Praying together for God's Kingdom to come in Gloucester City



"Lord, help us work together for that day when You bring in Your Kingdom, and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth."

Christian Leaders' Network Gloucester

November 2021 and beyond...

As Jesus taught us, so we pray:

"...Your Kingdom come,

Your will be done on earth,

as it is in heaven"



"When I pray I let God move in my heart"

Front Cover image by kind permission of Foothills Bible Church Colorado

Dear friends in the churches and other Christian communities

What a privilege it is for us to pray for each other as the Body of Christ in Gloucester, for our life and our part in God's mission.

For this "Praying Together" guide we identified 63 churches and 25 other organisations with a Christian ethos, and invited leaders to tell us:

one thing they're passionate about;



one thing they're thankful to God for; and



A one thing they're asking God for.

The responses give us a glimpse into how God is moving among us today. Let this will encourage you to pray with thankful heart, but also with heartfelt cry for God's kingdom to break through even more.

To help us pray for these Christian communities, we've listed them in groups over 28 'Days', and each day starts with a scripture sentence.

The churches are shown in four areas, with a map for each area:

North East. Central and North West.

South East, and South West.

A few churches are beyond our map boundaries; these are on page 23. We've listed the other Christian communities, from page 24.

We also asked leaders to tell us about how they're engaged with the wider community, how they're working with others, and in what areas they'd welcome more partnership. We'll publish their responses soon in "Working Together".

Thank you all for your prayers.

May God bless us all, as we pray for and serve the people and place of Gloucester, God's beloved city.

Christian Leaders' Network

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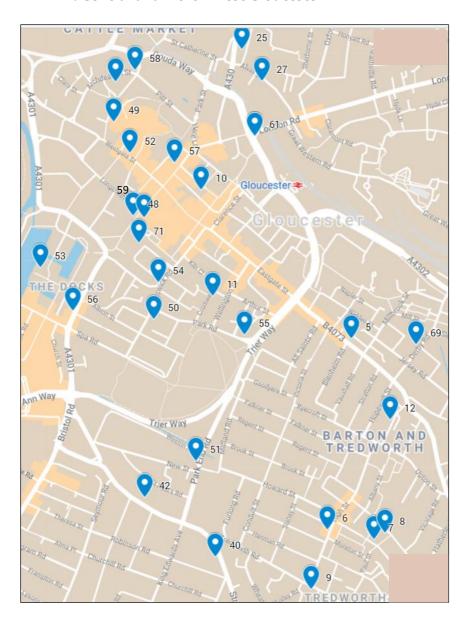
MAP A: North East Gloucester



"Then the King will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." (Matthew 25:31)

DAY 1 "Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good and God's love endures forever" (Psalm 106:1)		
14 Lonsdale Methodist		
Outreach work at Lonsdale Road Methodist Church		
Positive responses to 'God In Love Unites Us'	Unity and clear direction	
28 St Catharine's (London Rd)		
Helping each other learn to listen to God and be courageous in responding		
Uncreasingly deep connection with families in need	Our church congregations in the city to work well together for the sake of the gospel	
DAY 2 "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10)		
29 Church of God Sabbath-keeping		
30 Holy Trinity Longlevens		
♥ Worship		
Unit The congregation's love for their church and worship	Guidance as we strategize and plan financially for the next three years	
31 Kendal Road Baptist		

MAP B: Central and North West Gloucester



"He will wipe away all tears" (Isaiah 25:8)

DAY 3 "We don't know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. (Romans 8:26)

- 6 Bethel Apostolic Church ('Four Gates')
- Saving of souls
- © God's grace and mercies
- ⚠ To save the souls of many
- 7 Church of God of Prophecy
- 8 Kingfisher Church (Tredworth)
- 9 New Apostolic Church

DAY 4 "My heart has heard you say, "Come and talk with me." And I respond, "Lord, I am coming." (Ps 27:8)

10 Salvation Army

The on-going return to in-person worship and for online worship and small groups

Future plans to welcome, support and serve the community, and to live out the great commission to make disciples

11 Seventh-Day Adventist (Cromwell St)

12 St James' and All Saints with

50 Christchurch Gloucester

That many, many people would come to know God's extraordinary love for them

• The faithful daily pattern of prayer

Wisdom and vision in discerning what to do with the parish buildings

DAY 5 ""Be still, and know that I am God!
I will be honoured throughout the world." (Ps 46:10)

25 Destiny Temple (Kingsholm)

27 Kingsholm Christian Community

Those in our community pressing in to God; the support shown to one another

To seek His Spirit more, and experience Him more in both the simple and spectacular





DAY 6 "How wonderful and pleasant it is when My people live together in harmony! For there the LORD has pronounced his blessing, life everlasting." (Ps133:1)

40 Gloucester Community Church (Stroud Rd)

Seeing the transforming life of God at work in our lives and those we live alongside

© God's faithfulness and grace - that He's blessed us so much, to share

A Increasingly become more like Jesus both individually and corporately

42 New Testament Church of God

48 Brunswick Baptist

To see our Lord Jesus Christ be the centre of our church and our mission to the city of Gloucester

© Our Moderator as he helps guide the church though the pastoral vacancy

The Holy Spirit to draw the church closer together through this vacancy; that God will call the right person to lead Brunswick into the future to be a beacon of light in the city centre

DAY 7 "Our struggle is against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12)

49 GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

Building partnerships in and beyond the city

© Being in a good position, following the worst of Covid, for partnership-building

Resilience and adaptability in taking forward our partnerships

52 Kingfisher Church (Westgate St)

Reaching people with mental health issues and learning disabilities for Christ

① The number of baptisms currently

For God to act over the witchcraft shops nearby

53 Mariners Gloucester

Sharing God's love with those who feel on the margins of society

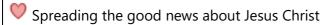
Being able to meet again in groups to worship, and for new growth The Spirit's leading as to what we should and shouldn't be doing going forward

DAY 8 "My heart says 'Come, seek God's face'. Your face Lord do I seek." (Ps 27:8)

54 Potter's House Church

55 Redeemed Christian Church of God

56 Southgate Evangelical



© God's protection over our congregation and their families during Covid

⚠ Introduce people in the city to the love of Jesus Christ

57 St John's Northgate with

5 Barton Street Methodist



c for the healthy return to worship for the majority of the congregation; sustaining witness

for a clearer picture of what we should be engaging with in the future; movement in the Spirit forward





DAY 9 "When at last the Spirit is poured out on us from heaven, justice and righteousness will rule, bringing peace." (Isaiah 2:4)		
58 St Mary's Congregational		
59 Discover de Crypt (@St Mary de Crypt)		
♥ Inclusion		
Unks with a wide range of community groups	Creative imagination	
60 St Mary de Lode		
Oementia care		
© Links with dementia friendly organisations	Clarity of vision for a wider use of the church building	
DAY 10 "When you say 'I belong to Paul, or to Apollos', has Christ been divided?" (1 Cor 1:12)		
61a St Peter's Roman Catholic		
Sharing the Good News of God's love with all, especially those feeling lost, vulnerable, dejected.		
The generous response to God's invitation to live the life of his Son	The grace to respond in effective ways to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor	
61b Polish Catholic Parish		

DAY 11 "Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? (1 Cor 3:16)

69 The Good Shepherd Ukrainian Greek Church

Sharing our unique Ukrainian traditions, as well as our Eastern Church Liturgical practices which unite us with our Orthodox sisters and brothers

We're welcoming, reaching out through political, religious and racial divides to form one body, one spirit in Christ

A Strength to survive through the constraints and financial, spiritual, physical, and emotional difficulties of this Covid crisis

71 Gloucester Quaker Meeting

Social Justice: this year including focus on local refugees and asylum seekers, supporting GARAS and providing "Bags of Hope" - decorating bags of food to give to them

Being back in ourMeeting House, in-personMeetings for Worship,blended with Zoom

Many concerns including Peace, Social Justice, Homelessness, Climate Change

Care for God's Creation



DAY 12 "Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you" (Isaiah 60:1)

1 Abbey Church (Abbeydale)

Discipleship

: Recent baptisms

Growth in unity and love

2 Christchurch Abbeydale (LEP)

'Leading Your Church Into Growth' course

A successful START course which introduces people to the Christian faith

♣ Increase in the number of younger families and younger adults

3 Golden Valley Church

4 St Lawrence Church (C of E), Barnwood

Caring for God's Creation

Engagement with families and children around science, faith and caring for creation, through monthly "Explore Creation" and book groups in our church school

Growth in faith and discipleship among families, including the building up of a new service for all ages which we started in September

MAP C: South East Gloucester



"Praise my soul the King of Heaven To his feet they tribute bring; Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven; Who like thee His praise should sing?"

DAY 13 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace" (Luke 2:14)

13 St Oswald's (Coney Hill)

Connecting people with God, and God with people's daily lives through life-giving rhythms of discipleship and mission

② A fantastic 'Waymarker' morning, reflecting on where we are now and seeking God for the future

Workers to the harvest field; a few committed Christians join us to build God's Kingdom here

21 Coopers Edge Baptist Church

22 Hillview Evangelical

Usus being known

② New life, new people, baptisms

Wisdom to discern what kind of church we should be

23 Hucclecote Methodist

Joining again in worship and in fellowship; the Toddler group re-starting; all the financial support we've received

New initiatives - the Welcome Cafe, Friday Lunch Club, plans for worship and more with young people; the roadside Nativity display

DAY 14 "Jesus wept over the city, saying, 'If you had only recognized what makes for peace! (Luke 19:41)

24 St Philip's & St James' Hucclecote

Being a blessing to our community, living kingdom lives and bringing the kingdom to others

God's continuing faithfulness to us through a difficult time; for our new community garden, a great blessing to us and building wider connections To live out a vision of being God's people; to bring and be good news, our hearts brought closer to God's; to bring people closer to God's kingdom; for all still unable to join us, for God to meet them where they are and enable them to be a blessing to others

33 Church Army Mission Community Matson

Relevantly missionary

God is guiding and vision

A People to continue joining on our journey, and space to live this out

34 Matson Baptist

Reaching the community with Christ's love and salvation

© Reopening church; restarting some and starting new activities with the community

More opportunities to share Jesus' message clearly

35 One Church Robinswood 36a St Augustine's (RC) Caring and kindness to one another Prayer Unity and love 36b Syro-Malabar Keralan Indian Catholic Parish DAY 15 "Your throne O God endures forever; You rule with a sceptre of justice" (Psalm 45:6) **Gloucester Elim Church** 41 43 St Paul and St Stephen Children and Families The resilience of our A God to show us how to community enable people to begin to lead things themselves 66 St Leonard's (Upton) Sharing appropriately with those who don't yet know God's love, and encouraging those who do to go deeper U The privilege to walk Open hearts and minds together as church members and community 70 Forest Church, Robinswood Hill

DAY 16 "There is one bread; we who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread. (1 Cor 10:17)

15 Church in Tuffley (churches together)

The continually developing collaborative worshiping, praying and working beyond minister level between the five communities which make up the Church in Tuffley

Reaching out to the community, helping the poor, praying weekly as ministers, worshipping together monthly, an environmental group, joint courses and pilgrimages!

That more will become engaged and that where we can do things together we do so as Jesus himself said "May they be one so that the world maybe believe!"

16 English Martyrs

Sharing the Lord's healing love

© Ecumenical working

More engagement from parishioners and inspiration as to how to enable that

17 Grange Baptist

Mission

Appointment of Community Pastor

To see lives in Tuffley transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit so as to build God's Kingdom here

MAP D: South West Gloucester



"Be persistent in prayer" (Colossians 4:2)

DAY 17 "I thank God for you every time I think of you" (Philippians 1:3)

- St George's Tuffley with
- St Margaret's Whaddon 67
- Inclusive welcome of all within God's love
- The opportunity to reopen and re-start gathering for worship and missional activity
- To discern the priorities for our journey; and for the Spirit to guide us in growth; spiritually and numerically
- St Barnabas Tuffley with 47
- St Katharine's Matson 37
- Sharing the good news of Jesus
- C Growth, especially a deepening of relationship with God and one another



Boldness

DAY 18 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." (John 3:16)

19 Vineyard (Tuffley currently)

 A full Alpha course, lots of new faces including students and 20s

A Partnering to renovate the Olympus theatre space for the community; the trial of meeting at St. John's Northgate in the afternoons from January

20 Grace Church Quedgeley		
Reaching the lost		
① The appointment of a new Pastor in Oct '21	Opportunities to connect with the local area	
38 Trinity Baptist		
39 City Church Gloucester (Seymour Rd)		
DAY 19 "God sent the Son not to condemn the world, but so the world might be saved through him. (Jn 3:17)		
44 One Church Podsmead		
Connecting with the community		
© Gathering together again as a congregation	More ways to help and support families	
45 Quedgeley Methodist Church		
Reaching the wider community		
© Sense of unity	Embracing young families	
46 St James' Quedgeley		
The parish of St James, Quedgeley		
Blessing and guidance through our vacancy	A The many families in touch with us about the baptism of their children	

Churches outside the map areas

🙂 Leadership team

DAY 20 "I ask that those who believe in me may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. (John 17:20) Gloucester Evangelical Presbyterian (Farmers' Club) St Swithun, Hempsted Children & Families: Eco Church Messy Church To engage further with the Green Energy Park **Churches of Hardwicke, Elmore and Longney** Making our historic buildings suitable for service to our communities Partnership with 'Sportily' A greater connection in outreach on Hunts Grove between community groups and Church worship **Churchdown Methodist** How the next generation will live

Reaching young families

Other organisations with a Christian ethos

DAY 21 "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep" (Romans 12:15) **Chaplaincies University of Gloucestershire** Students Being back working face More connection and to face community for isolated students **Gloucester Royal Hospital** Bringing HOPE to people in spiritual need, regardless of religious background People's prayers through A Strength to keep going and sustained high demands; for vision on what we can nine newly trained volunteers appropriately offer in these unprecedented times **Wotton Lawn Hospital** Wisdom and discernment, to For the resilience of develop the services the colleagues through the most Spiritual Care Team offers and challenging aspects of the

care volunteers

pandemic

recruit a fresh team of spiritual

DAY 22 "Faith, hope and love abide; and the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13)

Education

King's School Gloucester

God's continuing support for the school community; for the return of something approaching 'normality' despite the challenges posed by COVID

God's appointment of new staff, including new Chaplain from next September (and the period of transition); and for families bereaved (from different causes) in recent months

St Peter's High School

The God's continuing care for our community. For our young people and their families and for the diversity of our community

A continued knowledge of our worth in the eyes of Father God, and renewed commitment to creation care and for the needs of the poor

St Peter's RC Primary School

① The wonderful talents He has given us

⚠ God's help for us to be generous in sharing our talents to bring joy to others

Gateway Theology School

Theology & Creation Care

© Gateway Online launch; and our first online course

A Grant funding to be approved

DAY 23 "Act justly, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God (Micah 6:8)

Diocese of Gloucester Church of England Schools

Seeing children educated in an environment based on Christian values supported to experience the love of God

The way school leaders, staff and governors have shown resilience, care and courage throughout

Relationships between parishes and schools to deepen and broaden for mutual benefit and support

Other organisations

DAY 24 "let us run with perseverance... looking to Jesus our pioneer" (Hebrews 12:2)

Christians Against Poverty (CAP)

Releasing people from the binds of poverty and debt

• The wonderful people we've been blessed to meet, walk with and minister to in the past year

New opportunities to build relationships with those in need; courage and openness to introduce them to our loving God

GARAS (Refugees & asylum seekers)

People's generosity and increased financial giving during and following the unfolding crisis in Afghanistan.

A Staffing, that the right people would apply for our jobs to best support our growing refugee and asylum seeking clients in the county.

Gloucester City Mission

 \Diamond

 $^\prime$ Meeting the needs of those who are homeless

② All the organisations and churches who continue to support us

⚠ God's wisdom, guidance and care for this year's Winter Shelter

DAY 25 "Let us love one another, for love is from God; all who love are born of God and know God" (1Jn4:7)

Gloucester & District Christian Choir

Seeing choir members, and those listening, come closer to God, having a greater awareness of God

The gift of music; that choir members are safe and well, and that we've come back face to face

At each practice and concert, for at least one person to draw closer to God because of our singing

DAY 26 "Here we have no lasting city; we are looking for the City that is to come" (Hebrews 13:14)

Gloucester Diocese Vision



Life in all its fullness

© Growing a Kingdomshaped panorama To promote flourishing; encourage new ways of worshipping; nurture everyday disciples; excite young people to explore and grow in faith; develop diverse leaders

Gloucester Diocese with Cathedral @ College Green Continuing to share the love of God Moving our cathedral Wisdom to make the most of our many Christmas services breakfast club for those experiencing homelessness to share the good news and provide a safe welcome for all back indoors **Gloucester Anglican Deanery** The Spirit's guidance with The ministries we hold and share our strategic plan **Books-Plus Gloucester** Seeing God's Word (The Bible) put in everyone's hands Continuing to grow after To increase our mission into more than 15 years other hospitals in the UK DAY 27 "You already show your love for all the believers; even so, dear brothers and sisters, we urge you to love them even more. (1 Thessalonians 4:10) Gloucester Foodbank To relieve poverty & food insecurity The support we have Wisdom received esp. this last year TiC+ (previously Teens in Crisis) Young people struggling with poor mental health © God's provision Wisdom in growth; funds to throughout COVID-19

sustain the rise in referrals

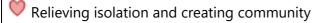
Listening Post Counselling & Training

Ensuring professional counselling is accessible to those who need it and who cannot afford private counselling.

Our volunteers, especially our Volunteer Counsellors without whom we would not be able to offer counselling support to the many who need it.

More opportunities to engage, equip and resource local Churches and organisations with listening skills to support people in their communities

Roots (Coffee House)



Excellent trading since Covid restrictions lifted A The residents of Clapham Court (social housing across the street) being relocated ahead of its demolition

Street Pastors

We're back on the streets again

More Street Pastor volunteers so we can cover more Sat. nights; more prayer supporters; wisdom for tricky situations; safety; opportunities to give hope to those we meet



DAY 28 "The Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you, may the Lord show you his favour and give you his peace" (Num 6:24-26)

Treasure Seekers with the Cavern (Westgate St)

To engage with and support the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in the community

© Daily opportunities to come alongside individuals and have conversations

World Cafe

Refugees and asylum seekers

© For those who have settled well during Covid

A Provision of a new venue for the world cafe

1Voice prayer news

Prayer and support for our national and local leaders

② Networks forming across the UK and the prophetic voice of the church is heard; churches locally coming together

God will pour out his Holy Spirit on the young people in our churches, to prophesy and receive the gifts of healing and discernment

http://www.newchristian.org.uk

Evangelism, Healing, Holiness

② Powerful move of God coming to the UK

A Passionate Christians who give their all to reach the lost



Christ came to us in humility



Christ is here with us in Spirit



Christ will return for us in Majesty

A vision of God's coming kingdom...



"Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, flowing clear as crystal, continuously pouring out from the throne of God and of the Lamb. The river was flowing in the middle of the street of the city, and on either side of the river was the Tree of Life, with its twelve kinds of ripe fruit, a fresh crop for every month of the year.

The leaves of the Tree of Life are for medicine to heal the nations."

(Revelation 22.1,2)

'Surely I am coming soon'. Amen, come Lord Jesus! (Revelation 22:20)