



Night Prayer

From the Liturgy of the Hours

Outside of Paschaltide

“In the Holy Spirit Christ carries out through the Church ‘the task of redeeming humanity and giving perfect glory to God,’ not only when the Eucharist is celebrated and the sacraments administered but also in other ways and especially when the Liturgy of the Hours is celebrated. There Christ himself is present — in the gathered community, in the proclamation of God’s word, ‘in the prayer and song of the Church.’” (General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours)

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English translation of the *Nunc Dimittis* and the *Gloria Patri* by the International Consultation on English Texts (ICET).

The Psalms: A New Translation © The Grail (England), 1963.

Opening Invocation

Ÿ. O God, come to my assistance.

℞. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Ÿ. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

℞. Amen. (Alleluia.)

Penitential Rite

A brief period of silence for an examination of conscience, followed by a penitential rite.

Hymn

Te lucis ante terminum,
rerum Creator, poscimus
ut pro tua clementia
sis praesul et custodia.

Procul recedant somnia
et noctium phantasmata;
hostemque nostrum comprime,
ne polluantur corpora.

Praesta, Pater piissime,
Patrique compar Unice,
cum Spiritu Paraclito
regnans per omne saeculum.

To Thee, before the close of 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 under foot our ghostly foe,
that no pollution we may know.

O Father, that we ask be done
through Jesus Christ Thine only Son,
who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee,
shall live and reign eternally.

Psalmody

Ant. Night holds no terrors *for me* * *sleeping* under God's wings.



Psalm 90 (91)

Safe in God's sheltering care

I have given you the power to tread upon serpents and scorpions. (Luke 1: 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.

Yours 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 to the Father, and to *the* Son, *
and to *the* Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, *is* now, *
and will be forever. Amen.

Ant. Night holds no terrors *for* me * sleeping under God's wings.

Reading

A short reading is read.

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.

℞. I commend my *spirit*.

∇. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy *Spirit*.

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

Canticle of Simeon

(Luke: 2:29–32)

Ant. Protect us, Lord, as we stay *awake*; * watch over us *as* we sleep, / that
awake, we may keep watch *with* Christ, * and asleep, rest *in* his peace.



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

Lord, † now 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 will be forever. Amen.

Ant. Protect us, Lord, as we stay *awake*; * watch over us *as* we sleep, / that
awake, we may keep watch *with* Christ, * and asleep, rest *in* his peace.

Concluding Prayer

℣. Let us pray.

The concluding prayer is said.

℞. Amen.

Blessing

℣. May † the all-powerful Lord grant us a restful night and a peaceful death.

℞. Amen.

Antiphon in Honor of the Blessed Virgin

Alma Redemptoris Mater, quae pervia
caeli porta manes, et stella maris,
succurre cadenti,

Surgere qui curat, populo: tu quae
genuisti, natura mirante, tuum
sanctum Genitorem

Virgo prius ac posterius, Gabrielis ab
ore sumens illud Ave, peccatorum
miserere.

Loving mother of the Redeemer,
gate of heaven, star of the sea,
assist your people who have fallen yet
strive to rise again.

To the wonderment of nature you bore
your Creator,

yet remained a virgin after as before.

You who received Gabriel's joyful
greeting,

have pity on us poor sinners.

Ave, Regina caelorum,
Ave, Domina Angelorum:
Salve, radix, salve, porta,
Ex qua mundo lux est orta:
Gaude, Virgo gloriosa,
Super omnes speciosa,
Vale, o valde decora,
Et pro nobis Christum exora.

Hail, O Queen of Heav'n enthron'd,
Hail, by angels Mistress own'd
Root of Jesse, Gate of morn,
Whence the world's true light was
born.

Glorious Virgin, joy to thee,
Lovliest whom in Heaven they see,
Fairest thou where all are fair!
Plead with Christ our sins to spare.

