

**Prayer Station:-    Salt of the Earth**

**That we may develop and increase our effectiveness in salting the lives of all with whom we connect.**

*“You are the salt of the earth.” (Matthew 5:13)*

*Jesus said: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” (Luke 10:27)*

Jesus not only transforms our lives but He calls us to go into our communities and transform other people’s lives; often by demonstrating His love in practical ways. As one of the uses of salt is to enhance the flavour of food, so Christians living under the guidance of the Holy Spirit enhance the lives of others in their communities.

**Prayer activities:**

1. Sprinkle a little salt into the palm of your hand.

As you ponder the difference a few grains of salt can make to the taste of food, receive the truth that with *“Christ in you,”* (Colossians 1:27) you too can make a difference to other people’s lives.

Ask The Lord to keep filling you with His love and His Holy Spirit so that you stay ever “salty”

2. Thank God for the healing power of salt, and for the opportunities He gives you to bring healing to His world.

3. Now put a few grains of salt into your mouth and as you taste the saltiness, ask Jesus to show you a practical way that you / your church could demonstrate love to people in your community.

3. Pray for an existing social action or project in your community with which this church or other churches are connected, asking that all involved would be blessed by it and know God’s love through it.

**Prayer Station:- Sweeter than honey**

**Celebrating the distinctiveness of each school and thanking God wholeheartedly for the care and education they give.**

*“Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long.” (Psalm 25:5)*

A school built on the foundation of God’s Word gives every child the opportunity to have a life changing encounter with Jesus and discover their place in the world that God has created.

**Prayer activities:**

1. Thank the Lord for the church schools and community schools you know.

Ask the Lord to continue to equip their head-teachers and staff teams with wisdom, strength, patience and all that they need.

Pray for the Department for Education and the Diocesan Education Department, and their work and effectiveness in supporting schools.

2. The Psalmist says: *“How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!”* (Psalm 119:103) Dip a cocktail stick into the honey and then taste it.

As you taste the sweetness of the honey, pray that the school(s) would help children discover the sweet truth of God’s Word.

Ask too that children would have life changing encounters with Jesus as they discover who He is and what He has done for them.

3. Take time to read one story from a Children’s Bible.

4. Spend a few moments praying Psalm 25:5 for yourself: *“Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long.”*

**Prayer Station:- Light of the World**

**For the church to develop effective communications, promoting a community that is visible, attractive and accessible**

*“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:14-16)*

Jesus wants our “lights to shine” to His Father’s glory. Good communications are vital in enabling our “lights to shine” in the wider community.

**Prayer activities:**

As you come to pray you might light a candle or tea-light.

1. As you look at the light shining out, pray that the Lord will be glorified through your life.....that as people look at you, your life will communicate Jesus.
  
2. Pray for the church that through its communications, it may become ever more visible, attractive and accessible to the local community.
  
3. Sin can prevent the light of Jesus shining out from our lives and the life of the church, and can damage the reputation of this Body of Christ on Earth.

Ask the Holy Spirit to “shine his light” into your heart and show you any sins that you need to confess. Pray through the following words from Psalm 139:23-24.  
*“Search me, 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.”*

Silently confess the sins that He reveals to you. The following may be helpful.

*“Lord Jesus I confess that I have sinned by....(name the sin)  
I now turn away from that sin and ask you to forgive me  
Fill me afresh with your spirit that my life may communicate your goodness and your love to others. Amen.*

**Prayer Station:- God of Small Things**

**That our hearts, while acknowledging the immensity of our God, may know that He notices the small things which affect our lives**

*“May God hold you in the hollow of His hand” (An Irish Blessing)*

We all have around our homes many small things which can help to focus our prayer; ordinary, everyday items, ornaments, a piece of jewellery, a glove, button, shell, or pebble.

**Prayer activities:**

1. Hold your chosen ‘small thing’ in the palm of your hand, and take a minute or two to examine it closely; turn it round, notice every detail – what does it look and feel (and maybe smell) like, what is it made of? Notice its colour, its weight; how it make you feel.

Close your eyes and be aware of whatever the object you hold in your hands brings to your mind. Maybe a particular person or group of people; a situation in your life or in the world; and bring that thought to God, as the intention of your prayer.

2. As you hold that small thing in the hollow of your hand, think of other things that are also “in your hands.” Family, friends, your job, your pets, your health or well-being, or that of someone else for whom you care. The effects you make on God’s world.

3. Imagine yourself snuggled safely in the hollow of God’s strong, gentle hands. Commit yourself afresh to his keeping, and thank Him for noticing every small thing that fills his creation.

*Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground without your father knowing it. (Matt. 10.29)*