

Chelmsford Cathedral – Prayer for Today

WEDNESDAY, 13 October 2021



O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise!

Lord, will you ever remember me,
why keep turning away from me?
Must I carry this grief for ever,
how long endure this pain?
Must my enemies always win?
My God, look at me, answer me,
shine on me or I will die;
never let my enemy boast,
“See how you fall! I have won!”

Words from Psalm 13

As you enter into prayer today, take a moment to be still. Come into God's presence with a deepfelt desire to meet with God now. Know that God is the God who sees you and that God is looking at you now with great love. Pause for a moment and be still.

Loving and merciful God,
hear the prayers of those who cry to you,
and shine with the light of your presence
on those who live in the shadow of death.
May we rejoice in your saving help
and sing you songs of praise
in the name of our risen Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Jesus' barrage of criticism continues, his barbed insults against the scribes and Pharisees flying like knives. One lawyer even seeks to point out to Jesus how insulting his behaviour is, only finding this thrown back in his face as Jesus ramps up the insults further.

As you read this passage, invite God to show you the hypocrisy and evasions in your own life.

Luke 11.42-46

Jesus continued ‘But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and herbs of all kinds, and neglect justice and the love of God; it is these you ought to have practised, without neglecting the others. Woe to you Pharisees! For you love to have the seat of honour in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the market-places. Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without realizing it.’

One of the lawyers answered him, ‘Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us too.’ And he said, ‘Woe also to you lawyers! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not lift a finger to ease them.

*Spend some time reflecting on the reading, mulling it over.
Ask God what God wants you to hear today.*

*Offer your personal prayers and thanksgivings
and offer the day to God in a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving.*

End this time of prayer by saying the Lord's Prayer.

*To keep in touch and for more resources for daily prayer
Please visit chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk*