

Readings for March 2021

Sunday 28th February – 2nd Sunday of Lent – Romans 4: 13-end & Mark 8: 31-end

Prayer for the Day

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 1st 'St David's Day' Psalm 26, Jeremiah 7.21-end, John 6.41-51

God of all grace, you alone are our hope, without you and your gracious, understanding love we would feel lost, isolated and with hope in this dark, dark world.

Tuesday 2nd Psalm 50, Jeremiah 8.1-15, John 6.52-59

God of all mercy, you alone are our hope. Day by day our words, deeds and thoughts add to the emptiness of your world. Each day our self-centredness and self-interest build the barrier between us even higher.

Wednesday 3rd Psalm 35, Jeremiah 8.18-9.11, John 6.60-end

Father, we praise you that it is your gracious love that restores our hope and that through Christ you make it possible for us to begin again.

Thursday 4th Psalm 34, Jeremiah 9.12-24, John 7.1-13

God of love, we fall before you in praise and adoration. It is your unconditional love that tears down the barricade that our selfishness has fashioned.

Friday 5th Psalm 40, Jeremiah 10.1-16, John 7.14-24

Father, it is your grace that transforms our lives. It is your power that renews our worship. It is your love that gives us hope,

Saturday 6th Psalm 3, Jeremiah 10.17-24, John 7.25-36

God of hope, we thank you that, in Jesus, we hear your word of grace. That, in him, you have promised to hold our hand and to show us the way. It is through the Holy Spirit that your hope is planted in our hearts and lives.

Sunday 7th March – 3rd Sunday of Lent – 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 & John 2: 13-22

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 8th Psalm 5, Jeremiah 11.1-17, John 7.37-52

Heavenly Father, we praise you because you have always been there for us. Sometimes we are not aware of your presence and we live as if you did not exist, yet you still break into our lives and make yourself known even when we least expect it.

Tuesday 9th Psalm 6, Jeremiah 11.18-12.6, John 7.53-8.11

Father, we praise you for coming to us when we are afraid and for giving us hope and for being with us when no one else can be there and when no one wants to be.

Wednesday 10th Psalm 38, Jeremiah 13.1-11, John 8.12-30

Father, we praise you for life's wonderful surprises that bring us great excitement and a tremendous thrill.

Thursday 11th Psalm 56, Jeremiah 14, John 8.31-47

Father, we thank you for the pleasure new things can bring to our lives and for the encouragement they bring; for the joy of making new friends, or learning something new.

Friday 12th Psalm 22, Jeremiah 15.10-end, John 8.48-end

Father, we praise you for all the new things that Jesus taught us about you and your wonderful love for us all and for that time on the mountain top when his disciples discovered something new about him

Saturday 13th Psalm 31, Jeremiah 16.10-17.4, John 9.1-17

Father, we praise you for those times in our lives when we find we can trust you, and for those times when we know for certain you are with us, and for how Jesus' disciples shared their knowledge that he was far, far, far greater and far, far more wonderful than they had ever thought possible.

Sunday 14th March – 4th Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)

Colossians 3: 12-17 & Luke 2: 33-35

Prayer for the Day

Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you: when sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts, come to our aid and turn us back to you again; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 15th Psalm 70, Jeremiah 17.5-18, John 9.18-end

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we pray for those who walk in the way of Jesus; for those who refuse to compromise with evil and those who stand firm in his name.

Tuesday 16th Psalm 54, Jeremiah 18.1-12, John 10.1-10

Heavenly Father, we pray for those who are committed to your kingdom of love and peace and those who are prepared to pay the price of naming the

Wednesday 17th 'St Patrick of Ireland' Psalm 63, Jeremiah 18.13-end, John 10.11-21

Heavenly Father, we pray for all those whose hearts and minds are filled with violence; for those whose actions bring pain and confusion to many.

Thursday 18th Psalm 53, Jeremiah 19.1-13, John 10.22-end

Heavenly Father, we pray for all who are ill; for the lonely, the lost, and the despairing.

Friday 19th 'Joseph of Nazareth' Psalm 25, Isaiah 11.1-10, Matthew 13.54-58

Heavenly Father, everyday has its moments of testing and difficulty; every situation is filled with opportunities for service and witness to you and your love,

Saturday 20th Psalm 32, Jeremiah 20.7-end, John 11.17-27

Heavenly Father, we pray for those involved in guerrilla warfare and for terrorists who see only the cause for which they are fighting and not the price others are paying in their heartache and destruction of all that matters to them.

Sunday 21st March – 5th Sunday of Lent – Hebrews 5: 5-10 & John 12: 20-33

Prayer for the Day

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 22nd Psalm 73, Jeremiah 21.1-10, John 11.28-44

Lord, you have called us to serve you and we have tried, but we have become disillusioned with ourselves, with others, and with your way of love, so that now we try to ignore your promptings to show love, to offer care.

Tuesday 23rd Psalm 35, Jeremiah 22.1-5, 13-19, John 11.45-end

Lord, sometimes we have neglected and angered those who love us by spending too much time loving others; sometimes we have become over-tired and stressed attempting to do more than we can do.

Wednesday 24th Psalm 55, Jeremiah 22.20-23.8, John 12.1-11

Lord, things don't always work out as we would wish them to; our loving words and actions are misconstrued or treated with suspicion.

Thursday 25th 'The Annunciation' Psalm 111, 1 Samuel 2.1-10, Romans 5.12-21

Lord, we lose our patience with those we are trying to help, or with who we work with, and we feel that we are letting you down.

Friday 26th Psalm 22, Jeremiah 24, John 12.20-36a

Lord, we get frustrated with the system and feel that love has little power to really put things right, forgive us, love us.

Saturday 27th Psalm 23, Jeremiah 25.1-14, John 12.36b-end

Lord, we know that our way of seeing things is not yours. Remind us again that you have not called us to an easy way of life, but to tread the path of suffering love, the path to salvation.

Sunday 28th March – Palm Sunday – Psalm 118: 1-2& 19-end & Mark 1: 1-11

Prayer for the Day

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 29th Psalm 41, Lamentations 1.1-12a, Luke 22.1-23

Blessed are you, Lord Jesus, for you are our Saviour. As you were welcomed into Jerusalem, may we welcome you into our homes and our lives?

Tuesday 30th Psalm 27, Lamentations 3.1-18, Luke 22.24-53 (or 39-53)

Almighty and all-seeing God, we thank you for this season of Lent; a time to reflect upon our discipleship, to consider our calling, to examine ourselves and to assess the health of our faith.

Wednesday 31st Psalm 102, Jeremiah 11.18-20, Luke 22.54-71

Heavenly Father, help us, prayerfully and humbly, to examine ourselves and honestly acknowledge our faults, not so that we might wallow in self-pity, but so that we may receive cleansing, healing and forgiveness.

Thursday 1st 'Maundy Thursday' Psalm 42, Leviticus 16.2-24, Luke 23.1-25

Lord, we commit ourselves to serve you by serving one another, we commit ourselves to love you by loving one another. We commit ourselves to bring you glory and to honour your holy name through the lives we live and through our words of witness to your love.

Friday 2nd 'Good Friday' Psalm 69, Genesis 22.1-18,

On this Good Friday Father, we thank you for Jesus' death on the cross of Calvary and that through him we can know our sins are forgiven and to be assured that we are accepted. Father again and again you astound us with your love that overwhelms our sin and our self-centredness. In Jesus you have wiped the slate clean, you have given us a new page in the book of our lives and have given us the opportunity to begin again.

Saturday 3rd 'Easter Eve' Psalm 142, Hosea 6.1-6, John 2.18-22

In the silence of the grave, Lord Jesus, you restore our life, in the darkness of death, you bring life to our grief. In the destruction of your body Lord Jesus, you heal our brokenness. In the dawning of the new day, you shake the earth with a power no tomb can hold. May we Lord Jesus live in anticipation of your glory and rejoice in your hope.