

Monday 25th.

Miss no opportunity of making some small sacrifice; here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word, always doing the smallest thing right and doing all for love. **Therese of Lisieux.**

Tuesday 26th.

Cease to inquire what the future has in store, and take as a gift whatever the day brings forth. **Horace.**

Wednesday 27th.

The man who walks with God, always gets to his destination, the destination of the man who walks with God is God. So the place he hopes to get to will always be right beside Him.

This week's readings; Psalm 37 v.24 / 1 Kings 3 v.14 / Colossians 3 v.14

Thursday 28th.

Lord of the Great, It's difficult to understand quite how, but all the world's concerns that scare us so, are somehow in Your hands. And taking that to heart, we find our courage a little greater than it was before. Amen.

IN REFLECTION

We know you love us, we don't know why, but you do. And if you can find something loveable in us, maybe we can see the same in others because you love them too. That gives us a starting point in our relationships. It means we don't start with the faults, but with love. So when we do have to share our feelings and criticisms with others let it begin with love. We can only face the truth about ourselves a bit at a time, but we know that's where we have to begin. Lord, start with us.

Almighty God, help us to live to the full the adventure that this month may bring. In familiar tasks may we have a freshness of vision; in the taking of first steps let us tread carefully but with courage. May we be guided in our footsteps by Jesus, Your Son, Our Lord. Amen.

Friday 1st.

Lord of the past and the future, help us to shape today for good and fulfil our dreams in You.

Saturday 2nd. Presentation of Christ at the temple. (Candlemas)

Simeon and Anna here in old age, warmed and mellow by service and love of God, welcomes, not a poverty stricken family, not quite conforming to what is expected, but a brand new and very special life bringing hope, even into the very darkest corners of Your world.

Sunday 3rd.

Lord, we thank you for Simeon, persevering in his prayers to the end even though the answer was long in coming, whose lifetime of prayer led him to understand that Our Lord's vision for the world is far bigger and more generous than ours. For him and those like him today, we give thanks Lord. Amen.

Monday 4th.

Pray as you can, and do not try to pray as you can't. **John Chapman.**

Tuesday 5th.

God never sends anyone away empty except those who are full of themselves. **Dwight L. Moody.**

Wednesday 6th.

Grant me, O Lord, a sunny mood. **Emily Dickinson.**

This week's readings; Psalm 143 v.8 / Jeremiah 29 v.13 / Luke 2 v.25-39

Thursday 7th.

Lord of Diversity, we thank you for the differences that shape our lives and for loving us for what we are. **Eddie Askew.**

Friday 8th.

An Old Russian proverb says; “Every day is a messenger of God”.

Saturday 9th.

Stay true to your heart and your God given nature, no matter the circumstances, and the product of your day’s labour should be as sweet as the bee’s. Observation by **William Hogarth**.

Sunday 10th.

Lord of my future, I can do the hope, but patience wears a little thin at times. I need the help that only you can give. Amen.

Monday 11th.

“If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion”. **Dalai Lama**.

Tuesday 12th.

“No road is long when travelling in company”. **Turkish Proverb**.

Wednesday 13th.

Henri Nouwen asks. “Did you offer peace today? Did you bring a smile to someone’s face? Did you say words of healing? Did you forgive? Did you love?”

This week’s readings; Psalm34 v.14 / Proverbs 3 v.13/Romans 14v.13.

Thursday 14th.

Yes Lord, I’m rich and it has nothing to do with supermarkets, it’s not baked beans, or this week’s special offer, it’s You. You Lord, your love and joy and peace.

Friday 15th.

I can hear Your patient reassurance telling me that hand to hand with You I can survive and grow, and have the answers for another day.

Saturday 16th.

Lord of imagination, I’m breathless at the wonder of the world You have created and all the people in it. May I never undervalue it or them.

Sunday 17th.

Lord of Paradox, remind me I can only be right with my neighbors when I am right with You, and only right with You when I am right with my neighbors. Amen.

Monday 18th.

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. **Mahatma Gandhi**.

Tuesday 19th.

Lord, you take my breath away. It’s good to know that I am accepted as I am. Teach me to open my arms to others as wide as Yours are to me.

Wednesday 20th.

It’s good to think that, as some of us grow older and life begins to slow down, our lives too will offer a natural richness, something of beauty to be savoured and remembered.

This week’s readings; Psalm 23v.6 / Isaiah 11 v.6-7 / 1John 5 v.13.

Thursday 21st.

What you do makes a difference. You have to decide what kind of difference you want to make. **Jane Goodall**.

Friday 22nd.

Lord, if I expected payment for everything I do for you I’d be a paid employee, not a friend, and anyway if I was paid on work accomplished my earnings would be pretty small. I’m glad to note that’s not the way your kingdom works. In loves economy the reward is in the doing, and washing feet transforms the chore into a privilege. **Eddie Askew**.

Saturday 23rd.

Dear Lord, I don’t want to feel lonely and unloved, and I turn to you expecting Your attention. It is then so sad that I begrudge others who turn to me for attention. Help me to always be available to love. **Hare Krishna**.

Sunday 24th.

God of Beginnings, with every breath of this new day may we walk forward to embrace life, and find the open door. Amen.