

# Compline : Night Prayer on Thursday

## S. Bernard of Clairvaux

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## The Gathering ...

### Welcome and introduction

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

- the Priest, clergy and ministry team, church family, and community, of S. Mary the Virgin, Leigh, in the Manchester Diocese*
- and for the Rochester diocese*

*[God] himself is the initiator of our love and its final goal. He is himself the occasion of human love; he gives us the power to love and brings our desire to consummation. ... His love for us opens up inside us the way to love, and is the reward of our own reaching out in love. How gently he leads us in love's way, how generously he returns the love we give...*

*I will love you, O Lord my strength, my strong rock and my defence, my Saviour, my sole desire and love. My God, my helper, I will love you with all the power you have given me; not worthily, because that is impossible, but nevertheless to the best of my ability.*

*From 'On the Love of God' by S. Bernard of Clairvaux, quoted in 'Celebrating the Saints', Canterbury Press, Norwich, 2016*

## Preparation

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.**

**Words of sorrow,  
love, mercy and forgiveness....**

*Time of silence*

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

**○ God make speed to save us.  
○ 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 ever shall be.  
World without end.  
Amen. Alleluia.**

## Hymn

Father, we adore you,  
lay our lives before you,  
how we love you

Jesus, we adore you,  
lay our lives before you,  
how we love you

Spirit, we adore you,  
lay our lives before you,  
how we love you

*Text and music: Terrye Coelho  
(HON New Anglican 125)*

## Psalmody

**The Lord is at my right hand;  
I shall not fall**

Preserve me, O God,  
for in you have I taken refuge;\*  
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord,  
all my good depends on you.'

All my delight is upon the godly  
that are in the land,\*  
upon those who are noble in heart.

Though the idols are legion  
that many run after,\*

their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,  
neither make mention of their names  
upon my lips.

The Lord himself is my portion and cup;\*  
in your hands alone is my fortune.

My share has fallen in a fair land;\*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

I will bless the Lord  
who has given me counsel,\*  
and in the night watches  
he instructs my heart.

I have set the Lord always before me;\*  
he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

Wherefore my heart is glad  
and my spirit rejoices,\*  
my flesh also shall rest secure.

For you will not abandon my soul to Death,\*  
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.

You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence is the fullness of joy\*  
and in your right hand  
are pleasures for evermore.

*Psalm 16*

**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.**

**The Lord is at my right hand;  
I shall not fall**

## **Scripture reading**

... we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews, and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

*1 Corinthians 1: 23-25*

*Taken from the Anglican Eucharistic Lectionary for the day,  
NRSV*

## **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.**

## **Collect for S. Bernard**

Merciful Redeemer,  
who, by the life and preaching  
of your servant, Bernard,  
rekindled the radiant light of your Church:  
grant us, in our generation,  
to be inflamed with the same spirit of  
discipline and love  
and ever to walk before you  
as children of light;  
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.

## **Nunc Dimittis (Gospel Cantic)**

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

### ***Intercession...***

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

### **Collect**

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. Amen

### **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.**

### **Blessing and departure**

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