in you I put my trust.**

**Teach me the way I should go,
for to you I lift up my soul.**

Save me, O Lord, from my enemies;
I have fled to you for refuge.

**Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God.**

**Let your good spirit lead me
on a level path.**

For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life.
In your righteousness bring me out of trouble.

**In your steadfast love cut off my enemies,
and destroy all my adversaries,
for I am your servant.**

**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.**

Matthew 26.1-16

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, 'You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.'

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and they conspired to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, 'Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.'

Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, 'Why this waste? For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor.' But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, 'Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.'

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, 'What will you give me if I betray him to you?' They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

Responsory

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.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Gospel Canticle – Nunc Dimittis

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

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

**My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;**

A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

**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.**

Address

Collect for Monday

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.

Collect for Tuesday

Keep watch, dear Lord,
with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend the sick, give rest to the weary,
sustain the dying, calm the suffering, and pity the distressed;
all for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer.

Collect for Wednesday

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
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.

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.
May God bless us,
that in us may be found love and humility,
obedience and thanksgiving,
discipline, gentleness and peace.
Amen



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