

[God is] ... someone present in the quick of being ... in existence as it exists, in the fibre, in the pulse of the world. *Dennis Potter*

Thursday 8th October

Ask and it will be given you, search and you will find, and to everyone who knocks the door will be opened. Is there one among you who, if their child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead? Or, if a child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! *Luke 11.10-13*

It is in the shelter of each other that people live.
Irish proverb

Friday 9th October

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, now you are God's people, once you had not received mercy, now you have received mercy.
1 Peter 2.9-10

If your dreams do not scare you, they are not big enough. *Ellen Johnson Sirleaf*

Saturday 10th October

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead through sin, and made us alive with Christ. By grace we have been saved, raised up and seated with him in heaven. By grace, not by our own works, we are saved. This is God's gift. We are what he made us. *Ephesians 2.4-10*

To the wrongs that need resistance
To the right that needs assistance
To the future in the distance
Give yourselves.
Carrie Chapman Catt



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St James's Church, Piccadilly

Holding the Silence

2020



Weekly Collects and Daily Readings from
Sunday 27th September -
Saturday 10th October

Collect for Sunday 27th September - Saturday 3rd October

Almighty God you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen**

Collect for Sunday 4th - Saturday 10th October

Gracious God, You call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Sunday 27th September

Jesus said, 'A man had two sons. He said to the first, 'Go into the vineyard today.' He refused, but later he changed his mind and went. The father asked his second son to go. He said, 'I go sir.' But he did not go. Which of them did the will of the father? They said, 'The first.' Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes will go into the kingdom of God before you.' *Matthew 21.28-31*

Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you get neither. *C.S. Lewis*

Monday 28th September

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and turn from evil. It will be healing and refreshment for your body. Honour the Lord with all you have; then your barns will be filled and your vats bursting with wine. Do not despise God's discipline or weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves those he loves, as a father the son he delights in. *Proverbs 3.7-12*

The task of religious education is ... to nurture in people that creative spirit of love that will help them grow and live wisely without a rule-book. *Roy Stevens*

Tuesday 29th September

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be

strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance ... He will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; the lame shall leap like deer, and the speechless shall sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

Isaiah 35.3-6

When we rejoice in our fullness, then we can part with our fruits with joy. *Rabindranath Tagore*

Wednesday 30th September

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord ... that he may teach us his ways and we may walk in his paths. For out of Zion shall come instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between peoples and arbitrate between nations; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning-hooks and learn the ways of war no more. *Isaiah 2.3-4*

We come fully to life only in meeting one another ... and because we do come fully to life, we have met not only each other, but also God.

John S Donne

Thursday 1st October

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one spirit we were all baptised into one body. *1 Corinthians 12.12-12a*

Authentic spirituality is always about changing you, not changing anything else. *Richard Rohr*

Friday 2nd October

For thus says the high and lofty one ... I will not continually accuse, nor will I always be angry; for then the spirits of the souls I have made would grow faint. Because of their covetousness I hid and was angry, but they kept turning back to their own ways. I have seen their ways, but I will heal them; I will lead them and repay them with comfort. Peace, peace to the far and the near, says the Lord. *Isaiah 57.16-19*

One who makes no mistakes makes nothing.

St Teresa of Avila

Saturday 3rd October

I pray that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. May you have the power to comprehend what is the breadth, length, height and depth, and know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, and that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. *Ephesians 3.16-19*

The planet does not need more successful people. The planet desperately needs more peacemakers, healers, restorers, storytellers and lovers of all kinds.

Dalai Lama

Sunday 4th October

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have decided, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. God can provide you with every blessing in abundance, so you will always have enough, and may share abundantly in every good work. *2 Corinthians 9.6-8*

I've learnt that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back. *Maya Angelou*

Monday 5th October

Then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher' he said, 'What must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus asked, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your soul, all your strength and all your mind and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said, 'you have given the right answer; do this and you will live.

Luke 10.25-28

What is the use of praying if at the very moment of our prayer we have so little confidence in God that we are planning our own answer to our prayer?

Thomas Merton

Tuesday 6th October

In another village a woman named Martha welcomed Jesus into her home. Her sister, Mary, sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she asked him, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work? Ask her to help me.' But Jesus answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried by many things; only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken from her.

Luke 10.38-42

It is in silence that we love most ardently; noise and words often put out the inner fire. *Charles de Foucauld*

Wednesday 7th October

After Jesus had been praying, a disciple said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' Jesus said, 'When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial. *Luke 11.1-4*