

# EPICLESIS VIRTUAL CHAPTER HOUSE

**Prayer and Eucharist, Thursday, January 8, 2026**

*Celtic Daily Prayer Book 2, Eata Readings, January 7*

**Psalm 146:5-10 † Deuteronomy 6:4-16 † Acts 10:39-41**

*Background:* Our sourcebooks for Thursday mornings are *Celtic Daily Prayer, Books I and II*. The January readings in Book 2 come from the writings, stories and sayings of Roland Wall, founder of the monastic Community of the Transfiguration at Roslin, Midlothian, Scotland (near Edinburgh). Roland was a significant mentor and spiritual director for over thirty years to the Northumbrian Community (which produced *Celtic Daily Prayer, Books 1 and 2*). More about him may be found in the entries for January 1 and 2.

## **Daily Reading**

... Roland told the story of their beginnings. He spoke of a time when they thought they had made a big mistake in going to Roslin, a time when they really needed to hear from God, not least His guidance and confirmation. So they went on a three-day retreat to Nunraw Abbey, a nearby Cistercian monastery, with many questions and expectations. On the first morning their retreat leader said, "For the next twenty-four hours I want you to think about a wonderful truth – God loves you." That was it, nothing more and he left them to it. They didn't see him again until the next morning, when he said, "For the next twenty-four hours I want you to think about another wonderful truth – you can love God." Again that was it, nothing more!

## **Meditation**

He left them and didn't return until the morning of the third day, when he said to them, "For the next twenty-four hours I want you to think about another wonderful truth, perhaps the hardest of all – love one another." That was it. At the end of the third day they left. Although initially disappointed Roland said that on reflection, the retreat had made them realize that in these three truths lay both the foundation and the continuance of religious life. They were as relevant to the inner life of the hermit as they were to the collective life of a Community.