

# Compline : Night Prayer following first vespers of S. Barnabas

*Taken from The Divine Office, the Liturgy of the Hours  
Published Collins, 2016*

## **The Gathering ...**

Welcome and introduction

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

*From our cycle of prayer for this dispersed  
worshipping community: Tonight's Office Prayer is  
offered alongside and for*

- *the priest, clergy team, people and  
community The Old Church, Smethwick in  
the Birmingham Diocese*
- *and for the Liverpool Diocese.*

## **Hymn**

Apostles of our ancient faith,  
with all the heav'ns we sing your fame  
whose sound went forth in all the earth  
to tell of Christ, and bless his name.

You took the gospel to the poor,  
the Word of God alight in you,  
which in our day is told again:  
that timeless word, for ever new.

You told of God who died for us  
and out of death triumphant rose,  
who gave the truth that made us free,  
and changeless through the ages goes.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
whose gift is faith that never dies:  
a light in darkness now, until  
the day-star in our hearts arise.

*Text: the nuns of Stanbrook Abbey, (Stanbrook Abbey Hymnal)  
Music: 'Herongate' trad English arr. RV Williams*

## **Psalmody**

**O God, be my protector and my refuge.**

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.

*Psalm 31: 1-6*

**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.**

**O God, be my protector and my refuge.**

**Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord**

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 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.**

**Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord**

## **Scripture reading**

In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And the man sprang up and began to walk. When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice.

When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, "Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good—giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy." Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

*Acts 14:8 – 18*

*From the Anglican Lectionary for first Evening Prayer of S.  
Barnabas, NRSV*

## **Responsory**

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit,  
**Into your hands, Lord,  
I commend my spirit**

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.  
**Into your hands, Lord,  
I commend my spirit**

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit  
**Into your hands, Lord,  
I commend my spirit**

## **Intercession...**

*.... Bringing to mind those whom we pray for and holding them in God's love..., bringing the needs of the world, the church, and those who have no-one to pray for them...*

## **Collect for S. Barnabas**

Lord God, you filled S. Barnabas with faith and the Holy Spirit and set apart for the conversion of the nations. Grant that the gospel of Christ, which he preached so strenuously, may, in our day, be faithfully proclaimed by word and deed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father,  
which 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 them  
that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

## ***Nunc Dimittis (Gospel Canticle)***

**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**

**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 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,  
world without end.  
Amen**

**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**

## ***Blessing and departure***

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.

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

**May the Lord bless us, protect us from  
all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.**

**Amen**