

Friday 15th January

Paul said, Do not pronounce judgment before the Lord comes. God will bring to light things now hidden, and disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive commendation from God. I have applied all this to myself, so that you will not be puffed up in favour of one against another. For you were given what you have, and you cannot boast of a gift.

1 Corinthians 4.5-7

We find real satisfaction not by incessant longing for newer and newer goals, but by taking joy in the small things that actually make up our lives.

Larry Rosenberg

Saturday 16th January

Through Jesus we have a new and living way, so let us approach God with a true heart, in faith, and with a clear conscience. Let us hold fast to our hope without wavering, and consider how to support each other to love and good deeds; meeting together and encouraging one another. *Hebrews 10.20-25*

Faith enables persons to be persons, because it lets God be God. *Carter Lindberg*



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St James's Church, Piccadilly

Holding the Silence

2021



Weekly Collects and Daily Readings from Sunday 3rd - Saturday 16th January

Collect for Sunday 3rd - Saturday 9th January

God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life; lead us to seek him among the outcast and find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

Collect for Sunday 10th - Saturday 16th January

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son; may we recognise him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Daily Readings

Sunday 3rd January

With all wisdom and insight God has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. *Ephesians 1.8-10*

The life of faith is a continually renewed victory over doubt, a continually renewed grasp of meaning in the midst of meaninglessness. *Leslie Newbigin*

Monday 4th January

The Lord said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely.' And he became their saviour in their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them. *Isaiah 63.8-9*

Let the desire to be with God goad you as often and as intensely as it may. *Anon*

Tuesday 5th January

Thanks be to God, who through us spreads the fragrance that comes from knowing him wherever we go. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among people we meet. In Christ we speak as sincere people; people sent from God and standing in his presence. *2 Corinthians 2.14-17*

Go where your best prayers take you.
Frederick Buechner

Wednesday 6th January

The wise men set out, and ahead of them went the star they had seen. It stopped over the place where the child was, and they were overwhelmed with joy. In the house they saw the child with Mary his mother and they knelt down. They offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. *Matthew 2.9-11*

My favourite thing to do is to go where I've never been. *Diane Arbus*

Thursday 7th January

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. By this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

1 John 3.18-20

Life becomes harder for us when we live for others, but it also becomes richer and happier.

Albert Schweitzer

Friday 8th January

Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves in those days, I will pour out my spirit. *Joel 2.28-29*

Saints are what they are not because their sanctity makes them admirable to others, but because the gift of sainthood makes it possible for them to admire everyone else. *Thomas Merton*

Saturday 9th January

The fruit of the gift of wisdom is better than gold, even fine gold, and my yield than choice silver. I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice, endowing with wealth those who love me, and filling their treasuries. *Proverbs 8.19-21*

Eat bread. Drink wine. Try to sing the song of Christ. Live life. If you can dance, dance. Everywhere grace awaits. Desire to love to love. *Maura Eichner*

Sunday 10th January

In Ephesus Paul found some disciples who had been baptised into John's baptism. They had not heard of the Holy Spirit. Paul explained that John had told his hearers to believe in the one who was to come after him, and the disciples were baptised again in the name of Jesus. When Paul laid his hands on them they were filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied. *Acts 19.1-7*

We need the deeps of the world of the spirit, as well as the wide and varied outer world of knowledge and of sense. *Evelyn Underhill*

Monday 11th January

I will help you, says the Lord; your redeemer is the Holy One of Israel. You will be as a new threshing machine, with sharp teeth; you shall thresh the mountains and crush the hills like chaff, which the wind will carry away. Then you shall rejoice in the Lord. *Isaiah 41.14b-16*

Absolute love, God's love, makes us fully ourselves, instead of the half people we generally are.

Harry Williams

Tuesday 12th January

The people complained to Moses that they were dying of thirst. Moses cried out to the Lord, fearing he might be stoned. The Lord instructed him to go ahead with some of the elders and to take his staff with him.

Moses followed God's directions and struck the rock of Horeb with the staff he had used to part the waters of the Nile. Water gushed out of the rock, and the Israelites knew that God had not deserted them.

Exodus 17.3-7

The function of prayer is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays.

Soren Kirkegaard

Wednesday 13th January

See that no one captivates you by human philosophy or deceit. For you have come to fullness in Christ. When you were buried with him by baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in God who raised him. God made you alive with him when he forgave you your sins. *Colossians 2.8-13*

The feeling remains that God is on the journey too.

Teresa of Avila

Thursday 14th January

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it says in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'the stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner.'

1 Peter 2.4-7

Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realise they were the big things. *Robert Brault*