

***Contemplative Noonday Prayer
and Scriptural Reflection*** | Sept 6, 2023

St. Columba's Episcopal Church
Inverness, CA



St. Ciaran of Clonmacnoise
c. 516-556

Please respond with your microphone set on mute.

Mother Teri: O God, make speed to save
us.

ALL: ***O Lord, make haste to help us.***

+Glory to You O Eternal Source, Divine Savior,
and Holy Spirit:

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and
will be forever. Amen.*

The Collect, Mother Teri:

*O God who comforts us in the dark; enable us to be courageous
and confident so that we will be bold enough to spread your light
and comfort to others. In your name we pray, amen.*

(8/2/23 Noonday Prayer Group)

Psalm: Mother Teri will read the lines in plain font; *please
join by repeating the lines in **bold italics** at home on mute.*

Psalm 121 (NRSV)

I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
***My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.***

He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
***He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.***

The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

***The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.***

The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

***The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.***

Deacon Ari: + Glory to You O Eternal Source, Divine Savior, and Holy Spirit:

***Mother Teri & All: As it was in the beginning is now
and will be forever. Amen***

Deacon Ari:

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 21:18-22

In the morning, when he returned to the city, he was hungry. And seeing a fig tree by the side of the road, he went to it and found nothing at all on it but leaves. Then he said to it, 'May no fruit ever come from you again!' And the fig tree withered at once. When the disciples saw it, they were amazed, saying, 'How did the fig tree wither at once?' Jesus answered them, 'Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only will you do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, "Be lifted up and thrown into the sea", it will be done. Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive.'

Deacon Ari Hear what the Spirit is saying.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Celtic Contemplation

Please sit comfortably and close your eyes for 15 minutes of silent meditation. Chimes will sound to begin and end the time. For today's reflection:

***“My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.”*** Psalm 121

< Meditation: 15 minutes >

*Please follow along and chant the Kyrie with us while on mute.
We will chant 3x through.*

Deacon Ari / People

Kyrie Eleison (***Kyrie Eleison***)
Christe Eleison (***Christe Eleison***)
Kyrie (***Kyrie***), Christe (***Christe***)
Eleison (***Eleison***)

Mother Teri: Please join now in praying as Jesus taught...

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and
forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who
trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the
power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

*Deacon Ari: Lord, hear our prayer;
People: And let our cry come to you.*

*Deacon Ari:
Let us pray, using words from the *Ita Compline*¹*

*Search me, O God, and know my heart.
Test me and know my thoughts.*

*Keep Your people, Lord, in the arms of Your
embrace.
Shelter them under Your wings.*

Deacon Ari: For whom and what else do we pray?

*Please offer your intercessions here, aloud or silently.
Prayers given aloud are followed with:*

*Deacon Ari: We pray to the Lord
People: Lord, hear our prayer*

Continuing after personal intercessions with...

¹ excerpted from the *Ita Compline*, Northumbria Community.

Be their light in darkness.
Be their hope in distress.
Be their calm in anxiety.

Be strength in their weakness.
Be their comfort in pain.
Be their song in the night.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please remain with us for a word on today's saint and discussion on today's scriptural reading.

St. Ciaran of Clonmacnoise

c. 516-556

Born in Connacht, Ireland, c. 516; died at Clonmacnoise, c. 556. Saint Ciaran is one of the 12 Apostles of Ireland.

Born into a Meath family of pre-Celtic descent, Saint Ciaran trained for the monastic life in Saint Finnian's monastery at Clonard. At Clonard he taught the daughter of the king of Cuala because he was considered the most learned monk in the abbey.

About 534, he migrated to Inishmore in the Aran Islands, where he spent seven years learning from Saint Enda and

was ordained priest. He left after having a vision that Enda interpreted for him. Ciaran travelled slowly eastward, first Scattery Island where he learned from Saint Senan, then to Isel in the centre of Ireland. He was forced to leave here because of his excessive charity and moved on to Inis Aingin (Hare Island).

He left there with eight companions and eventually settled at Clonmacnoise on the Shannon River south of Athlone in the West Meath, where he built Clonmacnoise monastery. He gave his monks an extremely austere rule, known as the Law of Kieran. The saint is said to have lived only seven months after founding the great school of Clonmacnoise, dying at the age of 34.

Various legends, some outlandish, are told of Ciaran. One relates that a fox's whelp would carry his lessons to Ciaran's master until it was old enough to eat the satchel containing the saint's writings. Another says that the other Irish saints were so jealous of him that they fasted and prayed that he might die young.

(<https://celticsaints.org/2020/0909a.html>)

---Scriptural Study---

A reading from *the Gospel of Matthew 21:18-22*

In the morning, when he returned to the city, he was hungry. And seeing a fig tree by the side of the road, he went to it and found nothing at all on it but leaves. Then he said to it, 'May no fruit ever come from you again!' And the fig tree withered at once. When the disciples saw it, they were amazed, saying, 'How did the fig tree wither at once?' Jesus answered them, 'Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only will you do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, "Be lifted up and thrown into the sea", it will be done. Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive.'