

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb: Christian worship is never a solitary undertaking. The worshipper, however lonely in appearance, comes before God as a member of a great family: part of and the Community of Saints, both living and dead.:

Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb: Set free, O Lord, our souls from all restlessness and anxiety; give us that peace and power which flow from Thee; keep us in all perplexities and distresses, in all fears and faithlessness, that so upheld by Thy power and stayed in the rock of Thy faithfulness we may always abide in Thee.

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb: God cannot want from us what is not possible. When we are as personalities so reduced that we cannot entertain the thoughts and intuitions of faith and love, God no longer wants done by us, he wants it done for us by others.

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb: The one complete cure for the sense of frustration and futility is to know and do the will of God. Everyone to whom this becomes a reality is at once supplied with a purpose in life and one which covers the whole of life.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb: The more we receive in silent prayer, the more we can give in our active life. We need silence in order to be able to touch souls. The essential thing is not what we say but what God says to us and through us.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb: Whatever time we decide to give to God in prayer let us give it to him with our thoughts free and disentangled from

everything else, resolving never to take this time away from him again. Whatsoever toil comes our way.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb: Thou takest the pen – and the lines dance. Thou takest the flute – and the notes shimmer. Thou takest the brush and the colours sing. So all things have meaning and beauty in that space beyond time where thou art. How then can I hold anything back from Thee?

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb: There is a unity between the old and a unity between the young that has nothing to do with nationality. Unity is of the universal. It does not belong to nationality or race or faith alone. It belongs to all mankind.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb: O God, our Father, fill us with grace and truth, that in all our dealings with one another we may show forth our brotherhood in Thee.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb: Prayer is an adventure which brings not a thrill but new responsibilities. As long as we are ignorant, nothing is asked of us, but as soon as we know anything, we are answerable for the use we make of that knowledge.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb: Prayer does not depend upon the human effort because it is not a question of establishing a relationship with God; the relationship already exists, and prayer is the opportunity to recognise this.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb: Exactly how God makes use of our services we can never understand fully and often have no clue at all. We can never understand this fully because what God is doing extends beyond this world of time into eternity.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb: Praised be my Lord for all who pardon one another for love's sake and who endure weakness and tribulation.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb: Love breaks down the barrier that shuts most of us from heaven. That thought is too much for us really, yet it is the eternal truth of the spiritual life. O Lord Jesus Christ, who art the way, the truth and the life, suffer us not to stray from Thee who art the way.

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb: God is not a human being who gets us from place A and goes to place B and does something because he has been asked. He just is present and as love, through people who are in right relationship with him; and through them he does more than we ask or think.

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb: My child, you are anxious about many people and many things. You are anxious about your very life, about what you have undertaken, but I have asked you for only one thing, a thing so simple: to follow me.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb: The Lord sees your need and your efforts and will give you a helping hand. No support can be better than his.

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb: Worship is the most practical thing in all existence. It is a fundamental attitude of mind, and it consequently determines our approach to the whole of life. By it we recognise a standard to be accepted as absolute, as altogether good and true and beautiful, before which we must bow in respect and adoration.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb: Thou hast given us so much to us, give us one more thing, a grateful heart; for Christ's sake. Amen.

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb: The part of the Christian in prayer is very largely the recognition of the presence of God, a resting in him and attention to him, an active desire to do his will.

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb : You can't see love. You can only see the clues to it and respond yourself. Every day someone says does she love me or does he love me? You'll only find out by responding, by risking yourself in trust and hope.

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb: "There is a time to keep a silence and a time to speak" (Ecclesiastes 3:7). Silence is nothing else but waiting for God's word and coming from God's word with a blessing.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb: When we stand before God in moments of dejection we must pray with conviction if not from feeling out of the faith we are aware of possessing intellectually if not with a burning heart.

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb : Sometimes we think we are unworthy of praying and think we have no right to pray; again this is a temptation. Every drop of water, from wherever it comes, pool or ocean, is purified in the process of evaporation: and so is every prayer ascending to God.

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb: O God, our Father, fill us with grace and truth, that in all our dealings with one another we may show forth our brotherhood in Thee.

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb: Often we shall have to change the direction of our thinking and our wishing and our striving – that is what repentance means – taking our bearings afresh and trying a new road.

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb: It was like music: Hovering and floating there – with the sound of lutes and timbrels in the night air. It was like God: a presence of such blinding light Ravishing body and soul in the spring night.

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb: Man has embarrassed himself by his own riches. He has learned, even if he is unwilling to acknowledge the fact even to himself, that being given a talent is an obligation to stewardship.

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> Feb : Eternal God, whose glorious life is far beyond our sight, have mercy upon us and when our minds stretch out unto Thee, do Thou stoop down and bless us with understanding and wisdom. Extracts taken from an Anthology collected by Elizabeth Basset

# St.Margaret's Church

I P S W I C H



## Prayer Diary

### February 2020