

The Benefice of Glastonbury with Meare

Holding on to the Silence

2019



Weekly Collects and Daily Readings from Sunday 10 to Saturday 23 March

Collect for Sunday 10 – Saturday 16 March

Spirit of integrity, you drive us into the desert to search out our truth. Give us clarity to know what is right, and courage to reject what is expedient; that we may abandon the false innocence of failing to choose at all, but may follow the purposes of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Collect for Sunday 17 – Saturday 23 March

Spirit of truth and judgement, who alone can exorcise the powers that grip our world: at the point of crisis give us your discernment, that we may accurately name what is evil, and know the way that leads to peace, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Daily Readings:

Sunday 10 March

So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. Have you not read this scripture: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes”?’ *Mark 12.8-11*

Make two homes for thyself, my daughter. One actual home . . . and the other a spiritual home which thou are to carry with thee always. *Catherine of Sienna*

Monday 11 March

When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away. *Mark 12.12*

Mysticism is wisdom or knowledge that is found through love; it is loving knowledge. *William Johnston*

in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.’ *Mark 12.41-44*

Death helps us to see what is worth trusting and loving and what is a waste of time. *J. Neville Ward*

Thursday 22 March

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!’ Then Jesus asked him, ‘Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.’

Mark 13.1-2

Never, ‘for the sake of peace and quiet’, deny your own experience or convictions. *Dag Hammerskjöld*

Friday 23 March

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ‘Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?’ *Mark 13.3-4*

Faith is believing that the outcome will be what it should be, no matter what it is. *Colette Baron-Reid*

Saturday 24 March

Then Jesus began to say to them, ‘Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, “I am he!” and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.’ *Mark 13.5-8*

I believe in God; I just don't trust anyone who works for him. *Author Unknown*



You can also find copies of the Daily Office and suggested readings on St John’s website under ‘LatestNews’

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Tuesday 12 March

Then they sent to him some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him in what he said. And they came and said to him, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality, but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not? *Mark 12.13-14*

Why always ‘not yet’? Do flowers in spring say ‘Not yet’? *Norman Douglas*

Wednesday 13 March

Should we pay them, or should we not?’ But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, ‘Why are you putting me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me see it.’ And they brought one. Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ And they were utterly amazed at him. *Mark 12.15-17*

Here are the three pillars upon which the Kingdom of God is raised – faith venturing beyond the unprovable, love forgiving the unpardonable, and hope remaining expectant against all odds. *Colin Morris*

Thursday 14 March

Some Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, saying, ‘Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, leaving a wife but no child, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. There were seven brothers; the first married and, when he died, left no children; and the second married her and died, leaving no children; and the third likewise; none of the seven left children. Last of all the woman herself died. In the resurrection whose wife will she be? For the seven had married her.’ *Mark 12.18-23*

The ‘obedience’ of Jesus is not simply submission, but real, striving, cooperation, activity. *John J Vincent*

Friday 15 March

Jesus said to them, ‘Is not this the reason you are wrong, that you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God? For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob”? He is God not of the dead, but of the living; you are quite wrong.’ *Mark 12.24-27*

... God gives us grace, but leaves it to us to become new creatures. *Anthony Bloom*

Saturday 16 March

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, ‘Which commandment is the first of all?’ ²⁹Jesus answered, ‘The first is, “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” The second is this, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.’ *Mark 12.28-31*

Once you choose hope, anything's possible.
Christopher Reeve

Sunday 17 March

Then the scribe said to him, ‘You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that “he is one, and besides him there is no other”; and “to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength”, and “to love one’s neighbour as oneself”,— this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.’ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’ After that no one dared to ask him any question. *Mark 12.32-34*

Each person must live their life as a model for others.
Rosa Parks

Monday 18 March

While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, ‘How can the scribes say that the Messiah is the son of David? David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared, “The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.”” David himself calls him Lord; so how can he be his son?’ And the large crowd was listening to him with delight. *Mark 12.35-37*

God offers to every mind its choice between truth and repose. Take which you please -you can never have both. *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Tuesday 19 March

As he taught, he said, ‘Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.’ *Mark 12.38-40*

God's promises are like the stars; the darker the night the brighter they shine. *David Nicholas*

Wednesday 20 March

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put