

PARISH DAILY PRAYER DIARY DECEMBER 2017

Heavenly Father, as we end this year, let us not see this as a month of regret for wasted life, but a renewal of our continued walk with You our God, as we move towards the celebration of Your Son's birth. Amen.

Friday 1st.

"If the only prayer you said in your whole life was "Thank you" that would suffice".

Meister Eckhart.

Saturday 2nd.

Judy Garland always tried to be true to herself even in the toughest times was quoted as saying. "Always be a first rate version of yourself instead of a second rate version of somebody else".

Sunday 3rd. First Sunday of Advent.

Father, may we have eyes to see, ears to hear and hearts to recognize the moments that You have for us today. Spare us from anxiety and regret, and grant us with the ability to live in the joy of the present moment. Amen.

Monday 4th.

"Live in each season as it passes, breath the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influence of each". **Henry David Thoreau.**

Tuesday 5th.

Stop and look around you; don't always rush along, drink in this world of beauty; pay heed to Earth's great song. **M.J. Brison.**

Wednesday 6th.

Everything has a beginning and an ending, make your peace with that and all will be well.

This week's readings; Psalm18v.31/ 8 Ecclesiastes3v.1/Hebrews13v.

Thursday 7th.

All my hope on God is founded, all my trust He shall renew; He, my guide through changing order, only good and only true. God unknown, He alone calls my heart to be His own.

Friday 8th.

Try to overcome your trepidation and take a small risk today, see how good a new step forward makes you feel.

Saturday 9th.

Even if we cannot provide help, at least we can be understanding and lend a listening ear.

Sunday 10th. Second Sunday of Advent.

Father God, our prayers are lost in the fear that you are not there to hear them, free us from all doubts and strengthen our faith in your loving presence. Amen.

Monday 11th.

"There is music all around us, a song since time began, a melody of joy and hope, a song for everyman". **Iris Hesselden.**

Tuesday 12th.

Sing a new song to the Lord, He to whom wonders belong; rejoice in His triumph and tell of His power, O, sing the Lord a new song.

Wednesday 13th.

How do we please God? **Aurelous Ambrosius**, an English saint said it was simple. "The grace of the Lord is won with a good life". Many of us try to live good lives and fall short. But like any loving father, God, appreciates the efforts.

This week's readings; Psalm147v.11/Job33v.4/1Thessalonians4v.1.

Thursday 14th.

Sometimes just showing that we care, we may achieve more than we realize.

Friday 15th.

"We thank you Lord, for home and food, the blessing of each day. Let hope and joy light up our world til winter slips away". **Iris Hesselden.**

Saturday 16th.

We may not always be able to choose the easiest route through life, but be sure that if we can just trust, we will eventually find ourselves exactly where we are meant to be.

Sunday 17th. Third Sunday of Advent.

Loving Lord, we draw comfort in knowing that the birth of Your Son brought Hope and joy into our darkened world. We ask for Your guidance to light our way and to lighten our hearts. Amen.

Monday 18th.

When we are going through difficult times in modern life, we should still look for beauty. It will be there somewhere. It always has been.

“Most Bible characters met with failure and survived, they came to know the God of the second chance, and sometimes the third and fourth”. **Oswald Saunders.** God never stops giving us chances, just resolve next time to make the most of them.

Tuesday 19th.

You might think your life is fine before, but let God in and He will “upcycle” your world.

Wednesday 20th.

An old proverb says “Big doors move on small hinges”. Simple enough if they are well maintained. Our lives turn on small things such as honesty, integrity, faith and trust. Let’s attach ourselves to good “hinges” and make sure they too, are well made, sound and regularly maintained by our Lords word.

This week’s readings; Psalm119v.76/Proverbs21v.21/2Corinthians5v.17.

Thursday 21st.

“All is well” My Lord says, as savage winds shriek and maul the earth. “All is well”. He says to me, as I tremble in the cold and rain that rises at my feet. “All is well”. He says, as skies curdle with the thick blackness of the storm. I look into His eyes and whisper, “All is well Lord”, and a tender sprig of peace blossoms in my soul, it grows, it grows resilient in the wind, tall in the rain, resplendent in the storm, and more beautiful each time it offers shelter to those along the way. **Rachel Wallace-Oberle.**

Saturday 23rd.

“We turn to God when our foundations are shaking, only to learn that God is shaking them”.

Sunday 24th. Fourth Sunday of Advent.

So Joseph also went up to the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son, and they named him Jesus.

Monday 25th. Jesus is here. Alleluia!!

Unto us a child is born! King of all creation, came He to the world forlorn, the Lord of every nation. Now may Mary’s son who came so long ago to love us, lead us all with hearts aflame, unto the joys above us. Alpha and Omega He! Let the organs thunder, while the choir with peals of glee, doth rend the air asunder.

Tuesday 26th. Stephen. (The first Martyr). Matthew 2 vs. 1-12.

We three Kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we travel afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Wednesday 27th. John Apostle and Evangelist. John 1 vs. 1-8.

“Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas time”.

Laura Ingalls Wilder.

This week’s readings; Matthew 2 vs. 1-8 16-18.

Thursday 28th. The Holy Innocents.

When Herod realized he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years and under. (This, so it was written, sadly but unintentionally included his own son).

Friday 29th.

“With love we are creative. With it, we march tirelessly. With it, and with it alone, we are able to sacrifice for others”. **Chief Dan George.**

Saturday 30th.

“Love is that condition in which happiness of another person is essential to your own”.

Robert A. Heinlien.

Sunday 31st. New Year’s Eve. Amen.