

# The Order for Evening Prayer with Benediction

## THE ORDER FOR EVENING PRAYER

### INTRODUCTION

STAND

*The Minister reads one or more of sentences of Scripture*

Beloved in Christ, we are here in the presence of the living God and of the whole company of heaven, to offer to him, through our Lord Jesus Christ, our worship and praise and thanksgiving; that we may know more truly the greatness of his love, and that his grace may bear fruit in our lives. We have come to hear and receive God's holy Word, to seek the strengthening power of the Holy Spirit, and to pray for ourselves and all mankind that we may be given those things which are necessary for our true well-being. But first let us confess our sins, and seek our Father's pardon and peace:

KNEEL

**We confess to God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.**

**Almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins and deliver us from evil, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.**

*The Minister (if a Priest) says:*

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### THE OFFICE

STAND

O Lord, open thou our lips;  
**And our mouth shall show forth thy Praise.**

O God, make speed to save us;  
**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.**

Praise ye the Lord;  
**The Lord's Name be praised.**

*The Psalm or Psalms appointed. At the end of every Psalm, all say or sing:*

**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.**

SIT

*The first lesson is read from the Old Testament or the Apocrypha.*

STAND

MAGNIFICAT (*Luke 1.46*)

- 1 **My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.**
- 2 **For he hath regarded:  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.**
- 3 **For behold, from henceforth:  
all generations shall call me blessed.**
- 4 **For he that is mighty hath magnified me:  
and holy is his name.**
- 5 **And his mercy is on them that fear him:  
throughout all generations,**
- 6 **He hath showed strength with his arm:  
be hath scattered the proud in the imagination of  
their hearts.**
- 7 **He hath put down the mighty from their seat:  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.**
- 8 **He hath filled the hungry with good things:  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.**
- 9 **He remembering his mercy:  
hath helped his servant Israel;**
- 10 **As he promised to our forefathers:  
Abraham and his seed, for ever.**

**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.**

SIT

*The second lesson is read from the New Testament.*

STAND

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Luke 2.29*)

- 1 **Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in  
peace: according to thy word.**
- 2 **For mine eyes have seen - thy salvation:  
which thou hast Prepared before the face of all  
peoples.**
- 3 **To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:  
and to be the glory of thy 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 ever  
shall be: world without end. Amen.**

### THE APOSTLES' CREED

STAND

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth:  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.**

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He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead,  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come  
to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit;  
the Holy Catholic Church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**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. Amen.**

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
**And grant us thy salvation.**  
Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
**And make thy chosen people joyful.**  
O Lord, save thy people;  
**And bless thine inheritance.**  
O Lord, save the *Queen*;  
**And give her counsellors wisdom.**  
Give peace in our time, O Lord;  
**And evermore mightily defend us.**  
Make clean our hearts, O God;  
**And renew a right spirit within us.**

*Silence to offer our own intercessions*

*The Collect of the day.*

*The Second Collect, for Peace*

Almighty God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels,  
and all just works do proceed: give unto thy servants that  
peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be  
set to obey thy commandments, and that, being defended by  
thee from the fear of our enemies, we may pass our time in  
rest and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Third Collect, for aid against all perils*

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy  
great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;  
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## A SERMON IS PREACHED

*There is a time of silence to reflect on the sermon and the priest  
prepares for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament*

## BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

*All kneeling, the blessed Sacrament in the Monstrance is brought  
to the altar as the organ plays gently and a devotional is read*

Thou gavest them Bread from heaven. (Alleluia.)

**Containing in itself all sweetness. (Alleluia.)**

Let us pray:

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament  
hast left us a perpetual Memorial of Thy Passion:

Grant us, we beseech thee,

so to venerate the Sacred Mysteries of thy Body and Blood,  
that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy  
redemption;

who livest and reignest, world without end. **Amen.**

*The Priest then goes to the altar and with the Monstrance makes  
the sign of the Cross over the people as the thurifer censens the  
Blessed Sacrament and the server rings the bell. The people may  
make the sign of the Cross and bow in adoration, saying silently  
Blessed, praised and adored be Jesus in the most Holy  
Sacrament.*

*The Monstrance is placed on the Altar and the Divine Praises are  
said by the Priest, the people repeating them after him, all kneeling*

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be God the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Blessed be the Great Mother of God, Mary most Holy.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

*The Blessed Sacrament is replaced in the Tabernacle, the People,  
stand, and Psalm 117, with this antiphon, is said.*

**Let us forever adore the Most Holy Sacrament. Alleluia**

O praise the Lord, all ye nations;

praise him, all ye peoples.

For his merciful kindness is ever more and more toward us;  
and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever.

Praise the Lord.

**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.**

**Let us forever adore the Most Holy Sacrament. Alleluia**