



Evening Prayer

St Patrick



Newbury, St George & St John

Welcome to Celtic Evening Prayer on the feast of St Patrick,
with St George the Martyr Wash Common and
St John the Evangelist, Newbury.



Newbury, St George & St John

Christ within me,
Christ within me,
Christ behind me,
Christ behind me
Christ before me,
Christ before me,
Christ beside me,
Christ beside me,
Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ to comfort and restore me
Christ to win me,
Christ to win me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ above me,
Christ in quiet and in danger,
Christ in quiet and in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

From St Patrick's Breastplate

Preparation

The strong power of an invocation of the Trinity,
the faith of the Trinity in Unity
the Creator of the Elements.

Salvation is the Lord's
Salvation is Christ's
May thy salvation, Lord, be always with us.
Amen.

Prayer of St Patrick

Dwell with us this night, O God,
Dwell with us in love.

A candle is lit

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
In the darkness of our sin
you have shone in our hearts
to give the light of knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.
As we behold your Son, enthroned on the cross,
stir up in us the fire of your love
that we may be cleansed from all our sins
and walk with you as children of light.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy spirit:
Blessed be God for ever.

The Word of God

Psalmody

Psalm 145

I will exalt you, O God my King.

I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name for ever and ever.

**Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name for ever and ever.**

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.

**One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.**

On the glorious splendour of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

**The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.**

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

**The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

The LORD is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.

**All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your faithful shall bless you.**

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and tell of your power,

**to make known to all people your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.**

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

I will exalt you, O God my King.

**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.**

New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 4:1-12

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.

**Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.**

Make haste to help me,
O Lord of my salvation.

Be not far from me, O my God.

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

**Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.**

The Magnificat

***Come, let us return to the Lord,
for our God will richly pardon.***

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed;
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

**He has shown strength with his arm
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,**

Casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.**

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
to remember his promise of mercy,

**The promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

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.

***Come, let us return to the Lord,
for our God will richly pardon.***

Luke 1.46-55

Prayers of Intercession

The response below may be used at the end of each bidding.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The Collect

Almighty God,
who in your providence chose your servant Patrick
to be the apostle of the Irish people:
keep alive in us the fire of the faith he kindled
and strengthen us in our pilgrimage towards the light of everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God,
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.
Amen.**

May the Strength of God guide us.
May the Power of God preserve us.
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.
May the Hand of God protect us.
May the Way of God direct us.
May the Shield of God defend us.
May the Angels of God guard us.

Closing responses

O Trinity of Love,
You have been with us at the world's beginning,
Be with us till the world's end.

You have been with us at our life's shaping,
Be with us at our life's end.

You have been with us at the sun's rising,
Be with us till the day's end.

Amen.



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