

- Many charities and Christian missions abroad have lost income this year. We pray that their work will not suffer. Bless those who are continuing to find ways to spread the gospel, encourage them to look to you for strength and inspiration.
- Thank you that we have Jesus as our model of goodness. Help us to follow his way of reaching out to others with God's love.

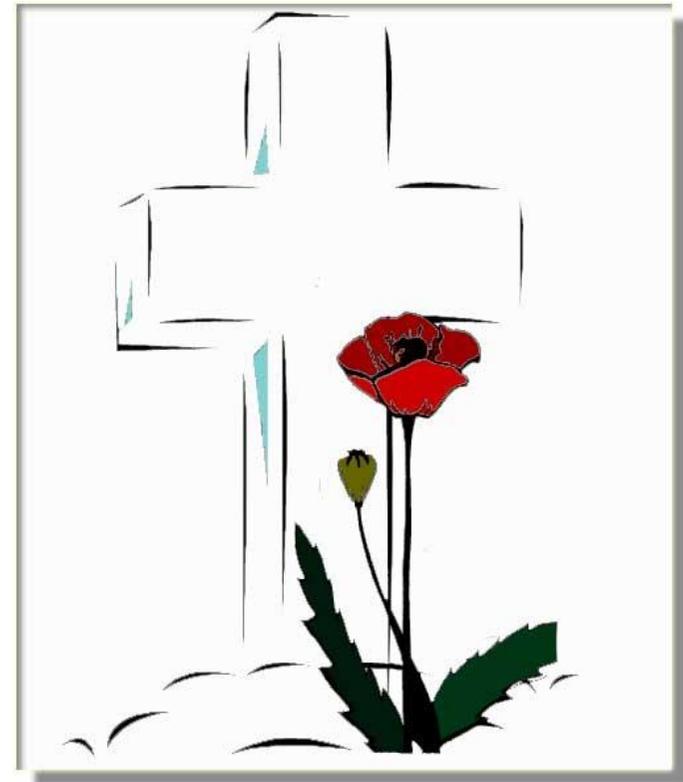
**Week 4, 25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October**  
**Gentleness and self-control**

We pray for the Benefice, Deanery and Diocese.

- Dear Lord thank you for the gentle way Jesus dealt with people. Help us to follow His example. As we pray for self-control we are aware of our own weakness. We pray that we may learn to think before we speak or act. Grant us the wisdom of the Holy Spirit that we may grow in grace.
- We pray especially for Bishop Peter having treatment in hospital. We pray for his recovery and for comfort for his family at this anxious time.
- Bless and guide those having to organise the work in the diocese. Inspire them as they make tentative plans for the future.
- Bless the clergy as they face change and difficulty in running their parishes. Keep your church alive and looking to Jesus.
- We pray for our Rector, the Rev. Kate, and the ministry team. We give thanks for all they are doing to keep contact with the congregations, and to make contact with those in need
- As we move into the season of Advent give us hearts full of hope as we look for the coming of the Lord.

## Quantock Villages Benefice

### Prayer Diary - November 2020



“ The fruit of the Spirit is love joy, peace, patience, Kindness goodness, gentleness and self-control” Galatians 5:22

Lord God how we need to nurture and grow these characteristics in this time of uncertainty, fear and confusion. We pray you will grant us renewal and growth of your Holy Spirit.

**Week 1, 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Love and Joy**

We pray this week for the villages of Over Stowey and Spaxton.

- Lord we pray that we may witness to your love by reaching out to those in need. Fill us with the true joy that comes from knowing we are forgiven and loved.
- Thankyou that many people have been able to attend services in church. We give thanks for those who prepare the written services and those online. Continue to bless and guide them as they lead our worship.
- Help us to keep in mind those who live alone, some are afraid or depressed and need regular contact. Remind us of ways we can support them.
- We give thanks for all those who care for the sick and vulnerable people. Help them when they are weary or anxious. May they lean on your great strength so that they can continue in their work of care.
- It is hard to be joyful when so many people are suffering. Help us to commit them to your gracious love knowing you are with them in their need.

**Week 2, 8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Peace and Patience**

We pray for the villages of Nether Stowey and Enmore.

- Lord we pray for peace in our homes. Help us to be peace-makers when there is tension or disagreement. Give us patience when we are tired or worried. Remind us we can bring all our cares to you.

- We pray for the Schools in the Benefice. May there be an atmosphere of security and order. Bless the children that they may enjoy their schooldays and give the staff the extra patience they need for each day.
- November is the month when we remember especially those who have died in wars. We give grateful thanks for all those who suffered as a result of war. It won't be possible to have the usual services but we can all make time on the 11th to remember their sacrifice.
- Thank you for the continuing cycle of the seasons; for the beautiful colours of the trees and the dramatic sunsets. Help us to value our world and to try to protect our plants and animals.
- We are grateful to those who give their time to run the Food Banks. We pray that we may all learn to share generously.

**Week 3, 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October**  
**Goodness and Kindness**

We pray for the villages of Aisholt and Goathurst.

- There have been so many acts of kindness during the past difficult weeks. Lord help us not to grow weary of welldoing. Keep us mindful of the ways we can be of help to those around us. Thank you for the many kindnesses we have received.
- Lord we pray for those who are anxious about the coming winter days. Some are struggling with loss of income, some are afraid about the onset of Covid 19. We pray there will be adequate help for those in real need and make us all careful as we try to protect each other.
- We pray for our leaders that they will be guided in the best way to control the virus. We pray they may be one in mind and heart as they plan together for the good of the country.
- We pray for the many people seeking employment. We remember especially the young people looking for their first job. Encourage them to look to the future and to trust in your love and care for them.