

Welcome as you join with others in their own homes to pray.

Say the underlined words in **bold** type ALOUD so you hear them.

Prayer of Gathering

From Psalm 52:8 Like a green olive tree in the House of God Prayer Handbook 2013 p.75

1. With roots in the soil
Of past generations
We worship you,
Living, loving God.

2. Through layers of soil
At times fertile,
At other times depleted,
We reach for experience and
Sustenance from saints of old.

3. And in our own time, we offer to you, fresh shoots and new ideas
Borne upon branches shaped and gnarled by life,
And pray our worship shall be to you fruitful, sweet and rich. Amen.

Prayer of Approach *from Prayer Handbook 2017 p.62 & 2016 p.64*

Let us hold our breath and dare to listen beyond the sound of world and whirl,
To the sound of holiness, sheer silence of the sacred.
Come to pour out your grace to flow through our hearts like a river,
Renewing, refreshing, giving life to new possibilities. Amen.

Prayer of Praise *Adapted from Prayer Handbook 2016 p.66*

Blessed be God, whose glory fills the whole earth,
And whose power is shown in the ones who meet our weakness and our need
For they do wondrous things for us. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Confession *Adapted from Prayer Handbook 2016 p.61*

Thank you for those people and experiences that have shaped us for good
And nurtured in us virtue and goodness.

Generous God.

Forgive us for the things we have done which have hurt others
And fed violence and hatred in ourselves.

Merciful God. Amen.

Personal Prayer *Adapted from Prayer Handbook 2016 p.67*

Holy Spirit of God,

May love grow within us until it is our true heart.

Holy Spirit of God,

Let joy be our default and make us strong with delight.

Holy Spirit of God,

Give us the peace which is only yours so that all violence in us is stilled.

Holy Spirit of God,

May humble kindness guide our ways and restore the faith of others.

Holy Spirit of God,

Let generosity be our first response to anyone who asks of us.

Holy Spirit of God,

Keep us faithful to all our promises and unwavering in our commitment.

Holy Spirit of God,

May gentleness be our trademark and our footprint be light.

Holy Spirit of God,

Give us the measure of a life in rhythm so we may pace ourselves in tune with you.

Holy Spirit of God,

Let nothing hold us back from a life that is beautiful through your Grace. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

1. Injustice *Adapted from Prayer Handbook 2016 p.62*

You are not a God who delights in wickedness.

Evil will not travel with you.

When land is grabbed and taken from the poor, by scheming rulers,

Let this evil not be hidden or misnamed,

Let no one be deceived.

Where water is taken from local streams, bottled by multi-nationals

And sold back to the people for profit,

Let no one be deceived.

When lenders pile on interest and coax the vulnerable to borrow more,

Let no one be deceived.

Give us fury to resist.

May evil be exposed and justice welcomed home.

Let truth be told in every place and strength come to the weak. Amen.

2. Broken Promises *Adapted from Roots 26 June 2016*

Covenant God, whose promises are never-ending,

We pray for those who have been damaged by broken promises.

We pray for those whose trust in humanity has been shattered by false promises

And betrayal of trust.

We pray for those within the Church whose commitment and faith falter

As they have lost sight of your promise to love us, ALWAYS.

Covenant God, whose promises and love are never-ending,

Soothe the lives of ALL of these people.

May they come to realise that your love is constant. Amen

3. For the intimidated *Adapted from Roots 18 June 2017*

We pray for those who feel like sheep among wolves
In their place of work or in their own communities.

Compassionate God, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are vulnerable,
Those who are bullied, those intimidated by neighbours or their peers
Or by those in authority over them.

Compassionate God, hear our prayer.

We pray for all in danger today,
Especially those who preach the gospel in a hostile environment.

Compassionate God, hear our prayer. Amen

5. *Adapted from Roots 19 June 2016*

Bless those suffering from ill-health.
We pray particularly for those troubled by illness beyond our understanding-
For those for whom there is seemingly no cure or control.
We pray for those who frighten themselves and others-
For those with mental health issues that confuse and bewilder.
We pray for those who do not fit the norm and whom we do not understand-
Yet our desire to do so is great.
We pray for those who do not understand members of their own families-
And are disturbed and troubled by them.
We remember those bereaved recently or still mourning past losses.

We pray that all of these people – all in pain and anguish,

May glimpse your abiding love and care

Bless them with courage, healing and love. Amen

Reflection time – on what we have just prayed about AND

for the life of St John's & St Martin's, our communities & the World
Lord, bless the communities that we live in.

Help us to be reflections of your light as we go about our daily lives. **Amen**

Closing Prayer *Adapted from Roots 22 May 2016 p.19*

Father, you are life.

Jesus, you bring me life.

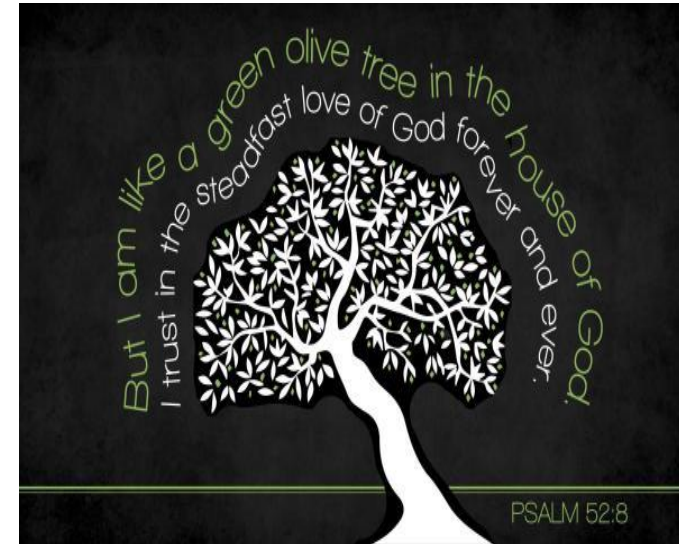
Spirit, you help me to live my life.

We go forth in the name of the living God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

To continue our journey into truth. Amen.

Prayer Fellowship

At home or in Church



To pray for the work of our Church and the life of our community

At home on Wednesdays: 7th 11.15a.m. & 21st 8p.m.

June 2017

Number 44

St John's URC Northwood & St Martins URC South Oxhey