# Everyday Faith (Q1,2,3)

In thinking about the future of the Diocese of Leicester, our vision is the kingdom of God, a kingdom of justice and joy, a new heaven and a new earth where God's beauty, goodness and truth inspire all people.

This kingdom touches every area of life (including the 'natural world'). There is nothing outside its range or beyond its reach.

For this next season in the life of the Diocese of Leicester, we will be focussing on **everyday faith.** This is all about how we express our Christian faith every day, in everyday situations. It reminds us that God is interested in more than our buildings, our money, our church services. God wants us to pray, to witness, to serve, at all times and in all places: our homes, workplaces, schools, friendship groups and leisure time.

This is how God's kingdom will come on earth as it is in heaven.

# Equipping God's People Every Day

We want to help equip churches and individual Christians to live out their faith every day, in everyday **prayer, action** and **witness.**

This is how God's kingdom will come on earth as it is in heaven. Visit our website for ideas for sharing and growing our faith.



## Focussing our
## Three Key Questions

**Q1.** Depth of discipleship – how are you making prayer a part of your every day life, and growing in everyday prayer?

**Q2.** Numbers of disciples – how are you making witness and 'everyday faith conversations' a part of your every day?

**Q3.** Loving Service – how are you showing kindness and serving others every day, in everyday situations?

# Shaped by God
# Everyday

# Everyday Prayer (Q1)

Jesus taught us to pray for God's kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven. This call to prayer gets to the heart of what it means to be a Christian.

Praying is not just something we do once a week in a particular building. It is an expression of relationship – like a child speaking to a loving parent – and therefore can and should happen at any time and in any place.

There are many different ways to pray:

- Often in the Church of England we use liturgy – spoken prayers which have been carefully crafted and are read out loud

- Sometimes we sit in silence – refusing to let the noise and clutter of the world overwhelm us

# Everyday Witness (Q2)

As we focus on everyday faith, we want the whole of our lives to speak of Christ (actions and words). This is how we point people towards God.

Just as we find it hard sometimes to speak to God (everyday prayer), so we find it hard to speak about God to others. Everyday faith conversations are simple conversations where we "Ask questions and tell stories" about God in our own lives and in others' lives. Questions such as 'what have you noticed God doing this week?' or 'How can I pray for you?" can be combined with simple stories of God answering prayer or teaching us something new about faith in the workplace.

We need wisdom and sensitivity in these conversations, and we also need courage. We learn how to have these conversations together in church, so that we can continue to "ask questions and tell stories" in our social networks and homes.

# Everyday Action (Q3)

Jesus taught his followers that nothing was more important than loving God and loving our neighbour as our self.

God's kingdom of justice and joy involves simple, personal acts of kindness as well as organised Christian communities helping people in response to issues and needs.

We all have opportunities every day to show kindness to people around us. Every act of Christian kindness plants a seed – something which can grow in to a mighty tree. This is a picture of God's kingdom.

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