



PRAYER FOR THE NATION



# PRAYER FOR THE NATION

St Paul's Whitley Bay





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

*We light a candle and  
say together*

Dear God, our loving Father,  
the candles we have lit represent each and  
every one of us whose lives have been  
changed forever by COVID-19.

Their light also reminds us of Jesus Christ,  
your Son, who is the light of the world and  
the light in our darkness.

Give us, we pray, comfort in our anxiety and  
fear, courage and strength in our suffering,  
patience and compassion in our caring,  
consolation in our grieving. But above all,  
give us hope now and always, through the  
same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

Loving God,  
at this time of crisis when so many  
are suffering, we pray for our nation  
and our world.

Give our leaders wisdom, our Health  
Service strength, our people hope.

Lead us through these parched and  
difficult days to the fresh springs of  
joy and comfort that we find in  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## Monday: Psalm 91

- 1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High ♦  
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
- 2 Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, ♦  
my God, in whom I put my trust.'
- 3 For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler ♦  
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his wings and you shall be safe  
under his feathers; ♦  
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, ♦  
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, ♦  
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...*





## Tuesday: Psalm 91

9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge ♦  
and the Most High your stronghold,

10 There shall no evil happen to you, ♦  
neither shall any plague come near your tent.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, ♦  
to keep you in all your ways.

12 They shall bear you in their hands, ♦  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...*





## Wednesday: Psalm 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; ♦  
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord, ♦  
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not suffer your foot to stumble; ♦  
he who watches over you will not sleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel ♦  
shall neither slumber nor sleep.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...*





## Thursday: Psalm 121

5 The Lord himself watches over you; ♦  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, ♦  
neither the moon by night.

7 The Lord shall keep you from all evil; ♦  
it is he who shall keep your soul.

8 The Lord shall keep watch over your going out  
and your coming in, ♦  
from this time forth for evermore.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## Friday: Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord;  
Lord, hear my voice; ♦  
let your ears consider well the voice of my  
supplication.

2 If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss, ♦  
O Lord, who could stand?

3 But there is forgiveness with you, ♦  
so that you shall be feared.

4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; ♦  
in his word is my hope.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy  
Spirit...*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## Saturday: Psalm 25

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
O my God, in you I trust; ♦  
let me not be put to shame;  
let not my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame, ♦  
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.

3 Make me to know your ways, O Lord, ♦  
and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, ♦  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you have I hoped all the day long.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## Sunday: Psalm 27

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear? ◆

The Lord is the strength of my life;  
of whom then shall I be afraid?

4 One thing have I asked of the Lord  
and that alone I seek: ◆  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life.

16 I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord ◆  
in the land of the living.

17 Wait for the Lord; be strong  
and he shall comfort your heart; ◆  
wait patiently for the Lord.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## DAILY THEMES OF PRAYER

*Monday: Schools and colleges, children and young people.*

**We pray for all those involved in the shaping of young lives.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**We give God thanks for the sacrifice and commitment of teachers and all those involved in serving children and young people in education.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**We pray that all might be nurtured and cared for and that every needful resource would be made available – that all lives can flourish even in these difficult times and that no-one would be overlooked.**

*(Silence is kept)*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## DAILY THEMES OF PRAYER

*Tuesday: Elderly, isolated and vulnerable*

**We echo God's commitment to those most at risk of this virus by praying today for those who are particularly vulnerable and isolated: praying for their deliverance, protection and comfort.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**We hold before God those who care for them – that they would be strengthened and encouraged in this work.**

*(Silence is kept)*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## DAILY THEMES OF PRAYER

*Wednesday: Businesses, the workplace and economic wellbeing*

**In this time of great challenge, we pray for the economic wellbeing of the country. We remember before God those who face great uncertainty in their work.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**We lift before God those who have lost their jobs and face an uncertain and difficult future.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**We pray for a renewed commitment to our common life together.**

*(Silence is kept)*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## DAILY THEMES OF PRAYER

*Thursday: The NHS and other key workers.*

**Our God is the great healer – and the agent used more than any other is the NHS.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**Today we voice our gratitude for those who serve this country in the National Health Service and pray for that God would prosper the work of their hands – that they would all be encouraged in their continued work of sacrifice and care amongst us.**

*(Silence is kept)*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## DAILY THEMES OF PRAYER

*Friday: National and Local government.*

**We pray for those who are in positions of authority with responsibility for decision making at national and local level at this difficult time.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**We ask that God would give great wisdom, deep commitment to all and right judgment.**

*(Silence is kept)*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## DAILY THEMES OF PRAYER

*Saturday: All who are grieving, and all suffering with physical and mental ill-health*

*'Lord the one you love is ill...'* *John 11 v 3*

**We bring to God all those who suffer in body, mind, spirit or with grief. We ask that in God's great loving kindness they might know God's sustaining presence amidst their pain.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**We pray for those who are stretched beyond their own capacity to cope and remain hopeful – that in the roar of these waterfalls God would bring a sense of coherence, comfort and strength.**

*(Silence is kept)*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

## DAILY THEMES OF PRAYER

*Sunday: Family, friends and loved ones.*

**We lift to God those we hold in our hearts – praying for their health, their well-being and their sense of hope.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**We pray that even when loved ones cannot physically be together they would not feel apart.**

*(Silence is kept)*

**We ask for God's help in our communicating, our connecting and our caring.**

*(Silence is kept)*





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

*Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us*

**Our Father**, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done; on earth as it is in  
heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against  
us. And lead us not into temptation; but  
deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and  
the glory, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

*Week 1 (1-7 Feb)*

Gracious God,  
as we remember before you the  
thousands who have died,  
surround us and all who mourn with  
your strong compassion.

Be gentle with us in our grief,  
protect us from despair,  
and give us grace to persevere and  
face the future with hope in Jesus  
Christ our risen Lord.

**Amen.**





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

*Week 2 (8-14 Feb)*

Loving God,  
at this time of crisis  
when so many are suffering,  
we pray for our nation and our world.

Give our leaders wisdom,  
our Health Service strength, our  
people hope.

Lead us through these parched and  
difficult days to the fresh springs of joy  
and comfort that we find in Jesus  
Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

*Week 3 (15-21 Feb)*

Loving Father God,  
be with us in our distress;  
be with our families, friends, and  
neighbours, our country and our world.

Give health to the sick, hope to the  
fearful, and comfort to mourners.

Give wisdom to our frontline and key  
workers, insight to our Government, and  
patience to us all.

Overcome disease with the power of your  
new life, through your Son, Jesus Christ  
our Lord.

**Amen.**





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

*Week 4 (22-28 Feb)*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
in these dark and difficult days, we turn our  
hearts to you. In ages past, you have  
delivered our nation from disaster.  
Do it again, we pray.

Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our  
leaders, Give strength beyond human  
strength to the NHS and all our frontline  
workers.

Give comfort beyond human comfort to the  
elderly and all who grieve.

Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult  
days, turn your face towards us, have mercy  
upon us, and heal our land, we pray.

**Amen.**





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

Loving Father God,  
Be with us in our distress: with our families, friends and neighbours, our country and our world.  
Give health to the sick, hope to the fearful, and comfort to the mourners.  
Give wisdom and strength to our frontline and key workers, insight to our government and patience to us all;  
Overcome disease with the power of your new life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**





PRAYER FOR THE NATION

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake,  
or watch, or weep tonight,  
and give your angels and saints charge  
over those who sleep.

Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ.

Rest your weary ones.

Bless your dying ones.

Soothe your suffering ones.

Pity your afflicted ones.

Shield your joyous ones,

and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord;

**Thanks be to God.**

