

**Night Prayer At Home,
All Saints' Cottenham with
Rampton
Sunday 29 August 2021**



Preparation

The eternal God is your refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms.

Deuteronomy 33.27

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

Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

***Take a moment to think about the day gone
by, giving thanks for what was good
and bringing to God those times that need His
forgiveness.***

**Lord God,
We have sinned against you;
We have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

***Take a moment to thank God that through
Jesus' sacrifice we are forgiven.***

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

Psalm 91, the regular Night Prayer Psalm

An assurance of God's Protection

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

I will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my
fortress; my God, in whom I trust.'

For he will deliver you from the snare of the
fowler and from the deadly pestilence;

he will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

You will not fear the terror of the night,
or the arrow that flies by day,

or the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.

A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.

You will only look with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.

Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling-place,

no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.

On their hands they will bear you up, so that
you will not dash your foot against a stone.

You will tread on the lion and the adder,
the young lion and the serpent you will
trample under foot.

Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.

When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honour them.

With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

**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.**

Church of England Lectionary Bible reading for Sunday 29 August 2021, Evening Prayer

Matthew 5.1-10, The Beatitudes

interwoven with words by Janet Morley: *The Beatitudes – A Paraphrase, written for Christian Aid Harvest material: Feast for Life, and a ‘talk’ in the form of some reflections for us, wherever we are tonight.*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven’.

*Blessed are those whose spirit
has been shaped by poverty;
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

We honour those who choose to give up possessions for a life of prayer for others. We honour those who do not choose poverty but find themselves living without shelter, food, education and work. Help us to respect them and help them with their needs.

‘Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted’.

*Blessed are those who are sick at heart to
see power abused; for they shall be invited
to the feast.*

We honour those who challenge abuse,
sometimes at great danger to themselves.
Help us to prevent the causes of abuse,
challenge abusers and protect victims.

‘Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth’.

*Blessed are those who are not arrogant;
for they shall inherit the earth.*

We honour those who think not of present
comfort but commit to tackling climate change
across the world. We look for the sustainability
of God’s Creation for future generations.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness,
for they will be filled’.

*Blessed are those who are desperate for
justice; for they shall eat and drink their fill.*

We honour those who seek justice for damage
caused by prejudice and exploitation, through
racism, sexism and aggression to gender,
disability or faith. We pray for change, for love.

‘Blessed are the merciful,
for they will receive mercy’.

*Blessed are the compassionate;
for they shall have compassion shown to
them when they need it.*

We honour those who generously care for
others, often at great personal cost of time,
energy and love. We seek to commit to provide
care for the carers. Today we honour everyone
who cares for refugees in any way.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

*Blessed are those who refuse to be
corrupted; for they shall not be afraid to
come face to face with God.*

We honour those whose principles stand firm,
wherever corruption is normalised, in this
country as well as elsewhere.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

*Blessed are those who take action to bring
about peace;
for they shall truly be called God’s own.*

We honour those in conflicts, local as well as
worldwide, who support peace between
people. We pray for the confidence to ensure
peace in our own families and communities.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven’.

*Blessed are those who carry wounds
suffered in the struggle for justice;
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

We honour those who challenge unjust people and systems and are badly hurt, physically and mentally in the process. We pray for our own resolve to support them.

Finally, words written by John Pritchard on The Beatitudes, in *The Intercessions resource book* (London: SPCK, 2018)

God of blessing, thank you for showing us a different, better way:
the way of love and letting go,
taken to the limit on the cross
and vindicated in the resurrection.
Give us grace to attempt the same path of love and letting go, wherever that path may take us, for it will lead us finally to our home in heaven and the company of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Prayers for comfort, healing, recovery and renewal, for others and for ourselves

Merciful God, we entrust to your unfailing and tender care this night those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms hold everyone safe.

We pray for those we know personally or in the news. We name to you, God, their pain and danger, both physical and mental. We pray for their peace of mind and body.

Comfort and heal them,
and restore them to health and strength;
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 rest upon your eternal changelessness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Collect for Night Prayer

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.
Amen.

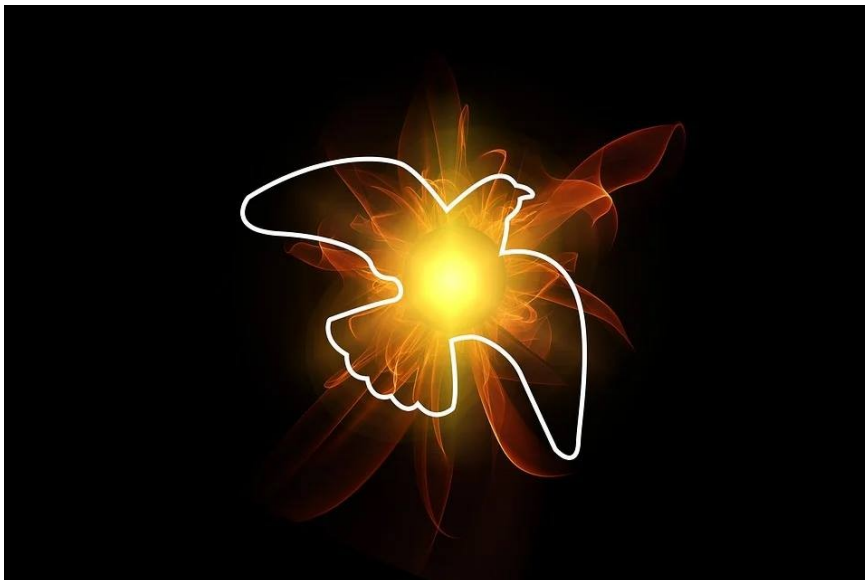
The Conclusion

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

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

The Lord bless us and watch over us;
the Lord make His face shine upon us
and be gracious to us;
the Lord look kindly on us
and give us peace.

Amen.



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