

Holding the Silence

Daily Readings from Sunday 2nd - Saturday 15th January 2022

Collect for Sunday 2nd - Saturday 8th 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, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect for Sunday 9th - Saturday 15th 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 2nd January

I will give thanks to you O Lord, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. *Isaiah 12, 1b-2*

You comfort us, and give us hope, you lift the veil of eternity and we are permitted to know that the world is a path, and we are on a journey, and the reward in the end is peace. *Jewish prayer*

Monday 3rd January

For a child has been born to us, a son is given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. *Isaiah 9.6-7*

God's promises are like the stars; the darker the night the brighter they shine.
David Nicholas

Tuesday 4th January

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other, and if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other, just as the Lord has forgiven you. *Colossians 3.12-13*

Time lost is time when we have not lived a full human life, time unenriched by experience, creative endeavour, enjoyment and suffering. *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Wednesday 5th January

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. Pray for us as well, that we may declare the mystery of Christ, for which I am in prison, so that I may reveal it clearly. Conduct yourselves wisely. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. *Colossians 4.2-5*

The imperative to care must take precedence. *Lloyd Geering*

Thursday 6th January

The mystery of our religion is great: he was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory. *1 Timothy 3.16*

In silence we break the hold time has over us, and accept in practice that our true home is in eternity. *Sr Wendy Beckett*

Friday 7th January

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life. When the Pharisees objected that he testified for himself, Jesus answered, 'My testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards. I judge no one. *John 8.12-15*

God is always bigger than the boxes we build for God, so we should not waste too much time protecting the boxes.
Richard Rohr

Saturday 8th January

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Isaiah 60.1-3

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeing new landscapes, but in having new eyes.
Marcel Proust

Sunday 9th January

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfastness and faithfulness go before you. Happy are the people who know the festal shout, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance; they exult in your name all the day long, and extol your righteousness.
Psalm 89.14-16

The kingdom of God is the already but not yet.
R. Alan Woods

Monday 10th January

Thomas said to him, 'Lord we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'
John 14.4b-7

Darkness must pass. A new day must come, and when the sun shines, it will shine out the clearer.
J.R.R. Tolkien

Tuesday 11th January

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.
Psalm 100.3-5

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

Wednesday 12th January

Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven. Some take pride in chariots and horses, but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God. They shall collapse and fall,

but we shall rise and stand upright.
Psalm 20.6-8

Your life is shaped by the end you live for. You are made in the image of what you desire.
Thomas Merton

Thursday 13th 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.
1 Peter 2.4-5

In experiencing feelings of peace, tranquillity, joy and delight – whether in prayer or outside of prayer – accept them gratefully from God. They are gifts given freely and through no merits of our own, which we should enjoy and relish.
Gerard Hughes

Friday 14th January

The Pharisees asked Jesus, 'We know that you are sincere and impartial. Tell us then, is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor?' But Jesus knew their malice. He said 'Why are you testing me? Show me a coin.' Then he asked, 'Whose head is this and whose title?' They answered, 'The emperor's'. Jesus replied, 'So give the emperor the things that are the emperor's and to God the things that are God's.'
Matthew 22.16-21

In essentials, unity. In differences, dialogue. In all things, charity.
Pope John XXII

Saturday 15th January

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. Let us provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, but encouraging one another.
Hebrews 10.23-25

He is the Way.
Follow him through the Land of Unlikeness; You will see rare beasts and have unique adventures.
W.H. Auden

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