

EPICLESIS VIRTUAL CHAPTER HOUSE

Prayer and Eucharist, Thursday, September 10, 2026

Celtic Daily Prayer Book 2, Colman Readings, September 10

Psalms 104:30-31 † Exodus 25:19-22 † Acts 10:9-23

Daily Reading

Hospitality . . . is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines. It is not to lead our neighbor into a corner where there are no alternatives left, but to open wide a spectrum of options for choice and commitment. It is not an educated intimidation with good books, good stories and good works, but the liberation of fearful hearts so that words can find root and bear ample fruit. It is not a method of making our God and our way into the criteria of happiness, but the opening of an opportunity to others to find their God and their way.

Meditation

The paradox of hospitality is that it wants to create emptiness, not a fearful emptiness, but a friendly emptiness where strangers can enter and discover themselves as created free; free to sing their own song, speak their own languages, dance their own dances; free also to live and follow their own vocations. Hospitality is not a subtle invitation to adopt the lifestyle of the host, but the gift of a chance for the guest to find his own.

--Henri J. M. Nouwen