

# Holy Thursday

## Night Prayer

### with Prayer for Vocations

Leader: O God, come to our aid.

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

L: Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

All: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

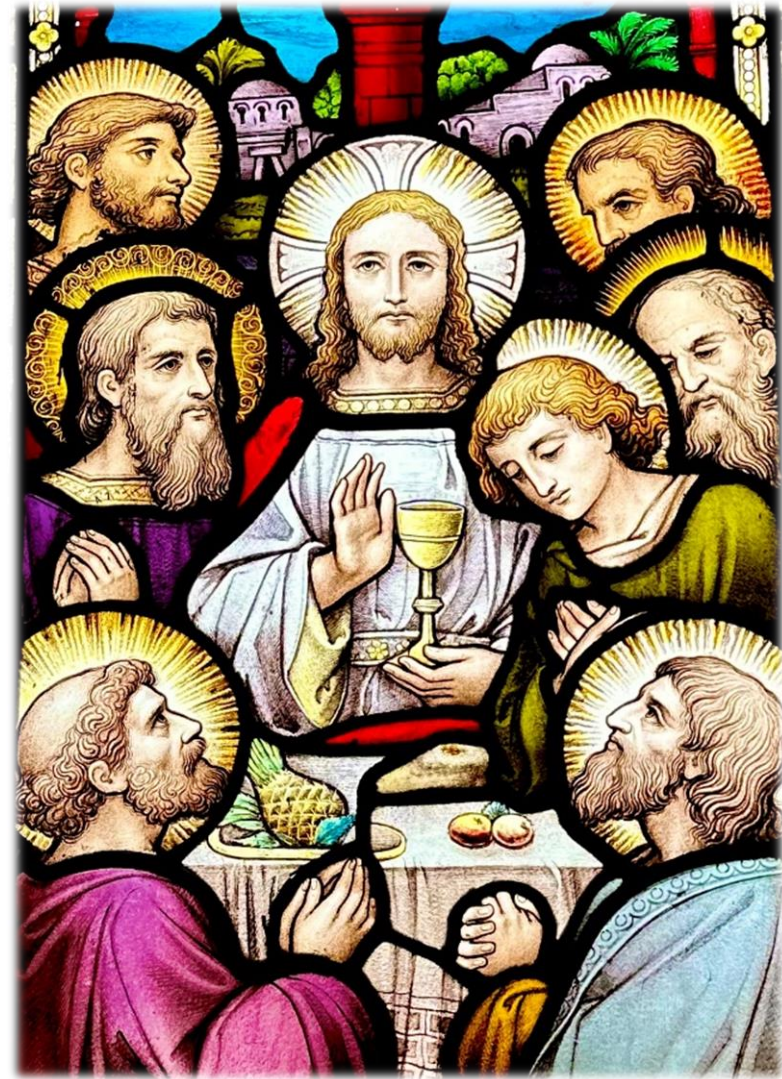
As we finish this time spent with the Lord in the intimacy of the Last Supper and his prayer in the Garden, like St John we rest close the Lord's heart. In that closeness to Jesus we offer this Night Prayer for the pressing need that He will guide many more

young men to answer His call to serve their brothers and sisters as priests in our diocese. We pray together through the intercession of St Jean Vianney, Patron saint of Priests:

O God our Father, You promised "I will appoint shepherds for My sheep who will shepherd them so that they need no longer fear and tremble: an none shall be missing." (Jer. 23:4-5). Hear the prayers of Your flock. Through the intercession of Your beloved priest, Saint John Vianney, we beg You to call to the sacramental priesthood generous men who will desire nothing more than to serve You in imitation of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, our High Priest.

And after You call them, we pray that You sustain the doubtful, console the discouraged, and strengthen the weak as they start the long and demanding preparation for the priesthood.

Mary, Mother of priests, and example of faithful, humble, and joyful acceptance of God's will, help all those who are called to the priesthood to open their ears and hearts to the gentle call of the Holy Spirit. Amen



## Examination of Conscience

*Pause a moment for reflection on the day that has passed*

**I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me  
abide:  
when other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass  
away;  
change and decay in all around I see:  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's  
power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can  
be?

Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide  
with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no  
bitterness.

Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy  
victory?

I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing  
eyes;  
shine through the gloom, and point me to  
the skies;  
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain  
shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

## Psalm 90 (91) The protection of the Most High

*Ant. He will conceal you with his wings; you will not fear the terror of the night.*

He who dwells in the shelter of the  
Most High  
and abides in the shade of the  
Almighty  
says to the Lord: 'My refuge,  
my stronghold, my God in whom I  
trust!'

**It is he who will free you from the  
snare  
of the fowler who seeks to destroy  
you;**

**he will conceal you with his pinions  
and under his wings you will find  
refuge.**

You will not fear the terror of the  
night  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the plague that prowls in the  
darkness  
nor the scourge that lays waste at  
noon.

**A thousand may fall at your side,  
ten thousand fall at your right,  
you, it will never approach;  
his faithfulness is buckler and shield.**

Your eyes have only to look  
to see how the wicked are repaid,  
you who have said: 'Lord, my refuge!  
and have made the Most High your  
dwelling.

**Upon you no evil shall fall,  
no plague approach where you  
dwell.**

**For you has he commanded his  
angels,  
to keep you in all your ways.**

They shall bear you upon their hands  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread

**Ant. (All) He will conceal you with his wings; you will not fear the terror of  
the night.**

### **Short Reading**

*Apocalypse 22:4-5*

They will see the Lord face to face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. It will never be night again and they will not need lamplight or sunlight, because the Lord God will be shining on them. They will reign for ever and ever.

### **Short Responsory**

**All: Christ humbled himself for us and,  
in obedience, accepted death.**

### **Canticle**

Ant. Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace.

**At last, all-powerful Master, †  
you give leave to your servant  
to go in peace, according to your  
promise.**

and trample the young lion and the dragon.

**Since he clings to me in love, I will  
free him;  
protect him for he knows my name.  
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am  
with you,'  
I will save him in distress and give  
him glory.**

With length of life I will content him;  
I shall let him see my saving power.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,**

is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.



**For my eyes have seen your salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations,  
the light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your  
people.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

**Ant. (All) Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace.**

### **Concluding Prayer**

Let us pray.

Visit this house, we pray you, Lord:

drive far away from it all the snares of the enemy.

May your holy angels stay here and guard us in peace,  
and let your blessing be always upon us.

Through Christ our Lord,

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

### **Marian Anthem**

As I kneel before You  
As I bow my head in prayer  
Take this day, make it Yours  
And fill me with Your love

**Ave Maria, Gratia plena  
Dominus tecum ,Benedicta tu**

All I have, I give You  
Every dream and wish are Yours  
Mother of Christ  
Mother of mine, present them to my  
Lord

***Or***

Ave, Regína cælórum,  
ave, Dómina angelórum,  
salve, radix, salve, porta,  
ex qua mundo lux est orta.  
Gaude, Virgo gloriósa,  
super omnes speciósa;  
vale, o valde decóra,  
et pro nobis Christum exóra.



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