

"I want to know one thing, the way to heaven; how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this end He came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. Give me that book! At any price give me the Book of God!" John Wesley

Gracious God, guide those in Parochial Church Council meetings, with vision and courage to step out in faith and by prayer, to do your will for your church.

We pray for all in positions of authority. For governments, tasked with the onerous responsibility of the safety and wellbeing of their people. O Lord, help them to find ways to govern fairly.

Let us continue to ask our Father in Heaven, for peace and reconciliation throughout the world. We pray for peace between Russia and Ukraine and for all areas in the Middle East and beyond where fighting and famine have destroyed communities and people are displaced.

This week (21st September) is the International day of Peace. Bless the peacekeepers and aid workers. Guide them to where the need is greatest. Keep our hearts and minds open and full of compassion to help the fearful and frightened innocents of our world.

Thoughts: *Why not revisit the book of Proverbs this week.*

Week 4: 22nd Sept - 30th Sept

This week we pray for the parishes of Nether Stowey, Aisholt, Kilve with Kilton and Lilstock, Holford and Strington.

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Psalm 100: 1-2

As we move through the autumnal season we marvel at the glorious array of colours as the trees change from green to various shades of red, orange and browns.

Young people will be setting off to university, leaving home, perhaps for the first time. Heavenly Father, we lift up and pray for the protection of our young people as they embark on this new and exciting chapter of their lives.

Loving God, we pray for the people working and living in local care homes. Please bless their lives with laughter and a sense of community. We give thanks for the wisdom and guidance shared by the elderly.

This week Bridgwater fair arrives. We pray for the stall holders and fairground ride operators and for the safety of all attending the fair.

We pray for people who are dealing with emotional or physical pain. Whether through illness, breakdown of relationships or the mourning of a loved one, we pray for the healing breath of the Holy Spirit to work within them and through the people who support them.

Thoughts: *Look through the Benefice news and perhaps visit a different church service or maybe try out one of the many activities/events advertised.*

Quantock Villages Benefice

Prayer Diary



September 2025

Week 1: 1st Sept - 7th Sept

This week we pray for Christ's Church in the United Kingdom.

*From 6 to 14 September 2025, Christians across the UK will unite in prayer for national and spiritual renewal. The **National Week of Prayer (NWOP)** is both a call to return to God and a collective act of faith in His promise to restore and revive.*

Inspired by the words of Zechariah 1:3 – “Return to me,’ declares the Lord Almighty, ‘and I will return to you’” – this nationwide initiative invites believers to gather in worship, repentance, and thanksgiving, acknowledging the move of God already stirring across the nation.

*Ministries and churches from various traditions join in prayer as the body of Christ to see lives transformed by Jesus and the nation awakened to His presence. **We pray for all involved and transformed throughout this week and beyond.***

This is an opportunity to reflect on “the good things God has done” throughout the history of the UK, while also daring to believe for more.

O Lord, we acknowledge the blessings you have given us, the rain, the sunshine, our democracy, our desire for fairness and justice. We pray for continued peace in our nation. We give thanks to all who have gone before us, who have given their lives for our peace.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Psalm 51:10-11

We pray for the children and school staff returning to school after the summer holidays. New beginnings, fresh starts, friendships rekindled, Heavenly Father, bless these young

people and gift the adults involved in their care and education, with the skills to inspire and protect.

Thoughts: *As we begin this week of prayer, why not record your prayers in a notebook, so that in days and weeks to come you can continue to pray and give thanks.*

Week 2: 8th Sept - 14th Sept

This week we pray for our Diocese and our Benefice.

*"The root of joy is gratefulness.... It is not joy that makes us grateful; it is gratitude that makes us joyful." **David Steindl - Rast, Benedictine Monk***

*“Life is full of battles and strength, real strength, often starts when we get down on our knees, all of us are part of the greatest story ever told. It’s a story of struggle, courage, redemption and hope. So, what’s your part in God’s great story? **Adventurer and TV personality, Bear Grylls.***

*“It starts with a conversation and that is all that prayer really is. Just talking with your Maker. Not big fancy words. Not religion. Just honesty. Prayer isn’t about having it all together, it’s about showing up with your heart open, hands empty and willing to trust.” **O Lord, help us to open our hearts to you, expressing our fears and doubts, and lead us in ways to shine as your children, safe in the knowledge of your love for us.***

In a recent appeal on X, Rachel Jordan-Wolf, CEO of Hope Together, one of the key ministries supporting NWoP, said: “Prayer changes things. Prayer transforms us. Prayer is the place of encounter. “Things are done in prayer that we see span out across a nation. This is where everything starts. For God hears our prayers and the prayers of a righteous man or woman ... they matter; they

*have impact ” **Loving God, ignite in us a thirst for your word.***

The Christian Police Association UK, Christian Ambulance Association, and Firefighters for Christ, will be taking part through a special day of prayer for frontline workers, coordinated by the Christian Emergency Network. **Heavenly Father, we give thanks for our emergency service personnel. They show through their actions a desire to help others in need. Please bless them and protect them from harm.**

Lord Jesus, give strength and wisdom to your clergy as they seek to teach your word. We give thanks for all who work for the glory of God.

As the Harvest Festival services begin we give thanks to God for the sun and the rain, for the food we eat and those who produce or distribute it to our shops.

We remember in our prayers all who are hungry or thirsty and give thanks for all volunteers in local food banks and to those who give generously.

Thoughts: *During this National Week of Prayer, why not just take a moment? Step into that story. Speak to the One who has been writing that story all along.”*

Week 3: 15th Sept - 21st Sept

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

"Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding, for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold."

Proverbs 3:13-1