

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>.**

**Lord, giver of life and love, may I share as much as in giving as in getting. Amen.**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Jesus, Son of God, you refused the way of domination and control and instead you show us the path of love and gentleness. Help us to deal carefully with all that is entrusted to us today and to give generously but wisely of ourselves and our gifts.

**Amen.**

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup>.**

“Work is not always required. There is such a thing as sacred idleness the cultivation of which is now fearfully neglected”. **George Macdonald.**

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup>.**

**Nobel Prize winner Odysseus Elytis once wrote,** “You’ll come to learn a great deal if you study the insignificant in depth”.

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>.**

“Tears of joy”, **wrote Hosea Ballou,** “Are like the summer raindrops piercing the sunbeams”.

**This week’s readings; Psalm 118 v.4-5 / Proverbs 3 v.13 / 1 Peter 3 v.4**

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Lord, giver of life and love, may I share as much in giving as getting. **Amen.**

### **In reflection**

**Imagination is one of God’s greatest gifts. The gift of seeing things in a way others don’t. The ability to put ourselves into other people’s lives. If we could use our imagination a bit more, and feel what it must be like to be forced from home by fear or violence, or because there just isn’t enough food for the family then we might be a fraction more welcoming and a little less critical of the stranger in our midst.**

**Lord, let me see the world through your eyes, and keep me sensitive to others’ needs. Amen.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, you came among us to shine your light in our darkness; fill our hearts and minds with new understanding, that we may reflect your love in lives of service, and bring to the world the promise of your glory. Amen**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>. The naming and circumcision of Jesus.**

Take one step back and think about the intelligence of the power who created men and women with the capacity to design such things for good. The intelligence many of us call God.

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Quote from Nicholas Nickleby,** “They kept on with unabated perseverance, and the hill has not lifted its face to heaven that perseverance will not gain the summit at last”. **Charles Dickens 1839.**

**This week’s readings; Psalm 27 v.1 / Jeremiah 29 v.11 / Hebrews 2 v6-8.**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

Lord, life with you can be uncomfortable. Keep me awake, the excitement makes it all worthwhile. **Eddie Askew.**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Just as the eye perceives light and the ear sound, the heart is the organ for meaning. **David Steindl-Rast.**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>.**

Joy runs deeper than despair. **Corrie ten Boom.**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>. Epiphany.**

Lord, may we bring joy to your heart as the Magi did bringing their gifts of love, peace and hope to all in your name to others as we have received from you, expecting nothing in return. **Amen.**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup>.**

“And when it rains on your parade, look up rather than down, without the rain, there would be no rainbows”. **G. K. Chesterton.**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>.**

“If you love till it hurts, there can be no more hurt, just love”. **Saint Mother Teresa.**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>.**

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that “. **Martin Luther King Jr.**

**This week's readings; Psalm 1 v.3 / Micah 6 v.8 / Hebrews 13 v.2**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>.**

When life falls down on us Lord, thank you for the friends you sent to help us pick up the pieces.

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup>.**

If life has taught us one thing, it's that we don't have to see the source of our blessings to appreciate and enjoy them.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>.**

“What a wonderful life I've had! I only wish I had realized it sooner”. **French novelist Colette.**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Heavenly Father, Prince of Peace, inspire all those who this year will be in a position to make a difference for world peace, and grant us the will to live in harmony with all people. **Amen.**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup>.**

Thoughts from **Anne Lamotte** who admits, “I do not understand the mystery of grace, only that it meets us where we are, but does not leave us where it found us”.

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>.**

“Wondrous is the strength of cheerfulness, and its power of endurance. The cheerful man will do more in the same time, will do better and persevere longer than the sad and sullen”. **Thomas Carlyle.**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>.**

“Be slow to fall into friendship but, when you are, continue firm and constant”. **Socrates.**

**This week's readings; Psalm 111 v.4 / Isaiah 26 v.3 / 1Peter 3 v.8**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>.**

“Lord of love and laughter, I give myself to you without reserve, at least, that's what I aim to do. Give me a helping hand”. **Eddie Askew.**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

**Epictetus the Greek slave turned philosopher wrote 2,000 years ago,** “Happiness and personal fulfilment are natural consequences of doing the right thing”.

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>.**

We pray that in old age, God may plant us like cedars in the divine courtyard. **Amen.**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>.**

God, remind us of the promise in those branches, when our own life grows cold, that a new beginning and warmer days may only be a short prayer and time away. **Amen.**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup>.**

“Anyone can love a rose, but it takes more to love a leaf. Its ordinary to love the beautiful, but it's beautiful to love the ordinary”. **Ann Onymous.**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

Don't let chances slip away, just seize the day and fly! Regrets came not from what we've done, but all we've let slip by”. **Margaret Ingall.**

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**This week's readings; Psalm 104 v.24 / Genesis 1 v.27-31 / Romans 15 v.7**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>.**

“Lord, you dig into my life, unearth my secrets, and still welcome me. That is all I need to know”. **Eddie Askew.**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup>. The conversion of Paul.**

Lord of Compassion, give me the grace to open up my life to others' needs. **Amen.**