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**1 - 14 Oct** 1/2

**THU 1**

 During October the UK Celebrates Black History Month.

Ever loving God, great is your faithfulness. We thank you for the witness and contributions of diverse people of colour throughout history. Instil in us, as you did in them, your grace that moves us beyond separation towards the possibility of reconciliation in you.


We pray for racial justice

We pray for an equitable society


We pray for a church that reflects the vision of the heavenly kingdom where every tribe and tongue can worship you inspired by Spirit and the truth that there is no division in Christ.

Amen

**FRI 2**

 People from across the parishes of St Mary's and St Anne's have been joining in with Pavement Prayers this summer. Sara from St Mary's, Moseley invites us to pray: Lord, we give thanks for the expressions of prayer shared with members of the community, and continue to pray for those who come through our gates. Amen

**SAT 3**

 Most loving and all powerful God, You sent your son Jesus Christ so we that could be reconciled to you and to one another, enable us by your Holy Spirit to be able to see those who are most in need, help us to look beyond our most immediate needs to those of others, and so, by showing your love, work to your glory, now and forever. Amen


*You can watch Sharon from St Phillip's Cathedral on our website.*

**THANKSGIVING**


 **Sunday 4 October**

Today is world Animal Day: Each and every one of us can make a difference for animals. Psalm 147:9 tells us that God is concerned for all His creation, including the animals He created. Lord, May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. We especially thank you for giving us our pets who are our friends and who bring us so much joy in life. Their presence very often helps us get through trying times. Amen


**MON 5**

 Today is World Teachers' Day. Lord, the COVID pandemic has significantly added to the challenges faced throughout the world. Help us to celebrate the teaching profession, take stock of achievements, and draw attention to the voices of teachers, who are at the heart of efforts to attain the global education target of leaving no one behind. Amen


**TUE 6**

 Sarah Smith, Diocesan Director of Education invites us to pray for children and families in Year 6 as they make their choices for Secondary schools. We pray Lord, that you will reassure them that whichever school they will attend, you are with them. Amen


**WED 7**

 The Jesse Tree Stay and Play, Perry Barr invite us to pray with them: Dear Lord in Heaven, we ask for your Grace as we reopen. We ask for patience with new guidelines. For the safety of all involved. And for all who will attend and for those who are still unable to come back to us. In Your Mercy, Hear Our Prayer. And let our cry come unto thee. Amen


**THU 8**

 Lord, we pray for help to save our sewers and seas. During 'Unblocktober' help us all to reduce the amount of plastic entering our oceans and rivers to make small changes to our habits and the way we dispose of everyday items in order to make big changes to the environment. And carry these habits into the future. Amen

**FRI 9**


 Revd Denise Jones invites us to pray: Father God we give you thanks for the Chaplaincy work of the Birmingham Women's & Children's Hospital. We pray for all our patients, chaplains, staff and volunteers and ask that you will pour your blessings upon the work that our chaplaincy teams are called to do. This week is Baby Loss Awareness week (9th - 15th) We pray for your comfort, your hope and your peace. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

**SAT 10**

 Loving God, you are merciful and forgiving. Grant that those who are suffering the hurts of the past may experience your generous love. Heal their memories, comfort them, and send them all from here renewed and hopeful; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.


**THANKSGIVING**

**Sunday 11 October**


 Chris Chalmers, Holy Cross, Billesley Common, invites us to give thanks for our access to clean fresh water. Lord, help us not to take fresh water for granted. May we be challenged to support those working on projects to bring clean water to those whose water is limited or has been contaminated. Amen

*You can watch Chris on our website.*

**MON 12**


 From Revd Rob Fieldson: "Please join us in praying for creative support for our ministry to children and young families. We are trying many initiatives, and have just restarted our church plant in a Covid-secure way. Lord, we pray for opportunities to engage in Gospel conversations with children and young people."

**TUE 13**

 Revd Denise Jones invites us to pray with the chaplaincy team of Birmingham Women's & Children's NHS Foundation Trust: O God giver of all comfort, look down on all who have known the joy of new life within and the desolation of losing that life. Restore them to health in body and spirit and renew in them hope, faith and love. Amen

*You can listen to Denise on our website.*

**WED 14**

 Remember that God hears every prayer — No prayer, however inadequate you may feel it to be, is ever wasted or of no value. Today we all join together in lifting up our voices to pray for those things on each of our hearts...

*Thoughts*

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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
BIRMINGHAM  
**PRAYING TOGETHER**


15 - 31 Oct

2/2


THU 15

 Sophie, our young person, invites us to pray with a beautiful drawing: Mighty God, Thank you for creating the stars, planets and galaxies. Thank you for making me. Amen  
*You can view Sophie's drawing on our website.*

FRI 16


 Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my Soul to keep; If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my Soul to take.

SAT 17


 Today is the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty: Lord, help us to recognize that all people must seek to come together to end poverty and discrimination in order to build a sustainable future. Amen

**THANKSGIVING**


**Sunday 18 October**

 We join with the Christian fellowship at New Oscott Village. In this retirement village the average age is 80, and many residents are unable to go out to church: Lord, our worship brings peace and hope and an assurance that we are not alone. The Lord is our shield and our rock, challenging us to a new understanding of love for our neighbours.


MON 19

 Martin, St Matthew's, Smethwick has written this poem to inspire prayer about treasured family time:  
It may be just a day out,  
In a beautiful place,  
With fun and games to grace,  
But family around, a gift from our Lord,  
through all the laughter, hear HIS call,  
He is always there, for one and all.  
It may be a holiday or few days break,  
With precious time together, to remember –  
those minutes and hours, so good to keep,  
remain in your heart and soul, so deep.  
A mortal present from the One above,  
An earthly token of His eternal Love.


TUE 20

 A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus  
Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.


WED 21

 O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you;  
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts;  
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.


THU 22

 Standing at the top of the Lickey Hills looking over Birmingham was peaceful and relaxing. Lord please help us to stop what we are doing and take some deep breaths, take in the sights and the sounds around us. We live in a beautiful world and we need to look after it.  
*You can view the image on our website.*

FRI 23


 Praying with Psalm 139 vs 23-24  
Loving and most merciful God. You who know me from the inside out.  
Search me Lord, that I might know you and that you might highlight anything within that hinders me from seeing you as you are.  
Try me Lord, so that my ways and observance of you may be truly fitting to your majesty.  
Lead me Lord, into your ways of truth that I may glorify and praise your name. Amen  
*You can watch Sharon on our website.*

SAT 24


 Jeremy Allcock, St Martin in-the-Bull-Ring, invites us to pray: Lord, by your Spirit, encourage us in our hearts and minds to remember those who are isolated and lonely; those who feel bereft and friendless; those who may consider themselves unloved and unlovable. May the example of your grace inspire us to reach out to show the same friendship and love we receive from You. Amen

**THANKSGIVING**


**Sunday 25 October**

 The Jesse Tree Stay and Play, Perry Barr, invite us to give thanks: Lord you support us in ways we don't always expect. Lending us hands and time and understanding. Some support You bring in ways we have never had before. Despite difficulties times, Lord, you show us the way. Thanks be to God.


MON 26

 Using our fingers we bring to mind things to pray...  
Your thumb is the strongest: We give thanks for strong things in life.  
Your index finger points: We pray for people and things who guide and help you.  
Your middle finger is tallest: We pray for people who have power in the world.  
Your ring finger is weakest: We remember the poor, the helpless, the hungry and the sick.  
Your little finger is last: We remember and pray for ourselves.


TUE 27

 Thank you God for the world so sweet,  
Thank you God for the food we eat,  
Thank you, God for the birds that sing,  
Thank you, God, for everything!


WED 28

 Join us in prayer as we give thanks for a new day:  
As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever. Amen


THU 29

 Steve Bavington invites us to pray for ChaplaincyPlus as they enter a new season and introduce their 'City Wellbeing Initiative' (CWI) to support employee wellbeing. Lord, we recognise we are completely dependent on you to open doors ahead of us. Help ChaplaincyPlus to shape this work, and be with us, Lord in all our places of work. Amen

FRI 30

 Sovereign Lord,  
Guide us out of our human tendency to see and treat others differently  
Protect us from the inclinations to favour and esteem  
Alert us to the contribution of those who are normally overlooked and the vastness of your riches in them.  
And finally, inspire us by the contradictions of your kingdom where the last and the least are the first, highly esteemed by you.

SAT 31

 Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray,  
and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,  
for the love of your only Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen

All these CofEB Praying together prayers can be found on our website [www.dio.org.uk/CofEB-PT](http://www.dio.org.uk/CofEB-PT)

To submit an expression of prayer go to [www.cofe.io/PT](http://www.cofe.io/PT) or by post – Comms Team, 1 Colmore Row B3 2BJ