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1 - 16 October 1/2

SAT 1

October is Black History Month
Bamidele Sotonwa, Minority Ethnic Vocations Champion and Chair of the Racial Justice Reference Group, invites us to pray,

Heavenly Father,
 We thank you once again for the privilege of another Black History Month. When we celebrate your image and glory in our black brothers and sisters whom you have created. We remember and celebrate the several black men and women, from generation to generation, through whom the wings of history have been strengthened. And we ask for the grace to continually value everyone as your creation. Without seeing anyone as inferior and debased to others. May we continually think less of ourselves for the benefit of our world and other the people living in it. Help us to be gracious and generous towards one another. May the words of our mouths and the perceptions of our hearts, motivate us to create space for healing and reconciliation, and break down walls of discrimination and segregation, Bringing glory and honour to your name in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

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, Citadel, 190 Corporation St, Birmingham B4 6QD

THANKSGIVING

Sunday 2 October

The Cotteridge Church offers a day centre for those who are lonely or need help and support.

Lord, we thank you for the dedicated team of staff and volunteers. We pray for the local community nearby and hope they reach out to The Cotteridge Church. Amen

MON 3

Canon Janet Chapman, Bishop's Adviser on Funeral Ministry, invites us to pray,

A team of clergy and readers recently led the annual "Funeral Ministry" training day for curates and readers. We pray for all involved and especially for those beginning to develop their skills in this increasingly complex area of ministry. May we preach the Christian Hope with conviction as well and giving thanks for the life of the departed and offering comfort to the bereaved. Amen

TUE 4

Lord, thank you for all the animals and pets in your world. Some animals rely on us, and some of us rely on animals. Every one created by you is a gift. Help us to cherish and care for them. Amen

WED 5

Denise Jones, St. Patrick's Earlswood, invites us to pray,

We give thanks for the ministry of 'Lay Holy Communion Ministers' and for those who have recently been licensed at St. Patrick's.

We thank you loving Father for the many diverse ministries, within the church, and we pray that through the power of the Holy Spirit we would recognise the gifts that you bestow upon us and actively seek to serve you as the whole body of Christ. Amen

Thoughts

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THU 6

Lucille Arlidge, St Matthew with St Chad, Smethwick invites us to pray,

Lord, we ask you to guide us and lead us to the people and places we are to serve in your name. Pour your spirit upon us that we may ever point to heaven in the name of Jesus. Amen

FRI 7

Holy Spirit, giver of wisdom and love, You breathe life in us and guide us. Help us to live according to your vision, stirring to action the hearts of all— individuals and families, communities of faith, and civil and political leaders. Amen

SAT 8

Lord, bless those who do not have a job to go to, who are struggling to meet the needs of their daily living expenses, for whom the day becomes long and arduous. Amen

THANKSGIVING

Sunday 9 October

Prayer today is inspired by Isaiah 12:4-5

And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. "Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth."

MON 10

World Mental Health Day
St Martin's Centre for Health and Healing, in the Bullring, offers free counselling and psychotherapy services for anyone struggling with emotional difficulties, life challenges and mental health concerns.

Lord, Thank you for counsellors who listen to peoples hearts. Thank you for giving them a heart and gifting for this work, and the ability to really 'see' them and stand with them in their pain. Amen



TUE 11

We thank you Lord for young people and their passion and conviction to care for and protect your world for the common good. We pray that their actions and words will be valued and taken seriously. Amen

WED 12

Lord, we pray for all the single parents who may be struggling with tiredness, money worries or feeling isolated. Please be with them. They may not know you yet, but they need your love and strength. Amen

THU 13

The Collect of the day
 Sovereign God, who set your servant Edward upon the throne of an earthly kingdom and inspired him with zeal for the kingdom of heaven: grant that we may so confess the faith of Christ by word and deed, that we may, with all your saints, inherit your eternal glory; 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

FRI 14

Olwyn Powell invites us to pray,
 Lord we pray for equity in our country as the Government discusses the Levelling up and Regeneration Bill. We ask for your guidance for all those representing us on Water Orton's Parish Council especially new members, that their discussions may be meaningful. Amen

SAT 15

Prayer today is inspired by a photo, which you can see on our website, taken of the beautiful autumn color at Grove Park, Harborne.

Thank you Lord for the beauty of Birmingham. May the brilliant colors of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation. Amen





16 - 30 October

2/2

THANKSGIVING

Sunday 16 October

Denise Jones, St. Patrick's Earlswood invites us to pray,

We give thanks to you Lord God that the good people of St Patrick's are responding to your calling and that we are experiencing a growth in lay ministry and those who are willing to lead Junior Church, be involved with intercessions, reading in church, verging and cleaning. A real answer to prayer. Thanks be to God, Amen

MON 17

Tomorrow, 18 Oct, is Anti-Slavery Day

Prayer today is inspired by 'Letter to a Trafficker', a spoken word piece written by Sarah Turner, Thrive Together Birmingham, which offers an alternative perspective on praying for an end to human trafficking.

This has been developed into a short film, which you can watch on CofEB YouTube channel.



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TUE 18

The 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

WED 19

*King of glory, we thank you for
teaching us to love others regardless
of racial differences, economic differences,
developmental differences, or any other
differences. May Birmingham be known for
love and fairness. Eradicate prejudice from our
hearts, our words, and our actions. Amen*

THU 20

*John Nightingale, St Francis Bournville,
invites us to pray,*
Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite
love,
teach us to contemplate you
in the beauty of the universe,
for all things speak of you.
Awake our praise and thankfulness
for every being that you have made.
Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined
to everything that is.
(From Laudato Si' of Pope Francis)

FRI 21

*Lucille Arlidge, St Matthew with St Chad,
Smethwick invites us to pray,*
Thank you, Lord, for giving us the strength to
persevere in trust and faith. Amen

SAT 22

*Lord we pray for all those in Birmingham who
are working in manufacturing, in the service
industries and in commerce - they help sustain the
quality of life for our society. Amen*

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THANKSGIVING

Sunday 23 October

One World Week
Creator God,
Thank you for the waters of the earth,
for the life-sustaining rains,
lakes, and deep oceans.
Keep us mindful of how precious these are,
and how vulnerable they are.
Help us to work together for clean water,
and for the sharing of it with those who have
need of it today.
Amen

MON 24

*Dear God, we place those who are sick
under your care and humbly ask that you
restore your servants to health again. Above all,
grant us the grace to acknowledge your will and
know that whatever you do, you do for the love
of us. Amen*

TUE 25

*Prayer today is inspired by the song 'I'll Find
You' by Lecrae ft. Tori Kelly.*
Lecrae says, "Life is a precious gift. A gift we
often take for granted until it is threatened."

WED 26

*God of life,
we praise you for the beauty of creation,
its richness and variety;
yet, through greed and ignorance,
we scar your world with plastic waste
and throw so much away.
Make us more like Jesus,
treading gently on our common home,
and breathe your Spirit on us,
that we may care more deeply for your Earth.
Amen*

Thoughts

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THU 27

*Prayer today is inspired by
Psalm 121:1-2, 7-8*
I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does
my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of
Heaven and earth.

FRI 28

*John Nightingale, St Francis Bournville,
invites us to pray,*
God of the poor,
friend of the weak;
give us compassion we pray,
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.
(God of the Poor by Graham Kendrick)

SAT 29

*Lord, may your love and compassion flow
through us and to those around us in Church
of England Birmingham. Amen*

THANKSGIVING

Sunday 30 October

Daylight Saving Time
For this new morning with its light,
Father, we thank Thee.
For rest and shelter of the night,
Father, we thank Thee.
For health and food, for love and friends,
for everything Thy goodness sends,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

MON 31

*Heavenly Father, we pray for all who
work in health care throughout the
world. We commend them to you for your
protection and support, inspire and sustain
them in all that they do. Amen*

