

**'I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing, put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,
exalted for you, or brought low for you;
let me be full, let me be empty,
let me have all things, let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant now made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.'**
The Methodist Covenant Prayer

And finally, ember days are good opportunities for us to reflect on and appreciate the ministry we currently exercise. Hear Michael Ramsay's words:

Amidst the vast scene of the world's problems and tragedies you may feel that your own ministry seems so small, so insignificant, so concerned with the trivial. What a tiny difference it can make to the world that you should run the youth club, or preach to a few people in a church, or visit families with seemingly small result. But consider: the glory of Christianity is its claim that small things really matter and that the small company, the very few, the one woman, the one man, the one child are of infinite worth to God.



EMBER DAYS are set aside for prayer for vocations, and for those who serve the church in different ministries. Traditionally they are observed on the Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays in the weeks before the Third Sunday of Advent, the Second Sunday of Lent, after Pentecost and the third (liturgical) week in September.

Please use this sheet for reflection and prayer during the EMBER DAYS themselves, around times of inductions and ordinations and licensings, alone and with others in your church or Mission Area.

***Prayer for the increase and right use
of the gifts God has given us***

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the Church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ by lives built on faith and love. Make us ready to live his gospel and eager to do his will that we may share with all your Church in the joys of eternal life: Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please pray for:

- those who are currently exploring their vocation
- for vocations to the ordained ministry from younger candidates, and for those who will exercise leadership in the church of the future as we face the coming retirement of a large proportion of our clergy,
- for vocations to the newer licenced lay ministries – pioneer, evangelist, pastoral minister, youth and family workers,
- for an increase in commitment to discipleship and Christian maturity
- for all the people of God in churches across our diocese as we seek to serve God in a variety of contexts – work, home, community, church
- For those who are currently in training for ministry: for their families and for St Padarn Institute

Stephen Barnett (evangelist)

George Bearwood priest (stipendiary)

Luke Bristowe priest (stipendiary)

Emma Dale priest (stipendiary)

Helen Dawson priest (stipendiary)

Alyson Goldstein priest (local)

Stephen Hayes priest (non stipendiary)

Adrian Johnson priest (non stipendiary)

Dawn Jones pastoral chaplain

Toby Jones priest (stipendiary)

Gregor Lachlann-Waddell priest (stipendiary)

Christopher Lawton priest (stipendiary)

Ben Lines priest (stipendiary)

Grace Lomas priest (stipendiary)

Jo Mackriell priest (non stipendiary)

Nicola Midgley reader

Dan Morgan priest (stipendiary)

Marcus Pipe priest (local)

Natasha Quinn-Thomas priest (stipendiary)

Rosemary Rogers reader

Sue Ruggeri reader

Thelma Shardlow reader

Sian Syme Church Army

Jim Thompson priest (local)

Kathleen Wigley reader

Gareth Williams deacon (non stipendiary)

Patrick Williams priest (local)

Michael Winwood priest (local)

Dawn Wolstenholme reader

Gail Woodward priest (local)

Local priests are deployed back into their Mission Areas. The focus of the ministry of many of our ministers will be the workplace and they will be serving during the week in medicine, education, forestry, social work as well as within voluntary and community work.

As we pray for those training for ministry, it is a good opportunity to think about our own vocation. This prayer, from the Methodist Covenant service holds some important truths about vocation – it may be useful to reflect on the words, and you may like to use the prayer in order to commit anew to God's service.

Christ has many services to be done:

Some are easy, others are difficult;

Some bring honour, others bring reproach;

Some are suitable to our natural inclinations and interests.

others are contrary to both;

In some we may please Christ

and please ourselves;

In others, we cannot please Christ

except by denying ourselves.

Yet the power to do all these things is given to us in Christ who strengthens us