

Praying for our Vision

God of all grace and goodness,
you lead us into the way of love and life:
hear our prayer for your church in this place,
may we offer you our hearts and minds in worship,
bring others to walk with us as disciples of Christ,
and share the hope to which you have called us,
that by the work of your Spirit
we may see lives and communities transformed,
and be drawn ever more deeply into your life of love,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Praying for our Priorities

Generous God,
by your Spirit lead your church into growth,
and into the mature humanity
that reflects the image of Christ our Saviour.
So equip our ministers with the gifts of your Spirit
that we may kindle anew the flame of faith
among children and young people,
renew our churches with your life and love,
and help new communities come to birth
and lift their hearts in worship,
that, joined as one body together,
we may find a voice to sing your praise,
now and in all eternity.
Amen.



Praying for Growth

We have launched a dedicated period of prayer
that our diocese will grow both spiritually and
numerically over the coming years.

By 2030 we pray that we shall have healthy and sustainable churches which are resourced and encouraged to worship God, make disciples, share hope, and transform their communities. We hope to have double the number of children and young people in our churches, at least 100 new worshipping communities and congregations of 150 people in each major area of population. None of this will happen without prayer.

Bishop John writes: "I would like to ask all of you to pray for our growth as Kingdom People, as we begin to put our vision into practice and work on the priorities we have agreed. This leaflet contains two short prayers you can use as individuals and in groups, not least at PCC Meetings, and a short litany of intercession which could be used either in meetings or from time to time in Sunday worship. I shall be praying these prayers regularly myself, and I hope you will join me."





Prayers of intercession

Let us pray for God's kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven.

God of justice and freedom, love and compassion,
empower your church so to witness to your work in the world,
that people may find new hope for the peace of creation.

Your kingdom come,
your will be done.

Fount of mission, sending your Son into the world,
help us to so declare your love,
that others are drawn to share the life of your kingdom.

Your kingdom come,
your will be done.

Giver of all good gifts, sending your Spirit on your church,
strengthen John our bishop, Martin, bishop of Dudley,
the clergy, lay ministers and people of this diocese,
that equipped with the needful gifts of grace, all may be renewed
in your service.

Your kingdom come,
your will be done.

Lord of life, renewing all creation in Christ,
renew your church again, in this place and in our day,
[through the projects we undertake, and in this community of ...]
that new and old communities of faith will proclaim your
faithfulness.

Your kingdom come,
your will be done.

Heavenly Father, your Son made a child the true example of faith;
help us so to work with and welcome children and young people,
that they may become witnesses with us to your transforming love.

Your kingdom come,
your will be done.

God of compassion, you look on all your children with mercy
and kindness,
[particularly we pray for ...],
heal the sick, strengthen the weak, refresh the dry,
give hope to the despairing, and new life to the dying.

Your kingdom come,
your will be done.

God of glory, you call us all to a hopeful future;
transformed by your Spirit,
may we so renew our worship on earth,
that you fit us for the worship of heaven,
where in the company of saints and angels,
we may live in the perfection of your love,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever.

Amen.

