

Holding the Silence 2024

Daily Readings from Sunday 13th - Saturday 26th October 2024

Collect for Sunday 13th - Saturday 19th October

God our light and our salvation: illuminate our lives, that we may see your goodness in the land of the living, and looking on your beauty may be changed into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect for Sunday 20th - Saturday 26th September

Almighty God, whose service is perfect freedom: teach us to obey you with loving hearts and steadfast wills, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Daily Readings

Sunday 13th October

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4.14-16*

Nobody can teach me who I am. You can describe the parts of me, but who I am - and what I need - is something I have to find out for myself. *Chinua Achebe*

Monday 14th October

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example of those who come to believe in him for eternal life. *Timothy 1.15-16*

Success is liking yourself, liking what you do and liking how you do it. *Maya Angelou*

Tuesday 15th October

I loved wisdom more than health and beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light, because her radiance never ceases. All good

things came to me along with her, and in her hands uncounted wealth. I rejoiced in them all because wisdom leads them; but I did not know that she was their mother. *Wisdom 7.10-12*

If we give our children sound self-love they will be able to deal with whatever life puts before them. *Bel Hooks*

Wednesday 16th October

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Galatians 5.22-25

Art is man's constant effort to create for himself a different order of reality from that which is given to him. *Chinua Achebe*

Thursday 17th October

Whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss, because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and I regard them as rubbish in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him.

Philippians 3.7-9

Neither love nor terror makes me blind: indifference makes me blind. *James Baldwin*

Friday 18th October

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy, for waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert. *Isaiah 35.5-6*

The destroyers and enslavers of men cannot be Christians, for Christianity is a system of love and its followers are devoted to honesty, justice, humanity, meekness, peace and goodwill to all men. *Ottobah Cugoana*

Saturday 19th October

Everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. When they bring you before the rulers and authorities do not worry about how to defend yourselves, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that very hour what you ought to say.

Luke 12.10-12

The most authentic thing about us is our capacity to create, to overcome, to endure, to transform, to love and be greater than our suffering. *Ben Okri*

Sunday 20th October

Jesus said to his disciples, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognise as their leaders lord it over them and their great ones are tyrants. But it is not so among you; whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first must be your slave. The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many.' *Mark 10.42-45*

Beware of the stories you read or tell subtly at night, beneath the waters of consciousness they are altering your world. *Ben Okri*

Monday 21st October

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing for your flesh and refreshment for your body. Honour the Lord with your substance and the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats bursting with wine. *Proverbs 3.7-10*

May you always be one who notices the little things that make the light pour through, and may they always remind you: there is more to life and more to you. *Lemm Sissay*

Tuesday 22nd October

Blessed are those slaves whose master finds them alert when he comes; he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will serve them. If he comes at midnight or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. *Luke 12.37,38*

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then, is not an act, but a habit. *Aristotle*

Wednesday 23rd October

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Know this, if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour. *Luke 12.39,40*

Attention is the beginning of devotion. *Mary Oliver*

Thursday 24th October

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may comprehend the length and

breadth and height and depth of the love of Christ which passes all knowledge. *Ephesians 16-19*

We shall rest and we shall see; we shall see and we shall love; we shall love and we shall praise. Behold what is in the end shall not end. Beauty forever old and forever new, where all shall be 'Amen' and 'Alleluia'. *St Augustine*

Friday 25th October

I beg you to live a life worthy of your calling, with all humility and gentleness, with patience and love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. *Ephesians 4.1-3*

There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it. *Edith Wharton*

Saturday 26th October

Do not love the world or the things of the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world - the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches - comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desire is passing away, but those who do the will of God will live for ever. *1 John 18.33-37*

What is success? It is going to bed each night with your soul at peace. *Paulo Coelho*

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