

## PRAYERS

*This or another response is used in our prayers:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**All hear our prayer.**

## THE COLLECT

*A short silence is kept.*

*One or more collects are said, ending with:*

**All Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee,  
O Lord; and by thy great mercy  
defend us from all perils and dangers  
of this night; for the love of thy only Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**  
Come with the dawning of the day,  
**All and make yourself known  
in the breaking of the bread.**  
May God bless us,  
that in us may be found love and humility,  
obedience and thanksgiving,  
discipline, gentleness and peace. **Amen.**

*The United Benefice of Kelvedon and Feering  
St Mary's Kelvedon All Saints' Feering*

## An Order for NIGHT PRAYER (Compline)

*For the Season of Lent*

## 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 follows,  
then this prayer of confession is said:*

**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. Alleluia.**

## HYMN OR ANOTHER HYMN MAY BE SUNG

**All 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.  
Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Psalmody - Psalm 139.1-18

- <sup>1</sup> O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.
- <sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- <sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O Lord, you know it completely.
- <sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.
- <sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.
- <sup>7</sup> Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?
- <sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
- <sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- <sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
- <sup>11</sup> If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night',
- <sup>12</sup> even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.
- <sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- <sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully  
and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works;  
that I know very well.
- <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
- <sup>16</sup> Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.  
In your book were written  
all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.
- <sup>17</sup> How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!
- <sup>18</sup> I try to count them —  
they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end — I am still with you.

**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 [NRSV]

Is this not the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? *Isaiah 58.6-7*

### RESPONSORY

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 CANTICLE - NUNC DIMITTIS

**All** **Christ died for us,  
so that, whether we wake or sleep,  
we might live with him.**

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 died for us,  
so that, whether we wake or sleep,  
we might live with him.**