

Prayer Calendar

October 2023

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- Sun, 1 Oct** Reconciling God, help us to bring curiosity and generosity to all the issues which divide us. Help us to listen well, to one another and to you, and to see the pathways that will bring us to peaceful understanding and compassionate living in difference.
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- Mon, 2 Oct** God of all, we pray for those who gather today for the Rural Forum, for the Common Fund Committee and for the Healing Forum. We thank you for the diversity of gifts and contexts across our diocese and ask you to bless us in our reflections and our decisions.
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- Tue, 3 Oct** God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we ask you to be with Bishops' Staff as they meet today. Help them to be challenged and inspired by your generosity, your sacrificial love and your guiding presence.
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- Wed, 4 Oct** Global God, we pray for the Anglican Church in Zambia and the Zambia Anglican Council, and especially for Archbishop Albert Chama following his translation from the Northern Diocese and installation as Bishop of Lusaka last month.
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- Thur, 5 Oct** Loving God, on Dyslexia Awareness Day we pray for all those who have additional needs, especially in our schools and colleges. We pray for special educational needs coordinators and all who seek to support and draw alongside children and young people in their learning.
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- Fri, 6 Oct** God of all, we pray for the diocesan Investment Committee which meets today. May it make wise decisions about the resources we have, for the benefit of all those we serve, in these financially challenging times.
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- Sat, 7 Oct** Loving Lord, we pray for Readers in our diocese gathering today. Bless their training morning and annual service in the Cathedral this afternoon. We give thanks for those licensed for the first time and those welcomed from other dioceses. May all feel affirmed and encouraged in their vocation and ministry.
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- Sun, 8 Oct** Loving God, we pray for Revd David Keen as he is commissioned as Area Dean for Yeovil today, and seeks, alongside other deanery leaders, to lead the people in their care and nurture an increasingly contextual and missional approach to ministry across the deanery.
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- Mon, 9 Oct** God of love, on this Baby Loss Awareness week, bless all parents who have faced the unimaginable loss of a baby. We pray for those who have longed for a child. May all who grieve find their comfort and strength in you.
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- Tue, 10 Oct** Compassionate God, on World Mental Health Day, be with all those who struggle with their mental health, and all who support them. Bring your healing, peace, and comfort to all those who suffer so all lives might flourish.
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- Wed, 11 Oct** Father, we pray for Ripple Effect Zambia as they plan for the rest of the year. We pray for food security, as prices increase and maize is scarce. We ask for wisdom in tackling the climate crisis and courage in addressing the HIV situation in the communities in which they work.
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- Thur, 12 Oct** Loving God, as we remember Elizabeth Fry, Prison Reformer, we pray for all who live and work in prisons and for those who make decisions about prisons and prisoners, that those decisions may seek your peace.
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- Fri, 13 Oct** Holy God, we pray for Hinkley Point C Nuclear Power Station and for the 10,000 plus people who work there. As the Lord Lieutenant visits today to meet with the chaplains and explore interfaith partnership, we pray that we may continue to learn and grow together.
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- Sat, 14 Oct** Lord of life, we give thanks for all those seeking to connect and grow faith with children, young people and families in our rural communities; praying especially for those gathering in Holford today for a training day.

Sun, 15 Oct Infinite God, you call us by name and invite us into fullness of life. Where lives are broken by illness or war and in those places where we can only see darkness, restore our faith, awaken our joy and bring us to understand the healing power of your love.

Mon, 16 Oct Heavenly Father, as the Audit and Risk Management Group meets today we ask you to give them wisdom and discernment so that we may risk all for your kingdom but not be reckless with your gifts.

Tue, 17 Oct Jesus, friend of all, we pray for our Magnificat Group as it meets today with Bishop Michael. We ask that this will be a time of mutual encouragement, honesty and fellowship.

Wed, 18 Oct We pray for chaplains as they come together from across our Diocese of Bath and Wells and the south west for their annual Gathering. We pray that they, and all God's people, may follow the example of St Luke, who we celebrate today, and live and tell the story of Jesus.

Luke the Evangelist

Thur, 19 Oct Lord of all, as we remember Henry Martyn and his work as translator and missionary, we pray for all whose energy is devoted to bringing your word to those who haven't yet been able to hear it.

Fri, 20 Oct Gracious God, we thank you for the unique communities in which we live and work. We ask you to help us listen to people across our communities and seek to be a church that loves and serves well.

Sat, 21 Oct Loving God, we pray for the churches and communities within Chew Magna Deanery. Guide and encourage those parishes in vacancy or facing reorganisation; bless new initiatives, projects and ideas that all our efforts may be to the praise and glory of your Son, Our Saviour.

Sun, 22 Oct Generous God, as we remember those who stammer on International Stammering Awareness Day help us to listen attentively to each other and to reach below the surface of fluency or accent to hear and appreciate each person's voice.

Mon, 23 Oct God of the Sabbath, we give thanks for half term for our schools and colleges and pray that this week may be a time of rest and refreshment for children, young people and staff.

Tue, 24 Oct Infinitely loving God, we pray for all those battling addiction. Give them the strength to overcome their addictions. Put people around them to support, care and encourage. We pray for all organisations supporting addicts and for the vital work they do.

Wed, 25 Oct Heavenly Father, we pray for the Taunton Archdeaconry Mission and Pastoral Group as they gather today to consider your mission across the archdeaconry. Help them to hear the signs of your kingdom and make decisions focused on those signs.

Thur, 26 Oct Lord of all, as we remember Alfred, King of the West Saxons, we pray for all those in the Alfred Jewel Benefice, for King Charles and for all those in positions of leadership, that they may serve with wisdom and joy.

Fri, 27 Oct Spirit of God, we ask you to bless and inspire all those who seek to accompany others on their spiritual journey. Give them wisdom and generosity so that they are able to help people to discover who you are calling them to be.

Sat, 28 Oct Heavenly Father, we give thanks for all those people who serve our communities and churches across our diocese, especially those whose work is known only to you. Help us to notice and value the commitment of others.

Simon and Jude, Apostles

Sun, 29 Oct Generous God, we pray for Quantock Deanery as they launch their new Group Ministry across the deanery. May it enable new collaboration, new ministry and mission and new opportunities to live and tell the story of Jesus.

Mon, 30 Oct Lord help us to see the struggles of the people we encounter on a regular basis. Help us to value each human life, as a priceless gift from You. May we seek justice, and show mercy to all people.

Tue, 31 Oct Lord of Light, on All Hallows Eve we celebrate light over darkness and pray for those around our diocese hosting Light Parties and bringing light to events taking place in their community. We give thanks that you came to be Light of the World.

