



The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8

Read by Annabel Twist

The second reading is from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Be ambitious for the higher gifts.

And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing.

**If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything,
and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains,
but without love,
then I am nothing at all.**

If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

**Love is always patient and kind;
It is never jealous;
Love is never boastful or conceited;
It is never rude or selfish;
It does not take offence, and is not resentful.**

Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth;

It is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end.

The Word of the Lord

