

**Subject:** Daily Prayer 20th June 2020  
**From:** Vicky Pacey <vickyreadersapp@gmail.com>  
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**To:** Vicky Pacey <vickyreadersapp@gmail.com>  
**BCC:** kjgreenall@gmail.com

Good morning

Let's be still and quiet for a few moments before we begin.....

Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

### **Matthew 6:24-end**

#### **Serving Two Masters**

'No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

#### **Do Not Worry**

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

#### **Reflection**

I was blessed to be invited to read this at a wedding a few years ago with Father Chris Watkins. This is a great story of lilies in a field and birds in the air. These images come from a big question: Who do you serve? God or money? If you put God first you say things like – A day at a time; things can work out; the glass is always half-full; live for the moment; God never forgets you. All Christian prayer is for the service of love. The biggest gift from God is not the gift of prayer but the gift of love. Of love of those near and far away. Someone said – am I praying right? We know we are praying right if we are growing in love, if we are becoming even a little more like the Lord, more loving, open, and joyful. Then prayer is right and you need not worry. Prayer brings us close to the reality of Jesus – remembering we are worth more than anything around us, that each of

us is created in the image of God.

### **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

Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ before me,  
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me.  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

*from St Patrick's Breastplate*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
In the name of Christ

AMEN