

All Saints Church

Good News Daily

Devotional readings for each day, parish birthdays and anniversaries

January 4-10, 2026

Sunday, January 4

Colossians 3:12-17 *Be tolerant with each other and, if someone has a complaint against anyone, forgive each other. As the Lord forgave you, so also forgive each other.* (v.13 CEB)

I recently took a trip to visit family. Several extended family members, spouses, and children were gathering from different states. We wanted to see everyone in a short period of time. It was tricky to meet with different sides of the family and accommodate each schedule.

Most times of visiting were wonderful, and it felt good to catch up on what was happening in each family. A few times, personalities would clash or words were misunderstood and feelings got hurt. It can be easy to be intolerant, complain, or be easily offended.

I am thankful for the reminders Scripture gives us. We have been forgiven so very much. Can we not extend this to our family members who are less than loveable? Yes, we can, by the power of His Holy Spirit, indwelling us.

Proverbs 4:1-27; Psalms 66, 67; John 6:41-47

Birthdays: Emily Bienvenu, Pierce Hipp, Olivia Plsek, Alexander Stewart

Monday, January 5

John 11:17-27, 38-44 *When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."* (vv.20-21 NLT)

Their brother, Lazarus, had died. And they sent word earlier to Jesus that he was sick. But Jesus did not come. On purpose.

I can feel the disappointment as Mary stayed home while her sister went to meet Jesus as He finally arrived in town. And Martha's words stung as she expressed her frustration as to why Jesus had not come earlier to heal her brother. I have asked this myself: "Jesus, where were you? God, why have you let this happen? I don't understand."

A few verses later we see that Jesus wept. He sees our pain. He understands our disappointment, anger, and questions. Be assured, Jesus, the God-Man weeps with us when we need him.

Jonah 2:2-9; Psalms 2, 110; Ephesians 6:10-20

Birthdays: Pam Coutant, Brad March, Judy Muller, Jon Wilkins

Anniversaries: Brad & Lauren March

Tuesday, January 6

Psalm 46 *Surrender your anxiety. Be still and realize that I am God. I am God above all the nations, and I am exalted throughout the whole earth.* (v.10 TPT)

My grandson is on the Autism Spectrum. He goes to a public school and has some special services that enable him to be in the mainstream classroom. But I worry.

Is he getting what he needs? Are the teachers kind to him? Is he being bullied by other students? Will he graduate successfully and live independently? These thoughts can definitely generate anxiety.

God reminds me that I can indeed surrender my anxiety. It is a conscious choice that I myself have to make. I must choose to surrender.

I surrender willingly knowing that He is God and I am not. He has all things under His loving control. Including my grandson and all that he needs.

What worry or anxiety do you need to surrender today?

Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 97; Revelation 21:22-27; Matthew 12:14-21

Wednesday, January 7

Deuteronomy 8:1-3 *...we live by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.* (v.3b NLT)

I have known Jesus a long time. A really long time! When I first came to know Jesus, my prayer life consisted mostly of "This is what I want You to do, God." Can you relate? Thankfully, my prayers have matured quite a bit since those beginning days.

I have come to know the vital importance of reading God's Word and praying God's Word. This is where the power in prayer really comes from. Agreeing with and speaking God's Word back to Him never returns void or empty (see Isaiah 55:11).

Today's verses in Colossians 1:9-13 are a beautiful prayer you can pray for your family and friends. You can speak it, pray it, and even write it in a note to someone you are praying for. You will be blessed. They will be blessed.

Who will you pray these verses over today? There is power in His Word.

Psalm 103; Colossians 1:1-14; John 6:30-33, 48-51

Birthdays: Sadie Bartoszek, Tim Castino, McLeod Chasser, Charlie Evans, Sandra Race

Anniversaries: Bob & Marie Johnston, Wenjun & Elizabeth Li

Thursday, January 8

Exodus 17:1-7 *So once more the people complained against Moses. "Give us water to drink!" they demanded. "Quiet!" Moses replied. "Why are you complaining against me? And why are you testing the LORD?" Moses named the place Massah (which means "test") and Meribah (which means "arguing") because the people of Israel argued with Moses and tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD here with us or not?"* (vv.2, 7 NLT)

I have not one, but two, immediate family members who complain often. A lot, actually. They tend to be critical of people—bosses, co-workers and other family members. Very rarely do they show appreciation or gratitude for the multitude of good things and blessings God has given them over the years.

I remember one day, after going the extra mile with chores, cleaning, organizing, and even childcare for my family member, they complained even more. I felt resentful and angry. Later, I texted her saying, "Was what I did today helpful for you?" She replied, "Yes, thank you." I responded, "You're welcome. It is nice to be appreciated. A little appreciation goes a long way."

How often do you and I grumble and demand and contend and argue and test God with our attitudes? We aren't much different than these Israelites or the complaining friends and family members. What will you thank God for today instead of complaining? He is waiting. A little appreciation goes a long way.

Psalms 117, 118; Colossians 1:15-23; John 7:37-52

Birthdays: Barbara Demopoulos, Beverly Evans, Mary Fleming, Rudy Frey, Marilyn Lowry, Meriwether Ruby

Friday, January 9

Isaiah 45:14-19 *"I publicly proclaim bold promises. I do not whisper obscurities in some dark corner. I would not have told the people of Israel to seek me if I could not be found. I, the LORD, speak only what is true and declare only what is right."* (v.19 NLT)

My autistic, twelve-year-old grandson often takes statements literally. For example, if I were to say someone lost their job as, "they were fired," he would think someone was actually set on fire. Or if I said, a person was "as busy as a bee," he wouldn't get the connection. He doesn't quite get the idioms or catchy phrases most people would understand. So, when speaking with him, I need to be very clear in what I am saying.

God is this way too. He is very clear in His Word and actions. He sent the prophets to His people Israel to let them know His intentions and plans, whether good or bad.

In today's world we have the indwelling Holy Spirit and the written Word of God to know Him. If we have sinned, He will let us know. If there is something we need to course-correct, He will let us know. Trust what God is saying to your spirit and confirm it with His Word. He wants us to find Him and know Him. He will let us know what He wants. We can trust Him to be clear.

Psalms 121, 122, 123; Colossians 1:24—2:7; John 8:12-19

Birthdays: Sophia Castino, Theresa Sands

Saturday, January 10

Psalm 138 *The Eternal will finish what He started in me. Your faithful love, O Eternal One, lasts forever; do not give up on what Your hands have made.* (v.8 The Voice)

I have three adult children—two in their thirties and one in her forties. As teenagers, they each made a profession of faith and started a relationship with Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior. All three were baptized following their initial decisions. I saw them grow and also struggle in their faith over the years.

Honestly, I am not sure where they are now in their relationship with Christ. We have had some heart-to-heart discussions, and I am still unclear where they stand. God has told me flat out that I am not the Holy Spirit to convict them, nor am I God to judge them. So, I pray. I pray often. Even more than once a day.

During creation, God spoke everything into existence except Adam and Eve. He formed them with His own hands. So, I am confident in His Word that for my children He will "not give up on what Your hands have made." He will finish what He started. Thank You, Father.

Jeremiah 23:1-8; Psalm 139; Colossians 2:8-23; John 10:7-17

Birthdays: Lucas Decker, Alex Harris, Andrew Johnson, Laura Lawton, Karen Proctor, James Stockton Jr., Susie Wong, Nancy Wynne

Anniversaries: Bill & Lynn Thieler

by Pamela Newton

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