

Night Office for Sibyls Weekend: 16 May 2014

Let us gather our thoughts as the evening passes and reflect on the concerns of the day

**Our lives are lived in days of travel
When lives are lived in days of work
Their absence may bring days of worry
For all the goals in life we set**

At this time of reflection let us lay these concerns to rest. Not in our roles as executives or employees, not as unemployed, not as lesbian, gay, bisexual, heterosexual, not as intersex, not as transgendered, but as ourselves

Prayers for our concerns:

And in a time of reflection silently, or aloud, let us bring together our coming hopes for the future days, and at this particular time for this coming weekend

Prayers for our hopes:

Jesus said: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

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

Fill our lives with the Love of Christ

Jesus said: "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves, treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was

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dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:19-34

God is love, love which transcends all boundaries. In the love of Christ we are all as one, and however we live our lives as heterosexual, lesbian, gay bisexual, intersex or transgendered, we can each be true to who we are in the Love of Christ.

Our feelings tell us who we are. Let us truly be ourselves:

And so we pray as Jesus commanded:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil**

O Christ our God, You are worshipped at all times and in all places and are glorified both in heaven and on earth. You are patient, generous in mercy, rich in compassion, loving to the just and merciful to the sinner. You call all of us to repentance through the promise of blessings to come. O Lord. Direct our lives in the way of Your commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, set our minds aright, cleanse our thoughts, deliver us from all affliction, wrath, danger and need. Surround us with Your holy angels, so that, guided and guarded by their ranks, we may reach unity of the faith and the knowledge of Your unutterable glory.

You are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen

http://www.goarch.org/chapel/liturgical_texts/ignatius_compline

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Psalm 91

1

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,

2

**Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold,
my God, in whom I put my trust.'**

3

For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence.

4

**He shall cover you with his wings
and you shall be safe under his feathers;
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.**

5

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

6

**Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.**

7

Though a thousand fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand,
yet it shall not come near you.

8

**Your eyes have only to behold
to see the reward of the wicked.**

9

Because you have made the Lord your refuge
and the Most High your stronghold,

10

**There shall no evil happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near your tent.**

11

For he shall give his angels charge over you,
to keep you in all your ways.

12

They shall bear you in their hands,

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lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13

You shall tread upon the lion and adder;
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

14

**Because they have set their love upon me,
therefore will I deliver them;
I will lift them up, because they know my name.**

15

They will call upon me and I will answer them;
I am with them in trouble,
I will deliver them and bring them to honour.

16

**With long life will I satisfy them
and show them my salvation.**

**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.**

The Lord almighty, grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.
For our help is in the name of the Lord, who has made Heaven and Earth.

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.**

As the night watch looks for the morning,
So do we look for you, O Christ.

**May the Lord bless us and keep us;
May the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;
May the Lord look kindly upon us and give us peace.**