

## Readings for February 2021

### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January – Candlemass – Hebrews 2: 14-end & Luke 2: 22-40**

**Prayer for the Day** – Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God.

#### **Prayers for the Week**

##### **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February Psalm 57, Hosea 9, 1 Corinthians 12.12-end**

Lord, we have come to praise you for life and all the good things of life, for the world in which we live and for the variety of colours and shapes all around us.

##### **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> *Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)***

##### **Psalm 48, Exodus 13.1-16, Romans 12.1-5s 48, 146**

Lord, we thank you that we have eyes to see and ears to enjoy all that goes on around us as we go on in our daily lives.

##### **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Psalm 119.1-32, Ecclesiastes 3.1-15, John 17.20-end**

Lord, we praise you for those who love us and those whom we are called to love, for those who serve us and help us.

##### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Psalm 14, Ecclesiastes 3.16-4.end, John 18.1-11**

Lord, thank you for sending us to offer love and care to our neighbour, and for those moments of joy, peace and hope that flood into our hearts.

##### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Psalm 17, Ecclesiastes 5, John 18.12-27**

Lord, thank you that you fill each day with new reasons to turn and give you thanks and praise.

##### **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Psalm 20, Ecclesiastes 6, John 18.28-end**

Lord, we thank you for Jesus, for his life on earth and for the things he said and did, pointing to your love for us all.

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent – Colossians 1: 15-20 & John 1: 1-14**

**Prayer for the Day** – Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### **Prayers for the Week**

##### **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> Psalm 27, Ecclesiastes 7.1-14, John 19.1-16**

Father, we pray for those who take life and the things of life for granted, and for those who take others for granted and rarely show any appreciation of what they receive.

##### **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Psalm 32, Ecclesiastes 7.15-end, John 19.17-30**

Father, we pray for those who are empty, lost and afraid, for those who were once active, alive, and involved but now simply sit and watch and wait.

##### **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Psalm 34, Ecclesiastes 8, John 19.31-end**

Father, we pray for those whose days have lost meaning and purpose, for those who sit in the hospital who long for someone to visit them.

##### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Psalm 37, Ecclesiastes 9, John 20.1-10**

Father, we pray for those who are rejoicing, full of happiness and hope. May Christ renew the waters of all our relationships with the wine of his joy and love?

##### **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Psalm 31, Ecclesiastes 11.1-8, John 20.11-18**

Father, we pray for those who are on our minds at this moment, those who ill or in hospital alone and afraid, for the dying and those who care for them, for those facing a time of stress at home, work, family or loss of employment.

##### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Psalm 41, Ecclesiastes 11.9-12.end, John 20.19-end**

Father, we give you thanks and praise for listening to and answering all our prayers, no matter how small or big they may be.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Sunday next before Lent – 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6 & Mark 9: 2-9**

**Prayer for the Day** – Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Prayers for the Week**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Psalm 44, Jeremiah 1, John 3.1-21**

Jesus, who knew temptation and hunger for our sake: Free us from all covetousness, and wake us from indifference to evil. For the life of the world, we pray.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Psalm 48, Jeremiah 2.1-13, John 3.22-end**

Eternal God, whose image we bear: You have created us to live by more than bread alone. Nourish us through your Word and release us from the selfishness born of fear. In Jesus' name we pray.

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 'Ash Wednesday'**

**Psalm 38, Daniel 9.3-6, 17-19, 1 Timothy 6.6-19** Christ, who wept over Jerusalem: Look with compassion upon the cities of our time; that our children might live to adulthood and enjoy a future filled with hope. In Jesus' name we pray.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Psalm 77, Jeremiah 2.14-32, and John 4.1-26** God, who searches for the lost: our season brings the lengthening of days and longer light reveals what had been hidden. Cleanse our hearts as we spring-clean our dwellings that we give away what we no longer need and justice and kindness have ample room. In the name of Jesus we pray.

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Psalm 3, Jeremiah 3.6-22, John 4.27-42**

God our creator, who makes our bones strong: through our prayers and gifts heal the ravages of poverty and disease that those now suffering may one day leap for joy.

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> Psalm 71, Jeremiah 4.1-18, John 4.43-end**

Merciful God, pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, which we might pour ourselves out for the hungry and offer refreshment to those who thirst. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February – First Sunday of Lent – 1 Peter 3: 18-end & Mark 1: 9-15**

**Prayer for the Day** – Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Prayers for the Week**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Psalm 10, Jeremiah 4.19-end, John 5.1-18**

Father, we come to praise you, just because you are so very great and wonderful. Your power is complete and there is no weakness in you. There is nothing you do not know.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm 44, Jeremiah 5.1-19, John 5.19-29**

Father, we praise you that you see everything to the ends of the earth and deep into our lives. We thank you that there is nothing you do not see or fully understand.

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Psalm 6, Jeremiah 5.20-end, John 5.30-end**

Father, we praise you for your greatness and your supreme authority. It gives us hope and strength as we come to you because in Jesus Christ your Son you first came to us.

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> Psalm 42, Jeremiah 6.9-21, John 6.1-15**

Father, we thank you that you always make the first move. You did not wait to be asked to create, to love, to forgive, or to send Jesus to be our Saviour. You loved us before we loved you.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Psalm 22, Jeremiah 6.22-end, John 6.16-27**

Father, it is when we become aware of your majesty that we realise how small our lives are. It is when we begin to grasp your glory that we can be held by your grace.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Psalm 59, Jeremiah 7.1-20, John 6.27-40**

Father, it is when we are crushed by life that we are glad we can be strengthened the knowledge of the empty cross. It is when we are defeated by our attempts to follow Jesus that we are glad to be encouraged by the empty tomb.