

Day7 Matthew 6:25 (NIV)

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"

Heavenly Father, even though we are blessed - we worry. We worry about money, health, loved ones, jobs, appearances and the future. Help us to replace that worry with complete trust in You. Help us to focus on the most important things, like loving You and loving our neighbour. AMEN

Pour upon Jess your grace and blessings as she leaves the Community of Hope, Hartlepool. May she be a beacon of light in darkness as she shares the good news of Christ Jesus. Amen

Dear Lord and Father, give Andy and Jess the strength and support they need so they do not worry about the impact on their lives as ordinands, their courses or the workload. Amen

9 Days of Prayer 24th July - 1st August

This summer:

Mother Gemma is leaving us to eventually take over a parish in Perth, Australia
Jess Monopoli is leaving Communities of Hope, having been recommended for ordination
Andrew McAllister is leaving St Luke's, having been recommended for ordination

The Bible verses were generally chosen on the theme of "Trusting God"

Day 8

31st July (St Ignatious)

John 3:16 (NIV)

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

St Ignatious Prayer:

Take, O Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will. Whatever I have or hold, You have given me; I restore it all to You and surrender it wholly to be governed by Your will. Give me only Your love and Your grace, and I am rich enough and ask for nothing more. AMEN

We thank you Lord, before and through lockdown Andy (and Lucy) provided such inspirational, wonderful music and reflections which were (and still are) appreciated by so many. Amen

Pour upon Andy your grace and blessings when he leaves St Luke's. May his light shine before others, that they may open their hearts to God. Amen

Day 9 Romans 15:13 (NIV)

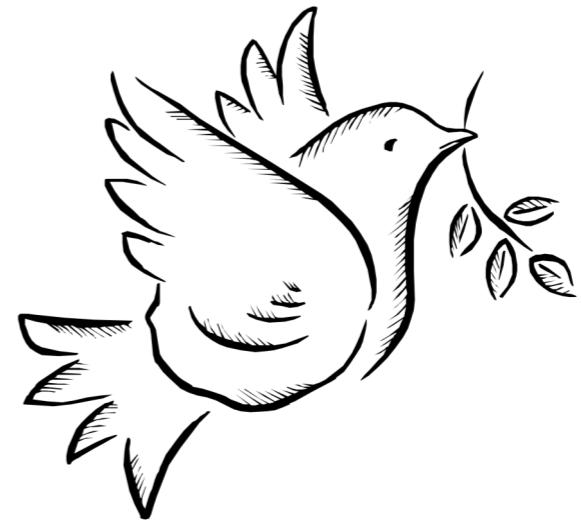
"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Dear Lord, You know the Holy Spirit is working through our Community of Hope and our congregations to tackle poverty, grow the church and work with children and families. We worship you and give you thanks for our many blessings... people, places, resources and above all the outpouring of love and hope felt by our visitors and guests. We pray your goodness and love, seen in our activities, encourages more people to join us to proclaim your name above all names. We give thanks for the work of M.Gemma as project/line manager and for Jess as Children and Families worker and for the continuing Communities of Hope, Hartlepool staff and volunteers.

AMEN

for M. Gemma on your last day with us ...
May The Road Rise Up To Meet You
(Celtic blessing)

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields
and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.
AMEN



Day 1 Psalm 28:7 (NIV)

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him."

Dear Lord, In these days of concern about travel, particularly flying abroad and meeting loved ones we ask You to pour your abundant grace and love into the hearts of those who are anxious, annoyed, frustrated as well as those who are patient and understanding at the differing rules and regulations concerning Covid19 pandemic. May safe international travel soon return to allow family members and loved ones to meet especially we pray M. Gemma will soon be reunited with her fiance and take up her position as priest in charge of St. Paul's in Perth.

AMEN



Day 2
25th July (St James the Apostle) Matthew 20:part of verse26-28

“....whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

We pray your blessings on all being confirmed today. James gave his life for you Lord. May we fully offer ourselves to you so each day we may become more like Jesus Christ. May we be blessed with a desire to help others less fortunate than ourselves and pray that we can identify those who are in need of help. We pray for all involved in modern slavery - may the victims find courage to speak out. May the Diocese find a lead with as much commitment as M. Gemma to replace her. AMEN

Day 3 Romans 8:32

“He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?”

Dear Lord please give us the power to stand up against what is wrong. May hope, justice, peace and reconciliation bring discrimination and prejudice to an end. Grant forgiveness and understanding to those who “peddle hate” and in doing so fill their hearts and minds with love ,as God is love and love conquers all. Give hope to all facing poverty and strength to those being abused. May Jess and Andy trust God to give them all they need during their ordination training and may M.Gemma find the encouragement and support to create another “kitchen” to feed the hungry.AMEN



Day 4 Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Heavenly Father, thank You that we have been called according to Your plan and purpose, for it is not Your will that any should perish but that all should come to faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thank You that in Him there is no condemnation and no separation from You, for we are one with Christ, by grace through faith in His finished work at Calvary. Thank You, Lord, that You are causing all things to work together to finally achieve Your great redemptive plan and purpose for mankind - and thank You Lord that so often I see Your gracious hand working in our lives and in the lives of all Your children, as You gently transform us into the lovely image of the Lord Jesus Christ, in Whose name we pray, AMEN. (<https://prayer.knowing-jesus.com/Romans/8/28>)

Thank you Lord for calling Andy and Jess for training in ordination and for M. Gemma to serve as our priest for 5 years. Amen

Day 5 Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Almighty and merciful God,
whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;
look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger,
homeless and hungry.
Bless those who work to bring them relief;
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;
and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. (taken from the Church of England website)

Day 6 1 John 5:14 (NIV)

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.”

O Lord God,
your Son Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.
In his resurrection
he restores life and peace in all creation.
Comfort, we pray, all victims of intolerance
and those oppressed by their fellow humans.
Remember in your kingdom those who have died.
Lead the oppressors towards compassion
and give hope to the suffering.
Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. (taken from the Church of England website)

May M. Gemma, Jess and Andy continue to fight against modern slavery, for the rights of refugees and victims of abuse and conflict.
AMEN