

July 2024 Midday Prayers - Transformation of Relationships

Monday – Across generations and cultures

‘Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.’ *Isaiah 1:17*

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the need of others, open my ears that I may hear their cries, open my heart so that they need not be without succour.

Let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich. Show me where love and hope and faith are needed and use me to bring them to these places.

Open my eyes and ears that I may, this coming day, be able to do some work of peace for thee.
Amen ©Alan Paton

Tuesday – Relationship with God

‘Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.’ *John 15:4*

Lord, we would grow with you

New shoots reaching out
Hands stretched upward
Like leaves newly formed
Soaking up your light and warmth
Lord, we would grow with you.

Lord, we would grow with you

In sunshine and rain
In darkness and light
In cold days and summer days
From Springtime to Winter
Lord, we would grow with you.

Lord, we would grow with you

And bring forth fruit
That is pleasing to you
Fed by your living water
Giving sustenance to others
Lord, we would grow with you.
Amen © John Birch

Wednesday – Support for relationships

‘Each of you should look not only to your own interests but also to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus’ *Philippians 2:4-5*

**Almighty God of all creation,
we join our voices to praise you today,
singing of your wonders,
giving thanks for your grace and care.**

We celebrate the joys of life
and all you have blessed us with:
family and friends;
new relationships and deeper relationships;
new life and transformed lives;
reconciliation and restoration. © John W. Vest

As we share our lives together
help us reflect the perfect relationship
between Father, Son and Spirit;
perfectly loving, perfectly equal,
united in total harmony.

**For then we will see true transformation
as we value each other above ourselves. Amen**

Thursday – Family challenges

“I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,” says the Lord, “plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” *Jeremiah 29:11 (AMP)*

**Gracious God,
make known to us your plans
for peace and wellbeing;
to bring lasting transformation.**

Lord, we pray for lives to be transformed into ones of self-respect and sufficiency through effective use of your resources.

We pray for families to be transformed into strong and loving households as they explore your ways for relationship.

We pray for communities to be transformed into ones of resilience and prosperity through trust and cooperation.

**Gracious God,
guide us in your plans
for peace and wellbeing;
to transform lives for good. Amen**

Friday – Love one another

'I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. 'When you did this to one of the least of my brothers and sisters you were doing it to me!'

Matthew 25: 35,40

God of family and community, draw us near to the lonely and isolated that they may find a place of welcome, purpose for their days, and company to enrich their lives. Amen

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or isolated.

In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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Saturday - Transformation

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.' *John 15:1-2*

**Abundant God,
dig deeply in our lives
to prepare us for acts of service
that will produce a good return.**

Loving Father,
our heavenly gardener,
we open ourselves to your spiritual nurture.

Clear away the debris amassed over time –
the dead works, the lurking selfishness,
the weeds of doubt and disappointment.

Draw us close to the truest of vines,
to the blessing of relationship with Christ,
that we may yield a fruitful harvest
of service and love for a needy world. **Amen**

Prayer of the Month

As we share our lives together,
we pray to reflect the perfect relationship
between Father, Son and Holy Spirit; perfectly
loving, perfectly equal, united in total harmony.
For then we will see true transformation as we
value each other above ourselves. Amen

July Wave of Prayer

1 July: **Eastern Zambia** in Zambia; **Mombasa** in Kenya; **Gwagwalada & Ekiti-West** in Nigeria; **Leicester** in England and **Temotu** in Solomon Islands

2-4 July: **Renk** in South Sudan; **Cyangugu** in Rwanda; **Arochukwu/Ohafia & Ile- Oluji** in Nigeria; **St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane** in Scotland and **Sittwe** in Myanmar

6-8 July: **Wad Medani** in Sudan; **Kondoa** in Tanzania; **Ikwo & Remo** in Nigeria; **Montreal** in Canada and the **Windward Islands** in St Lucia, **Grenada, St Vincent & The Grenadines**

9-11 July: **El Obeid** in Sudan; **Butere** in Kenya; **Nnewi** in Nigeria; **London** in England and the **Province of the USA**

13-15 July: **Toliara** in Madagascar; **Mbale** in Uganda; **Zaria & Ndokwa** in Nigeria; **Rochester** in England and **Chhattisgarh** in India

16-18 July: **Lake Malawi** in Malawi; **Byumba** in Rwanda; **Jalingo** in Nigeria; **St Edmundsbury & Ipswich** in England and **Lucknow** in India

20-22 July: **Gitega** in Burundi; **Murag'a South** and **Mbeere** in Kenya; **Enugu North** in Nigeria; **Tonga** in Diocese of Polynesia and **Jaffna** in Diocese of Church of South India

23-25 July: **George** in South Africa; **Bungoma** in Kenya; **Western Tanganyika** in Tanzania; **Ideato** in Nigeria; **Sodor & Man in Isle of Man** and **Toronto** in Canada

27-29 July: **Northern Zambia** in Zambia; **Mpwapwa** in Tanzania; **Gusau & Osun** in Nigeria; **Sydney** in Australia and **Royalaseema** in India

30-31 July: **Boga** in DR Congo; **Manicaland** in Zimbabwe; **Tanga** in Tanzania; **Ogoni** in Nigeria; **Carlisle** in England and **Melbourne** in Australia