# Diocese of Bath and Wells Prayer Calendar May 2024

## Wednesday, 1 May

## Healing Lord Jesus, we pray for all those who are undergoing cancer treatment. We ask for your comforting love to surround them, and to uphold those who care for them. We give thanks for the medical teams who work tirelessly to support them.

## Thursday, 2 May

As local councillors and leaders are elected today, we pray for local government, for mayors and for Police and Crime Commissioners.  May they do justly, love mercy and walk humbly.

## Friday, 3 May

God of our journey, we pray for those exploring lay ministry and those who will be taking part in the Foundation course this month. We pray for all those exploring and exercising ministry as Lay Worship Assistant and Lay Pastoral Assistants. May we all grow in faith and explore our vocation.

## Saturday, 4 May

Lord, we give you thanks for the gifts, skills and selfless bravery of firefighters on their memorial day today.

## Sunday, 5 May

Father of all, we pray for wisdom and grace for Somerset South Deanery as clergy, with their lay leaders, seek to lead their parishes, and for continued unity and care for one another in difficult times.

## Monday, 6 May

Sabbath God, we pray for all who are enjoying a Bank Holiday today, and for all who continue to work in our emergency and key services.  We pray for rest and refreshment for all.

## Tuesday, 7 May

Lord Jesus, we pray for paid youth and children’s workers and education chaplains as they meet today at Flourish House. We also pray for the Additional Needs training taking place this afternoon. Help those present consider how they might serve all your people with love.

## Wednesday, 8 May

Healing God, as we remember the Red Cross and Red Crescent, we pray for their work and for all who offer humanitarian support amidst war and disaster and seek to bring light to the darkest of places.

## Thursday, 9 May

Lord Jesus, you have ascended beyond the horizons which our eyes can see and further than the limits which our minds can reach. No longer restricted to one place, you have ascended to heaven and are present in all places. Alleluia.

## Friday, 10 May

During deaf awareness week, we pray for all who suffer from hearing loss. We give thanks for the gift of sign language, for those who use it and for the way in which it enables communication and connection.

## Saturday, 11 May

God of peace, we pray for your gift of forgiveness and reconciliation in your broken world. Speak into the hearts and minds of leaders of nations, so that your light, hope and love leads war torn countries to restoration and peace.

## Sunday, 12 May

At the start of Christian Aid Week, we pray that we may uphold the dignity of every human being so that no one is forgotten. Enable us to speak out for an equal and just world.

## Monday, 13 May

Loving God, in Mental Health Awareness Week, we pray for all who live with mental ill-health and for all who care for them, at home and beyond.  We pray for healing, wholeness and peace.

## Tuesday, 14 May

As people gather at St Peter’s Weston Super Mare this evening and in South Petherton tomorrow evening to think about being ‘Intentionally Intergenerational’, Lord, we pray for inspiration and creativity. We ask that those present may be encouraged and enthused.

## Wednesday, 15 May

God of all things, as the Diocesan Finance Group and Buildings Advisory Committee meet today, we ask you to help them to keep you at the centre of all their discussions so that money and material resources play their part in building your Kingdom.

## Thursday, 16 May

Bless all those who are advocates for change, Lord, bringing social justice into the light. Uphold those who bravely speak out and work for the good of others, sometimes at great cost to themselves. Give us courage to work for justice.

## Friday, 17 May

Lord of creation, as signs of new life emerge this Spring. Help us to be good stewards of our environment, so that we all do our part to protect your precious gift to us.

## Saturday, 18 May

God of hope, we give thanks for our link with Zambia and pray especially for Bishop William Mchombo as he begins his ministry as the new Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Upper Shire, Malawi. Bless him and all he ministers with in his diocese.

## Sunday, 19 May

Come, Holy Spirit, lamplighter, midwife of change, comforter, disturber, inspirer and advocate. Come fill our lives with peace and restfulness, calm and enthusiasm; and make your home among us. Alleluia.

## Monday, 20 May

Creator God, we pray for the hedgerows and edge places of our country and of our lives.  Thank you for their diversity and fruitfulness; may they be cherished and protected.  We pray too for the ministry of Hedgerow Chaplaincy.

## Tuesday, 21 May

God of justice, we ask for your blessing on the Growing Good webinar taking place today, as we seek to explore transformation in our communities through social action and discipleship.

## Wednesday, 22 May

Infinite God, on national numeracy day we pray for all who teach maths, for all who manage our finances, and for all who struggle with both numeracy and money.

## Thursday, 23 May

We rejoice in the gift of your presence with us, Lord. We remember the disciples on the Emmaus road as you joined them, walking together, especially in this National walking month. Help us to know that you continue to walk with us today.

## Friday, 24 May

Dear God, we praise and thank you for the life and witness of John and Charles Wesley, hymn writers and evangelists. We pray for all who communicate the good news through word, song and action.

## Saturday, 25 May

Teacher and Lord, we give thanks for all teachers and scholars on this day when we remember the Venerable Bede and his writings. May the books which are written today serve as a source of inspiration and discovery.

## Sunday, 26 May

On Trinity Sunday we pray to God, Father, Son and Spirit.  Bless, O God, your church on earth, with the harmony and diversity of heaven, that we may be one, as you are one.

## Monday, 27 May

Loving God, we pray for our emergency services, in the land, sea and sky.  We give thanks and pray for all who serve and lead within them and offer rescue, courage, and compassion.

## Tuesday, 28 May

On World Hunger Day we pray for all who are hungry, in this country and around the world, and for Foodbanks, the World Food Programme and for all who seek to share food justly.

## Wednesday, 29 May

Lord of hope, we give thanks for Church officers across our diocese: churchwardens, treasurers, safeguarding officers, PCC secretaries and all those who lead and support our churches. Bless them as they seek to live out their faith in service and inspire us to support their work.

## Thursday, 30 May

Remembering our Magnificat benefices today, give all who work in them the courage of the reformers and the dreams of the visionaries.  Help them see everyone as Christ would, with a heart of love and compassion.

## Friday, 31 May

As we remember the visit of Mary to Elizabeth, we pray that all of our souls may magnify the Lord and our lives and our church may tell of God’s story of love, justice and mercy.