

Week 4: 25th - 31st October

"Prayer is climbing up into the heart of God." — Martin Luther

This week we pray for the Benefice.

- Lord, please help us to grow closer to you. Help us to learn from our mistakes and move forward in faith, trusting that whether we are a newborn or an octogenarian, your love for us never changes.
- Half term provides a time for the school staff and pupils to step back from the challenges of school life. We pray for all who need time to rest that they might be refreshed. For those needing protection that they are given it. For those needing additional food that they receive it.
- Let us pray for all who attend or run the various groups and clubs in the Benefice.
- We pray for all clergy here in the Quantock Villages Benefice and throughout the world.
- Heavenly Father, we sometimes find it hard to pray in words. Please lead us to other ways to pray.

Quantock Villages Benefice

Prayer Diary – October 2021



Week 1: 1st - 10th October

"What do you have to fear? Nothing. Whom do you have to fear? No one. Why? Because whoever has joined forces with God obtains three great privileges: omnipotence without power, intoxication without wine, and life without death." – St. Francis of Assisi

**"The Church is the one institution that exists for those outside it."
— William Tyndale**

This week we pray for the parishes of Spaxton and Enmore.

- Let us pray for those who care for our wildlife, farming and domestic animals. Lord, please protect our dog walkers and horse riders as they travel through the local lanes. Please give skill to veterinarians and those working in animal rescue centres. We thank you for the gift of unconditional love and companionship that a pet gives us.
- Thank you, Lord for the harvest and to all involved in producing and distributing goods. Let us be grateful for all we have and prompt us to share our blessings by supporting those with less.
- As the weather changes and becomes colder we pray for the homeless and all rough sleepers.
- Let us remember and give thanks to those who have translated the Bible into different languages. Help us to understand the true meaning behind the words we read, so that we too can share the message of hope.

Week 2: 11th - 17th October

"Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes with which Christ looks out his compassion to the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now."

— Teresa of Avila

This week we pray for the parishes of Aisholt and Nether Stowey.

- We pray for the police, the law makers, prison officers and social workers. May they be protected from danger and guided by justice and compassion.
- Let us be tolerant of those who make mistakes in life. Help us to see Christ in everyone we meet.
- We pray for young people throughout the world as they enter into adulthood. Each generation faces challenges and climate change is and will be a major one.
- Help us to look beyond our circumstances to the countries where people are hungry because of continuous conflicts or failed harvests. Families who are displaced and experiencing emotional distress because of loss of loved ones or because of fear. We pray for them through our words and deeds.

Week 3: 18th - 24th October

**The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works. The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.
Psalm 145:17-18 King James Version (KJV)**

This week we pray for the parishes of Over Stowey and Goathurst.

- When social media brings competing narratives, reality is not always clear. Lord, please help us to discern truth from deception.
- Let us pray for all who go out to work each day, whether it be a career they have a passion for, or a job to pay the bills. We also pray for the "stay at home" parents or carers as they look after the young or vulnerable. All are valuable to God.
- To all who are struggling at the moment, whether in body, mind or spirit. Lord, please ease their suffering and bring healing and peace. Let us also give thanks for all carers, doctors and nurses.
- We pray for the families of all who have died recently. Lord, you are with them in their loss, please may they feel the comfort of your loving arms around them as they weep.