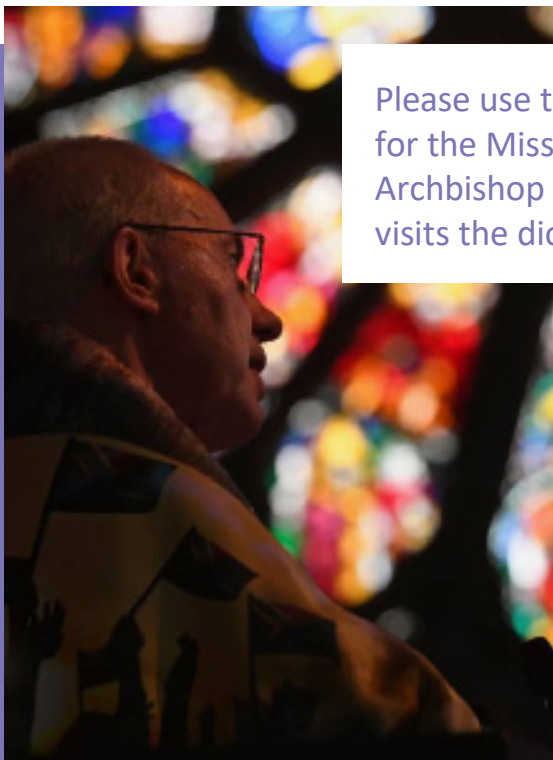


Week one: 14 - 20 May

# Rhythm of Prayer

Archbishop of Canterbury  
Mission to the  
Diocese of Salisbury



Please use this prayer diary to prepare for the Mission that will be led by the Archbishop of Canterbury when he visits the diocese.



Our preparation and prayer are structured around the themes of:

**Week 1- Transforming Conversations**

Week 2- Transforming Communities

Week 3- Transforming Lives

Week 4- Making Jesus Known

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Matthew 28.16-20



# Day 1 Sunday

The work of evangelism can sometimes seem daunting and we can be reticent when talking about our faith. Even the first disciples, who were privileged to see our Lord in the flesh, had doubts but Jesus nevertheless urges them and us as his followers today to make disciples and he promises to be with us always. Our archbishop seeks to follow that mandate as he comes to the diocese with the aim of having conversations and helping us to make disciples.

## Prayer

Almighty God,

Whose Son commanded us to go and make disciples, give grace to your servant Justin, our archbishop, as he comes to visit us; increase in him and in us

boldness in proclaiming the gospel, attentiveness in listening, and love for all your children as we seek to make Jesus known in our diocese here and now; through the same Jesus Christ who is alive and reigns, one God, now and for ever,

Amen.

## Prayers to be included in Intercessions in Sunday services

Lord of our lives, empower our conversations with friends, and family, neighbours and colleagues with the living presence of Jesus Christ. Anoint the conversations that will be inspired by the Archbishop's visit to schools and amongst young people that they may find hope for themselves and all who are looking for direction and encouragement. Good Lord, hear our prayer.

Today is the Feast of Matthias when we remember Matthias chosen to replace Judas as one of the Twelve. Matthias was chosen by lot to indicate that he was chosen by God rather than by his fellow human beings. Jesus reminds us that we too are chosen by God and appointed to go and bear fruit. It can sometimes seem quite daunting to have those conversations which transform those with whom we converse and ourselves but Jesus reassures us that we will be given whatever we ask in his name, including the words to speak. We pray for the Holy Spirit to give us that same joy and boldness in proclaiming the gospel that filled those first disciples.

### Prayer

Almighty God,  
who on the day of Pentecost  
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles  
with the wind from heaven and in  
tongues of flame,  
filling them with joy and boldness to  
preach the gospel:  
by the power of the same Spirit  
strengthen us to witness to your truth  
and to draw everyone to the fire of  
your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

# Day 2 Monday [Matthias]



Jesus said to his disciples, 'You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.'

John 15.16



## Day 3 | Tuesday

One of the first places that Archbishop will visit in our diocese is the Ministry of Defence site at Lyneham. It houses the Defence School of Electronic and Mechanical Engineering. Also there is Prince Philip Barracks, housing the regimental headquarters of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), 8 Training Battalion REME and the REME Museum. As a training establishment, Lyneham is home to young recruits with whom the Archbishop will have conversations. The military exists primarily to keep peace rather than to make war.

### Prayer

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring love.

Where there is offence, let me bring pardon.

Where there is discord, let me bring union.

Where there is error, let me bring truth

Where there is doubt, let me bring faith

Where there is despair, let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.

Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.

Amen

Jesus said to the crowds, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God'.

Matthew 5.7

Jesus taught his disciples in parables, including that of the sheep and goats: “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25.37-40



## Day 4 | Wednesday

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During his visit to Weymouth, Archbishop Justin will engage and have conversations with people who have been particularly touched by social action projects of the wider Church in Weymouth and Portland.

### **Prayer**

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth:

send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.

Amen

Jesus said to his disciples, 'you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Acts 1.3-9



## Day 5 | Thursday [Ascension Day]

Today is Ascension Day, forty days after Easter Day and ten days before Pentecost, those two great Christian festivals. The cross is the symbol of our faith which can be confusing to some since it can be seen as a symbol of what is dead and defeated in contrast to the risen and living Lord whom we follow, whose resurrection is at the heart of faith and whose promise to be with us through his Spirit always sustains us as we seek to bring the good news in conversation to all around us.

### Prayer

Risen Christ,  
you have raised our human nature  
to the throne of heaven:  
help us to seek and serve you,  
that we may join you at the Father's  
side,  
where you reign with the Spirit in  
glory,  
now and for ever.

Amen

Today we commemorate Dunstan who was one of Archbishop Justin's predecessors as Archbishop of Canterbury over 1200 years ago from 957 to 978 AD. Dunstan spoke truth to power and, as a result, lost his influence at court. In 960 Dunstan went to Rome and received the sign of his office from Pope John XII. On his journey there, Dunstan's acts of charity were so lavish as to leave nothing for himself and his attendants. His steward complained, but Dunstan seems to have suggested that they trust in Jesus Christ. Sometimes our actions may speak louder than our words.

### Prayer

O Lord, you who have given so much to me, give one thing more, a grateful heart.

Amen



## Day 6 | Friday [Dunstan]

Jesus said to his disciples, 'give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'

Luke 6.38

# Day 7 | Saturday [Alcuin]



Jesus had conversations which transformed the lives of those whom he encountered. Today we commemorate Alcuin. As adviser to Charlemagne in the eighth century he took issue with the emperor's policy of forcing pagans to be baptised on pain of death, arguing, 'Faith is a free act of the will, not a forced act. We must appeal to the conscience, not compel it by violence.' We pray for Archbishop Justin's visit as he leads us, the local Church, in mission: appealing to the conscience of those with whom we speak, making 'disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'.

## Prayer

Heavenly Father,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give your faithful people new life in  
the water of baptism.  
Guide and strengthen us by the same  
Spirit,  
that we who are born again may serve  
you in faith and love,  
and grow into the full stature of your Son,  
Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit  
now and for ever.

Amen

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Jesus said to the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.'

John 4.23,24