

THOUGHTS FOR  
PRAYER AND  
REFLECTION

*October 2018*

**You may call God love,  
you may call God goodness.**

**But the best name for God  
is compassion.**

*Meister Eckhart*  
*1260-1328*



1 <sup>st</sup>	In the love of the Father; in the light of Christ; in the leading of the Spirit, we place ourselves today. <i>David Adam: The Open Gate</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." <i>Luke 9:57-58</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	A tree is known by its fruit; a man by his deeds. A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love. <i>St Basil the Great (329-370)</i>
4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Francis of Assisi, friar and preacher (d.1226):</b> Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; when there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; when there is sadness, joy. <i>St Francis of Assisi</i>
5 <sup>th</sup>	For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favour and honour. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you. <i>Psalms 84:11-12</i>
6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>William Tyndale, biblical scholar (d.1436):</b> Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments. <i>Psalms 119:66</i>
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost:</b> Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. <i>Hebrews 1:1-4</i>
8 <sup>th</sup>	For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed to me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. <i>Galatians 1:11-12</i>
9 <sup>th</sup>	Grant us, O God, your protection; and in your protection, strength; and in strength, understanding; and in understanding, knowledge; and in knowledge, the knowledge of justice; and in the knowledge of justice, the love of justice; and in that love, the love of existence; and in the love of existence, the love of God, God and all goodness. <i>Welsh Prayer</i>
10 <sup>th</sup>	Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little. <i>Edmund Burke (d.1797)</i>
11 <sup>th</sup>	"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." <i>Luke 11:9-10</i>
12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Elizabeth Fry, prison reformer, England (d.1845):</b> Oh Lord, may I be directed what to do and what to leave undone. <i>Elizabeth Fry</i>
13 <sup>th</sup>	O Lord Christ, help us to maintain ourselves in simplicity and in joy, the joy of the merciful, the joy of brotherly love. Grant that, renouncing henceforth all thought of looking back, and joyful with infinite gratitude, we may never fear to precede the dawn to praise and bless and sing to Christ our Lord. <i>The Rule of Taizé</i>
14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost:</b> Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. <i>Hebrews 4:14-16</i>

15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Teresa of Avila, teacher (d.1592):</b> Christ has no body now on earth but ours, no hand but ours, no feet but ours. Ours are the eyes through which to look out Christ's compassion on the world. Ours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Ours are the hands with which he is to bless us now. <i>Teresa of Avila</i>
16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley, bishops and martyrs (d.1555):</b> Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy". <i>1 Peter 1:13-16</i>
17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Ignatius of Antioch, bishop and martyr (d.c.115):</b> Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation - if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <i>1 Peter 2:1-3</i>
18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Luke, Evangelist and Martyr:</b> May I love as You love me, even if not loved in return. I hunger to be like You, a true unconditional lover.
19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Henry Martyn, missionary and Bible translator in India and Persia (d.1812):</b> Loving God, you gave your servant Henry Martyn a brilliant mind, a loving heart, and a gift for languages, that he might translate the scriptures and other holy writings for the peoples of India and Persia. Inspire in us a love like his, eager to commit both life and talents to you who gave them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. <i>Amen</i>
20 <sup>th</sup>	In tribulation immediately draw near to God with confidence, and you will receive strength, enlightenment, and instruction. <i>John of the Cross</i>
21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost:</b> It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp to the melody of the lyre. For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy. <i>Psalms 92:1-4</i>
22 <sup>nd</sup>	For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. <i>Ephesians 2:8-10</i>
23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>James of Jerusalem, brother of our Lord, martyr (d.c.62):</b> Do not be wise in words, be wise in deeds. <i>Jewish Wisdom Proverb</i>
24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>United Nations, inaugurated 1945:</b> Friendship needs no words - it is solitude delivered from the anguish of loneliness. <i>Dag Hammarskjold (1905-1961)</i>
25 <sup>th</sup>	Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. <i>1 Peter 4:8-10</i>
26 <sup>th</sup>	Somewhere we know that without silence, words lose their meaning; that without listening, speaking no longer heals; that without distance, closeness cannot cure. <i>Henri Nouwen</i>
27 <sup>th</sup>	Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. <i>Psalms 141:2</i>
28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost:</b> In ordinary life, we hardly realise that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich. <i>Dietrich Bonhoeffer</i>
29 <sup>th</sup>	Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever. <i>Psalms 145:2</i>
30 <sup>th</sup>	Today inspire me to pause, just to breathe slowly, prayerfully and with gratitude, so that I never foolishly take for granted each precious, fleeting moment of my life.
31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Martin Luther (d.1546) and other Continental Reformers:</b> Forgiveness is the final form of love. <i>Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971)</i>



## PRAYER THOUGHTS

- Sunday** Gracious Lord, make my life a window for your light to shine through and a mirror to reflect your love to all I meet. *Amen*
- Monday** Lord, help me to keep the main thing: the main thing is that I seek the kingdom of God beholding Your beauty, inquiring in Your temple. That is all that is truly important.
- Tuesday** May God bless us, that in us may be found love and humility, obedience and thanksgiving, discipline, gentleness and peace.
- Wednesday** Almighty God - Your Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of his brothers and sisters we do also for Him; give us the will to serve others as He was the servant of all, who gave up His life and died for us: yet He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit one God now and forever.
- Thursday** Lord, I offer myself to you: all that I am, all that I have and all that I do. Work through me by the power of your Holy Spirit, that I might please you in all things, and come to the glorious fulfilment of your purposes for me.
- Friday** Lord, I ask for the grace to love you enough to trust you, and to trust you enough to let you shape me into someone who will offer your love back to your creation. *Amen*
- Saturday** Gracious God, help me to devote my whole life and thought and energy to the task of making peace, praying always for the inspiration and the power to fulfill the destiny for which I and all people were created.

***Thoughts for Prayer & Reflection***  
for our *city on a hill...* and beyond.

Produced by the Pastoral Care Committee of the  
Anglican Parish of St Alban, Epping and St Aidan, West Epping  
New South Wales 2121 Australia  
Telephone +61 2 9876 3362 [www.eppinganglicans.org.au](http://www.eppinganglicans.org.au)

**Our church is open every day,  
providing a sacred space for contemplation and prayer.**

3 Pembroke Street Epping.