

**Tuesday 12 March 2024**  
**Serra Club of South Herts – Night Prayer**

**INTRODUCTION**

O God, come to our aid.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

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.*

**Examination of Conscience**

**Hymn**

Christ, thou who art the light and day,  
Who chasest nightly shades away,  
Thyself the Light of Light confessed,  
And promiser of radiance blest:

O holy Lord, we pray to thee,  
Throughout the night our guardian be;  
In thee vouchsafe us to repose,  
All peaceful till the night shall close.

O let our eyes due slumber take,  
Our hearts to thee forever wake:  
And let thy right hand from above  
Shield us who turn to thee in love.

O strong defender, hear our prayers,  
Repel our foes and break their snares,  
And govern thou thy servants here,  
Those ransomed with thy life-blood dear.

Almighty Father, this accord  
Through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord,  
Who with the Holy Ghost and thee  
Doth reign through all eternity.

**Psalm 142 (143)**

**A prayer in time of trouble**

*Do not hide your face from me, for in you have I put my trust.*

Lord, listen to my prayer:  
in your faithfulness turn your ear to my pleading;  
in your justice, hear me.  
Do not judge your servant:  
nothing that lives can justify itself before you.

The enemy has hounded my spirit,  
he has crushed my life to the ground,  
he has shut me in darkness, like the dead of long ago.  
So my spirit trembles within me,  
my heart turns to stone.

I remind myself of the days of old,  
I reflect on all your works,  
I meditate once more on the work of your hands.  
I stretch out my arms to you,  
I stretch out my soul, like a land without water.

Come quickly and hear me, O Lord,  
for my spirit is weakening.  
Do not hide your face from me,  
do not let me be like the dead,  
who go down to the underworld.  
Show me your mercy at daybreak,  
because of my trust in you.

Tell me the way I should follow,  
for I lift up my soul towards you.  
Rescue me from my enemies:  
Lord, I flee to you for refuge.  
Teach me to do your will,  
for you are my God.

Your good spirit will lead me to the land of justice;  
for your name's sake, Lord, you will give me life.  
In your righteousness you will lead my soul  
away from all tribulation.

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.

*Do not hide your face from me, for in you have I put my trust.*

### **Short Reading (1 Peter 5:8-9)**

Be calm but vigilant, because your enemy the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion, looking for someone to eat. Stand up to him, strong in faith.

### **Short Responsory**

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

*– Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

*You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.*

*– Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

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

*– Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.*

### **Canticle**

### **Nunc Dimittis**

**Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel**

*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.*

Now, Master, you let your servant go in peace.  
You have fulfilled your promise.  
My own eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight of all peoples.  
A light to bring the Gentiles from darkness;  
the glory of your people Israel.

*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.*

*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.*

### **Let us pray.**

*In your mercy, Lord,  
dispel the darkness of this night.  
Let your household so sleep in peace  
that at the dawn of a new day*

they may, with joy, waken in your name.  
Through Christ our Lord,  
Amen.

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

### **Marian Anthem**

Hail, Queen of the heavens,  
hail, Lady of the angels.  
Root of our salvation  
and our gateway to heaven,  
the light of the world was born to  
you.

Be joyful, Virgin of glory,  
most beautiful of all in heaven.  
We greet you now, true beauty –  
pray for us to Christ.

### **Serran Prayer for Vocations**

O God, Who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech You through the intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, Saint Joseph, her spouse, Saint Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of labourers for your Church, fellow labourers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.  
Amen.

### **Prayer for the Perseverance of Vocations**

O God, You have constituted Your only-begotten Son supreme and eternal Priest for the glory of Your majesty and the salvation of mankind: grant that those whom He has chosen ministers and dispensers of his mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received.