

Christmas & Humility

MORNING PRAYERS

Monday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

In the Royal City of Bethlehem, from where the successor to King David would come, the Saviour of the World was born in a lowly stable, with a manger for his bed.

We know the Christmas story so well, but every year we need to remind ourselves that Christ was born among the poor, mean and lowly, and not among the wealthy, the clever or the powerful.

This year, as is our custom in Advent, we offer gifts to the marginalised of our society, those without a roof over their heads, living on the streets of London.

We can take Christ's words to heart when he said:

*'Whatever you did to the least of these my brothers,
you did to me.'*

PRAYERS

Let us pray that we can learn to value humility as a virtue, and not as a failing.

Lord hear us...

Let us ask Mary, Mother of the Child Jesus, to pray for us.

Hail Mary....

St. Philip: **Pray for us.**

House Saint: **Pray for us.**

In the name...

Christmas & Humility

Tuesday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

We remind ourselves that Jesus was born into the world little, weak and helpless, sharing in human sadness as well as gladness.

That is why we Christians consider him to be the pattern of our childhood; the pattern to copy for each one of us, God's own children.

Pope Francis speaks of how similar God is to a human parent with his children:-

When they are playing with their children, or talking to their children, a good father or mother naturally gets down to the level of their little child, and uses simple, baby language which can sound silly to outsiders but it's the way they get close to their children.

At Christmas, in the baby Jesus, God is coming close to us and speaking in our language so that we can feel his nearness. and stretch out our hands to him.

PRAYERS

Let us pray for our parents and our families, that we model ourselves more on the Holy Family, as we celebrate Christmas. Lord hear us...

Let us pray for those for whom we are collecting this Advent, that they find the warmth of God's love in the care they receive at *The Passage*.

Lord hear us...

St. Philip: **Pray for us.**

House Saint: **Pray for us.**

In the name...

Christmas & Humility

Wednesday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

We grow accustomed to thinking of Christ as a child at Christmas, which is a good thing.

It is good to think of him weak and vulnerable and dependent on our love.

But one day, like the shepherds and the wise men, our eyes at last shall see the Child who had once seemed so dear and gentle in the manger.

At the last, when he has led us to the place where he has gone, we adults will become once again like children.

Only this time we his children, will be playing around the throne of the Lord in heaven above, set at God's right hand on high.

Think on these things when you sing carols and celebrate Christmas next week.

PRAYERS

Let us ask Mary, Mother of God,
to pray for our families this Christmas

Hail Mary...

St. Philip: **Pray for us.**

House Saint: **Pray for us.**

In the name...

NOTICE

Remember that the Advent Collection will be taken tomorrow and on Friday to buy clothes and gifts for the homeless.

Christmas & Humility

Thursday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

ROSARY REFLECTION

Let us pray the Rosary today especially for those for whom we are collecting this Advent.

THIRD JOYFUL MYSTERY: THE NATIVITY

Mary gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

1x 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....**

10x *Hail Mary full of grace the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and Blessed is the fruit of they womb, Jesus. Holy Mary...*

1x *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was....In the name..*

Friday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

FRIDAY PRAYER

Remember that you can go to the Chapel for Confession this lunchtime.

THOMAS AQUINAS PRAYER FOR A WATCHFUL HEART

**Grant me, O Lord my God
a mind to know you,
a heart to seek you,
wisdom to find you,
conduct pleasing to you,
faithful perseverance in waiting for you,
and a hope of finally embracing you.
Through Christ our Lord,
Amen.**