

Week 1: 1st September - 7th September

This week we pray for the parishes of Goathurst, Kilve and Enmore.

- In this season of Creationtide, let us give thanks for God's creation around us.
- We pray for those working in local veterinary centres and animal rescue homes, and for the animals in our lives. Giving thanks for the gentle companionship and love that they show us each day.
- Autumn is upon us and the nights are getting colder. O Lord, help all to find a safe haven.
- We pray for Heart for India, the charity we supported as our Deanery Mission project. Keep the workers who preach the Gospel safe in the midst of communities hostile to the Christian faith.
- School returns this week; let us pray for the children and parents starting school for the first time, as well as pupils and staff returning to a new academic year.
- Let us join the Diocesan 24hour Wave of Prayer for growing churches and transforming communities.

Action: *find a moment on Friday 6th or Saturday 7th to join the 24hour Wave of Prayer; thinking of the many folk praying and join in.*

Week 2: 8th September – 14th September

This week we pray for the parishes of Stringston, Nether Stowey and Holford.

- We give thanks for the staff of our local care homes and hospices, for the love and care shown to the patients and their families.
- Let us pray for all who are struggling with their mental health. When life is hard and hope seems far away, guide us back to you, O Lord. May we rest in the shelter of your love.
- We pray for the community of Holford as it marks its Patronal Festival this Sunday. As they celebrate local poets, we thank God for the gift of writing.
- Sunday 8th September is Education Sunday. We pray for our local schools – Enmore, Nether Stowey and Spaxton. We pray too for our toddler groups.
- Let us pray for schools in countries where education is open only to the few, asking that schooling and learning may be available to all.
- The Benefice Churchwardens will be meeting on Monday 9th September. Please pray for our churchwardens – thanking God for all they give in time and energy.

Action: *Walk past your local school and pray for all who learn in the building or look at their website and pray.*

Week 3: 15th September - 21st September

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

- Let us pray for the people throughout the world (including our country) who are starving, experiencing food poverty or who are lacking access to clean water.
 - In this harvest season, we give thanks for our farmers and all in food production and distribution. Let us pray for those farmers who are struggling to make a living.
 - Fuel poverty may become a reality for many as we enter the colder months. We pray for all who will require increased levels of warmth to survive. We think especially of the elderly, disabled or sick.
 - We pray for all who will visit Goathurst Church and the buildings around Goathurst during this Heritage Weekend. May they feel welcome and know something of your love.
 - We pray too for the work of the National Trust in preserving our historical buildings and making them open to visitors.
 - Baptism is the beginning of our journey of faith. We hold before God William who is being baptised this week
- **Action:** *Become aware of your neighbours and who may find a cold winter difficult and may need keeping an eye on when it gets cold.*

Week 4: 22nd September - 28th September

This week we pray for Quantock Villages Benefice and Quantock Deanery.

- Keep us mindful, as we drive through our lanes, that the unexpected could be round the next bend. We pray for the safety of drivers, walkers, cyclists and for our four-legged friends.
- We pray for Alison our Area Dean, Sally our Lay Dean, Kate our Assistant Area Dean and Margaret our Assistant Lay Dean and all who serve on Deanery and Diocesan Synods.
- We give thanks for the Deanery Singers, busy rehearsing for the service at Remembrance-tide. We pray for the continued health of their voices as the event approaches.
- Let us pray for all the events going on in the Benefice and Deanery thinking especially of Spaxton and Stringston celebrating Harvest. Heavenly Father, we continue to give thanks for our community.
- As the new university term is upon us, we pray for those who will be living away from home, and especially those who will be experiencing this for the first time.

Action: *Take time to go on a prayer walk or sit in the garden and celebrate God's creation.*

Week 5: 29th September – 30th September

This week we pray for the Diocese of Bath and Wells, the worldwide church and the world.

- We pray for peace through the world. Where there is conflict or war, give your wisdom and strength to those negotiating peace.
- Let us pray for Enmore Church on their Patronal Festival of St Michael and All Angels and their Harvest Festival, that the church may be a witness to the love of God to all. We pray too for Nether Stowey with their Harvest Festival service and community lunch.
- Let us pray for all who participate in our journeys of faith. Heavenly Father, forgive us when we fall short and fail to love others, as your son, our Saviour, Jesus, demonstrated to all he met. Help us this week to grow in faith and trust in you.
- We give thanks for the life stories of those who have died and the memories of them that we hold in our hearts.

Action: *Explore a country in Africa and discover its gifts and challenges. Thank God for the good and ask him to help with the difficulties.*

Quantock Villages Benefice



Prayer Diary September 2024