

Evening Prayer

Marking the Centenary of 1916

FULL TEXT

This prayer is based on a service provided by Fr John Roche, CC Carlow Cathedral, and also draws on some texts

as prepared by the National Centre for Liturgy, Maynooth. We are grateful to both.

It might appropriately be used anytime in this centenary year, in particular on or around April 24.

SET UP:

A real harp might be placed in the sanctuary area with a green background and decorated with flowers, or if you don't have access to a harp, a green cloth with an embroidered harp on it might be used.

This liturgy includes the use of incense.

OPENING PROCESSION

STAND

Traditional air, e.g. March of the Kings of Laois

Order: Incense, paschal candle, ministers and prayer leader

When prayer leader has incensed the Paschal candle, the people are greeted as follows:

GREETING

Prayer Leader: O God come to our aid,

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

OPENING HYMN

Faithful is the Lord

Traditional; arr Lawton / O'Keeffe

Refrain: Faithful is the Lord, our King. Let us all in glory sing.
Ever praise in song and word: holy, holy, holy Lord.

Holy Father, God of might, throned amid the hosts in light,
Take our life, our strength, our love, King of earth and heav'n above.

Christ be near at either hand, Christ, behind, before me, stand;
Christ with me wher-e'er I go, Christ, around, above, below.

Holy Spirit, Lord of light, from the clear celestial height,
Come, thou Father of the poor, come with treasures which endure.

WELCOME

Prayer Leader: Dear friends,

We gather this evening (day) to commemorate one of the most significant periods in the history of the Island of Ireland.

One hundred years ago events occurred which have shaped our nation today. And now, one hundred years from that time,

we gather to remember especially all those whose lives were upturned and shattered, all those who lost their lives in that tumultuous era.

We gather as brothers and sisters in Christ.

We gather as seekers of peace and keepers of peace.

We gather mindful of a journey in healing, inclusion and peace-making that yet remains.

And we dedicate this service for the repose of all those whose lives were cut short on account of strife in those days.

Here, in this place of prayer, we look to the love of God which looks upon all people with fairness, justice and compassion.

SIT

PSALMODY

PSALM 121(2)

Prayer Leader: **May the peace of Christ forever reign. Alleluia.**

Men: I rejoiced with those who said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”
Our feet are standing
in your gates, Jerusalem.

Women: Jerusalem is built like a city
that is closely compacted together.
That is where the tribes go up
the tribes of the Lord

Men: Pray for the peace of Zion:
“May those who love you be secure.
May there be peace within your walls
and security within your citadels.”

Women: For the sake of my family and friends,
I will say, “Peace be within you.”
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will say, “Peace be within you.”

Men: Glory be to the Father, and to the son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

All: *May the peace of Christ forever reign. Alleluia.*

SILENT PRAYER

PSALM REFLECTION

STAND

Prayer Leader:

May God's own Presence with you stay
Jesus to shield you in the fray
Spirit to protect you from all ill
Trinity there guiding you still.
God of life, be with you
God of love, protect you
God of light, you ensue
Each day, each night
Each night, each day. Amen.

SIT

PSALM 23

Paraphrase Henry William Baker,
Adapted by Anthony G. Petti

All Sing: The king of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow,
to rest my soul he leads me:
Where fresh and fertile pastures grow,
with heav'nly food he feeds me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with you, dear Lord, beside me:
Your rod and staff my comfort still,
Your Cross will ever guide me.

And so through all my length of days
your goodness fails me never:
Good shepherd, may I sing your praise
within your house for ever.

SILENT PRAYER

PSALM PRAYER:

Prayer Leader: Show us your mercy, Lord,
Grant us your peace;
guide us, Good Shepherd, and the people of our nation
that we may always walk on the path of truth and justice. **Amen.**

STAND

SIT

PSALM 66

Reader: Let the people's praise you O God,
let all the peoples praise you. Alleluia.

All: Let the people's praise you, O God,
Let all the people's praise you. Alleluia.

Reader: O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.

All: Let the people's praise you, O God,
Let all the people's praise you. Alleluia.

Reader: Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth.

All: **Let the people's praise you, O God,
Let all the people's praise you. Alleluia.**

Reader: The earth has yielded its fruit
for God, our God, has blessed us.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him.

All: **Let the people's praise you, O God,
Let all the people's praise you. Alleluia.**

SILENT PRAYER

PSALM PRAYER

STAND

O God who desires justice for all
may our lives be lived in praise of you
as we seek to share the abundance of your creation
and the gift of your peace
with all your people. Amen.

HYMN

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Text and music: Sebastian Temple

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord. And where there's doubt, true faith in
You.

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light and where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand. To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving of ourselves that we receive. And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

SIT

READING

Romans 14:7-1

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

SILENT PRAYER

REMEMBRANCE

STAND

All: We remember them,
The men, the women, the children,
The Irish, of the North and of the South,
The British,
Who were injured or who died in,
Or as a result of, the *Easter Rising* of 1916.
We remember the living sacrifice.
We remember the lost descendants.
We remember the courage.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
And may perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

MAGNIFICAT

Leader: On this evening of remembrance we acclaim the greatness of God in Mary's great hymn of praise.

During this hymn the altar and the congregation are incensed.

(Joseph Walsh – or other known setting)

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my saviour.
He looks on his servant in her lowliness, Henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me, Holy is his name,
His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud hearted,
He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel his servant, remembering his mercy.

The mercy promised to his people, to Abraham and his seed for ever,
Give praise to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, both now and forever. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Leader: Confident in the steadfast mercy of our God who calls us out of every slavery to freedom and new life, we pray:

Reader: For ongoing fruitfulness to the *Good Friday Agreement* and its subsequent *Agreements*:
(Pause) Lord in your mercy: **R Hear our Prayer.**

For past hurts yet unreconciled; for those bearing the legacies of suffering; (Pause)
Lord in your mercy: **R Hear our Prayer.**

For the prophets in our day, who call us to face the truth: (Pause) for a radical
commitment to peace in all its aspects: (Pause) Lord in your mercy: **R Hear our
Prayer.**

For a vigorous respect for the right to believe in Christ and to practice the
Christian faith: (Pause) Lord in your mercy: **R Hear our Prayer.**

For the peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts of Irish people throughout the
world: (Pause) Lord in your mercy: **R Hear our Prayer.**

For children in places of war, who are ‘the discarded’ in the rhetoric and combat of
war: (Pause) Lord in your mercy: **R Hear our Prayer.**

For the sons and daughters of Ireland who died in all wars and battles and for
those, especially, who died in the *Easter Rising*. (Pause) Lord in your mercy: **R Hear
our Prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Eternal God, in your presence we remember all who seek you as their true and only good. Make us simple enough to receive your great love, and strong enough to bear it to others. Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

OUR FATHER / ÁR NÁTHAIR

Sung or recited

Alternative introductions

Prayer Leader:

- United in the bonds of faith we join our prayer as one as we pray...:
- At the saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say/to sing:
- Aitheanta an tslánaithe dár dtreorú agus briathar Dé dár teagasc, tá sé misneach againn a rá/a canadh

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Prayer Leader: Accept the prayer of your servants, Lord.
Give us the grace to live lives worthy of your name
and preserve us from all evil.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Optional Blessing – if led by an ordained minister

Blessings upon you
Upon those you love and those you shall never know.
Upon your Mothers and Fathers and all who went before you
Upon your children and all the generations after you.
Blessings upon you each day and each night. **AMEN.**

Blessings upon you
Upon your steps and upon the vision of your eyes.
Upon your health, for that is true wealth.
Upon you in all circumstances; in joy and in sorrow,
Blessings upon you each day and each night. **AMEN.**

Blessings upon you
Upon the nation that bore us
Upon its leaders that they preserve Justice and Peace
Upon those who have made our country great in the family of nations
Upon the courage of those who have shaped this special isle.
Blessings upon you each day and each night. **AMEN.**

Blessings upon you, my dearest friends In the name of the + Fr...

DISMISSAL

[Prayer Leader: The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
All: Amen]

Prayer Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING PROCESSION

Traditional piece of instrumental music