

JANUARY 1

I Am That I Am

Exodus 3:14

I bow before you who have no name.
Your intimate presence startles my soul
Like the first glimpse of a rising moon.
Your unwavering, companioning love
Flows like a golden rivulet of kindness
Through the veins of my truest self.
Born out of my desire to communicate
I ask for the simplest of gifts from you,
The privilege to call you by many names,
The blessing of communicating with you.

Today: I think about my favorite name for the divine.

JANUARY 2



Namer of the Stars

Psalm 147:3-4

Looking up into the glittering galaxies
I see a breathtaking canopy of light.
Each twinkle leads to another and another,
Stretching out into an endless universe.
Every star reveals an immensity of mystery
And stirs in the soul a connection with you.
You touch the heavens with sparkling beauty
As you call each bright luminary into its place.
Namer of the Stars, Creator of Wonder,
I bow to the eternal brightness that is you.

Today: The Namer of Stars leads me to wonder.

JANUARY 3



Absolute Mystery

Karl Rahner

No amount of endless rationalizing,
No incessant stewing of the exploring mind,
No pressured tactics of spiritual dissection,
None of this will reveal your secluded depths.
Only when the hunting soul comes near you
With respectful openness and humble desire,
Will the immensity of your simple presence
Shine forth with strobe-light awareness.
Only then can one fully respond, "I believe"
And rest in a laser beam of confident faith.

Today: I rest quietly with Absolute Mystery.

JANUARY 4



Ancient Love

Carolyn McDade

When did the first whisper of your primeval love
Touch with infinite tenderness all that exists?
When did your kiss awaken each sleeping atom?
When did you breathe life into every particle?
Oh, Ancient Love, forever gliding through the ages,
You continually birth yourself into creation
Including this present moment of flowing life.
You whisper in this day with similar tenderness,
Reverberating in the beating heart of existence.
You are a steady cadence of love within us all.

Today: I rejoice at Ancient Love dancing in life.

JANUARY 5



Dreamer

O Dreamer who quietly enters my life
With your basketful of transforming symbols,
You come sailing the inaudible night skies
Within the silent corridors of my sleep,
Bringing the needed truths I rarely perceive
In the bold, glaring light of my active days.
Hearken to me with your messengers.
Gift me, please, with dreams of revelation
So the uncertain path I trod to my true self
Becomes ever clearer and ready to walk.

Today: I await with confidence the *Dreamer's* revelations.

JANUARY 6



All-Seeing One

Job 28:23-24

I look as far as I can into future days, weeks, months,
Desiring to see what is ahead and waiting for me.
But my vision is limited and clouded with desire.
I return to seeing only what is in this present moment.
I do not need to know that which is far beyond.
I have only to trust you to direct me, All-Seeing One.
The gradual disclosure of what is best for my life
Will reveal itself when the appropriate time comes.
It is enough for me to rely on your endless affection
And to listen carefully to your wisdom within me.

Today: I trust the presence of the All-Seeing One.

JANUARY 7



Jesus

Matthew 1:21

Jesus, your name has been on my lips
Since I was a young and innocent child.
Now these many years since first we met
I understand you are more than a name.
To know you is to allow your teachings
To reach into the core of my daily life,
To have your vision be the vital substance
Of what truly guides and rules how I live.
How easy to bend the knee to your name
But how difficult it is to bend the heart.

Today: I make an effort to love as *Jesus* did.

JANUARY 8



Guiding Star

Matthew 2:1-2

Like the wise ones who sought the Christ Child,
I have trekked for eons in the aimless dark
Moving by faith within my inner landscapes
Without a detailed map, and full of questions.
In spite of all that seems void and doubtful,
My seeking of you has never been halted.
When the searching path to you grows faint
You appear as my trusted Guiding Star,
A beacon of hope beckoning me onward,
Manifesting your presence in surprising ways.

Today: I walk by the Guiding Star of faith.

JANUARY 9

Joy of Every Loving
Heart

Charles Wesley

You are the gift unable to be kept secret,
Leaping out from the happiness of sharing.
You are the blessing of intentional kindness,
The sigh of satisfaction in generous giving.
You are the reward of helping hands,
The natural euphoria of each caring heart.
You are the quiet bliss of assured contentment
Coming forth from hospitable gestures.
You are the look of love in hearts that receive,
The quiet pleasure in gracious acceptance.

Today: I find *Joy* in both giving and receiving.

JANUARY 10

Allah

The Qur'an

Your name, Allah, is voiced reverently on Muslim lips.
You are their “most merciful and compassionate.”
Allah, your title is rarely used by Christians and Jews,
Yet , we are joined, we three, in a common heritage.
Abraham and Sarah, they are ancestors of us all.
In each of the three religions you are the same true One.
Why this awkwardness in addressing you as Allah?
Where does my resistant, biased hesitation originate?
Help me break through, to go beyond my comfort zone,
To choose to freely speak your treasured name in Islam.

Today: Allah is on my lips and in my heart.

JANUARY 11



Abba

Mark 14:36

Abbā, father, kind parent, gentle daddy.
Strength balanced with a caring concern.
A trusted lap in the early years of childhood.
An inner, assuring voice to be counted on.
Guiding hand of love held forth for confidence.
The deliberate stance of ready protection.
No wonder Jesus chose to call you Abba
Knowing he could lean on you for stamina.
He needed you every step of the way.
And so do I.

Today: I lean on the strength of *Abba*.

JANUARY 12

Everlasting Life

John 10:28

There is nothing temporary about you.
Nothing shallow about the endless depths
Of your being. Nothing brief about the extent
Of your longevity. You are. You will be.
Always and forever. For us, with us, among us.
Constant. Sustaining. Enduring. Unending.
And you promise to each one a life
Forever united with the richness of yours.
How could we ask for anything more?
Why would we want anything less?

Today: *Everlasting Life* offers hope.

JANUARY 13

Lantern of Love

Robert Morneau

In the unclouded cottage of my soul
A watchful light remains ever vigilant.
In the thick forest of my darkest hours
There gleams a trustworthy sentinel.
In the most lost experience of searching
A beam of direction calmly lights the way.
In the painful moments of impermanence
A signal of presence softens the loneliness.
In the bleakness of disturbing trials
You, Lantern of Love, shine steadfastly.

Today: The Lantern of Love lights my way.

JANUARY 14

Mother

Julian of Norwich

How wide is your womb of extensive love.
How full your breasts of inner nurturance.
How caressing the vast arms of your caring.
How precious your storehouse of wisdom.
Mother, you clothe us with needed courage.
You protectively shield our self from harm,
Drawing us near to you when we are afraid.
You never doubt our merit and worth,
Even when we are doubting it ourselves.
You are the welcome we'll always receive.

Today: I am held in the arms of Mother.

JANUARY 15

You Who Live Next Door

Rainer Maria Rilke

I have my old ways of keeping you
From getting too close, from maybe
Requiring too much from me.
You can be my casual neighbor
Whom I occasionally stop to visit,
The one I greet in coming or going
But not my intimate companion,
Not in my household or in my bed.
I keep my distance, lest too much
Of my hidden self tumbles out.

Today: You Who Live Next Door invites me in.

JANUARY 16

Perpetual Becoming

Jean Markale

Like a whirling dervish your love evolves,
Twirling with wonder among the cosmic void.
At the same time you encompass each soul.
Your presence expands both far and near,
Continuous motion and uninterrupted stillness
Conveying a seeming dichotomy of your being.
The fullness of your essential nature grows,
Ever enlarging as the universe stretches out.
Oh, the boundlessness of your dynamic love!
Oh, the astonishing, unlimited expansion of you!

Today: Perpetual Becoming expands in me.

JANUARY 17



Sun of Justice

Latin Hymn

Sun of Justice, source of powerful energy,
Vastly more potent than the burning sun
Transforming millions of tons of hydrogen
Into helium every second of every day.
Sear our minds with the painful reality
Of those who need your protective strength.
Radiate our hearts with true concern for them.
Burn away the dross of empty indifference.
Energize us into taking deliberate action
To aid those suffering from the power of others.

Today: I join the Sun of Justice and act justly.