

DAILY PRAYER

Opening Prayer

With the communion of Mary and all the saints who have gone before us and with those who work and pray for your Kingdom's glory, we give thanks to the Lord, now and forever. Amen.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray through the power of the Holy Spirit to God our Father. + Amen

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

Matthew 25: 34—36

Jesus specifically mentions care for prisoners, he does not say wrongly imprisoned or falsely imprisoned, but caring for all those in prison. Let us reflect on how we can do the same and acknowledge where we have not shown this care in the past.

A prayer by Rt Reverend Richard Moth, Liaison Bishop for Prisons

Lord Jesus Christ, You have come so that we may have life to the full,

Listen to our prayers for all in prison and their families,

Touched by your spirit, may they find newness of heart and be open to that new life that is found only in you. May they know care, and receive support from those around them. May they find new purpose in serving you in their brothers and sisters.

Amen

Scripture

Select a reading and reflect of what it is saying to you about you own faith. You can choose to read from the lectionary or a reading from your own bible reading pattern.

A time of reflection

Choose one or two of the following questions and using the passage of scripture reflect on what God might be saying to you

- *How is my faith today? What paths am I following to deepen my love for Christ?*
- *Where do I see God working? Am I playing my part in God's mission to those whom society has neglected?*
- *When I think over the last few days, have I shared the love of Jesus Christ with anyone?*
- *What more does this teach me about God and His love for all creation?*
- *How does this passage renew me today in my body, mind and spirit?*

A time of prayer

We offer prayers today for all those affected by imprisonment.

We ask that Lord God you would draw alongside and make your love known to those serving custodial sentences, those people on probation in the community, and those staff and volunteers who support and mentor them.

We pray for children who are living today with a parent in prison and other family members who have a loved one in prison. We pray that they would find comfort in you, solace in your Holy word and support in a community of believers.

We pray also for Pact, their staff and volunteers, who seek to serve all those affected by imprisonment both in prison and in the community.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen +

You are welcome to add your own intercessions.

Blessing

God loved us before he made us; and his love has never diminished and never shall. *(Julian of Norwich)*

May God bless us, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in this day and the days to come. +

Amen

How to use the Pact Daily Prayer

This can be read through slowly by one person in a daily, private act of worship, or can be used to lead a small group. If it helps you to add music or to incorporate a time of sung worship into your time of daily prayer then please feel free to do so.