

Holding the Silence 2025

Daily Readings from Sunday 20th July - Saturday 2nd August

Collect for Sunday 20th - Saturday 26th July

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect for Sunday 27th July - Saturday 2nd August

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Daily Readings

Sunday 20th July

God's commission was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations, but has now been revealed to his saints. *Colossians 1.25,26*

The highest reward for a person's toil is not what they get for it, but what they become
John Ruskin

Monday 21st July

After a long time, the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received five talents came forward bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you gave me five talents; see I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' *Matthew 25.19-21*

The greatest mistake you can make in life is to be continually fearing that you will make one.
Elbert Hubbard

Tuesday 22nd July

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore, all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. *2 Corinthians 5.14,15*

You can stand in the sunlight ... feel the warmth of the sun. Feels like the fingerprints of God on your soul. *R.J. Ellory*

Wednesday 23rd July

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. *Romans 8.26*

Insomuch as love grows in you so in you beauty grows. For love is the beauty of the soul.
St Augustine

Thursday 24th July

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ towards God. Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, who made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit, for the letter kills, but the spirit gives life. *2 Corinthians 3.4-6*

Earth and Heaven are in us. *Gandhi*

Friday 25th July

Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles laud it over them and their great ones are tyrants. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must give his life a ransom for many. *Matthew 20.25-28*

Mysticism is wisdom or knowledge that is found through love; it is loving knowledge.
William Johnston

Saturday 26th July

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain. Unless the Lord keeps the city, the guard keeps watch in vain. It is in vain that you hasten to rise up early and go so late to rest, eating the bread of toil, for he gives his beloved sleep. *Psalms 127.1-3*

Belief makes the mind abundant. *W.B. Yeats*

Sunday 27th July

So I say to you, 'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks the door will be opened. *Luke 11.9-10*

When we say, 'Yes, I doubt, but I do believe in God's love more than I trust my own doubts,' it becomes possible for God to act.
Anthony Bloom

Monday 28th July

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified. But I said, 'I have laboured in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.'
Isaiah 49.3,4

The only knowledge perfectly acquired is the knowledge of our limitation. *Thomas G. Long*

Tuesday 29th July

Great crowds came to Jesus, bringing with them the lame, the maimed, the blind, the mute and many others. They put them at his feet, and he cured them. *Matthew 15.30*

Faith is what makes life bearable, with all its tragedies, and ambiguities and sudden, startling joys. *Madeleine L'Engle*

Wednesday 30th July

In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith ... And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying 'Abba, Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God. *Galatians 3.26; and 4.6,7*

His name is Emmanuel – the God who is with us – who is made out of the same stuff we are and who is made out of the same stuff God is and who will not let either of us go.
Barbara Brown Taylor

Thursday 31st July

Blessed are they who dwell in your house: they will be always praising you. Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways of Zion, who going through the barren valley find there a spring ... they will go from strength to strength and appear before God in Zion. *Psalms 84*

Friday 1st August

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will reap bountifully. Each of you must make up your mind, not reluctantly nor under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9.6,7

In many areas of understanding, none so much as in our understanding of God, we bump up against a simplicity so profound that we must assign complexities to it to comprehend it at all.
Robert Brault

Saturday 2nd August

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them ... They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of God as the waters cover the sea.
Isaiah 11.6,9

The measure of power is not the ability to build, consume or destroy, but to heal, love and forgive. That is why the weakness of a crucified Messiah is stronger than human strength.
Bishop Michael Joseph Neils

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