

An Order for Compline



The late night office from the Canadian
Book of Common Prayer (1962)
adapted for use at saint benedict's table for Lent

An Order for Compline

We begin with a song, followed by a brief reflection

THE Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.
Amen.

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.

Cantor



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

People



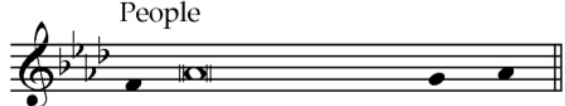
A - men.

Cantor



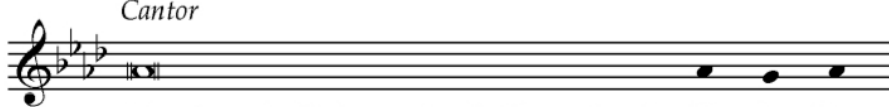
O God, make speed to save us;

People



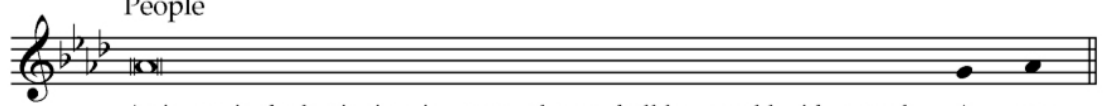
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Cantor



Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

People



As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. A - men.

Cantor



Praise ye the Lord;

People



The Lord's Name be prais - èd.

One of the following Psalms is prayed

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 children of mortals, how long will ye blaspheme mine honour, / and have such pleasure in vanity, and seek after falsehood?

Know this also, that the LORD hath chosen to himself the one 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 show us any good?' / LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.

Thou hast put gladness in my heart, / more than when grain and wine increase.

I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest; / for it is thou, LORD, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

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.

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 hidden 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.

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.

PSALM 121

I WILL lift up mine eyes unto the hills: / O whence cometh my help?

My help cometh even from the LORD, / who hath made heaven and earth.

The LORD will not suffer thy foot to be moved: / and the One that keepeth thee will not sleep.

Behold, the One that keepeth Israel / shall neither slumber nor sleep.

THE LORD is thy keeper: / the LORD is thy defence upon thy right hand;

So that the sun shall not burn thee by day, / neither the moon by night.

THE LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: / yea, it is even God that shall keep thy soul.

The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in / from this time forth for evermore.

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.**

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.**

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.**

PSALM 139

O LORD, thou hast searched me out and known me: / thou
knowest my down-sitting and mine up-rising; thou understandest
my thoughts from afar.

**Thou art about my path and about my bed, / and art
acquainted with all my ways.**

For lo, there is not a word in my tongue, / but thou, O LORD,
knowest it altogether.

**Thou hast beset me behind and before, / and laid thine hand
upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful and excellent for me: / I cannot
attain unto it.

**Whither shall I go then from thy spirit? / or whither shall I
flee from thy presence?**

If I climb up into heaven, thou art there: / if I go down to hell, thou
art there also.

If I take the wings of the morning, / and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there also shall thy hand lead me, / and thy right hand shall hold me.

If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, / and the light about me become night',

Yet even the darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day: / the darkness and light to thee are both alike.

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.

Then follows one of the following brief readings:

COME unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. *Matthew 11. 28-30*

or

IS not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? When thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? *Isaiah 58.6-7*

or

FOR when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous person will one die: yet peradventure for a good person some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. *Romans 5.6-8*

or

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than that of humans; and the weakness of God is stronger than that of humans.

1 Corinthians 1.18, 22-25

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth;

I commend my spirit.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Here follows this or another song

BEFORE the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That you, with steadfast love, would keep
Your watch around us while we sleep.

From evil dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Tread underfoot our deadly foe
That we no sinful thought may know.

O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath
Our souls are raised to life from death.

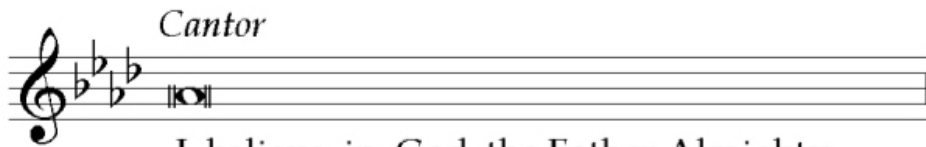
Keep us as the apple of an eye;
Hide us under the shadow of thy wings.

**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.

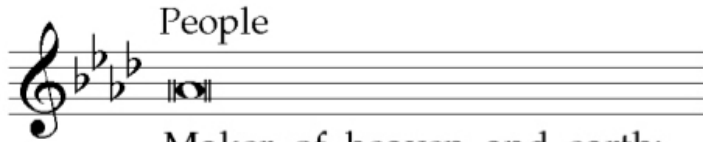
**For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

**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.**



Cantor

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,



People

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;

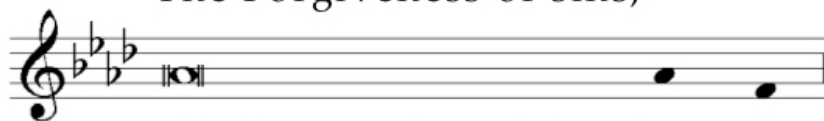
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;

The holy Catholic Church;

The Communion of Saints;

The Forgiveness of sins;



The Resurrection of the bo - dy,



And the Life everlasting. A - men.

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.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our forebears;

To be praised and glorified above all for ever.

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost;

Let us praise and magnify God for ever.

Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven;

To be praised and glorified above all for ever.

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

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.

Silence is observed

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.**

MAY the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and
remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the
grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Here follows a song

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;

That thy people may rejoice in thee?

O Lord, show 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.

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. **Amen.**

or

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.**

One or more of the following prayers may be added.

KEEP watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, O Lord; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, have mercy on the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

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

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. **Amen.**

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

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

The Lord be with you;

And with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord;

Thanks be to God.

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

Amen.

Closing song