

**Subject:** Daily Prayer 23rd July 2020

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**Date:** 23/07/2020, 08:00

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Good morning once again

Please take a few moments to be still and quiet before we begin.....

Lord, we thank you and praise you for this wonderful island of Mallorca. We ask you to keep us alert to the wonders around us that we may never take them for granted. In Jesus name AMEN

### **Psalm 36:5-10**

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,  
your judgements are like the great deep;  
you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.  
They feast on the abundance of your house,  
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.  
For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light we see light.

O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,  
and your salvation to the upright of heart!

Do not let the foot of the arrogant tread on me,  
or the hand of the wicked drive me away.

There the evildoers lie prostrate;  
they are thrust down, unable to rise.

### **Matthew 13:10-17**

#### **The Purpose of the Parables**

Then the disciples came and asked him, 'Why do you speak to them in parables?' He answered, 'To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. The reason I speak to them in parables is that "seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand." With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says:

"You will indeed listen, but never understand,  
and you will indeed look, but never perceive.

For this people's heart has grown dull,

and their ears are hard of hearing,  
and they have shut their eyes;  
so that they might not look with their eyes,  
and listen with their ears,  
and understand with their heart and turn—  
and I would heal them.”

But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.

## **Reflection**

The words of the song 'The Boxer' by Paul Simon, “A man hears what he wants to hear and disregards the rest” witness to the fact that we are highly selective as to what we want to hear and see and understand with our heart. In today’s reading Jesus appeals to us “to look with our eyes and listen with our ears and understand with our heart” so that he might heal our sense of insignificance that so often stands in the way of our belief in the Good News. Jesus loves us warts and all. Why not reread the gospel passage slowly and just wait to see if some word or phrase stands out to you. Spend some time with Jesus and ask his help to be open to his love and to the immense worth it offers you.

## **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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore.  
AMEN

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

Blessings and love  
Until tomorrow  
Vicky x