

Week of Prayer 2024

Join the Go Team as we pray for children and young people in their churches, schools and households across our diocese.

From the 1-7 July 2024, we will once again be setting aside time for a diocese-wide week of prayer for children and young people, in their schools, churches and households. We would love for you and your church, household or school to join us! This booklet is a guide full of things to pray for, with each day focussing on a different topic affecting the children and young people we know.

How can you get involved? Email goteam@bathwells.anglican.org or message us on Instagram or X @goteamadvisers to tell us you will be joining in, so we can map where people are praying. Take a look at the daily prayer topics in this guide, and pray each day for the young people in your area. Feel free to share this resource with others who you know would like to pray with us. We would love to know what you're planning for the week, and how it goes! Follow us on Instagram, X and the Diocese of Bath and Wells Facebook page for more content throughout the week.

Day 1: Community

Matthew 18:2-5

'He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.'

Today, we pray for children and young people where we live.

- Those you know, in your family, neighbours and those connected to your church.
- Those you don't know but see around in your local community.
- Local schools and colleges, youth clubs and uniformed organisations.
- Those not in education or training and those seeking employment.
- Those appearing in the local news, for positive and less positive reasons. For the children and young people behind the headlines and the statistics.

This week, we'd like to encourage you to think of seven children or young people you know, and each day, pray for one of them by name. Today, pray for someone in your community.

Day 2: Wellbeing

Philippians 4:6-7

'If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.' 2 Chronicles 7:14

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Today, we pray for children and young people at home, school and church.

- For wellbeing as they grow and develop physically, emotionally, spiritually and socially.
- Those struggling with poor mental health, for help, support and understanding.
- Those coping with physical disabilities and special educational needs.
- Those being mistreated, exploited or taken advantage of.
- Those who are young carers for a parent or other family member.

On day two, think of a child or young person you know who is struggling with something mentioned above and pray for them by name.

Day 3: Courage

Joshua 1:9

‘Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.’

Today, we pray for children and young people to reach their potential.

- Those navigating change, looking to the future and next steps.
- Those standing up for justice, help them do the right thing.
- Those struggling with identity, help them be who you made them to be.
- Those sharing their faith with friends and family.
- Those exploring calling to Christian ministry and other vocations.

On day three, think of a child or young person you know who finds themselves in a situation where they need courage. Pray for them by name.

Day 4: Leaders

Jeremiah 17: 7-8

“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”

Today, we pray for all those who work with children and young people.

- Through churches and Christian organisations: paid workers, volunteers and clergy.
- All who work in education: Head teachers, teachers, support staff, governors and chaplains, as well as Diocesan Advisers and Multi Academy Trust leaders.

‘If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.’ 2 Chronicles 7:14

- For a new crop of workers with a heart for young people to be raised up in our churches and communities.
- For those currently in training or considering a call to work with children and young people.
- For all those who make decisions that effect the lives of children and young people.

Today, think of a child or young person in a position of leadership in their home, school or church and pray for them by name.

Day 5: The World

Psalm 127:3-5

‘Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one’s youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their opponents in court.’

Today we pray for children and young people around the world.

- For children and young people living in harsh conditions caught up in war, conflict and violence.
- For Christian children and young people in countries where it is dangerous or illegal to practice Christianity.
- For children and young people in our link dioceses of Zambia.
- For children and young people displaced from their homes.
- For young activists who are passionate about changing the world for the better.

On day five, think of a child or young person you know who lives in another country and pray for them by name.

Day 6: Concerns

1 Timothy 4:12

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”

Today, we pray for some of the issues children and young people face.

- Grant us better understanding of what matters to children and young people so we can better support them.
- For all those who recently took exams, are awaiting results and are concerned for the future.
- For those struggling with friendships, for relationships at home, school and church.
- For anxiety around climate change, war, illness and death.

‘If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.’ 2 Chronicles 7:14

- For young voices to be heard in shaping our churches and communities.

Today, think of a child or young person who is facing any of the issues mentioned above, and pray for them by name.

Day 7: Growth

Ephesians 3: 17--19

“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.”

As we conclude our week, may we see children and young people flourish.

- For those seeking hope and meaning to find faith in Jesus and a place in the church.
- For those living out their faith, may it grow deeper.
- For families exploring faith together at home.
- For churches and schools working together to help children and young people grow in faith.
- For our churches to grow younger and more diverse.

On our final day of prayer, think of a child or young person, and pray that they may grow in faith, love and knowledge of Jesus.



Contact us

For additional resources to help you pray through the week, go to linktr.ee/weekofprayer or scan this QR code:

When we created this prayer guide, we asked some young people what they thought we should be praying for. Why not do the same in your church or community? What matters to the children and young people you know? Why not get creative and make a piece of artwork, video or voice recording to share with others who are praying?

Contact the Go Team:

Drop us an email or tag us on Social Media to share your Week of Prayer activities with us. Email: goteam@bathwells.anglican.org Socials: @GoTeamAdvisers on X or Instagram, Diocese of Bath and Wells on Facebook Website: www.bathandwells.org/ministry/children-young-people

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