

# Intercessory Prayers at Mattins

*To be said at the altar at the end of Mattins. The opening versicle and response is said facing the congregation.*

Ÿ. The Lord be with you.

Ṛ. *And with thy spirit.*

Ÿ. Let us pray.

*The following collects, as appropriate, are said facing the altar.*

## Collects of Commemoration

*The officiant may offer a prayer commemorating a saint or other occasion. There is a limited number of such collects in the Prayer Book. The Altar Book has a more extensive collection of saint's day and feast day collects. There are also several service books in the sacristy. (Most of those collects will be included in the next edition of the Altar Book.)*

## Collects of Special Intention

*The officiant may offer prayers of special intention. There are two sections in the Prayer Book which contain suitable prayers: "Prayers and Thanksgivings", found on pp. 35–53 (between "Evening Prayer" and "The Litany"), containing such prayers as "For Our Country" (p. 36) and "For the Church" (p. 37); and "Additional Prayers", found on pp. 594–600 (at the end of "Family Prayer"), containing such prayers as "For all Poor, Homeless, and Neglected Folk" (p. 599). A number of original collects by St Stephen's Chief Liturgical Officer, along with favorite collects from various service books, can be found on laminated cards kept in the book rack behind the pew on the Epistle side of the chancel (behind the officiant's desk). There are also several service books and compendia of collects in the sacristy.*

## A Collect for the Sick

*This and the Concluding Prayer are the only collects which are always said, because there are always sick to be remembered. This prayer is from the Prayer Book ("For the Recovery of a Sick Person", p. 597). A different collect may be used at the officiant's discretion.*

O merciful God, giver of life and health: Bless, we pray thee, thy servants NN., and those whom we mention in the secrecy of our hearts; and bless those who administer to *them* of thy healing gifts; that *they* may be restored to health of body and mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## A Collect for the Departed

*Occasionally the prayer list will include a commemoration of someone who has died. This prayer is from the Prayer Book ("For the Anniversary of One Departed", p. 598). A different collect may be used at the officiant's discretion.*

Almighty God, we remember this day before thee thy faithful servant N., and we pray thee that, having opened to *him* the gates of larger life, thou wilt receive *him* more and more into thy joyful service; that *he* may win, with thee and thy servants everywhere, the eternal victory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Concluding Prayer

*If the Dismissal is to be given from the chancel, with the Voluntary following immediately upon the final hymn, then this collect should be used. If the Dismissal is to be given from the back of the church following the recessional hymn, then this collect will be said from the back of the church immediately before the Dismissal, in which case, the second, or some other suitable prayer should be used as the concluding prayer.*

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. *Amen.*

¶ *Or this:*

Sanctify, O Lord, both our coming in and our going forth; and grant that when we leave thy house we may not leave thy Presence; but be thou ever near unto us and keep us near unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Blessing

*At choral services, the blessing and dismissal are given before the recessional hymn and voluntary. At sung services, they are given after the recessional hymn at the back of the church.*

## The Dismissal

☩. Let us bless the Lord.

☩. *Thanks be to God.*