

## Night Prayer from the New Zealand Prayer Book

The angels of God guard us through the night,  
**And quieten the powers of darkness.**

The Spirit of God be our guide  
**To lead us to peace and to glory.**

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early,  
And so late take rest, and eat the bread of anxiety.  
For those beloved of God are given gifts even while they sleep.

*Silence.*

My brothers and sisters,  
Our help is in the name of the eternal God,  
**Who is making the heavens and the earth.**

Dear God,  
Thank-you for all that is good,  
For our creation and our humanity,  
For the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth,  
for the gifts of life and of one another,  
for your love which is unbounded and eternal.

We repent the wrongs we have done:  
*(Silence)*

We have wounded your love.  
**O God, heal us.**

We stumble in the darkness.  
**Light of the world transfigure us.**

We forget that we are your home.  
**Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

Eternal Spirit, living God,  
In whom we live and move and have our being,  
All that we are, have been, and shall be known to you,  
To the very secret of our hearts  
And all that rises to trouble us.  
Living flame, burn into us,  
Cleansing wind, breathe into us,  
Fountain of water, well up within us,  
That we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

Eternal Spirit,  
Flow through our being and open our lips,  
**That our mouths may proclaim your praise.**

Let us worship the God of love.  
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

You Lord are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name. Leave us not. *Jeremiah 14:9.*

*Intercessions.*

**Preserve us, O God, while waking,  
And guard us while sleeping,  
That awake we may watch with Christ,  
And asleep may rest in your peace.**

**Our Father . . .**

I will lie down in peace and take my rest,  
**For it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.**

It is night.  
Let us be still in the presence of God.  
It is night after a long day.  
What has been done has been done;  
What has not been done has not been done;  
Let it be.  
Lord, the night is quiet.  
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,  
All dear to us,  
And all who have no peace.  
In your name we pray,  
**Amen.**

God bless us and keep us;  
God's face shine on us and be gracious to us,  
And give us light and peace.  
**Amen.**

The divine Spirit dwell in us.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**The Boisil Compline** from Celtic Daily Prayer of the Northumbria Community.

Boisil, Prior of Melrose Abbey, died in 661. Bede described him as “a priest of great virtue and prophetic spirit.” Boisil, on his first meeting with Cuthbert, who was to be his pupil, exclaimed, “Behold, the servant of the Lord!” – recognizing the call of God on the young man’s life.

+ indicates that you may make the sign of the cross.

\* indicates a change of reader, if desired.

All say together the sections in **bold** type.

The sections in ***bold italic*** type may be said by each in turn.

+ (silently)

\* O Lord, You will keep us safe, and protect us forever.

**I am placing my soul and my body  
in Thy safe keeping this night, O God,  
in Thy safe keeping, O Jesus Christ,  
in Thy safe keeping, O Spirit of perfect  
truth.**

**The Three who would defend my cause  
be keeping me this night from harm.**

\* I call on You, O God, for You will answer me:

give ear to me and hear my prayer.

\* Show the wonder of Your great love,  
You who save by Your right hand  
those who take refuge in You from their  
foes.

\* Keep me as the apple of Your eye;  
hide me in the shadow of Your wings.

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***Lighten my darkness, Lord.  
Let the light of Your presence  
dispel the shadows of night***

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\* Christ with me sleeping,  
Christ with me waking,  
Christ with me watching,  
each day and each night.

\* Save us, Lord, while we are awake,  
guard us while we are asleep;  
that, awake, we may watch with Christ,  
and, asleep, may rest in His peace.

**God with me protecting,  
the Lord with me directing,  
the Spirit with me strengthening  
for ever and for evermore.**

\* In the name of the Father precious,  
and of the Spirit of healing balm.  
In the name of the Lord Jesus,  
I lay me down to rest.

**The peace of all peace  
be mine this night  
+ in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**