

# VESPERS for LENT



O God come to our aid  
O Lord, make haste to help us.

**ALL : Glory be....**

## PSALM 138

O Lord you search me and you know me,  
you know my resting and my rising,  
you mark when I walk or lie down,  
all my ways lie open to you.

*Before a word is ever on my tongue,  
You know it, O Lord through and through.  
Behind and before you besiege me,  
your hand ever laid upon me.  
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge,  
too high, beyond my reach.*

O where can I go from your spirit,  
or where can I flee from your face?  
if I climb the heavens you are there,  
if I lie in the grave, you are there.

*If I take the wings of the dawn  
and dwell at the sea's furthest end,  
even there your hand would lead me,  
your right hand would hold me fast.*

If I say 'Let the darkness hide me  
and the light around me be night,  
even darkness is not dark for you,  
and the night is as clear as the day.

**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**

## PSALM 85

*Turn your ear O Lord and give answer  
for I am poor and needy  
Preserve my life for I am faithful;  
save the servant who trusts in you.*

O Lord you are good and forgiving,  
full of love to all who call.  
Give heed O Lord to my prayer,  
and attend to the sound of my voice.

*All the nations shall come to adore you  
and glorify your name O Lord.  
For you are great and do marvellous deeds  
you who alone are God.*

Show me Lord your way  
so that I may walk in your truth.  
guide my heart to fear your name.

*God of mercy and compassion,  
slow to anger O Lord  
abounding in love and truth  
turn and take pity on me.*

**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**

## SCRIPTURE READING (reader) 1 Cor. 9:24-25

All the runners at the stadium are trying to win, but only one of them gets the prize.  
You must run in the same way, meaning to win. All the fighters at the games go into strict training; they do this just to win a wreath that will wither away, but we do it for a wreath that will never wither away.

## SHORT RESPONSORY

Hear us Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you.

*Hear us Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you.*

Listen Christ, to the prayers of those who cry to you.

*Hear us Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you.*

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

*Hear us Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you.*

## INTERCESSIONS (reader)

God the Father has chosen for himself a people who are born again, not from any mortal seed but from his everlasting word. Let us praise his name and turn to him in prayer.

**Lord have mercy on your people.**

Merciful God, hear our prayers for all your people.

**May they hunger for your word more than any human food.**

Teach us to love sincerely the people of our nation and of every race on earth.

**May we work for their peace and welfare.**  
Strengthen those who will be reborn in baptism.

**Make them living stones in the temple of your Holy Spirit.**

May the dying go forward in hope to meet Christ, their judge.

**May they see your face and be happy for ever.**

**All: Our Father....**

## CONCLUDING PRAYER (reader)

God our Father, in your infinite love and goodness,  
you have shown us that prayer, fasting and almsgiving are remedies for sin. Accept the humble admission of our guilt and when our conscience weighs us down,  
let your unfailing mercy raise us up.  
We make our prayer through Christ Our Lord. **Amen**

(Video Reflection...)

