



1 - 15 Oct 2023

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THANKSGIVING

Sunday 1 October

Dear Lord, today we give thanks for the start of a new month. We thank you for all the beauty that we see in Autumn such as the colours of the leaves changing and the excitement of new flavours in our lattes. Amen

MON 2

World Habitat Day

Gracious God, today we pray and hope that the drastic urbanisation of cities all over the world, will also provide shelter for all and not just for those with money or resources. Just as your love spreads far and wide for all people, we pray that anyone with power and responsibility to shape towns and cities will do this in your character.

Thoughts

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All these CofEB Praying Together prayers can be found on our website www.dio.org.uk/CofEB-PT

To submit your expression of prayer go to www.cofe.io/PT or by post – Comms Team, John Cadbury House, 190 Corporation St, Birmingham B4 6QD

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TUE 3

Today's prayer is inspired by James 1:2-3,

"My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance"

Heavenly Father, may we feel comforted by your steadfast love no matter the trials and tribulations that we face, you are always by our side. Amen

WED 4

John Nightingale invites us to pray,

O God, the source of all grace, whose glory shines in your saints: grant that as your servant Francis was given a love for you and for all your creatures, so your people may ever adore you in your works of creation, and serve you in faith and love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THU 5

National Poetry Day

Dear Father, we thank you that you have given us the gift of words and poetry and amazing writers that can craft these gifts into something expressive, beautiful for us to enjoy. Amen

FRI 6

October is Black History Month,

Compassionate God, who sent Jesus Christ to deliver us from all manner of injustices and inequalities, create in us new hearts and enlarged visions, to see the image of God in every person irrespective of background, race and ethnicity. May we be generous in our love of others as we work towards ending misunderstanding, racism and injustice; creating communities of human flourishing, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen



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SAT 7

Invitation to prayer today is from Amanda Featherstone,

Jesus our saviour, we pray for all our parishes today and that their projects and launches flourish and enable people and families to meet with you and grow in faith. We pray particularly today for St Mary's Wythall for their new Sunday 4pm congregation.

THANKSGIVING

Sunday 8 October

Today's prayer is inspired by Brandon Lakes song 'Gratitude'

Loving Lord, sometimes we pray to you but words escape us as we have no words to explain or cultivate our true gratitude for all of your gifts, unadorned love and ultimate sacrifice of Jesus. Lord, we will never be able to give thanks enough for saving us - Hallelujah.

MON 9

John Nightingale has invited us to pray,

God of creation, the earth is yours with all its beauty and goodness, its rich and overflowing provision. But we have claimed it for our own, plundered its beauty for profit, grabbed its resources for ourselves. God of creation, forgive us. May we no longer abuse your trust, but care gently and with justice for your earth. Amen

TUE 10

World Mental Health Day

Father of love, we pray for all those who suffer with mental health issues of any kind. We pray that you give them strength and encouragement to seek help when needed, and we pray for wisdom in friends and family of those suffering to recognise signs and symptoms. We thank you Lord that you are always there in our darkest days and provide a light and hope for us to reach for when we otherwise cannot see.

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WED 11

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

THU 12

Transforming Church prayer

Sovereign God, in Christ you make all things new. Clothe us with power from on high, that with generous lives and hearts on fire we might work with you to grow your church and transform your world. To you be glory through Jesus our Lord. Amen



FRI 13

Dear Lord, continue to give us strength and guidance on how we can best serve you, keep us on your righteous path and lead us back to it when we step off. Amen

SAT 14

We pray for all those at today's Explore Day in the Aston Archdeaconry.

Father, we ask the creativity, joy and inspiration of the Holy Spirit be keenly felt in all conversations and thoughts. We pray for all those attending, that a lively sense of purpose be found in what you, Lord, are doing within our parishes, oversight areas and deaneries. Amen

THANKSGIVING

Sunday 15 October

Father, thank you for making me in your image and likeness. I'm no less than anyone else but an original, designed by the loving desires of your heart. Amen





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MON 16



Loving Father, we pray for the energy and creativity to overcome poverty. Help us to understand the different ways in which we may act, individually and with others. Though this week grant dignity and hope to those in poverty and help us to bare witness to your great compassion for every individual. Amen

TUE 17

The People & Places prayer

Gracious and merciful God, as we pray for the future of Church of England Birmingham, we thank you that the whole earth, its people and places, are equally precious to you.

By your Spirit, equip us to meet the challenges of these times with generosity and courage; hold our fears and uncertainties in your love, and grant us the needful gifts of grace to share your love and reflect your light throughout our communities.

In the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.



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WED 18

Olwyn Powell invites us to pray,
Lord, after the traumas that have engulfed us in the U.K. recently, we pray for all those affected by them. May we always have principles of “open justice” and see that they continue to be fair. Amen

THU 19

Today the CofE liturgy celebrates missionary Henry Martyn,

O God of the nations, who gave to your faithful servant Henry Martyn a brilliant mind, a loving heart, and a gift for languages, that he might translate the Scriptures and other holy writings for the peoples of India and Persia: Inspire in us a love like his, eager to commit both life and talents to you who gave them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

FRI 20

Prayer today is inspired by Psalm 106:1,
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

SAT 21

We offer prayers as the first of the Oversight Area Formation sessions begin today



Collect of the day

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

THANKSGIVING

Sunday 22 October

International Stammering Awareness Day

Lord, today we give thanks for the amazing methods and charities that have developed for helping anyone with a stammer or speech impediment. We pray that you continue to give a voice to all to be heard. Amen

MON 23

Glorious Creator, bless the children that are on half term this week and let there time away from learning be full of love and happiness, growth and contentment. Amen

TUE 24

Heavenly Father, bless our community with unity, understanding, and compassion. May we support one another through challenges and celebrate our joys together. Guide us in working harmoniously to create a better, more connected, and loving environment for all. Amen

WED 25

Father God, guide the UK government and its leaders with wisdom, empathy, and a commitment to justice. May their decisions bring prosperity, unity, and wellbeing to all citizens. Grant them strength, that they may lead with integrity and compassion. Amen

THU 26

Revd Colleen Shekerie, LGBT+ Chaplaincy Team invites us to pray,

Holy God, Spirit of Love, you embrace us with your infinite Love. Give us wisdom and fill us with the spirit of reconciliation, so all creation may be one in you. We ask for your loving protection for all your children; for our community, our brothers and sisters who are being persecuted for who they are. We pray especially for the LGBTQ+ communities in Uganda and other countries where the threat of imprisonment and the death penalty cause torment and create anxiety in those who long to be themselves.

Create a right and just spirit in those who would deny basic freedoms to those whom they seek to marginalise. Defend all who uphold justice and speak truth to power in the face of danger. In the name of Christ, Amen

Thoughts

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FRI 27

Bless the paths that cross today; the old friends and strangers with whom we might share a pleasant greeting, a smile or maybe something deeper. Grant us a word in season that might resonate within and bring a blessing to your precious children.

SAT 28

Loving Jesus, help us to put aside preconceptions about other people, and simply accept that they, like us, are precious in your eyes. Amen

THANKSGIVING

Sunday 29 October

A prayer for Daylight Savings today
Lord, as we adjust our clocks, grant us energy and rest. Gently fill us with your wisdom and the gratitude to cherish your seasons. Amen

MON 30

Heavenly Father, in your love, we find courage and peace. With You, there's nothing to fear. Amen

TUE 31

Today's prayer is inspired by Psalm 119:105,
“Your word is like a lamp for my feet and a light for my path.”

Merciful Father, today we ask you to keep your hand on any children and families that are out doing a Light Trail this evening. May we always remember that you are the one true light of this world and nothing can overcome you. Amen



For light trail resources please see our resources page www.dio.org.uk/GrowingYoungerResources

