

Holding the Silence 2026

Daily Readings from Sunday 17th - Saturday 30th May 2026

Collect for Sunday 17th - Saturday 23rd May

Holy Spirit sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Collect for Sunday 24th - Saturday 30th May

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.
Amen.

Daily Readings

Sunday 17th May

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
Acts 2.1-4

Those who have the privilege to know, have the duty to act. *Albert Einstein*

Monday 18th May

Just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings as we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share our sufferings, so also you share our consolation.
2 Corinthians 1.5-7

I have learned now that while those who speak about one's miseries usually hurt, those who keep silence hurt more. *C.S. Lewis*

Tuesday 19th May

For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom Silvanus, Timothy and I proclaimed among you, was not 'Yes and No' but in him I was always 'Yes'. For in him every one of God's promises is a 'Yes'. For this reason it is in him that we say 'Amen' to the glory of God.
2 Corinthians 1.18,19

Compassion is the sometimes fatal capacity to feel what it is like to live inside somebody else's skin. It is the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy for you too. *Frederick Buechner*

Wednesday 20th May

I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe and a turban. I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame. I was father to the needy, and I championed the cause of the stranger. *Job 29.14-16*

Love yourself. Then forget it. Then, love the world. *Mary Oliver*

Thursday 21st May

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 4.5,6

I am not fighting for success, just to get more beauty out of myself and share it with other people. *Ben Okri*

Friday 22nd May

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.
2 Corinthians 4.7-10

I know God will not give me anything I can't handle. I just wish he didn't trust me so much.
Mother Teresa

Saturday 23rd May

If anyone is in Christ there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. *2 Corinthians 5.17-19*

Every happening, great or small, is a parable whereby God speaks to us, and the art of life is to get the message. *Malcolm Muggeridge*

Sunday 24th May

O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world! When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have ordained, what is man that you should be mindful of him; the son of man that you should seek him out? *Psalms 8.1,4,5*

Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage. *Anais Nin*

Monday 25th May

'You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth' But I say to you, do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. *Matthew 5.38-41*

Community is not about emotional harmony but forgiveness and celebration. *Henri Nouwen*

Tuesday 26th May

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say, 'Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. *Matthew 5.43-45*

To the world you might be one person, but to one person, you might be the world. Kindness is the golden chain by which our world is bound together. *Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

Wednesday 27th May

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. *2 Corinthians 9.6-8*

I am not interested in picking up crumbs of compassion thrown from the table of someone who considers himself my master. I want the full menu of rights. *Desmond Tutu*

Thursday 28th May

Alleluia. I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart. The works of his hands are truth and justice; all his commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever; they are done in truth and equity. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have those who live by it; his praise endures for ever. *Psalms 111.1,7,8,10*

Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey towards it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us. *Samuel Smiles*

Friday 29th May

Do not store up for yourselves treasure on earth, where moth and rust consume, and thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven ... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. *Matthew 6.19-21*.

Be happy in the moment, that's enough. Each moment is all we need, not more.
Mother Teresa

Saturday 30th May

So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring troubles of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today. *Matthew 6.34*

The locus of human mystery is perception of this world. From this proceeds every thought, every art. *Marilynne Robinson*

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