

St Augustine's C of E High School & Sixth Form



Collective Worship Policy

September 2022

How Our Christian Ethos Influences Collective Worship

St. Augustine’s is a Christian school. A key part of our Christian ethos is the value that we place on each and every student, which is also reflected in the inclusive nature of the school. Students are encouraged to grow spiritually, by being challenged on the way that they look at the world, their religious beliefs, and their own psychological development. Students are encouraged to grow morally, by being encouraged to reflect on their actions, and those of other people.

At St. Augustine’s, we believe strongly in equality. All students and staff are respected for who they are, regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, religion or sexuality. Our Collective Worship, Eucharists, Church Services and other Reflective Worship are inclusive, inspirational and invitational by design and delivery. We work hard to ensure that they are stimulating and relevant for our whole community so that all are able to apply these amazing experiences to grow spiritually.

Our aim as a Church of England School is:

1. To support Christians on their journeys of faith
2. To support those of other faiths on their journeys
3. To challenge those of no faith by what they encounter

Collective Worship is an opportunity for theologically driven spiritual reflection, knowledge and wisdom which underpins our whole approach to worship and permeates our whole school community. **Each week, and every day, throughout the school year, every year group participates in Collective Worship within the main hall of the school.** These acts of worship are based around a saint, scriptural passage, feast days, momentous events of celebration or remembrance. They are reflective of our inclusive and diverse community enabling all participants to access and have a connection with the important messages conveyed. The content challenges and stimulates those conducting the assembly seeking to impart wonder and understanding whilst exposing our students to new experiences. Each Collective Worship always begins with a lighting of a candle to help focus those present and always closes with the St Augustine’s School Prayer to ensure purposeful and peaceful reflection on the themes delivered and our virtues of **Faith, Hope and Love.**

Timings of the Collective Worship

The time for our collective worship is 20 minutes – 8.50am to 9.10am (3.10pm to 3.30pm for Sixth Form). The students should arrive at 8.45 and be seated quickly and registration should be carried out at 8.50am. Students arriving after the start of collective worship are to be met at the Main Hall door by DoL or PYC and admittance managed at that point.

Collective Worship Pattern 2022-2023

	8.50am to 9.10am	3.10pm to 3.30pm
Monday	Year 11	
Tuesday	Year 7	
Wednesday	Year 9	
Thursday	Year 8	Sixth Form
Friday	Year 10	

Seating the students

Students should be seated according to their form groups. No empty seats are permitted and staff are reminded to ensure that children move along their rows before the start. Staff are asked to sit in the allocated orange seat with their form group and are encouraged to support students in their engagement reflection and focus. Indeed, staff are encouraged to participate fully in the worship and use this as an opportunity to personally reflect and spiritually grow. All staff are responsible for checking uniform as the students enter the hall. Students must wear a blazer and tie and outdoor coats must be removed. Bags and other items should be stored on the floor.

Seating arrangements are as follows:

ROWS	STAGE	
1	Aidan x10	Bede x15
2	Aidan x10	Bede x15
3	Aidan x10	Bede x10
4	Columba x10	David x10
5	Columba x10	David x10
6	Columba x10	David x10
7	Edward x10	Felix x10
8	Edward x10	Felix x10
9	Edward x10	Felix x10
10	Grace x10	Late Arrivals x10
11	Grace x10	Late Arrivals x10
12	Grace x10	

Audio/Visuals/Microphones/Music

Audio visuals are the responsibility of the individual leading collective worship. The screen is lowered using a button at the back of the hall. Microphones and a 'clicker' are available to move PowerPoint slides on automatically. These are all kept in the main office in the pink CW tray. The site staff are responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient chairs in the hall and that these are set up properly in advance in each morning as per the seating arrangements. It is appropriate, and encouraged, to have music and visuals present as students enter the main hall.

School Prayer

Collective worship in the main hall and other school services will **always** include the school prayer as well as an appropriate prayer relating to the theme. At certain points in the year other prayers may be appropriate depending on the occasion (Remembrance etc) and a selection are included in the appendices of this document. During any prayer, students, staff and visitors should reflect in silence and the environment should be free from interruption or distraction.

Structure of the collective worship

Ensuring you that you are properly prepared for the collective worship goes a long way towards an effective presentation technique. Projecting your voice and ensuring that all students and staff can hear you helps keep engagement levels high and that the message is heard. A radio aid should be used for DSP students. Content, delivery and presentation of the collective worship will vary depending on the staff member conducting, the theme and also the nature of the message. However, there are some important structure guidelines and processes that all staff should follow:

1. Students should walk in quietly – ideally music should be playing, and the Virtue Readiness slide should be displayed.
 2. When ready the SLT member present should light the candle – this signifies that the students must be silent and that collective worship has started
 3. Immediately after this the **theme prayer** should be read out by the SLT member. This can be found in the collective worship team. They should then introduce the speaker.
 4. The presentation should last no more than 15 minutes
 5. There should always be a **theologically driven Christian focus** underpinning the message that is shared with worshippers
 6. The collective worship should end with the **school prayer**.
 7. The final slide should have a follow up activity with guidance on how staff and students will reflect the next day in their AM Registration and Readiness form time.
- *All formal acts of collective worship must include reference to the theme of the Week; the bible reading and the content should be linked to the theme for the week.*
 - *The content should be engaging and contain a range of media*
 - *All content should be age and context appropriate*

SLT role

A minimum of one member of SLT, the YG DoL and PYC should be in each collective worship. The SLT member should start leading worship with the lighting of the candle to signify that formal worship has begun and should ensure that the students are in silence. The SLT member should refer to the Virtue Readiness slide before finally delivering the theme prayer and then introduce the speaker. Once the speaker is finished, they should be thanked by the SLT member. The SLT member should then ask everyone present to bow their heads whilst the school prayer is read, following this student should then be dismissed in silence. Where possible the Vicar should undertake one assembly per year.

Dismissing the students

The SLT member should ensure that the students are dismissed quietly and quickly and the DoL and PYC should assist with this.

Form Time Collective Worship

In the AM Registration and Readiness Theme for the Week session, the form tutor should introduce and discuss the weekly theme with their form. Each week a short presentation is made by the Head of R.S. and Worship to help teachers with this. Please remember that all AM Registration and Readiness and PM Registration and Reflection must finish with an act of collective worship by displaying the Virtue Readiness/Reflection and School Prayer slides on the board and supporting the students in a minute of quiet reflection before being dismissed.

Links with other faith groups

St Augustine's has strong relationships with other faith groups in the local area. This includes the local mosque, local synagogues, and local religious museums. Students regularly go on trips to places of worship. Visitors from other faiths regularly attend the school to deliver talks.

Right to Withdraw

All teachers and all Sixth Form students have the right to apply for permission to withdraw. Parents have the right to apply for permission to withdraw their children. Attention is drawn, however, to the undertakings made on joining the school community. Applications for withdrawal from all or part of this Church School's programme of collective worship, etc., should be made to the Headteacher, who may refer them to the Board of Governors.

Themes and readings for collective worship 2022/2023

School Week	Week commencing	Title	Bible passage	Theme	Teacher responsible
1	5 th September	New Beginnings: Saint Augustine and our school – An education for all	1 Corinthians 12:12-27	Inclusion	E. Moriarty
2	12 th September	Faith	Hebrews 11:1-3	That there is meaning in what we do	E. Carney Francesco Chaba Y13, Nasrien Hossein Y13, Ali Kachakech Y13
3	19 th September	Hope	Matthew 7:7	That our hard work will make a difference	J. Khawam
4	26 th September	Love	1 Corinthians 13:4-7	In doing things for others	N.Trigg Charity Committee
5	3 rd October	St Bede	Ecclesiastes 11:7-10	Joy	F. Holdrick
6	10 th October	St Aidan	Philippians 1:27-30	Courage	R. Kelly
7	17 th October	St Columba	Matthew 28:16-20	Perseverance	A. Kaliszuk Eco Committee
8	31 st October	St David	Micah 6:6-8	Kindness	D. Cunningham
9	7 th November	Remembrance	Psalms 46	Remembrance	I. Braid
10	14 th November	St Edward	Philippians 4: 8, 9	Integrity	E. Carney Charity & Wellbeing Committees
11	21 st November	St Felix	Proverbs 8	Curiosity	E. Carney Fatimah Ghandour Y13
12	28 th November	St Grace	Luke 6:31	Respect - The Golden Rule	N. Metcalfe
13	5 th December	Advent	Isaiah 11:1-9	Peace	J. Barrier
14	12 th December	Christmas	John 1: 1-14	God is with us	E. Moriarty
15	Wednesday 03 rd January	New Year	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13	There is a Time for everything	E. Moriarty
16	9 th January	The Epiphanies	Matthew 2: 1-11	God is for all the world	J. Scott
17	16 th January	St Hilda	Luke 12:22-31	Wisdom	R. Goodwin
18	23 rd January	Holocaust Memorial Week	Isaiah 61: 1-4	Speak up, Speak out	E. Hayman History Students
19	30 th January	Candlemas	Luke 2: 22-38	Dedication	J. Cunniffe
20	6 th February	LGBT History Month	Genesis 1:27	Equality	N. Russell
21	20 th February	Lent	Matthew 4:1-11	Resisting Temptation	R. Kelly
22	27 th February	Lent	Romans 6:3-5	A New Life	D. Cunningham
23	06 th March	International Women's Day	Galatians 3:28	Equality	E. Carney Prefects
24	13 th March	Lent	Isaiah 58: 6-9	Seek Justice	N.Trigg
25	20 th March	Lent	1 Corinthians 9:24-end	Self-Discipline	J. Adolphus
26	27 th March	Passiontide/Autism Acceptance	Mark 11:1-11	Palm Sunday	SEN Dept
27	17 th April	Easter	John 20:24-29	God's Victory is Certain	E. Moriarty
28	24 th April	Community Service	Romans 12:1-7	Selflessness	J. Khawam
29	1 st May	A multi-faith school/Deaf Awareness	Galatians 3:28	All are valuable	S. Semic
30	08 th May	Our Country	Micah 4:1-4	Our Country	N. Metcalfe
31	15 th May	Our World	Psalms 19	Unity and Diversity	E. Hayman
32	22 nd May	Pentecost	1 Corinthians 12:31b,13	God's way is the best way	R. Bokth
33	05 th June	Mother Emily and our school	Proverbs 31:10-31	The importance of Service	S. Nicholls
34	12 th June	The Creation	Genesis 1	God in Nature	S. Hill
35	19 th June	Refugee Week	Leviticus 19:33-34	Refugee Week	E. Carney A. Johnson
36	26 th June	The Garden of Eden/Art Show	Genesis 2	God's Providence	H. Grange
37	3 rd July	Cain and Abel	Genesis 4:1-16	Humanity at War	R. Osewale
38	10 th July	Looking back with Thanksgiving	1 Thessalonians 5:16-18	Gratitude & Year Group Celebration	DoLS
39	17 th July	Looking forward in Hope	Mark 12:28-34	The Greatest Commandment	E. Moriarty

Annual Provision of Collective Worship

During a school year at St Augustine's, a student can expect to attend as a minimum:

Collective Worship in the main hall	Every week
Collective Worship in REG&R/YGA	Daily
School Eucharist	Once each year
Special services in church	Three each year

Annual Pattern of Special Assemblies

Michaelmas Term

Welcome Service – Year 7 and Year 12

Year Group Mass Years 7-13

Christingle Service – Year 7

Advent Service – Years 7-13

Lent Term

Year 8 Mass – Ash Wednesday

Passiontide Service - Years 7-13

Trinity Term

Founders Day Service – Year 7

End of Year Service - Years 7-13

How are these virtues going to help us be the best we can be today?

Faith

...that there is meaning in what we do

Hope

...that our hard work will make a difference

Love

... in doing things for others

FAITH
HOPE
LOVE



The School Prayer

Faith

Almighty God and Father of us all;

We dedicate our selves to learning to become good citizens of London and of the United Kingdom, working for you in the world you have trusted us with.

Hope

With your help we can learn to make a contribution, so that our school, our city and our nation all become places of peace where there is justice and fairness for all.

Love

In serving others we serve you; help us to remember those whose needs are greater than our own, as we all work together for the common good of your kingdom.

Amen

FAITH
HOPE
LOVE



The St. Augustine's CE High School Prayer

Almighty God and Father of us all;

We dedicate ourselves to learning to become good citizens, of London and of the United Kingdom, working for you in the world you have trusted us with.

With your help we can learn to make a contribution, so that our school, our city and our nation

all become places of peace

where there is justice and fairness for all.

In serving others we serve you;

help us to remember those whose needs are greater than our own,

as we all work together

for the common good of your kingdom.

Amen

St Augustine's CE High School

Prayer booklet



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The School Prayer

Almighty God, We dedicate ourselves to learning to become good citizens,
of London and of the United Kingdom,
working for you in the world you have trusted us with.

With your help we can learn to make a contribution,
so that our school, our city and our nation
all become places of peace
where there is justice and fairness for all.

In serving others we serve you;
help us to remember those whose needs are greater than our own,
as we all work together
for the common good of your kingdom.

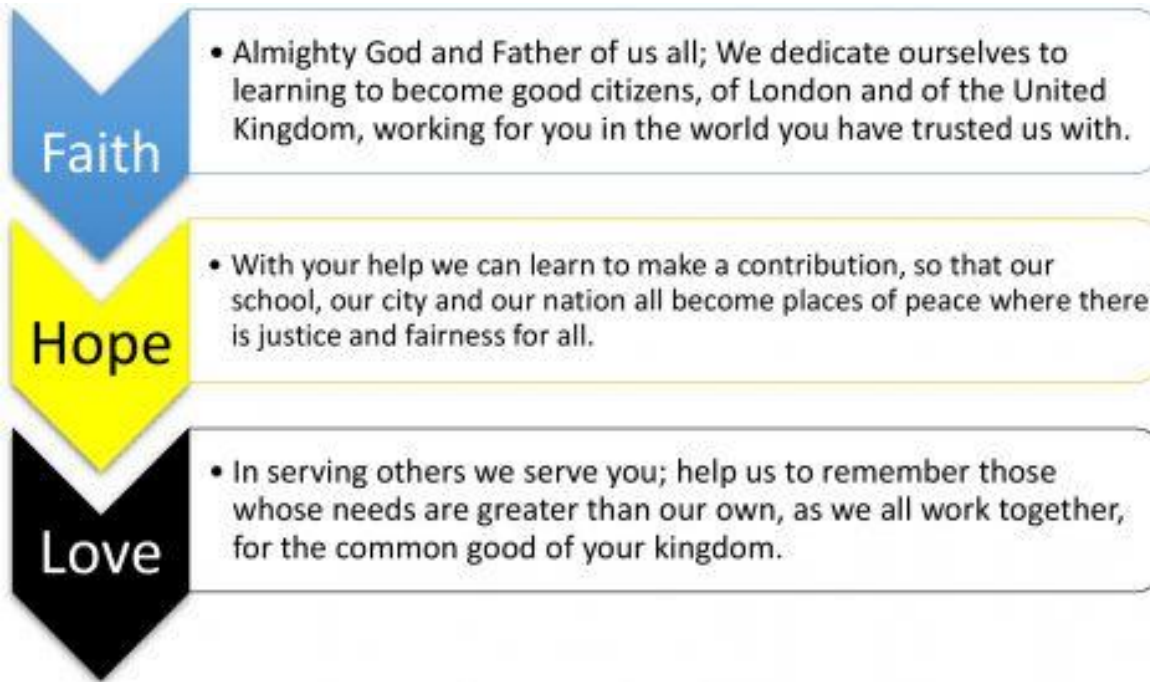
Amen

The meaning of the school prayer

As a community, we try to 'be the best we can be' in every aspect of our lives as we grow in the Christian virtues of **Faith, Hope and Love**.

(1 Corinthians 13)

Our vision is encapsulated by the school prayer and our daily practiced virtues:



The first prayer reminds us that there is meaning in everything that we do. We need to show **faith** and remember that we are all on a journey together and that every day counts.

The second part reminds us that we are all working together to make the Kingdom of God, and that we need to have **hope** that we can build a better world.

The final part reminds us that **love** is the most important Christian virtue, and that we need to show this to all, especially those whose needs are greater than our own.

School Saints' Prayers

Prayer of St Augustine

O God, who by the preaching
of the Bishop Saint Augustine of Canterbury
led the English people to the Gospel,
grant, we pray, that the fruits of his labours
may remain ever abundant in your Church.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.



Prayer of St Aidan

Leave me alone with God as much as may be.
As the tide draws the waters close in upon the shore,
Make me an island, set apart,
alone with you, God, holy to you.

Then with the turning of the tide
prepare me to carry your presence to the busy world beyond,
the world that rushes in on me
till the waters come again and fold me back to you.

Amen

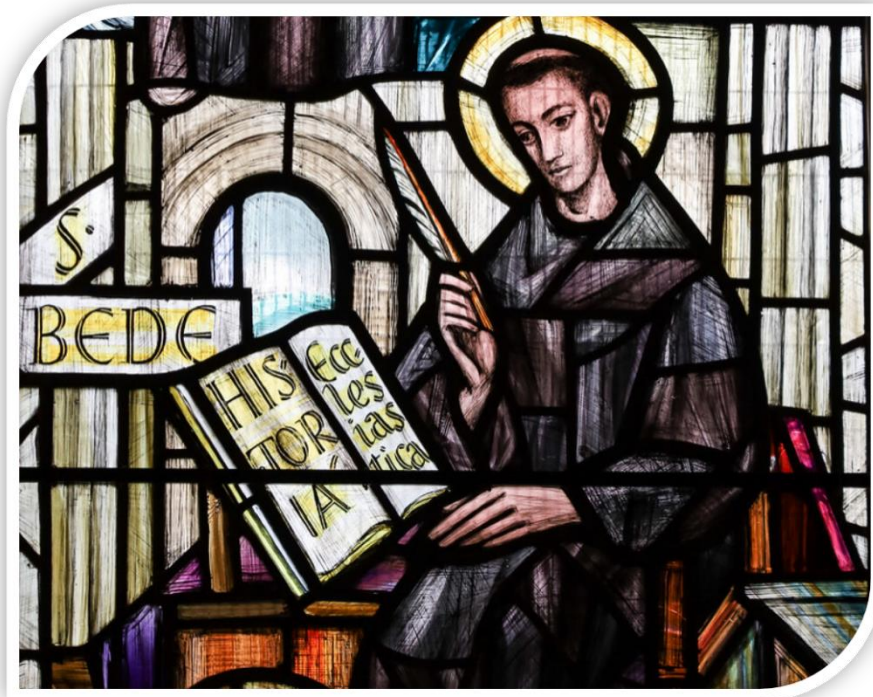


Prayer of St Bede

Lord God almighty,
open wide the door of my heart
and illuminate it with the grace of the Holy Spirit,
that I may seek what is pleasing to your will.

Guide my thoughts and my heart,
and lead my life in the way of your commandments,
so that I may grasp the eternal joys of the heavenly life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Prayer of St Columba

Be a bright flame before me, O God
a guiding star above me
Be a smooth path below me
a kindly shepherd behind me
today, tonight, and for ever.
Amen



Prayer of St David

Dear God

Like St David, help me to live a simple life, showing love and kindness to others wherever possible.

I pray that I may consider my choices and live more simply in order to make a big difference to others.

Show me the way to make small tasks occasions of prayer.

Kindle in me a love of others in everything that I do

Amen



Prayer of St Edward

Lord,
you raised Saint Edward, king and confessor,
to excel in good government and faithful service.
May these ideals survive and flourish among us
through his prayers.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.



Prayer of St Felix

Dear God,

Keep ideas, possibilities, dreams, hopes, growing in and around us.

So that change is not an inhibitor, but stimulation into new life.

Keep us Curious about life, exploring and discovering and growing into understanding.

Use us as channels of understanding, influence, curiosity, to help others grow.

Place people in our path that will cause us to grow and whom we can help grow.

Lord, lead us into wholeness, whatever that may be,

in Jesus name.

Amen



Prayer of St Grace

Dear Lord,

Help me to demonstrate kindness everywhere I go. Remind me to
share smiles, share
friendship, and spread kindness today and always.

Amen.



Prayer of St Hilda

O God of peace, by whose grace the abbess Hilda was endowed with gifts of justice, prudence, and strength to rule as a wise mother over the nuns and monks of her household, and to become a trusted and reconciling friend to leaders of the Church;

Give us the grace to recognize and accept the varied gifts you bestow on men and women, that our common life may be enriched and your gracious will be done;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

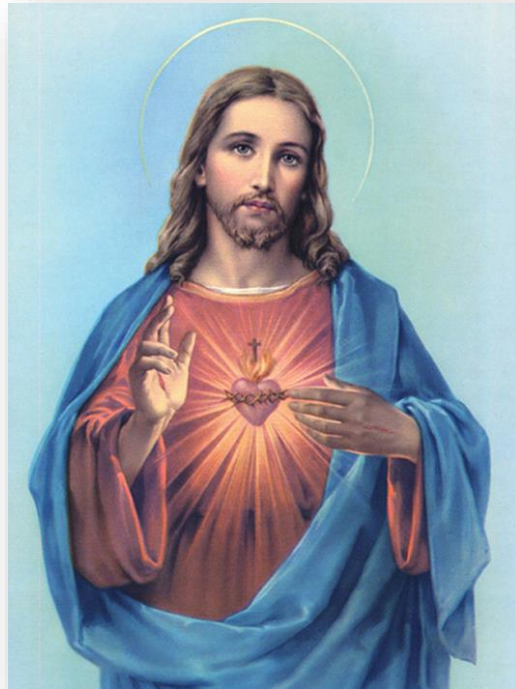
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.

Amen.



Prayer for Black History Month

Compassionate God,
who sent Jesus Christ

to deliver us from all manner of injustices and inequalities,
create in us new hearts and enlarged visions,
to see the image of God in every person
irrespective of background, race and ethnicity.

May we be generous in our love of others
as we work towards ending misunderstanding, racism and injustice;
creating communities of human flourishing,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.



Prayer for LGBT+

God of Community,
encompassing all that was, that is and that can be,
who brings to birth each precious being in your creation;
we thank you for our capacity to love,
and for your love poured out on us.
We pray for your blessing on our LGBTQ+ Community.
May our Common Life be enriched by their presence,
and blessed by their gifts.
Grant us Grace and Humility to heal past hurts,
and transform us,
that together we may take our place in your Kingdom.
Amen



Prayer for International Women's Day

Almighty God,

We lift our hands up high in praise and worship.

We give you thanks for the women in our lives and communities.

We lift our hands up high to show that we are in, and committed to
seeing a gender equal world.

We thank you for women who have led the way when the path was
uncertain.

Help us to celebrate women;

Give us wisdom to see bias and the voice to speak up against it;

Equip us to take action to seek equality,
And boldness to challenge where needed.

We are all one in Christ Jesus.

We lift our hands up high in praise and worship.

Amen.



WOMEN'S DAY

Prayer for personal occasions

For the first day at work or school

O God, the strength of my life,
make known your will for me in this place:
help me to discover friends among strangers,
to meet opportunities and challenges eagerly,
and to do my daily tasks in your name.
Give me strength to overcome my worries,
and preserve me in your safekeeping,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For upcoming exam results

God, you have given me every good and perfect gift,
and you are generous without finding fault.
Help me to stay calm as I wait for news.
Whatever happens, be with me,
and help me to know the wisdom
that comes from heaven,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
Amen.

For a birthday

Loving God, bless your servant N
whose birthday is today;
give him/her a joyful heart as he/she celebrates
and remembers all who have brought riches to
his/her life;
and be with him/her,
over the coming year and forever.

When someone is in hospital

Lord God, whose Son, Jesus Christ,
understood people's fear and pain
before they spoke of them,
we pray for those in hospital;
surround the frightened with your tenderness;
give strength to those in pain;
hold the weak in your arms of love,
and give hope and patience
to those who are recovering;
we ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

A prayer for God's guidance

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we ask you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

For dealing with a difficult situation

Sovereign God,
the defence of those who trust in you
and the strength of those who suffer:
look with mercy on our affliction
and deliver us through our mighty Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

For those who are lonely

O God, our sovereign and our shepherd,
who brought again your Son Jesus Christ from the valley of death,
comfort us with your protecting presence
and your angels of goodness and love,
that we also may come home
and dwell with him in your house for ever.
Amen.

For justice

Living God,
deliver us from a world without justice
and a future without mercy;
in your mercy, establish justice,
and in your justice, remember the mercy
revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For growth and transformation

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord our God.
How sweet are your words to the taste,
sweeter than honey to the mouth.
How precious are your commands for our life,
more than the finest gold in our hands.
How marvellous is your will for the world,
Unending is your love for the nations.
Our voices shall sing of your promises
and our lips declare your praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.
Amen.

For those who feel guilt

Give us honest hearts, O God,
and send your kindly Spirit
to help us confess our sins
and bring us the peace of your forgiveness;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For those in pain

Lord God, whose Son, Jesus Christ,
understood people's fear and pain
before they spoke of them,
we pray for those in hospital;
surround the frightened with your tenderness;
give strength to those in pain;
hold the weak in your arms of love,
and give hope and patience
to those who are recovering;
we ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

For those who mourn

Father,
you know our hearts and share our sorrows.
We are hurt by our parting from those whom we loved:
when we are angry at the loss we have sustained,
when we long for words of comfort,
yet find them hard to hear,
turn our grief to truer living,
our affliction to firmer hope
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A Calendar of Selected Religious Festivals for 2021-2022

August

8 Ashura - Islam

31 St Aidan of Lindisfarne

September

29 Michelmas

25-27 Rosh Hashanah – New Year – Judaism

October

4-5 Yom Kippur - Judaism

4 Saint Francis Day

3 St Edward, confessor and king

24 Diwali - Deepavali - Hinduism - Sikhism - Jainism

29 Mawlid an Nabi - Hindu

November

1 All Saints Day

2 All Souls Day

11 Remembrance Day

27 Advent Sunday

30 Saint Andrew's Day

December

6 Saint Nicholas Day

18-24 Hanukkah - Judaism

25 Christmas Day

January

6 Epiphany

6 St Grace

18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

20 Guru Gobindh Singh birthday – Sikhism

22 Chinese New Year – Buddhism

February

2 Candlemas

15 Nirvana Day - Buddhist - Jain – Sikhism

14 St. Valentine's Day

18 - Maha Shavaratri - Hinduism

21 Shrove Tuesday

22 Ash Wednesday

March

1 St. David of Wales

6-7 Purim – Judaism

8 St Felix of Felixstowe

17 St Patrick's Day

22 Beginning of Ramdan - Islam

April

2 Palm Sunday

5-13 Pesach (Passover) – Judaism

6 Maundy Thursday

7 Good Friday

9 Easter Sunday

21-22 Eid al Fitr - Islam

23 Saint George's Day

May

18 Ascension of the Lord

25 St Bede

27 St Augustine's Day

28 Pentecost

June

4 Trinity Sunday

5 Founder's Day

9 St Columba

23 St Hilda