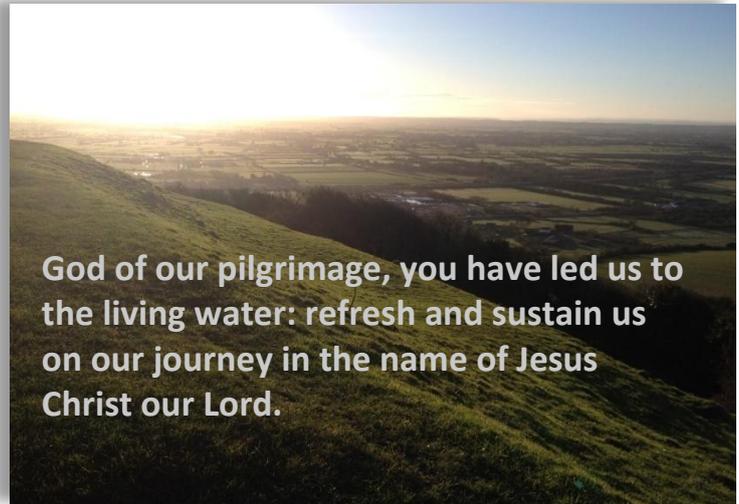


# **Axbridge Deanery Prayer Diary**

***View from Brent Knoll, an image  
used as part of the deanery  
pilgrimage July 2015***



## ***A prayer at the start of the day***

As we step out into a new day help us to remember that whoever we meet this day we meet in the name of Christ.

## ***At noon***

In the midst of the business bring stillness.  
In the clamour of the day bring calm.  
Take a moment to acknowledge God,  
And to place our hand in His.

## ***In the evening***

Our day may not yet have ended  
There may be much to do,  
Give us the courage Lord to lay aside  
the tasks not rooted in You.

*It's not always about the doing - but also our being*

## ***At the end of the day (from compline)***

Keep watch, dear Lord,  
with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night,  
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.  
Tend the sick, give rest to the weary,  
sustain the dying, calm the suffering,  
and pity the distressed;  
all for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer.

**Amen.**

1 <sup>st</sup>	As a tourist area let us give thanks for our many visitors. And we Pray for the work of BARB and RNLi keeping our coastline and inshore waters safe and coming to the aid of those in trouble
2 <sup>nd</sup>	For vision and guidance as we seek to grow lay ministry. Pray especially for our Lay Ministry Coordinator: Rev Jonathan Philpott alongside his ministry in the parishes of Berrow and Brea
3 <sup>rd</sup>	For all Church wardens. Lord bless and guide all our churchwardens in their wisdom and support of our church communities, and when the time comes inspire new people to hear the call to follow in their footsteps.
4 <sup>th</sup>	We give thanks for Musicians & choristers. Lord guide and inspire us as we seek to discover those moments when we can join as a deanery to worship you.
5 <sup>th</sup>	We pray for those facing tensions at home and for couples facing or going through divorce. We think of those facing the possibility of losing their home and for those already living in a hostel or for some seeking shelter somewhere on the streets.
6 <sup>th</sup>	For the town of Highbridge. For the vicar, Prebendary Sharon Crossman; and for guidance in her role as Rural Dean. We give special thanks for new connections through Messy Church Events. Pray too for families and young people housed in Riverbed House and Wade House awaiting a permanent home.
7 <sup>th</sup>	For the ministry of St Andrews, Burnham on Sea. For Fr Graham Witts the vicar and in his role as Archdeaconry warden of readers. For Rev Sharon Eldergill; associate priest and her role as chapter clerk.
8 <sup>th</sup>	Please pray for those who volunteer in and those who need the foodbanks in our deanery: The Cheddar Foodbank and The Highbridge Area Foodbank. We pray especially for those who may need a foodbank for the very first time. Those waiting for benefit payments and those who suddenly find themselves without work.
9 <sup>th</sup>	We pray for the schools across our deanery. For our Head Teachers and Governing Bodies. Pray for our ongoing partnerships between church and school. that our schools might be places where the children know they are valued and cared for.
10 <sup>th</sup>	Let us give thanks for those places of gathering in our Deanery. For the pubs, the supermarkets and village shops. We pray for those chance conversations when we are out and about, that opportunities to stop and pause are not missed.
11 <sup>th</sup>	We pray for those in our community with whom we have the opportunity to work in partnership. We think of our neighbouring church communities of all denominations and local community groups. We pray for our local funeral directors and staff at our crematoriums, and the groundsmen in local cemeteries. For members of our local parish and town councils. Creator God ignite our imagination for collaborative working both within and outside the church.

12 <sup>th</sup>	For benefice The Huntspills and Mark and for their vicar Rev Tonya Nixon. Especially for their work with adults with learning difficulties through the West Huntspill Project. And for other similar projects across our deanery; Prospects, Somerset Court. For all who care for and support them.
13 <sup>th</sup>	Remember today anyone you know who is ill, anxious, or perhaps frustrated by disability. Pray for those who face long-term illness and treatment. Pray for those alongside them and especially for those who live alone. May they know God's peace and may we be aware when we may bring a glimmer of love and hope.
14 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for the life and ministry of Crook Peak Parish, for Rev Judith Jeffery, and all those who minister in the six small village communities, giving thanks for new café church and messy church initiatives.
15 <sup>th</sup>	We pray for the remote places in our deanery. For small hamlets and isolated farm houses. We pray for the work of the Farming Community Network and for Village Agents.
16 <sup>th</sup>	For the life and ministry of the Isle of Wedmore, Allerton, Blackford and Theale. For the vicar Reverend Richard Neill and his role as assistant rural dean and for Training Curate; Rev Joy Howes and her ministry as chaplain to the Blue school in Wells
17 <sup>th</sup>	We pray for the life and vision of our Deanery Synod. For Mr Tim Hind, Lay Chair of Synod and for members of the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group. We pray for Emily and Matt sharing the role of secretary and for Maxine in her role as treasurer.
18 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for the ministry of our Readers. We pray for vocations into this important ministry. WE pray too for those called as pastoral assistants and worship assistants, those called as school governors and a whole variety of gifts of ministry across our deanery
19 <sup>th</sup>	For Fr Graham Witts as he leads the Exploring Christianity course and for all members of that group. Pray too for Pilgrim courses and study groups across our deanery
20 <sup>th</sup>	For the Benefice of Cheddar, Draycott and Rodney Stoke and the initiatives for reaching the "unchurched" especially the new breakfast initiative. For the Vicar Rev Stuart Burns.
21 <sup>st</sup>	We pray today for all carers. Those still at school and juggling homework alongside work at home. Those in their own latter years facing their own health problems and yet still putting the needs of their loved ones above their own. Others juggling their own family and work life and yet still finding time to care for others. As you pray, be open to an occasion when you may become part of the answer to that prayer.
22 <sup>nd</sup>	For the parishes of Priddy, Easton and Westbury-sub-Mendip. For the Vicar, Prebendary Paula Hollingsworth. Pray too for Paula's work as Diocesan Dean of Women and her role as Sub-Dean in Wells Cathedral
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Pray for many new people coming to live in new housing across our deanery. For vision and inspiration as we seek to discover our role in building and

	encouraging community.
24 <sup>th</sup>	For our work with children & young people. Especially for “Open the book” initiatives in schools and for the “Movement” youth project based in Wedmore. We pray for the raising up of those called to this important ministry.
25 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for those who care for us: for our emergency services, for hospital workers, and those who work in our medical centres. We pray for all chaplains and pastoral assistants serving in hospitals, hospices and care homes.
26 <sup>th</sup>	For those discerning a call to ordained ministry. We pray for our role in finding ways to encourage vocation, in the seeking out of those whom God may be calling and in the encouragement of those to take their first steps on that journey.
27 <sup>th</sup>	For the ministry in the Three Saints Benefice: For Rev Simon Lewis and all those who minister in these three villages
28 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for the creativity of our dedicated flowers arrangers. For those who clean our churches and halls, those who cut the grass and tend the flower beds. For those who fold the service sheets. The ever ending list of those things that may sometimes go unnoticed.
29 <sup>th</sup>	For Axbridge, Shipham and Rowberrow. For Vicar Rev Tim Hawkings. Pray especially for the community café at Shipham and its missional role.
30 <sup>th</sup>	We pray for God’s light to shine in the darkest places and especially where children are scared to speak out, or where adults are trapped in modern slavery.
31 <sup>st</sup>	Let us encourage each other in prayer as we seek to be God’s people living and telling the story of Christ in our lives. Knowing that we are sometimes that answer to prayer