

You might like to use the following prayers as you pray for others:

Loving Lord, Please work in me so I can share your love, life and message with... Reveal your love to them, that they might know, follow and witness to you, for Your glory. Amen.

Loving Father, Send your Holy Spirit so I can share your love, life and message with... Reveal Jesus to them, that they might know, follow and love him, for Your glory. Amen.

You build your church through the power of your Spirit. By the same Spirit enable me to witness to... your love, beauty and grace, that they may come to the fellowship of the faithful for Your glory. Amen.

Lord, I pray that you will lead... to you. Thank you that you love them. I pray that you would break into their life and show them your love, grace and peace, for Your glory. Amen.

Using the BLESS acrostic can help us to focus on all of the felt needs of those we are praying for:

- **B**ody – health, protection, energy
- **L**abour – employment/unemployment, retirement, adequate income
- **E**mootional – inner peace, joy, wisdom, insight, patience
- **S**ocial – healthy relationships between spouses, parents, children, friends, reconciliation; love
- **S**piritual – repentance, salvation, obedience, faith





Thy Kingdom Come – 25 May-4 June 2017

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops' of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England, has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, explains why he feels it is so important to pray for others:

"When I meet Jesus Christ at the Judgement I know one thing, he isn't going to care that I was an Archbishop. What matters is that I loved him and sought to follow him, and above all that I trusted in him alone for my life and my future. Because the most important thing I've ever done is to become a follower of Jesus.

I took my first steps with him about 42 years ago. Over those years he's been a faithful friend, a sovereign Lord, compassionate and forgiving, my ever-present Saviour, everything in my life, the heart and foundation of all I am. Through the hardest and most painful times and in the best and most joyful times in my life, Jesus has walked alongside me, he's never left, even when I wanted him to. When I felt ready to give up hope, he picked me up, and it's his love that has healed and strengthened me.

Following Jesus has been the core point of my life, and that's one reason I want everyone to hear his voice calling to them. And to know what it is to find his love, his call, his direction, his purpose. That's why I'm pledging to pray for more people to know the life-transforming love of Jesus Christ."

That's why Justin Welby is asking us, along with every Christian Community around the world, to join him in pledging to pray as part of Thy Kingdom Come.

Praying for others to know Jesus is one of the most powerful things we can do. Persistent prayer for others brings transformation to their lives.

Consistently praying for others takes discipline, and there are many ways that we can build up habits that will help us to pray for our friends and family.

Choose five people you would regularly like to pray for and write their names down onto a list. If you're not sure who to pray for, ask God to guide you as you choose. Once you have settled on 5 names, commit to praying for them regularly by praying the following:

**Loving Father,
in the face of Jesus Christ
your light and glory have blazed forth.
Send your Holy Spirit that I may share with my friends [*here, name your friends*]
the life of your Son and your love for all.
Strengthen me as a witness to that love
as I pledge to pray for them,
for your name's sake. Amen.**



Here are five easy ways to pray for five people regularly. Choose the one that suits you best.

1. PIECE OF STRING

Take a piece of string or cord, and tie five knots in it to represent each of the five people you have committed to pray for. You could carry the knotted string in your pocket, tie it round your wrist or place it somewhere that you'll see it regularly. Use the knots to remind you to pray for each person on your list of five.

2. SMALL STONES

Find five small stones (light coloured ones are best) and write each of the people on your list onto each of the stones. Place them on your desk, bedside table or fireplace as a reminder to pray. Alternatively, you could place each stone in a different room of your home and pray for each person as you enter or leave the room.

3. BUSINESS PRAYER CARD OR BOOKMARK

Grab a piece of card that will easily fit inside your wallet, purse or book. Write your list of five names onto the card before putting it in your wallet or book. Use this card as a daily reminder to pray for them.

4. PRAYER ALERTS

Add your list of five people to the alerts section of your phone and set reminders to pray for them. You could choose one name per day, or pray for all five across your day. Remember to set alerts for a suitable time where you can stop to pray for your list.

5. POST-IT NOTES

Use five post-it notes and write one name onto each. Stick them onto your mirror, above your bed or somewhere that you'll see them regularly and will be reminded to pray.

You might like to use the prayers overleaf as you pray for others: