

July 2019

Thoughts on the Gospel of Matthew and some of the events of Jesus' life.

Monday **July 1st:** **Matthew 1**

This is a long list of ancestors, people who were part of Jesus' genealogy. Pray today for the people who are part of your ancestry who have made a real difference in your life.

Tuesday **July 2nd:** **Matthew 2**

The three wise men, or Kings, travelled a long way to visit Jesus. Who has travelled far to be with you? Give thanks for them today.

Wednesday **July 3rd:** **Matthew 3**

Think back to when you were baptised, or when you professed your faith and became a member of the church. What feelings did that bring to the fore? Pray for people experiencing that feeling at the moment.

Thursday **July 4th:** **Matthew 4**

Jesus calls the four fishermen to be his followers. Pray today about your call, what is Jesus calling you to do at this time?

Friday **July 5th:** **Matthew 5**

This chapter contains the Sermon on the Mount. Pray today about what you are blessed with, or by.

Saturday **July 6th:** **Matthew 6**

Take time to pray the Lord's Prayer and savour the words, slowly and gently. Let them speak to you and refresh you.

SUNDAY **July 7th:** **Matthew 7**

What do you need to ask for today? What are you seeking? Which door are you knocking on? Share these questions in your prayers today.

Monday **July 8th:** **Matthew 8**

Pray today for people you know who are in need of healing in body, mind or spirit.

Tuesday **July 9th:** **Matthew 9**

Pray today for the people who have the difficult jobs in life, the unpopular ones or difficult ones and place them in God's hands.

Wednesday July 10th: Matthew 10

Persecution of Christian people happens as much today as it did in Jesus' day. Remember our faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in your prayers.

Thursday July 11th Matthew 11

Many towns and places are like Chorazin and Bethsaida, they have turned away from Christian teaching. Pray that a revival may begin, and sweep through our land.

Friday July 12th: Matthew 12

Pray for people with disabilities of all kinds, and ask Jesus to bring healing where possible.

Saturday July 13th: Matthew 13

What seeds can we sow in our parish and community? Take the opportunity to help, support and sow seeds where you can.

SUNDAY July 14th: Matthew 14

Pray for the local foodbank who do so much to feed the poor and needy in our communities. Give thanks for their generosity and commitment to those in need.

Monday July 15th: Matthew 15

Think of the people you know who show their faith in action, and give thanks for them today.

Tuesday July 16th: Matthew 16

Remember the people who have shown you direction in your faith – the teachers, the leaders, the ministers and elders. Peter was so certain of who Jesus was when he makes this declaration, but as time passes he has doubts and wavers. Share in your prayers the doubts and times you have wavered.

Wednesday July 17th: Matthew 17

Who are the bright lights in our world today? Remember them in your prayers.

Thursday July 18th: Matthew 18

Pray today for all the people who have been regular attenders at worship, but have drifted away, pray for their return to the flock.

Friday July 19th: Matthew 19

Many people comment that there isn't as much respect today as there used to be, pray for that to return into all levels of society.

Saturday **July 20th:** **Matthew 20**

Praise God for parents, even Mum's who push their children forward hoping they will get priority in the Kingdom of Heaven!

SUNDAY **July 21st:** **Matthew 21**

Even Jesus got angry sometimes, he was annoyed with the way the temple authorities were running things. What injustices make you annoyed today? Offer them to God in prayer .

Monday **July 22nd:** **Matthew 22**

Loving our neighbour as ourselves is a vital commandment, and one that Jesus told us was the most important. Who are your neighbours, literally and in other ways, pray for them today.

Tuesday **July 23rd:** **Matthew 23**

Who are the hypocrites we see in the world around us? The people who say one thing and do another are often described as hypocrites. Remember them in your prayers, especially those known to you.

Wednesday **July 24th:** **Matthew 24**

Pray for the return of Jesus Christ, that He will bring healing and wholeness to the world.

Thursday **July 25th:** **Matthew 25**

Jesus warned us in these parables to be prepared for his return. Are there things you need to change about your life, in order to be prepared for the Second Coming of Jesus? Pray for these changes to be made clear to you.

Friday **July 26th :** **Matthew 26 v 1-30**

Pray for those who celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, giving thanks for the peace and grace of this sacrament.

Saturday **July 27th:** **Matthew 26 v 31-67**

Jesus prayed with dignity and calm despite the agony of his disciples actions. Pray for the people you know who have "fallen asleep" in their faith, and ask God to touch their hearts so they can reconnect with their beliefs.

SUNDAY **July 28th:** **Matthew 27 v 1-31**

Pray for those who are riddled with guilt at their actions, may they find peace.

Monday **July 29th:** **Matthew 27 v 32-66**

As you read this passage, praise God that He gave his son for your sins.

Tuesday July 30th: Matthew 28 v 1-15

Give thanks for the joy of Jesus' resurrection, the foundation of our faith.

Wednesday July 31st: Matthew 28 v 16-20

Pray that the Good News will be taken to all people and nations everywhere so that the Gospel can reach people who need to know of God's love.