

- Those in the emergency services must deal with many different needs. May God continue to help them offer skill and care in their daily work.
- Bless and comfort those who are sick. We remember especially those who have long-term illness. May our prayers bring comfort and enable them to be aware of your loving presence.

Prayer Diary - October 2020

Week 4, 25th – 31st October

"Rejoice in the Lord always...the Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving present your requests to God." Phil. 4:4

We pray for the Benefice, Deanery and Diocese.

- We pray for Ben and Kathryn Flenley on their retirement. May they know God's leading as they plan for the future.
- We continue to pray for Bishop Peter, give him patience and trust as he continues his treatment.
- Bless the clergy and all who minister in the Deanery, keep them focused on ways to reach out to the community.
- We give thanks for the services online. They have been a means of enabling us to worship together. Give wisdom and insight to those who so carefully prepare the music and the reflections.
- Bless our Rector and Rev'd Kate and all the ministry team. Pray that they will continue to be looking for new ways to reach out with the Gospel. Help them as they try to plan for the future in these uncertain times.
- May prayer be a link that brings a sense of closeness to those feeling sad and separate from family and friends.

Stir up in us, O Lord, a living faith that is alert to you in the lives of others that hears from you in life's ups and downs, that leans on you in all circumstances, and that reveals you in our doing, each and every day. Amen.



Week 1, 1st – 10th October

“He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength...they will walk and not be faint.”
Isaiah 40.29

We pray this week for the villages of Aisholt and Spaxton.

- As the pandemic continues to change our lives let us remember that we can take all our anxieties and problems to the Lord.
- We pray for those who are anxious or afraid and those who have lost hope. May the Lord reach them with his love and assurance.
- Let us pray for all the efforts being made to offer possibilities of worship in the Benefice. We pray that services taking place in churches may be meaningful and joyful.
- For those who are unable to meet with family and friends the days can be cheerless and lonely. Where possible, may we reach out in friendship. Sometimes a phone call can make a difference. Let us keep them in our prayers.
- We give thanks to God for the harvest of fruit and grain. May we be generous with all we receive. The Lord bless those who farm the land and care for the animals.
- It is difficult to make definite plans but we pray the Lord will help us to be adaptable and ready to support new ways of sharing your love with others.
- We pray for all those helping in food banks.

Week 2, 11th – 17th October

“Praise be to the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.”
2 Corinthians 1:3

We pray for the villages of Enmore and Goathurst

- We pray for the safety of the staff and the pupils in the schools in the Benefice. We pray that despite the difficulties the children will feel happy and enjoy their days at school. We hope it will be possible to continue leading assemblies and bring “Open the Book” back to the children.
- Being a good neighbour is of greater importance than ever. Keep us aware of ways we can help and make contact.
- Keep us prayerful for those in care homes or in hospital, and those still being shielded. Bless the carers, help them to keep cheerful and positive, and safe from infection. We continue to pray for all those who work for the NHS.
- Many people are feeling tired and dispirited as they face the winter months. May we all reach out to God for renewed energy and determination, remembering the Lord is with us to uphold and give us strength for each day.
- As we give thanks to God for the everlasting beauty of creation, let us remember that as the leaves fall the seeds of the future remain and live on.

Week 3, 18th – 24th October

“Therefore we do not lose heart...inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.”
2 Corinthians 16-18

We pray for the villages of Over Stowey and Nether Stowey.

- Lord we ask you to be with those who are struggling with the difficulties of school and work and maybe financial problems. We pray they may be able to share their needs and find support.
- We remember those whose future is unclear, those who have no work and feel a sense of despair. We pray that there will be active help and real support offered by those in government.
- Many students returning to university are facing difficult situations. Give them courage to accept different ways of learning. Help them support each other as they live and learn together.