

Three suggestions for prayer from Archbishop Justin as we pray for the nation

Please pray that...

- All Christians will be filled by the Holy Spirit so that they have the peace, joy, and comfort God that promises
- All those people who we meet at work or in the community may see something of Jesus in our lives so that they are drawn to put their faith in Jesus and become his disciples
- All churches may be full of faith and joy, overflowing with the reality of Jesus, and demonstrating love and compassion for others

Prayer Outline for personal prayer

Our Father in Heaven

- Through faith in Jesus we have the amazing privilege of becoming children of God, with a Heavenly Father who is good and who welcomes us into His presence.
- We are so precious to our Heavenly Father that He will never forget us. (Isaiah 49:15)
- Thank your Heavenly Father for His great love for you and that because of Jesus you are in his family.
- Think of a couple of people you know who don't yet know the Father's love, and so haven't come into His family. Pray for each one that they will come to know God as their Father.

Hallowed be Your Name

- God's name is holy and we are to hold it in awe and respect.
- Offer words of worship to the Father, praising Him for his character ("The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love." Psalm 145:8)
- Ask the Lord to help you to always honour his precious and holy name, and to never misuse it.

Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven

- God's Kingdom is established wherever people submit to His reign as King and carry out His will on earth, as it is done in heaven.
- Invite the Lord to "reign over" every part of your life: ie your relationship with him, your relationships with other people, your ministry, time, money/resources, body.
- Invite the Lord to use you as His witness wherever you go each day.
- Tell the Lord that you are prepared to allow the light within you to shine out to others.
- Pray for someone you know who isn't yet a Christian that the Lord would use you to help them take the next step into the kingdom of God.

Give us today our daily bread

- As the Lord provided manna in the desert on a daily basis for the Israelites so he has promised to provide for our needs as we bring them to him.
- Spend some time bringing your own physical needs to the Lord and ask Him to provide you with what you need.
- Thank the Lord for His faithfulness to you.
- Pray for someone you know who is struggling in some way, that the Lord will meet their needs too.
- Ask the Lord to equip you to share your faith and to serve Him, through the power of His Holy Spirit.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us

- Because God loves us, he put our sins on Jesus, who never did anything wrong, so we could be put right with him. (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- Having been shown such incredible mercy, we are to show mercy to others.
- Pray the words below from Psalm 139 and allow the Lord to show you any sins that you need to confess to Him and turn away from. "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." (Psalm 139:23-24)
- Having been forgiven, ask the Lord to show you anyone who has hurt you and who you need to release forgiveness to.
- As the Lord reminds you of the person you need to forgive, choose to forgive them at the foot of the cross.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

- When the devil tempts us he can dangle something that looks attractive in front of our eyes. If we take the bait and act on the temptation, before we know it we can be trapped and enslaved by chains of sin. Jesus leads us on the safe path through life.
- Ask the Lord to show you what temptation you find hard to resist. As He shows you, ask the Lord to help you keep your eyes upon Him and away from the temptation.
- 2 Corinthians 4:4 says: "The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ."

For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever Amen

- All things, including each one of us, have been created to bring God glory. For now, we catch glimpses of the Lord's glory but one day it will be different. One day we will see the Lord face to face in all of His glory, power and majesty when His kingdom is fully present.
- Spend a few moments praising the Lord for the glimpses of His glory that He gives you through His creation, through other people and through encounters with Him.