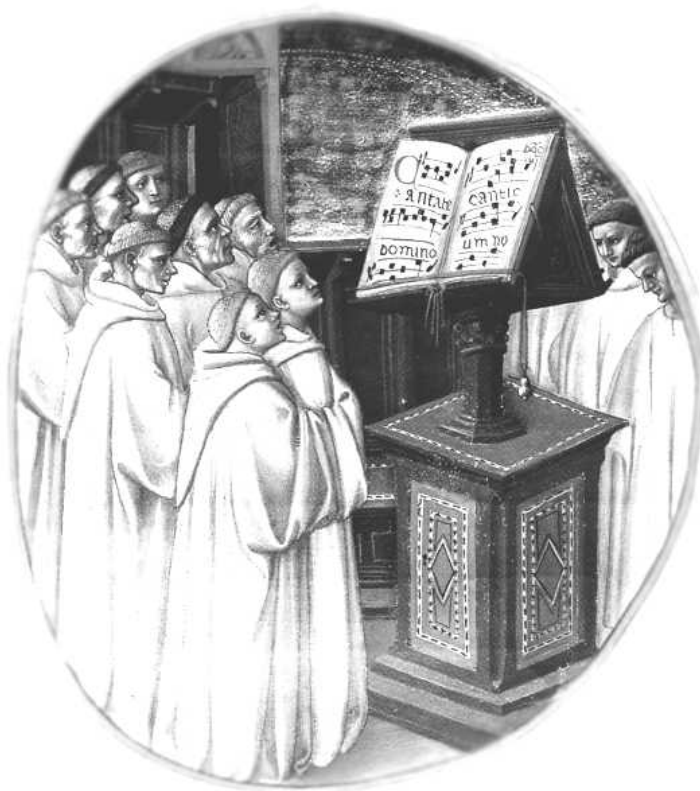


# Order of Service for COMPLINE



Please return this booklet after the service

# Order of Service for Compline

The office of Compline is the final service of the day in the Monastic tradition. Derived from the Latin *completorium* (as Compline represents the completion of the working day), the word was first used in this sense about the beginning of the sixth century by St Benedict in his Rule. Compline is a contemplative service that emphasises spiritual peace. In many monasteries it is the custom to begin the “Great Silence” after Compline, during which the whole community, including guests, observe silence until the morning service the next day.

*The service may be preceded by an **INTROIT** or **ORGAN PRELUDE**.*

*Please stand as the choir and ministers enter the church.*

*The congregation is welcomed to the service.*

*Officiant*     The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.  
*All*             **Amen.**

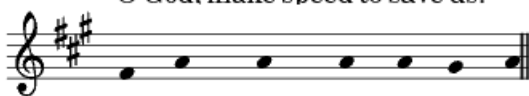
*All sing the*  
**OPENING HYMN**

*Officiant*     Beloved in Christ, be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist, steadfast in the faith.  
                      But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*All*             **Thanks be to God.**

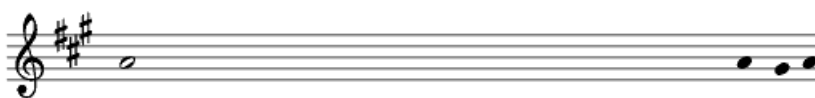
*The officiant and congregation sing the opening **VERSICLES AND RESPONSES**:*



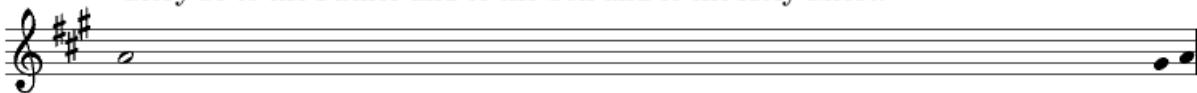
O God, make speed to save us.



**O Lord, make haste to help us.**



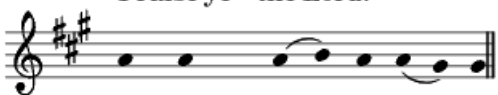
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.



**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 congregation sits as the choir sings one or more of the following*

## PSALMS

### ANTIPHON

Have mercy upon me, O God, and hearken unto my prayer.

### PSALM 4

Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness : thou hast set me at liberty when I was in trouble; have mercy upon me, and hearken unto my prayer.

O ye sons of men, how long will ye blaspheme mine honour : and have such pleasure in vanity, and seek after leasing?

Know this also, that the Lord hath chosen to himself the man that is godly: when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Stand in awe, and sin not :

commune with your own heart, and in your chamber, and be still.

Offer the sacrifice of righteousness : and put your trust in the Lord.

There be many that say : Who will shew us any good?

Lord, lift thou up : the light of thy countenance upon us.

Thou hast put gladness in my heart :

since the time that their corn and wine and oil increased.

I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest :

for it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

### PSALM 31.1-6

In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust :

let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness.

Bow down thine ear to me : make haste to deliver me.

And be thou my strong rock, and house of defence : that thou mayest save me.

For thou art my strong rock, and my castle :

be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy Name's sake.

Draw me out of the net that they have laid privily for me : for thou art my strength.

Into thy hands I commend my spirit :

for thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

### PSALM 91

Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the most High :

shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say unto the Lord, Thou art my hope, and my strong hold : my God, in him will I trust.

For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter : and from the noisome pestilence.

He shall defend thee under his wings, and thou shalt be safe under his feathers : his faithfulness and truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

Thou shalt not be afraid for any terror by night : nor for the arrow that flieth by day; For the pestilence that walketh in darkness :

nor for the sickness that destroyeth in the noon-day.

A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at thy right hand : but it shall not come nigh thee.

Yea, with thine eyes shalt thou behold : and see the reward of the ungodly.

For thou, Lord, art my hope : thou hast set thine house of defence very high.

There shall no evil happen unto thee : neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

For he shall give his angels charge over thee : to keep thee in all thy ways.

They shall bear thee in their hands : that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone.  
 Thou shalt go upon the lion and adder :  
 the young lion and the dragon shalt thou tread under thy feet.  
 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him :  
 I will set him up, because he hath known my Name.  
 He shall call upon me, and I will hear him :  
 yea, I am with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and bring him to honour.  
 With long life will I satisfy him : and shew him my salvation.

PSALM 134

Behold now, praise the Lord : all ye servants of the Lord;  
 Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord :  
 even in the courts of the house of our God.  
 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary : and praise the Lord.  
 The Lord that made heaven and earth : give thee blessing out of Sion.

**THE READING**

*which ends:*

This is the word of the Lord.  
 Thanks be to God.

*All stand to sing the*

**OFFICE HYMN**



1. Be - fore the end - ing of the day, Cre - a - tor of the world we pray.
2. From all ill dreams defend our eyes, From nightly fears and fan - ta - sies;
3. O Father, that we ask be done, Through Je - sus Christ, thine on - ly Son;



That with thy wont - ed fa - vour thou Wouldst be our guard and keep - er now.  
 Tread un - der - foot our ghost - ly foe, That no pol - lu - tion we may know.  
 Who, with the Ho - ly Ghost and thee, Doth live and reign e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

*Please remain standing as the choir sings the following responsory:*

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. [Alleluia!]  
 For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth;  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
 Keep me as an apple of thine eye;  
 Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

*The congregation sits as the choir sings the*

**ANTIPHON & NUNC DIMITTIS**

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

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory to be to the Father : and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be : world without end.  
Amen.

*All stand.*

**THE CREED & LORD'S PRAYER**

Let us declare our faith in God.

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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried,  
He descended into hell;  
The third day he rose again from the dead,  
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on 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 Ghost, the holy Catholick Church,  
The Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of sins,  
The Resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; in 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.

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers;  
To be praised and glorified above all for ever.

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost;  
To be praised and glorified above all for ever.

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers;  
Let us praise him and magnify him for ever.

Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven;  
To be praised and glorified above all for ever.

The Almighty and merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing.  
Amen.

*The congregation sits as the choir sings the*  
**KYRIE ELEISON**

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.  
*Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.*

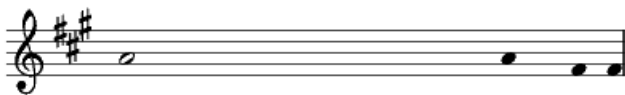
*All say together the words of the* **CONFSSION:**

We confess to God Almighty, the Father, The Son, and the Holy Ghost, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, through our own grievous fault. Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us. Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins and deliver us from all evil, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to life everlasting. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

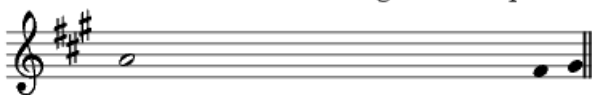
*The officiant says words of God's forgiveness:*

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant unto us pardon and remission of all our sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

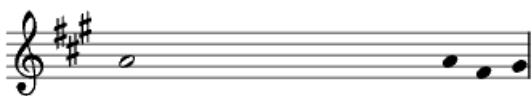
*The officiant and congregation sing the following responses:*



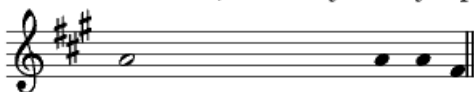
Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;



**That thy people may rejoice in thee?**



O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;



**And grant us thy salvation.**



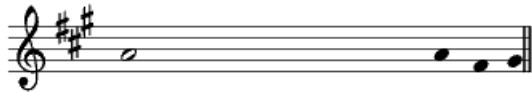
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin;



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



O Lord, hear our prayer;



**And let our cry come unto thee.**

## THE COLLECTS

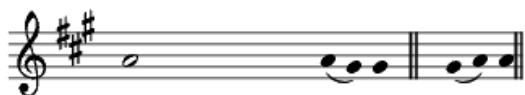
*The Collect of the Day is sung, along with one or more of the following:*

Visit, we beseech thee, O Lord, this place, and drive from it all the snares of the enemy; let thy holy angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace; and may thy blessing be upon us evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

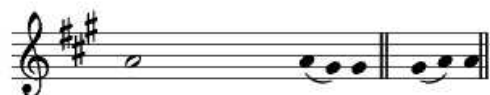
Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Look down, O Lord, from thy heavenly throne, illuminate the darkness of this night with thy celestial brightness, and from the sons of light banish the deeds of darkness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may repose upon thy eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



.. Jesus Christ our Lord. **A - men.**



... world with out end. **A - men.**



... Saviour Jesus Christ. **A - men.**

*The congregation sits as the choir sings the*

**ANTHEM**

*All kneel for the*

**PRAYERS**

*which shall end as follows:*

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest:

**For it is thou, Lord, only that makest us to dwell in safety.**

The Lord be with you:

**And with thy spirit.**

Let us bless the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand to sing the*

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

*during which a collection will be taken.*

**THE BLESSING**

The Almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,  
bless and preserve us.

**Amen.**

*In keeping with monastic tradition, the service ends in silence.*

*Please remain standing while the choir and ministers depart.*

