

## Prayers of Intercession

*This response may be used:*

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

*Silence may be kept.*

*The Collect of the day or the following is said:*

Almighty God,  
who sent your Holy Spirit  
to be the life and light of your Church:  
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace;  
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 is said:*

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.**

## The Conclusion

The Lord bless us,  
and preserve us from all evil,  
and keep us in eternal life.

**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Life with God at Holy Nativity*

## Morning Prayer in Ordinary Time

O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

The night has passed,  
and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## The Word of God

### Psalmody

*Each psalm or group of psalms ends with:*

**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.**

### Canticle

**Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon.**

Seek the Lord while he may be found, •  
call upon him while he is near;

Let the wicked abandon their ways, •  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

Return to the Lord, who will have mercy; •  
to our God, who will richly pardon.

'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, •  
neither are your ways my ways,' says the  
Lord.



*Life with God at Holy Nativity*

'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, •

so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

'As the rain and the snow come down from above, •

and return not again but water the earth,

'Bringing forth life and giving growth, •  
seed for sowing and bread to eat,

'So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; •

it will not return to me fruitless,

'But it will accomplish that which I purpose, •  
and succeed in the task I gave it.'

*Isaiah 55.6-11*

**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.**

**Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon.**

### **New Testament Reading**

*The reading may be followed by silence and a reflection.*

Lord, you will guide me with your counsel  
and afterwards receive me with glory.

**Lord, you will guide me with your counsel  
and afterwards receive me with glory.**

For I am always with you;  
you hold me by my right hand.

**And afterwards receive me with glory.**

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

**Lord, you will guide me with your counsel  
and afterwards receive me with glory.**

*From Psalm 73*

### **Gospel Cantic**

#### **The Benedictus**

**You show mercy to our ancestors,  
and remember your holy covenant.**

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, •  
who has come to his people  
and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, •  
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets  
God promised of old •  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,

To show mercy to our ancestors, •  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore  
to our father Abraham: •  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, •  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the  
prophet of the Most High, •  
for you will go before the Lord  
to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation •  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God •  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death, •  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Luke 1.68-79*

**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.**

**You show mercy to our ancestors,  
and remember your holy covenant.**