

Thursday 27th. John Apostle and evangelist.

Gracious Lord, your Presence colours our lives with joy, and when clouds gather, help us hold Your beauty close. **Amen.**

Friday 28th. The Holy Innocents. Matthew 2 v. 16-18.

Lord God, on this day we remember the poor and our deep responsibility to them, we remember also those who give their lives because of their faith in You and their love of others. We thank you the most special gift given of all, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who inspires and enables us to be gifts given to others in Your name. **Amen.**

Saturday 29th.

Prayer is nothing else than being on terms of friendship with God. **Teresa of Avila.**

Sunday 30th.

Lord and forgive me when I stray, lead me in Your ways **Amen.**

Monday 31st. Eve of the New Year.

Lord, may I find the courage to open the door of my life to You this coming year and to throw away the key. **Amen.**

ON REFLECTION

Lord, it must grieve You that so many of us settle for so small a part of what you have in store for us. We pray for the gift of faith that will draw us on, trusting in Your promise that the best is yet to come. Amen

Lord, may I count my blessings and value the things that really matter. Help me to turn my worries into thanks today. Through Christ whose peace keeps me safe today. Amen.

Saturday 1st.

Lord of my dreams, I look to you today and every day. Open my heart to hope, and let me share my life with You. **Amen.**

Sunday 2nd. First Sunday of Advent.

Loving God, help us to let go of ourselves, so that You may speak through us to another. **Amen.**

Monday 3rd.

Losing your temper is not the way to get rid of it. **Anon.**

Tuesday 4th.

A beachcomber's philosophy; "Be "Shore" of ourselves, take time to "coast", avoid "pier" pressure, and "sea" life's beauty".

Wednesday 5th.

Giving of any kind, taking action, begins the process of change, and moves us to remember that we are part of a much greater universe. **Mbali Creazzo.**

This week's readings; Psalm 111 v.3 / Isaiah 60 v.1 / Hebrews 13 v.5

Thursday 6th.

If God were not willing to forgive, Heaven would be empty. **A German Proverb.**

Friday 7th.

Teach us, good Lord, to serve You as You deserve, to give and not to count the cost, save knowing that we do Your will. **Ignatius Loyola.**

Saturday 8th.

Sometimes the good things in life need to be enjoyed right here and now. **Anon.**

Sunday 9th. Second Sunday of Advent.

God, in this winter of waiting, inspire us with the story of the Light of the World, who has been promised to us. **Amen.**

Monday 10th.

I sought to hear the Voice of God, and climbed the topmost steeple, but God declared, "Go down again, I dwell among the people". **John Henry Newman.**

Tuesday 11th.

"God is the only one who can make the valley of trouble a door of hope". **Cathrine Marshall.**

Wednesday 12th.

"Behold, miracles of miracles, out of the cracks a light shines". **Choan-Seng Song.**

This week's readings; Psalm 20 v.1 / Job 22 v.27 / Matthew 7 v.7

Thursday 13th.

You ask a lot Lord, where shall I start? Maybe with patience. I guess that's where you have to start with me? **Eddie Askew.**

Friday 14th.

Emperor Marcus Aurelius. "Life is what our thoughts make it".

Saturday 15th.

"We can be unhappy about many things, but, joy can still be there". **Henri J. M. Novwen.**

Sunday 16th. Third Sunday of Advent.

Light of the World, in the darkness of these winter days, the story of "**God among us**", burns bright. We pray that it may live in our hearts. **Amen.**

Monday 17th.

The most difficult and decisive part of prayer, is acquiring this ability to listen. Listening is no passive affair. **Mother Mary Clare. SLG.**

Tuesday 18th.

In the garden of the heart, grow seeds of love and trust; where honesty proliferates, where all is kind and just. **Emma Canning.**

Wednesday 19th.

Martha Graham's philosophy is; "Get through the next twenty four hours, as brilliantly, as truthfully, as clearly and as kindly as you possibly can".

This week's readings; Psalm 103 v.5 / Joel 2 v.28 / John 4 v.13-14

Thursday 20th.

"The best things in life to hold on to is each other". **Audrey Hepburn.**

Friday 21st.

J.M. Barrie wrote. "God gave us our memories so we might have roses in winter".

Saturday 22nd.

Lines from a poem by **Alfred Lord Tennyson.** "For all the blessed souls in Heaven are forgivers and forgiven".

Sunday 23rd. Fourth Sunday of Advent.

Lord, we pray for all families this week, and especially those who will have little to celebrate, that they may know the message of that first Christmas, of peace on earth and good will to all. **Amen.**

Monday 24th. Christmas Eve. Luke 2 v .4 - 7.

Lord, may we share the good will of Christmas with others all year round, and help those whose memories bring lonely pain, to find comfort. **Amen.**

Tuesday 25th. Jesus is here. Alleluia!! Matthew 1 v 21.

"And Mary shall bring forth a son, and thou shall call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins".

Wednesday 26th. Stephen. (First Martyr) Matthew 2 v1-12.

O God, help us to protect the well-being of all Your children born of Your world, so that each may live to realize its destiny. Amen.

This week's readings; Psalm 96 v.12-13 / Micah 6 v.8 / 1 John 4v.7