

We pray for all who work or support food banks. Father, we wish there was no need for them. We lift up in prayer all who are struggling to provide food for their family.

O Lord, bless those running holiday clubs, providing fun and sometimes respite or sanctuary for children and parents.

Idea: To explore another church in the benefice, either midweek or at a service.

4th week: 19th - 25th August

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Ephesians 6:10-11 NIV

"There is no improving the future without disturbing the present." William Booth co founder of The Salvation Army.

This week we pray for the Benefice, Deanery and Diocese.

Heavenly Father, we pray for the innocents caught up in disputes between nations.

We give thanks for charities such as the Red Cross or UNICEF. For the bravery of aid workers, who are on the front lines helping the afflicted, we pray for their protection.

Let us pray for all returning home after seeing action. O Lord, help them to settle back to normal life and connect them with people who can support them if they experience difficulties.

Loving God, bring healing to all who are wounded in body, mind or spirit, make whole those who are broken, and shed light wherever there is darkness.

May memories and friends comfort all who mourn. Help us to be a good friend to all who need one.

Idea: Why not read a book of one of the minor prophets. What was their message?

Week 5: 26th August - 1st September

"Do not merely listen to the word, and so receive yourselves. Do what it says." James 1:22 NIV

Our lives are journeys of hills and valleys. May you know the peace and presence of God whether you stand on the mountain or you walk through the vale. May the Spirit's breath kiss your soul in the peak's sunlight and may God's whisper comfort you in the shadow. #niteblessing Malcolm Duncan

This week we pray for the worldwide Church.

As children and school staff prepare to return for the new school year, let us pray for all who are feeling anxious or afraid.

The end of summer brings forth a new season. O Lord, be with us all as we step forward into each new day. Fill us with the hope and reassurance that you are walking with us.

We give thanks for the elders in our community and for their wisdom borne through their life experience.

Let us pray for the continued success of the various clubs, cafes and groups in our benefice. Where people gather, may the light of Christ be present, friendships grow and community strengthened.

Help us to respect the ways and ideas of the past as we negotiate the issues of today's world. O Lord, we pray for our world today and ask for Your light to shine so that our feet can walk in the ways of Christ.

Idea: Read about a story in the news and pray for the people involved.

Prayer Diary

August 2024



Quantock Villages Benefice

Aisholt, Enmore, Goathurst, Holford with Dodington, Kilve with Kilton & Lilstock, Over Stowey, Nether Stowey, Spaxton with Charlynch and Strington.

1st week: 1st August - 4th August

" Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NIV

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

Let us pray this month for those who are getting married or celebrating anniversaries. We hold compassion in our hearts for those experiencing, perhaps for the first time, an anniversary without their loved one.

To all new parents, we pray for them as they adjust to their new family dynamic. May the parents find support from family and friends. We pray for all families with young children.

To the walkers, runners and budding athletes, inspired by seeing the sportsmen and women in the Olympics, we pray for their safety as they train on our roads or playing fields.

Let us pray for all in sport who have been, or are being exploited by their coaches or managers. By the grace of God, we pray for their concerns to be believed and support given where needed.

As we observe the excellence of Olympians may we be aware of the long hours of practise and the discipline needed to fulfil these achievements. Help us, O Lord, to persevere in our race. *" Don't you know that all the runners in the stadium run, but only one gets the prize? So run to win. Everyone who competes practices self-discipline in everything. The runners do this to get a crown of leaves that shrivel*

up and die, but we do it to receive a crown that never dies." 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

Idea: To read Psalm 78 and reflect on the words written.

2nd week: 5th - 11th August

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 4 :32-5:2 NIV

This week we pray for the parishes of Kilve with Kilton and Lilstock, Holford and Stringston.

"All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do thou by the spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live. Amen".
The Mary Sumner Prayer (the founder of the Mothers' Union)

Heavenly Father, Grant us this week, time to rest, to be still, to listen to your promptings.

O Lord, we pray for your Church throughout the world. We pray for those in danger and for all who are persecuted for their faith. For those who step out in faith to proclaim the good news, we pray for their protection. For the seeds sown, in Your name, we pray for them to grow.

For our community here in Somerset, let us pray for growth in our faith. In these turbulent times give us courage to stand firm in the truth of Christ Jesus.

We pray for Eleanor, Kate and all our clergy. Guide them with Your wisdom, O Lord, as they balance the needs of many.

Let us pray for the leaders of the various denominations who follow Christ (both clerical and lay). We pray for patience and understanding where there are issues that divide us. Let the love of Christ be present in all our discussions.

Idea: Pray for one of your neighbours.

3rd week: 12th - 18th August

And Jesus said unto them, " I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." John 6:35 KJV

"There are indeed many good things in life which may be unequally apportioned and no such serious loss arise, but the need of quiet, the need of air, the need of exercise, and, I believe, the sight of sky and of things growing, seem human needs, common to all men and not to be dispensed with without great loss." Octavia Hill. Social reformer.

This week we pray for the parishes of Goathurst, Enmore and Spaxton with Charlynch.

We give thanks for all who strive for the improved living conditions of others. Heavenly Father, we lift up in prayer, members of our local and national governments, the civil service, the voluntary sector and for all in positions of authority. Give them persistence when they witness injustice and courage to see through any changes needed.

Let us pray and give thanks for the work of gardeners, farmers and park keepers around the country. They feed us with produce, keep our green places beautiful, stimulate our senses and lift our spirits.