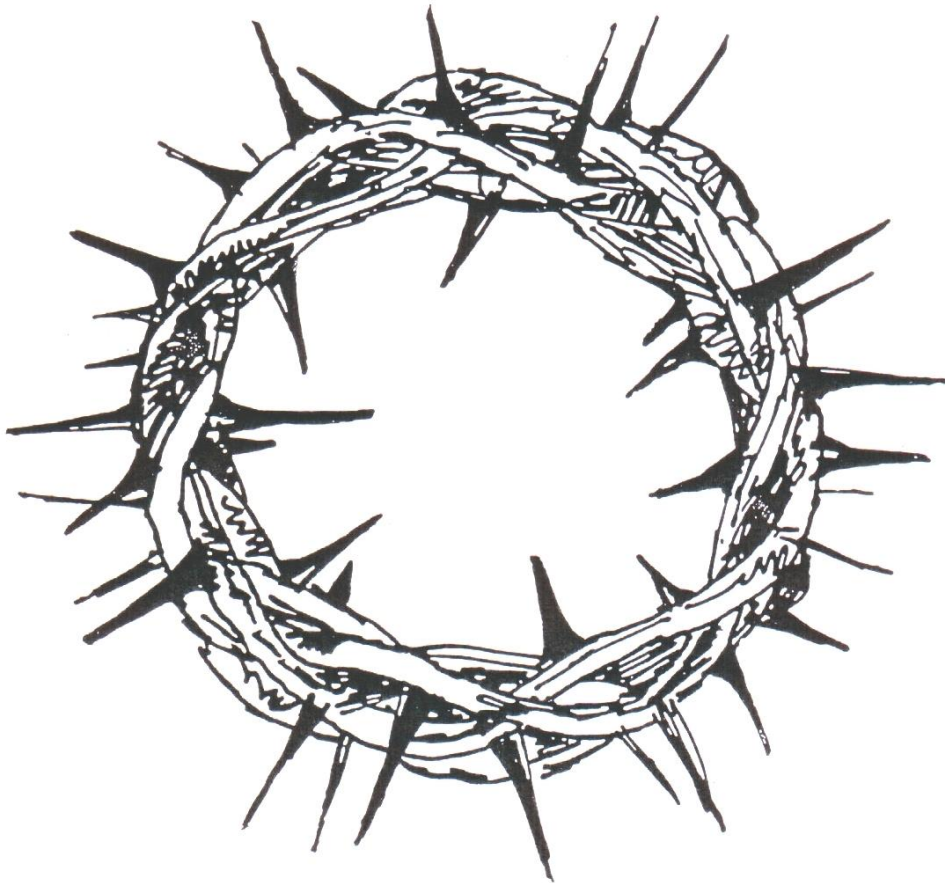


The Parish Church of St Mark  
Reigate

# **Compline** **during Passiontide**



*Please leave this booklet in Church for future use*

## Introduction

*The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (completorium). It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. It is most effective when the ending is indeed an ending, without additions, conversation or noise. If there is an address, a meditation, or some of the Stations of the Cross are observed, or business to be done, it should come first; alternatively, an address or meditation could come after the Short Reading, but no later in the service. If the service is in church, those present depart in silence; if at home, they go to bed.*

## Preparation

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

*All* **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord

*All* **who made heaven and earth.**

*A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.*

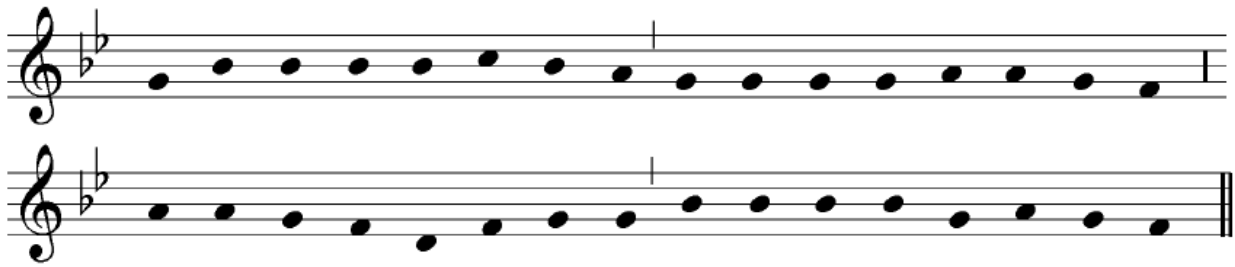
*All* **Most merciful God,  
we confess to you,  
before the whole company of heaven and one another,  
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed  
and in what we have failed to do.  
Forgive us our sins,  
heal us by your Spirit  
and raise us to new life in Christ.  
Amen.**

O God, make speed to save us.

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

*All* **Glory 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. Amen.**

*The following or another suitable hymn may be sung*



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.

## **The Word of God**

*Psalmody*

*The following psalm is said antiphonally, the minister saying the odd verses and the congregation responding with the even verses.*

*There is a pause at the diamond (◆) in each verse*

*Psalm 139*

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; ◆  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place ◆  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 For there is not a word on my tongue, ♦  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

4 You encompass me behind and before ♦  
and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, ♦  
so high that I cannot attain it.

6 Where can I go then from your spirit? ♦  
Or where can I flee from your presence?

7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; ♦  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

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

9 Even there your hand shall lead me, ♦  
your right hand hold me fast.

10 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me ♦  
and the light around me turn to night,'

11 Even darkness is no darkness with you;  
the night is as clear as the day; ♦  
darkness and light to you are both alike.

12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; ♦  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; ♦  
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.

14 My frame was not hidden from you, ♦  
when I was made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.

15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished; ♦  
already in your book were all my members written,

16 As day by day they were fashioned ♦  
when as yet there was none of them.

17 How deep are your counsels to me, O God! ♦  
How great is the sum of them!

18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand, ♦  
and at the end, I am still in your presence.

**All Glory 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. Amen.**

## Scripture Reading

*The following or another suitable short lesson is read*

I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

*Zechariah 12.10*

*The following responsory may be said*

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

**All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

**All I commend my spirit.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.

**All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

**All Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

## Gospel Cantic

*The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung*

**All Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,  
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.**

1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: ♦  
your word has been fulfilled.

2 My own eyes have seen the salvation ♦  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

3 A light to reveal you to the nations ♦  
and the glory of your people Israel.

*Luke 2.29-32*

**All Glory 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. Amen.**

**All Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,  
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.**

*These, or some other suitable prayers, may be used.*

With faith and love and in union with Christ,  
let us offer our prayer before the throne of grace.

Have mercy on your people,  
for whom your Son laid down his life:  
Lord, hear us:

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations,  
and have pity on those torn apart by division:  
Lord, hear us:

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Strengthen all who are persecuted for your name's sake,  
and deliver them from evil:  
Lord, hear us:

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Look in mercy upon all who suffer,  
and hear those who cry out in pain and desolation:  
Lord, hear us:

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Bring comfort to the dying,  
and gladden their hearts with the vision of your glory:  
Lord, hear us:

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Give rest to the departed  
and bring them, with your saints, to glory everlasting:  
Lord, hear us:

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us commend the world, for which Christ died,  
to the mercy and protection of God.

*Other prayers may be offered and silence may be kept.*

Almighty God,  
as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son,  
help us to see and know your love for us,  
so that in humility, love and joy  
we may place at his feet  
all that we have and all that we are;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

*All* **Amen.**

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,  
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;  
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,  
and may your blessing be always upon us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

Lighten our darkness,  
Lord, we pray,  
and in your great mercy  
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,  
for the love of your only Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*All* **Amen.**

Standing at the foot of the cross,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

*All* **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.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;  
*All* **for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,  
*All* **for the night is at hand and the day is now past.**

As the night watch looks for the morning,  
*All* **so do we look for you, O Christ.**

May God bless us,  
that in us may be found love and humility,  
obedience and thanksgiving,  
discipline, gentleness and peace.  
*All* **Amen.**

*The minister and people depart in silence.*