Compline (in Latin, *Completorium*) is the last service of the day, completing the daily work of prayer. In the sixteenth century Thomas Cranmer melded the evening and night offices, Vespers and Compline, into Evensong. The music for Compline is simple; it can be sung in darkness. At its heart is the Gospel canticle *Nunc Dimittis*.

21st February

*First Sunday of Lent*
ORGAN PRELUDE

Andantino (1936)    Jehan Alain (1911-40)

HYMN

Te lucis ante terminum,    Before the ending of the day,
Rerum creator, poscimus,    Creator of the world, we pray,
Ut solita clementia,    That with thy constant favour thou
Sis praesul ad custodiam.    Wouldst be our Guard and Keeper now.

Te corda nostra somnient,    Allow our hearts to dream of thee,
Te per soporem sentiant,    Thee through the sleep of night to see,
Tuamque semper gloriam    Then, with the light of dawn, may we
Vicina luce concinant.    Thy glory praise unceasingly.

Vitam salubrem tribue,    O grant us health of life once more;
Nostrum calorem refice,    The warmth of day to us restore,
Taetram noctis caliginem    And pierce the gloomy dark of night
Tua colustret claritas.    With splendid beams of thy pure light.

Praesta, Pater, omnipotens,    O Father, that we ask be done,
Per Iesum Christum Dominum,    Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,
Qui tecum in perpetuum    Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,
Regnat cum Sancto Spiritu.    Doth live and reign eternally.
Amen.

LITTLE CHAPTER    Matthew 4.1-11

THEN was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showeth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God
REFLECTION

COLLECT for LENT 1
O LORD, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights; Give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the Spirit, we may ever obey thy godly motions in righteousness, and true holiness, to thy honour and glory, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

COLLECT for ASH WEDNESDAY
ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT for Aid against all perils
LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

ANTIPHON Ave Regina Caelorum

Ave, Regina caelorum, Hail, Queen of heaven, Ave, Domina angelorum: Hail, Lady of the angels: Salve, radix, salve, porta, We greet you, source and portal: Ex qua mundo lux est orta: From you light was born for the world.

Gaude, Virgo gloriosa, Rejoice, Virgin glorious, Super omnes speciosa: Loveliest above all: Vale, o valde decora, In truth of beauty you prevail, Et pro nobis Christum exora. And pray to Christ for us.

DR CAIUS’S PRAYER for daily use in the College