

## Holding the Silence 2025

### Daily Readings from Sunday 25th May - Saturday 7th June 2025

#### Collect for Sunday 25th - Saturday 31st May

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your church to obey your command and to draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

#### Collect for Sunday 1st - Saturday 7th June

Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice in your triumph, fill your church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### Daily Readings

#### Sunday 25th May

A woman called Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira, and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and all her household were baptised, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' *Acts 16.14-17*

Being myself includes taking risks with myself, trying new ways of being myself, so that I can see who I want to be. *Hugh Prather*

#### Monday 26th May

When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You are also to testify, because you have been with me from the beginning. *John 15.26,27*

To live a spiritual life is to discover a way of being that encompasses all we are as human beings, connecting our inner person and our outer life, reflecting our best aspirations and our less-than-perfect realities. *Ian Adams*

#### Tuesday 27th May

I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin, righteousness and judgement:

about sin because they do not believe in me, about righteousness because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement because the ruler of this world has been condemned. *John 16.7-11*

When we lose one blessing, another is often most unexpectedly given in its place. *C. S. Lewis*

#### Wednesday 28th May

When the spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. *John 16.13-15*

The essential gift is aliveness – coming alive towards other people, coming alive to the glory and tragedy of this world. *John V. Taylor*

#### Thursday 29th May

He opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. *Luke 24.45-48*

Grace is the perennial infusion of springtime into the winter of bleakness. *John O'Donohue*

#### Friday 30th May

You have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name he will give it to you. *John 16.22,23*

Courage is not the absence of fear – it is inspiring others to move beyond it. *Nelson Mandela*

#### Saturday 31st May

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 8.38,39*

Abiding happiness and peace is theirs who choose goodness for its own sake – without expectation of any reward. *Zoroastrian saying*

#### Sunday 1st June

Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them,

and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them.

Lord, I love you and I want to love more. It is you who make love eternal and I want to love eternally. *Michel Quoist*

### **Monday 2nd June**

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The hour is coming when you will be scattered and will leave me alone. Yet the Father is with me. I have said this to you so that in me you may have peace. In the world you will face persecution. But take courage; I have overcome the world.' *John 16.32,33*

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

### **Tuesday 3rd June**

Jesus prayed, 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours and you gave them to me and they have kept your word. Now they know everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me.' *John 17.6-8*

The goodness of the world, stricken or not, is incontestable and definitive. If it is stricken it is also healed in Christ. *Thomas Merton*

### **Wednesday 4th June**

Now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as you and I are one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. *John 17.11,16-18*

We are called to represent Christ spontaneously and with incalculable consequences in the pedestrian obscurity of everyday life. *Hans Jürgen Schultz*

### **Thursday 5th June**

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know you that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them. *John 17.25*

We are not meant to live solely by intellectual convictions, we are meant more and more to open ourselves to the Spirit. *Marcus Aurelius*

### **Friday 6th June**

In Christ every one of God's promises is a 'Yes'. For this reason it is through him that we say 'Amen' to the glory of God. But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us, by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first instalment. *2 Corinthians 1.20-22*

The first key to wisdom is assiduous and frequent questioning. For by doubting we come in enquiry and by enquiry we arrive at the truth. *Peter Abelard*

### **Saturday 7th June**

This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. *John 21.24,25*

God is never far away. He can only act through us. Man's freewill is God's door to humanity. *Paul Doherty*

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