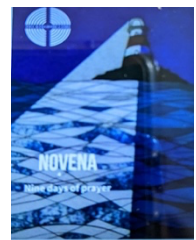


Thy Kingdom Come 2021

Could you take part in in 'Thy Kingdom Come 'with Christians from around the world? The disciples, and Mary, prayed from Ascension Day to Pentecost, as they waited for the Holy Spirit. Can you pray during the same time period for the Holy Spirit to heal the nations and transform our communities? There are a number of opportunities for you to be involved this year from May 13th to May 23rd.

- **Choose 5 people to pray for**, that they will come to know Jesus. Keep their names by your kettle to remind you to pray for them every time you make a hot drink, or set a reminder on your phone as a prompt.
- **Download the Thy Kingdom Come App.-** this will include audio content from the 24-7 Prayer's Lectio 365, short Bible reading and reflections from Pete Greig, Archbishop Justin and Caria Harding.
- Use the **Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Journal**- helping us to encounter the love and joy found in Jesus Christ. We have copies for everyone. They will be given out in church. Please let Carol know if you would like a copy dropping off. Carol.jlee@tiscali.co.uk
Mobile 07548 251065.
- Use the **Novena Praying with the Psalms Booklet**- to help us pray. If you would like a printed copy please let Carol know. Online versions of both booklets can be downloaded from the Thy Kingdom Come Website.
- **Interactive Family Prayer Adventure Maps**- contact Carol for a copy.
- Take part in a Finningley and Auckley **Day of Prayer** on May 22nd, by praying in your own home, or in your community, for 15 minutes, 30 minutes or an hour, anytime between 8 am to 8pm. It would be great if we could cover the whole of the 12 hours. If you would like to take part, please let Jenny Sessions, 770268, know the times you can be available and for how long you would like to pray.
- **Prayer Walking**-this could be an actual walk or again you could pray from home thinking about your local area and streets. Ideas can be found on pages 5-6.
- Join in our **Pentecost Praise** at 4pm on Sunday May 23rd, outside Finningley Church. If you are planning to attend please let Neil know, and also let him know what you would like to sing. Further details to follow.
- **Diocesan opportunities for prayer include**- Morning Prayer each day via Facebook 7.30 am on weekdays, the Sheffield Diocesan webpage has resources for personal, church and group prayers. The Diocesan website also has links to videos and prayer activities for young people and families.



Prayer Suggestions

These ideas are mainly from the Thy Kingdom Come and Sheffield Diocesan webpages.

The Thy Kingdom Come Prayer

Almighty God,
your ascended Son has sent us into the world to
Preach the good news of your kingdom:
Inspire us with your Spirit,
And fill our hearts with your love,
That all who hear your word
May be drawn to you,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Praying for Five

Choose 5 buttons to remember those you are praying for.

Pray:

Gracious father, I pray for

.....

that you will bring them close to you,
And then please will you fasten them
into your family the church and there let them grow,
Amen.

or small pebbles to hold as you pray for each of those you have chosen. You could draw hearts on the stones and add the initials of those you are praying for.

Pray:

Gracious Father, I pray for these five people

that you will be very close to them.

Help them to see your love for them and

help them to build their lives on the rock that is Christ.

Amen.

Praying for ourselves

Asking for Help

Psalm 63: v 6-8

*On my bed when I think of you,
I muse on you in the watches of the night,
For you have always been my help;
In the shadow of your wings I rejoice;
My heart clings to you,
Your right hand supports me.*

Settle into silence

Read slowly

Repeat what attracts and makes you think. Respond to God..... from your heart

Rest.....to receive.

As David is showing his deep and passionate Love for God let us too be guided into a closer relationship with him and be renewed in God's unending love for humanity.

'In his hand is the soul of every living thing and the breath of every human being!' (Job 12:10)

When our soul clings to God and seeks shelter under His mighty wings God blesses us richly, giving us the strength to get through life's obstacles and bring glory to his name.

Trust Him: He is ever faithful.

Trust Him: for His will is best.

Trust Him: for the heart of Jesus is the only place to rest.'

Choose a pebble and a bowl of water to help you pray

As you hold it notice its shape and texture. Think of its history, its journey.

Notice its weight.

What is weighing on your mind? What troubles or confuses you?

What is overwhelming or too complex to manage?

Bring these thoughts and fears to God and release them as you drop your stone into or lay it beside the water.

Sense the Holy Spirit releasing you from your fears.

Praying for the Church Family

Dear God,
Help us to keep our eyes on you,
So that we can follow your promptings and respond to your call.
Help us to see when another needs to be encouraged.
Help us to be faithful to carry one another's burdens,
Remembering that all we're all travelling along together,
Amen.

Dear God,
We pray for your great healing on our land.
Shine your face and your blessing over us.
Give us courage to go into the world and take the message of the Gospel of peace.
Wake is up Lord.
Remind us to live aware of you, to listen to your words,
and be willing to make a difference in this land.
Give us courage to speak out.
Help us not to stay silent but to do all thongs in wisdom and love.
Amen.

We are not people of fear:
We are people of courage.
We are not people who protect our own safety:
We are people who protect our neighbour's safety.
We are not people of greed:
We are people of generosity.
We are the people of God,
Giving and loving,
Wherever we are,
Whatever it costs.
For as long as it takes
Wherever you call us.

Barbara Gleeson, President of the Methodist Church.

Praying for our communities

2 Prayer walk ideas

Preparations for idea 1

- **Plan a route.** Whether you are going to go out and walk or do this virtually, it might be useful to have a look at a street map to make a note of any schools, businesses, residential homes etc. on your route.
- **Choose a time.** Are you the sort of person who likes it quiet (early morning / early evening)? Or do you want to walk when you will see people out and about? Check the weather too!
- **Before you start.** It's good to pray: to ask God to help you see what He wants you to see and to be attentive to the Holy Spirit. Read an encouraging Scripture, e.g. Luke 10:1-2 or Genesis 13:14-18, Acts 16:13-15 too to give you a sense of expectation as you go out.
- **On the walk.** Take your time, look at your surroundings, take notice of people—and, at the same time, try to be conscious of God's presence, as you pray.
- **When you finish.** Try not to rush straight into the next task at home. **Give yourself 5 minutes.** Reflect on your prayer walk. Have you come back with any impressions? Any people or places that stick in your mind? Record your thoughts below:

Prayer ideas:

- Schools: going through a difficult time with ongoing suspension of class bubbles, those approaching exams.
- Residential homes, doctor's surgeries, dentists: that have been at the forefront of the Covid-19 crisis
- Shops and businesses: as they have re-opened, some that are busy and some struggling.
- Transport: buses, taxi ranks, train stations, tram
- Workers you might see: delivery drivers, refuse collectors, police, road repair crews, heating engineers, postal delivery workers, etc.
- People you know whose homes you pass on your walk: neighbours, church members, etc.

God has a way of surprising us so there is plenty of space here for you to record other prayer encounters that happened

What sorts of prayers did you find yourself praying?

Prayer walk

Talk to God as you walk along.
See if you can see any of these things.
You might like to tick the box or draw a picture.

Something beautiful.
Say **thank you**.

☐

Something to say '**please**' for.

☐

A place where people are helped.
Pray for the people there.

☐

Something to say '**sorry**' for.

☐

A happy place.
Say **thank you**.

☐

A creature God has made.
Praise God!

☐



Diocesan Vision Prayer

Living God, Jesus calls his followers to seek first your Kingdom.

Renew us as we make your love known;

Release us to share freely together in mission;

and **Rejuvenate** us to be fruitful in your service.

Give us courage, wisdom and compassion,

that strengthened with the grace of the Holy Spirit,

we may, as the Diocese of Sheffield,

both flourish and grow through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the father has sent me, I am sending you'

John 20:21.



Pray for the **rejuvenation** of our diocese through

REJUVENATED reaching younger people with the gospel and planting new congregations

- **please pray:**
for the establishment of **resource churches** as
centres of missional life . -
- for the **planting of new congregations** across the deanery and archdeaconry
- for the planting of new **congregations into church schools**
- for outreach and Christian nurture of **children and young people** through the Centenary Project - for the CPWs in the deanery
- for the selection, recruitment and training of **new lay and ordained leaders**
- for the priority of new missional life in our **25 most deprived parishes**.



Jesus said 'If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know and have seen him.'
John 14:7.

the renewal of our spiritual life as individuals, church communities and as a diocese

please pray:

- for us **getting to know God** better and **learning to love Him** more as we follow Jesus in our lives
- for us becoming people of '**prayer and the word of God**' (Acts 6:4)
- for us to become those who can say to God '**earnestly I seek you**' (Ps63:1)
- for us to **acknowledge the challenge** is 'too big to fix' in our own strength - learning to depend on

God's gracious provision

- for a renewed focus on **evangelism & discipleship**

as key ministry tasks

- for numerical and spiritual growth of the
2025 prayer community
- for the spiritual renewal of our **parishes and deanery**



To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, 'Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free'.
John 8:31-32.

**the release from the constraints of admin,
structures and buildings and release of untapped potential in all of our disciples**

please pray:

- for the **work at Church House** on admin and structures to make mission easier in the parishes
- for the central review of the **Common Fund system** through 2019
- for **generous hearts** amongst the people of God, through stewardship and giving
- for a **spirit of 'letting go'** of the people and resources we like to hold on to
- for our part in the '**Setting God's People Free**' initiative, releasing our church families into **whole life discipleship**.