

PRAY FOR SCHOOLS FORTNIGHT

Resources for 2019

Sunday 12 May to Sunday 26 May



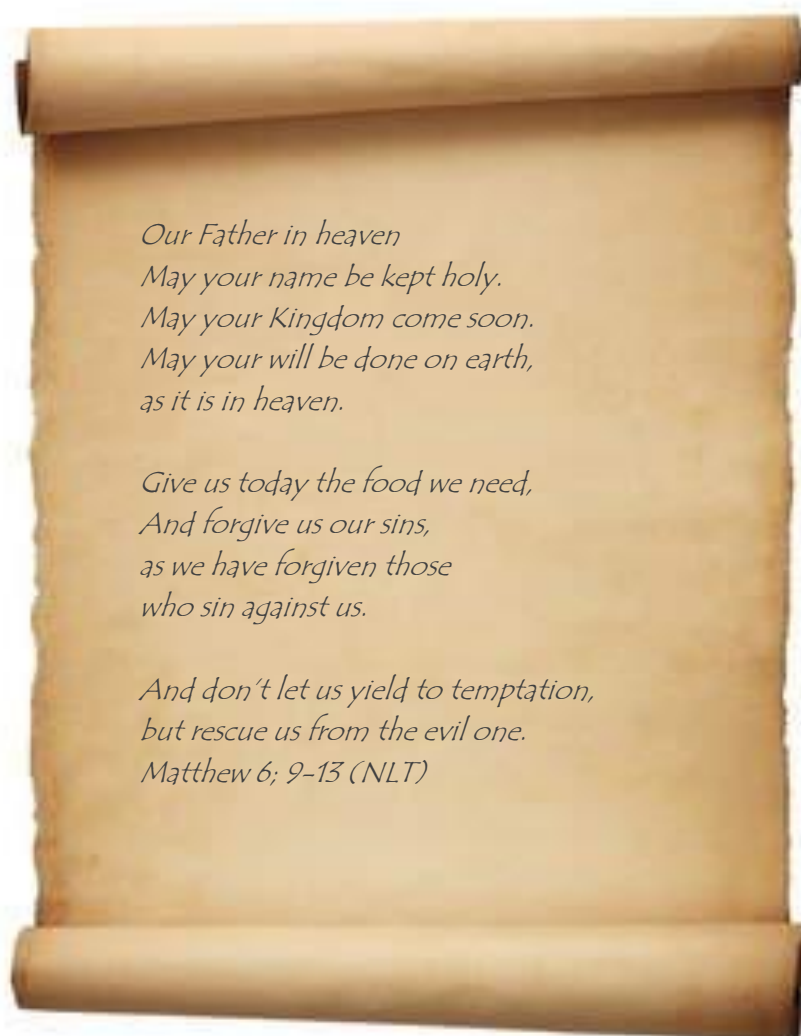
Lord, teach us to pray!

Even though our God is awesome, holy and almighty we can still come right into His presence – when we come in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Prayer has to be one of the most amazing gifts God gives us – what an incredible privilege it is to talk with Him about the issues on our hearts. And know He hears and answers!

When the disciples of Jesus asked for help to know how to pray, this is what He said.

Your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! Pray like this:



And that's how Christians from then on, everywhere, have talked to God.

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The Lord's Prayer – we know it so well! Recited it by heart since we were small. Seen books about it, heard so many sermons!

And yet, these ageless words still come across as living and active so that's why we've chosen them for this year's Pray for Schools Fortnight.

As well as the fourteen daily prayers for specific needs there may be in our schools, let's also come to God using the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven May your name be kept holy	Pray for all kinds of Christian witness in schools that remind students and staff of who God is
May your Kingdom come soon	Pray for those who are not far from trusting in Christ to believe and commit their lives
May your will be done. On earth, as it is in heaven	Pray that God's plans for the school will come about and bring a taste of heaven down to earth
Give us today the food we need	Pray for provision of the different resources needed to maintain and enrich the life of the school
And forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us	Pray for reconciliation, harmony and peace to bring healing into relationships within the school.
And don't let us yield to temptation	Pray for God's help in stopping anti-social behaviour, dishonesty, disrespect and other problems
But rescue us from the evil one	Ask God to protect all connected with the school, and to bless it with His powerful loving presence

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The Lord's Prayer (adapted)

You are **Our Father in heaven**. You are so great that we cry **hallowed be your name**. We long to see **Your Kingdom come** in our schools.

We ask that **your will be done, on earth** in classrooms and school halls, just **as in heaven**.

We ask for your resources, please **give us today our daily bread**, equip us to feed the hearts and minds of this generation.

Forgive us our sins, for the times we have looked away and not seen the need.

May we teach children about Your forgiveness

as we forgive those who sin against us.

We ask that you would **lead us not into temptation** of complacency, where we ignore the opportunities we have to engage with this generation.

We understand it is too easy to show a poor example, **but deliver us from evil** so that we will show them Your grace,

and share hope for their future. Because, our vision is **for the kingdom**,

and we ask they might see **that the power and the glory are Yours**.

We ask that in our lifetime, a revival amongst this generation will be a reality, both for **now and for ever**. Amen.

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Every year, in May, we love to encourage Christians to come together and pray for the schools in their communities.

Why not organise a local event, inviting those with a heart for prayer?

- Ask your church to host an evening prayer session
- Set up a prayer space with different opportunities and creative ways to pray for schools in the area.
- Involve Christian young people - to share stories, lead praise and pray.
- Encourage Head teachers, other school staff and Governors to contribute.
- Share the vision of covering every school in the neighbourhood with prayer
- Recommission schools' workers, teachers, students and others to be Christ's ambassadors in their schools.

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“Lord, teach us to pray!” Fourteen daily prayers for Pray for Schools Fortnight

- SUN 12** Pray for renewed encouragement for Christian parents, teachers and other staff, schools’ workers, students and others, as they engage with their local schools.
- MON 13** Ask God to help those preparing for exams; to concentrate on revision, retain information, and stay healthy – to do their best and gain the results they deserve.
- TUE 14** Pray for Head Teachers and others in senior leadership roles; that God would grant them wisdom with important decisions and undertaking challenging tasks.
- WED 15** Intercede that the children will learn more of the truth and grace of the gospel – from assemblies, RE lessons, local church ministers and Christian staff and visitors.
- THUR 16** Give thanks for the contribution of Christian schools to the education of so many children. Pray that they will continue to be free to teach biblical truth and values.
- FRI 17** Ask God to raise up many Christians to serve as School Governors, on fundraising and other committees, volunteering in classrooms and in other practical ways.
- SAT 18** Remember the invaluable contribution of non-teaching school staff: providing administrative back-up, caring for buildings and grounds, supervising children at lunchtimes and giving other support.
- SUN 19** Ask God to grant Education Secretary Damian Hinds MP and his team insight and wisdom as they deal with teachers, parents, local authorities and other agencies.
- MON 20** Intercede for the growing numbers of children affected by bullying. Pray for those helping them to cope with mental health issues and other problems caused by this.
- TUE 21** Remember teachers and other staff working with children who have special needs. Pray that they will receive grace and patience from God and find joy in all they do.
- WED 22** Ask God to grant wisdom to those responsible for education budgets nationally and in local authorities. Pray for fairness and skill to spend available funds wisely.
- THUR 23** Pray that Governors and parents will not be required to accept Relationship and Sex Education curriculum content that they believe is unsuitable for their children.
- FRI 24** Thank God for thousands of groups and individuals who pray regularly for schools. Pray for encouragement to keep believing for the answers to their prayers.
- SAT 25** Intercede for the safety of children and young people in schools, especially those in communities that are affected by gang culture and other social challenges.