

We remember the adults and children in relationships badly affected by poverty, conflict, unfaithfulness, neglect or cold-heartedness. May they know your healing presence.

We bring before you, those who have lost a loved one and are experiencing grief and loneliness. God of all comfort prompt caring friends and family members to express their love and support at this difficult time.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**  
**Walk with us in our journey of hope**

### **Saturday: Holy Ground**

'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it: for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.'

*Psalms 24:1-2*

**Creator God**, you made the goodness of the land, the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons; as we thank you for your gracious providing may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples.

**Living God**, you call us to be good stewards of this earthly home: strengthen us to care for your creation; forgive us when, through our greed and indifference, we abuse its beauty and damage its potential. Empower us, through your Spirit to so nurture and love the world, that all creation sings to your glory.

**God of creation and Lord of life**, you entrusted us to care for our environment, but in many parts of the world we have failed. Help us to realise how fragile and unstable our surroundings are, because we are not looking after creation. Help us to understand how the most insignificant little flowers, and the tiniest insects, each creature and each individual are all part of a wondrous whole, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Walk with us in our journey of hope**

### **Final Blessing**

**The love of the Lord Jesus  
draw us to himself;  
the power of the Lord Jesus  
strengthen us in his service;  
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill our hearts;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.  
Amen.**

## **Midday Prayers 2024: Transformation – Now! January: Faith for the future**

*Please also refer to the Prayer Diary for the Wave of Prayer and prayers on each monthly theme.*

### **Monday: Together with hope**

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.'

*Romans 15:13*

O Lord, open my eyes  
that I might see the needs of others  
Open my ears  
that I might hear their cries;  
Open my heart so  
that they need not be without succour;

Let me not be afraid to defend the weak  
because of the anger of the strong,  
Not afraid to defend the poor  
because of the anger of the rich.

Show me where love and hope and faith are  
needed, and use me to bring them to those places.  
And so open my eyes and my ears  
That I may be able to do your will

*Elizabeth Stickney*

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### **Tuesday: Encounters with God**

'Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise!  
No one can measure his greatness.  
Let each generation tell its children of your  
mighty acts; let them proclaim your power.  
I will speak of the glorious splendour of your  
majesty and meditate on your wonderful works.'

*Psalms 145:3-5*

'Do not conform to the pattern of this world but  
be transformed by the renewing of your mind.  
Then you will be able to test and approve what  
God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.'

*Romans 12.2*

Lord, just as the lives of men and women in the Bible were transformed as they experienced Your living presence, may we be changed as we encounter You afresh today.

**This we pray in your name.**

*Contd...*

Disturb us, O Lord  
when we are too well pleased with ourselves  
when our dreams have come true  
because we have dreamed too little,  
because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, O Lord, when,  
with the abundance of things we possess,  
we have lost our thirst for the water of life;  
when, having fallen in love with time,  
we have ceased to dream of eternity;  
and when, in our efforts to build a new earth,  
we have allowed our vision of Heaven  
to grow dim.

Stir us, O Lord, to dare more boldly,  
to venture into wider seas  
where storms show Thy mastery,  
where we are losing sight of land,  
and where we shall find the stars.

In the name of Him who pushed back  
the horizons of our hopes  
and invited the brave to follow. Amen  
*Desmond Tutu from an original prayer  
by Sir Francis Drake*

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### **Wednesday: Blessed assurance**

‘The Lord gives strength to his people, and the  
Lord blesses his people with peace.’  
*Psalm 29:11*

To you, O Lord, we bring our lives,  
Troubled, broken or at ease,  
A sacrificial offering for you to use.

Take away our selfishness and  
teach us to love as you loved,  
Take away our sense of pride and  
show us the meaning of humility.  
Take away our blindness and  
show us the world through your eyes.  
Take away our greed and  
teach us how to give as you gave.

Show us your ways, teach us your paths,  
That we might walk with you more closely.  
Our hand in your hand, our feet in your footsteps;  
From the baby in a stable to eternity,

This we pray in your name.  
Amen. *Liz Pullen*

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### **Thursday: A reconciling presence**

‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do  
not give to as the world gives. Do not let your  
hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.’  
*John 14:27*

*The words ‘**Father Forgive**’ are used as  
the response in the Coventry Litany of Reconciliation:*

‘All have sinned and fallen short  
of the glory of God.’ *Romans 3:23*

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race  
from race, class from class, **Father forgive.**

The covetous desires of people and nations to  
possess what is not their own, **Father, forgive.**

The greed which exploits the work of human  
hands and lays waste the earth, **Father, forgive.**

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,  
**Father, forgive.**

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned,  
the homeless, the refugee, **Father, forgive.**

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men,  
women and children, **Father, forgive.**

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and  
not in God, **Father, forgive.**

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving  
one another, **as God in Christ forgave you**

*(The Coventry Litany of Reconciliation, by Canon  
Joseph Poole in 1958, is prayed in the new Cathedral  
every weekday at noon, and throughout the world by  
partners in the Community of the Cross of Nails.)*

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### **Friday: Faith in the family**

‘I kneel before the Father, from whom every  
family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I  
pray that out of his glorious riches he may  
strengthen you with power through his spirit in  
your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your  
hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being  
rooted and established in Love, may have power,  
together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp  
how wide and long and high and deep is the love  
of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses  
knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure  
of all the fullness of God.’

*Ephesians 3:14-19*

Heavenly Father, thank you for marriage, which  
reflects Christ’s love for us. May it continue to be  
honoured and recognised within society as a  
means of providing security and love to a family.

Today we remember all those contemplating  
marriage, those attending marriage preparation  
and those seeking marriage enrichment.

Lord of love, we thank you for every marriage and  
family where love is at the centre. We pray for an  
increase in understanding and of grace and love  
to grow in their lives.

*Contd...*