

CHORAL COMPLINE

Taking its name from the Latin “to complete,” Compline is the final daily Divine Office. These are the last of the church’s daily prayers. Drawing from the riches of our liturgical heritage, including monasticism, our manner of offering this ancient liturgy at Saint Michael and All Angels entails much prayer offered on behalf of all by the Compline Choir. This allows those attending to principally participate inwardly, and thus deeply. We invite you to join us in concluding the weekend with meditation, contemplation, and prayer.

BCP refers to page numbers in the red Book of Common Prayer.

Invitatory

BCP 127

Hymn

Te lucis ante terminum
rerum Creator, poscimus
ut pro tua clementia
sis praesul et custodia.

*To thee, before the close of day
Creator of the world, we pray
that with Thy wondrous favor, Thou
wouldst be our Guard and Keeper now.*

Procul recedant somnia
et noctium phantasmata;
hostemque nostrum comprime,
ne pollutantur corpora.

*From all ill dreams defend our eyes,
from fears and terrors of the night;
withhold from us our ghostly foe,
That spot of sin we may not know.*

Praesta, Pater piissime,
Patrique compar Unice,
cum Spiritu Paraclito
regnans per omne saeculum. Amen.

*O Father, that we ask be done
through Jesus Christ Thine only Son,
who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee,
shall live and reign eternally. Amen.*

- Seventh-century Ambrosian hymn for Compline

Psalms

BCP 128

Reading

BCP 131

Responsory: Into your hands

BCP 132

Choir Anthem

As announced

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Responsory: Into your hands

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Choir Anthem

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Versicle & Response: Keep us, O Lord

BCP 132

The Lord's Prayer

Collects

BCP 133

Canticle

BCP 134

Salva nos, Domine, vigilantes,
custodi nos dormientes:
ut vigilemus cum Christo,
et requiescamus in pace.

*Save us, Lord, keeping watch,
guard us while sleeping,
that we may keep watch with Christ,
and rest in peace.*

Nunc dimittis + servum tuum, Domine,
secundum verbum tuum in pace:
Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum
Quod parasti ante faciem
omnium populorum:
Lumen ad revelationem gentium,
et gloriam plebis tuae Israel.

*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.*

Gloria, Patria et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever,
for ages of ages. Amen.*

Conclusion

BCP 135

Seasonal Marian Antiphon

Alma Redemptoris Mater,
quae pervia caeli porta manes,
et stella maris, succurre cadenti
qui curat populo:
Tu quae genuisti, natura mirante,
tuum sanctum Genitorem:
Virgo prius ac posterius,
Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud Ave,
peccatorum miserere.

*Loving Mother of the Redeemer,
who remains the gate by which we mortals enter heaven,
and star of the sea, help your fallen people
who strive to rise:
You who gave birth, amazing nature,
to your sacred Creator:
Virgin before and after,
taking from the mouth of Gabriel that Hail!,
have mercy on our sins.*

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BCP 132

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