

Good News Daily

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Number 8

Sunday, February 23

Psalm 150 *Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness.* (v.2 NASV)

This last psalm in the Book of Psalms is a song of praise to our wonderful Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier (the Trinity). The last five psalms all begin with “Praise the Lord.”

The Christian believer should be praising the Lord daily for all His kindness and tender mercies, for sending Jesus to planet Earth to die for our salvation, and for giving us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth and helping us grow in faith.

The sun, moon, stars, and all creation praise the Lord—and we people should too. As the psalm ends, “Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD!”

Dear Lord, we do praise and thank You!

Proverbs 26:1-23; Psalms 148, 149; 2 Corinthians 3:7-18; Luke 9:18-27

ANGLICAN CYCLE: **Pray for** the Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America, The Right Revd Julio Murray Thompson - Primate of IARCA & Bishop of Panama.

DIOCESAN CYCLE: St. Andrew's, Carbondale, The Rev. Canon Dale D. Coleman, Interim Rector; Tutuo Parish: Rev. Jonas Mkuy, Tabora, Tanzania; The Mission of The Holy Spirit, District of Independencia, Lima, Peru, The Rev. Esteban Zapata, Priest in Charge.

Monday, February 24

Philippians 2:1-13 *For it is God who is at work within you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.* (v.13)

Remember what they said about the early Christians: “See how they love one another?” Can that be said about us and our church?

Paul reminds the Christians at Philippi (and us) to not merely look out for our own personal interests but also for the interests of others (v.4). In other words, care for each other and “have their backs.”

Church programs helping us care for one another: feeding and clothing the homeless, helping widows and orphans, caring for the sick and suffering, helping educational programs and mission projects. How are you involved?

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

Proverbs 27:1-6, 10-12; Psalm 25; John 18:15-18, 25-27

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Malaita (Melanesia), The Right Revd Samuel Sahu; Tirunelveli (South India), The Right Revd Jayaraj Christdoss; Harare (Central Africa), The Right Revd Chad Nicholas Gandiya.

DIOCESAN CYCLE: St. Paul's Carlinville, Anniversary of the Consecration of church building, 1881.

Tuesday, February 25

Psalm 28 *The LORD is my strength and shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped.* (v.7a)

When we read the newspaper or watch TV news, we can be overwhelmed by all the sin and wickedness around us—murders, adultery, corruption, violence, wars and famines everywhere. The world turns away from God at every opportunity, it seems.

But we know that God is ultimately in control and He is the saving defense of His anointed (v.8). He is our strength and protection. As another Psalm (91) reminds us: when we call on Him, He will answer, He will be with us in trouble, He will deliver us and honor us and show us His salvation.

Thank You, Lord, that you control the universe. Please protect us and defend us.

Proverbs 30:1-4, 24-33; Psalm 26; Philippians 3:1-11; John 18:28-38
ANGLICAN CYCLE: Malakal (South Sudan), The Most Revd Hilary Garang Deng; Toamasina (Indian Ocean), The Right Revd Jean Paul Solo.
DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of The Rev. T. Larison Phillips, Champaign.

Wednesday, February 26

Psalm 95 *Come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. For He is our God.* (vv.6-7a)

Today is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the holy season of Lent. We have the ashes placed on our foreheads and hear the words “to dust you shall return” spoken over us. As we walk with Jesus to Calvary during these 40 days of Lent, some will give up an enjoyable activity (eating chocolate or watching TV), some will take on an extra service project or longer devotional time. But let us do it to honor God and not ourselves. Let us worship and bow down and kneel before the Lord our Triune God who loves enough to give His very best (Jesus) to save us from our sins

Help us have a holy Lent to honor You, dear Lord.

Amos 5:6-15; Psalms 32, 143; Hebrews 12:1-14; Luke 18:9-14
ANGLICAN CYCLE: Malek (South Sudan), The Right Revd Peter Joh Abraham Mayom; Tohoku (Japan,) The Right Revd John Masato Yoshida.

DIOCESAN CYCLE: Heavenly Father, set us free from every bond of prejudice and fear.

Thursday, February 27

Psalm 37:1-18 *Delight yourself in the LORD; and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it. (vv.4-5)*

The important words in this passage are delight, commit, and trust—in other words give yourself completely to God, no holding back, with Him all the way. So often we only want to give God a few hours on Sunday morning and keep the rest of the week for ourselves. But He wants 100% of us—body, mind and spirit.

The story is told of the little girl being examined by her pediatrician who asks, “Is that Elmo in your heart?” “No” she replies, “Jesus lives in my heart, Elmo is painted on my underwear.” Let Jesus have all of you. When He lives in our hearts, we make better daily decisions. He is our guide and compass.

Come into my heart, Lord Jesus; come in today, come in to stay, come into my heart, Lord Jesus

Habakkuk 3:1-18; Philippians 3:12-21; John 17:1-8

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Malek Rup (South Sudan), The Right Revd Peter Marial Agok; Tokyo (Japan), The Right Revd Francis Xavier Hiroyuki Takahashi; Toliara (Indian Ocean), The Right Revd Todd McGregor.

DIOCESAN CYCLE: Lord of creation, show us your purpose for our life that we may truly live in your will.

Friday, February 28

Philippians 4:1-9 *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (vv.6-7)*

The peace of God is what we all desire in our lives. Knowing that we can take all our cares and worries to the foot of the Cross and have Jesus deal with them gives us that peace.

As we read in Psalm 23, “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.” He provides green pastures and still waters to meet our physical needs. He restores our souls—our spiritual needs. Even though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death (illness and tragedy) we need fear no evil for He is with us. Truly our cup overflows with His blessings.

Father, we thank You that we don’t have to be anxious about anything because You guard us and protect us.

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalms 95, 31; John 17:9-19

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Malindi (Kenya), The Right Revd Lawrence Dena; Tonj (South Sudan), The Right Revd Peter Yuol Gur.

DIOCESAN CYCLE: Grant us, we pray, Almighty God that we may always believe in your only begotten son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Saturday, February 29

Philippians 4:10-20 *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.* (v.13).

Today is Leap Year day. My uncle, who was born on this day, only got to celebrate a birthday every fourth year. I felt sorry for him, but he made the best of it.

When I read this verse, I think of my friend who quotes it as she cares for her husband who has dementia and needs her constant help. Many believers remind themselves to draw on Jesus' strength as we go through life's tragedies and hardships, and indeed He does give us His strength for the journey.

Paul, writing to the Philippians, reminds them (and us), "My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (v.19).

Thank You, Lord, for Your strength in my weakness.

Ezekiel 39:21-29; Psalms 30, 32; John 17:20-26

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Manchester (England), The Right Revd David Walker; Torit (South Sudan), The Most Revd Bernard Oringa Balmoi.

DIOCESAN CYCLE: Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Way, the Truth and the Life.

by Jacqueline Littleford

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Pray for the sick and those in distress: Margret L., Allan H., James G.

Pray for the Faithful Departed: Charlie C. and Steve W.

Pray for those living in nursing homes and other shut-ins: Dale B., Barb W., and Margaret P.

Pray for: The Diocese of Tabora, Anglican Church of Tanzania, The Rt. Rev. Elias Chakupewa, the clergy and people. The Missionary Diocese of Peru, The Rt. Rev. Alejandro Mesco. Fr. Kari Marcelle, the clergy and people of Holy Trinity St. Vincent. Fr. Dave and all clergy, for whom we light the candle on the west side of the Altar.