

**Subject:** Daily Prayer 4th May 2020 with a reflection from Canon Simon Stephens  
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Good morning everyone

I trust that you enjoyed your weekend.

Let's begin with a few moments of silence and stillness.....

O gracious and holy Father,  
give us wisdom to perceive you,  
diligence to seek you,  
patience to wait for you,  
eyes to behold you,  
a heart to meditate upon you,  
and a life to proclaim you,  
through the power of the spirit  
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

## 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

## A reflection from Canon Simon Stephens

Monday 4 May 2020  
2 Corinthians 4/5 - 12  
Paul writes to the Corinthians

Good Morning to you. Before we study the words of St Paul, please will you clear your mind of your stresses and anxieties. Now please find a quiet place and let God speak to you clearly through the words of that great man, Paul. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," make his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Several years ago whilst driving over Dartmoor on a Winter's evening, suddenly and

without warning, I drove into a dense fogbank with visibility reduced to about ten yards. For what seemed like hours, I inched along the country lane, until welcome farmhouse lights began to pierce the gloom and signalled the end of the fogbank. I have never forgotten! that experience and the joy and the relief, when the fog finally lifted. I suspect that during these pandemic days, we have all been conscious of our vision, our way forward being obscured ; and when there has been talk of 'easing' the lockdown, both the Sun and hope have re-appeared. Although we have all been washed through the waters of Holy Baptism, we are all guilty from time to time of permitting personal sin and fear to obscure the light of Christ which so fiercely burns within us. Can we this week, remove the fog from our headlights and let the light of Christ drive the darkness from our hearts and the world around us. Have a blessed week.

Fr Simon

Let us now say the Lord's Prayer

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen

And we end with a Celtic Grace  
Lord you are Grace for our needs,  
Strength for our weakness  
Light for our blindness  
Love for our loneliness  
Word for our deafness  
Joy for our weariness  
Peace for our anxiousness  
Wonder for our dullness  
Saviour for our hopelessness  
Lordyou are - Grace for our needs

Wishing you evry blessing  
Vicky