# THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND BIRMINGHAM PRAYINGTOGETHER

# 1 - 16 Aug

#### SAT 1

Our young person, Beckah is moved by the situation currently going on in America and asks us to pray for young peoples voices to be heard.

You can watch Beckah on our website.

### THANKSGIVING

# Sunday 2 August

From Sharon, St Stephen the Martyr, Rednal: Recently, my mum needed a job after not working for about six years to take care of us. She desired a particular kind of job but couldn't get it. But just as she was about to give up and settle for something else, God surprised us and gave her the job of her dreams. We give thanks to our God who answers prayers!

#### MON 3

Christine, St Mary's, Moseley, invites us to pray with music about God in all things, God made all things holy.

Choose your own song or listen on our website.

All these CofEB Praying together prayers can be found on our website **www.dio.org.uk/CofEB-PT** 

To submit an expression of prayer go to **www.cofe.io/PT** or by post – Comms Team, 1 Colmore Row B3 2BJ

### TUE 4

Malawi Mothers' Union ask for our prayers for members as they seek to serve by planting trees and making PPE for hospitals. They give thanks for past gifts of sewing machines that enables them to sew whatever is required.

### WED 5

David, St John Baptist and SS Lawrence & Anne, Knowle, invites meditation on the lyrics of the song 'The Splendour of the King'.

Choose your own song or read on our website.

### THU 6

The Revd Canon Janet Chapman, St Laurence, Northfield, invites us to pray the end of Psalm 79: "When faith is scorned and love grows cold, then, God of hosts, rebuild your Church on lives of thankfulness and patient prayer; through Christ your eternal Son."

You can hear Janet on our website.

# FRI 7

The Revd Dr Sharon Prentis, Intercultural Mission Enabler and Dean of BAME Affairs, invites us to pray for the diversity of races and cultures.

You can watch Sharon on our website.

### SAT 8

From Sarah Smith, CofEB Director of Education: Dear Lord, we pray for teachers and all who work in our schools. Thank you for sustaining them during the last few months. We thank you that there is now a time for rest. We pray for refreshment and renewed energy, a time to think about family and to engage with interests and to relax. Amen.

Thoughts

#### THANKSGIVING

# **Sunday 9 August**

From Jenny, St George's with St Michael's, Edgbaston: Invites us to give thanks with St George's, Edgbaston for the discernment and process that led to The Revd Sam Gibson coming and for the faithfulness and mutual care of the congregation.

You can also read Jenny's prayer on our website.

#### MON 10

From Laura, St John the Evangelist, Perry Barr: Heavenly Father, we pray for those who are preparing to receive Holy Orders. Strengthen our hands for service and may you always be our example and guide. In this time of waiting and anticipation of this Holy Sacrament we lay before you all we are and everything we have. Of your mercy accept, transform and bless these gifts and use them for the glory of your name. We ask this through Christ. Amen.

### TUE 11

Kate, Shirley Parish, invites us to pray for their Messy Church families. Pray for their engagement with the activities that have been put up on line for them.

You can watch Kate on our website.

### WED 12

From Fr Bob Stephen, St Mary's, Handsworth: We give thanks that the COVID restrictions have forced us to look beyond ourselves and for the financial support in making live-streaming a permanent feature. Not only can we now include those unable to come to Sunday worship, but also those who would have had to travel to baptisms, weddings and funerals. Thank God that he still finds ways to help us do things we wouldn't have thought possible. Amen.

# THU 13

The Revd Canon Janet Chapman reflects on the churchyard of St Laurence's, Northfield, and invites us to pray for those who grieve for loved ones.

You can watch Janet on our website.

# FRI 14

From The Revd Penny Harrison, St Leonard's, Marston Green: We pray for all the schools, staff, children and families who are returning in September, perhaps for the first time since March. We pray that this time will be peaceful, safe and that all will feel supported by God's love and our prayers. Amen.

### SAT 15

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.

### THANKSGIVING

# **Sunday 16 August**

From The Revd John Nightingale, St Francis of Assisi, Bournville: In the global south, debt payments are crippling the response of poorer countries to the pandemic and climate change. Thank God that so far there has been some debt cancellation and some rescheduling of debt payments. Let us continue to pray as so much more is needed, pray that this autumn the G20 richer countries may agree to debt cancellation. Amen.

hts

# THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND BIRMINGHAM PRAYINGTOGETHER

# 17 - 31 Aug

# MON 17

The Revd Carole Young, SS Peter & Paul, Kingsbury, invites us to thank the Lord for the gift of love and friendship, for helping us to find ways of being community when we have not been able to be with each other physically. You can watch Carole on our website.

#### TUE 18

From The Revd Barrie Roberts for Rowley Regis: Creator God, 'we' love our church and the distinctive community it seeks to serve. Whilst being conscious of our history and local culture, help us to harness the necessary wisdom, energy and enthusiasm to reach out to ALL sections of the population; especially to families and children/young people. Amen.

### WED 19

Sharon, St Stephen the Martyr, Rednal, sings prayer with her children and invites us to join with these words: Thank you Father for you listen to us when we call. Thank you for always loving and showing us grace and mercy. Accept our thanks in Jesus name. Amen. You can watch Sharon on our website.

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### THU 20

The Parish Mission Support Team share an Irish Blessing to pray: May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again; may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

### FRI 21

Today, together we pray the CofEB People & Places Prayer:

Gracious and merciful God, as we pray for the future of The Church of England Birmingham, we thank you that the whole earth, its people and places, are equally precious to you. By your Spirit, equip us to meet the challenges of these times with generosity and courage; hold our fears and uncertainties in your love, and grant us the needful gifts of grace to share your love and reflect your light throughout our communities.

In the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.

# SAT 22

Ophelie, our young person, asks us to join in prayer for students and the uncertainty and struggles they face through this period. You can watch Ophelie on our website.

#### THANKSGIVING

# Sunday 23 August

From The Revd Duncan Hill-Brown, St Philip's, Dorridge: Following years of prayer and work on our vision for demolition and rebuilding, building work has finally begun! They invite us to join in praying their building project prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you that you are building us together in Dorridge and Bentley Heath, to become a living temple filled with you Spirit. We pray that as you are building us, so we would trust you to build for the future, and reveal your glory in us and through us. We pray for the sake of Jesus the Saviour. Amen.

### MON 24

From the Parish Mission Support team: Thought for the day - Try asking God in prayer for just what you need to get through today.

#### TUE 25

The CofEB Communications Team invite you to pray with them: Thank you for the art of communication. Help us to listen carefully to others and respond with kindness. And to remember that a smile is very contagious... and so to pass it on.

#### WED 26

The Revd Canon Janet Chapman reflects on one of the old Nailer's cottages in the village of Northfield and asks us to pray for all who are going hungry at this time.

You can watch Janet on our website.

### THU 27

The Revd Paul Hinton invites us to pray while walking, he feels he is able to stop and listen to the Lord, to be reminded of the extraordinary beauty of this world and love the place that God has put you in. You can watch Paul on our website.

#### FRI 28

From Sarah Smith, CofEB Director of Education: Dear Lord, we pray for children we know through our church or though schools in our parish. We pray that during August they have enjoyed their break from 'school work' and enjoy the thought of being back with their friends in September. Amen.

Thoughts

## SAT 29

The Collect for today: Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve:

pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid

and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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.

### THANKSGIVING

# **Sunday 30 August**

From Fr Bob Stephen, St Mary's, Handsworth: When we planned the reordering at St Mary's we hoped that it would strengthen our links with the community and that we would have an attractive building in which people would celebrate life's events and to include God. God has answered our prayers in this, as we have had many more enquiries about marriages than we have had in recent years. It is exciting to share with a couple in how they can use space creatively. We join in with their prayers of thanksgiving.

### MON 31

A CofE prayer for family life: God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence

to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.