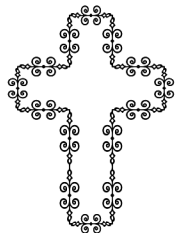


Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



*"The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."
Matthew 9:37,38*

Lord, as you called your disciples, call us now. Open our ears to listen to your calling; Open our eyes to see you; Open our hearts to your love. Help us to hear you, to experience your presence with us and to love you. And loving you, let us serve you, our servant King. **Amen.**



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.

'Advent' simply means 'coming' as in Christ's coming both at his birth and his second coming in power and glory to bring His Kingdom into fruition. It is a period of expectation, anticipation and preparation.

Below are some quotations we will hear once again this Advent:

"Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion" (Isaiah 40:9) Do you think God might be inviting you to be his messenger?

"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him." (John 1: 6-8) God still calls witnesses to speak for the light which is Christ. Do you think God might be inviting you to bear witness to Christ?

Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' (Luke 1:38) It takes courage and grace to give a "Yes" to God's call.





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GROW FAITH • BRING HOPE • DEMONSTRATE LOVE
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Prayer for the increase and right use of the gift's 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.

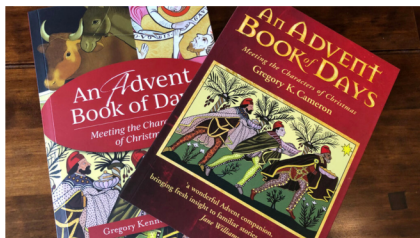
Amen



Let us pray

Lord of the Ages, who calls us to live in the fullness of life, and to discover our destiny in your will for our lives, help us to learn from the example of Mary who, though troubled by the message of the angel, was still prepared to say 'yes' to your will. **Amen.**

(From An Advent Book of Days by Bishop Gregory)



Please Pray For

- those who are currently exploring their vocation and our team of Vocations Advisors led by Rev'd Alex Mayes and Diocesan Discerners
- 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 licensed lay ministries – pioneer, evangelist, pastoral chaplain
- 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

We pray for those who are to be ordained as priests in 2023

Alyson Goldstein, serving in the Denbigh Mission Area

Dan Morgan, serving in the Mold Mission Area

Grace Lomas, serving in the Aberconwy Mission Area

Marcus Pipe, serving in the Wrexham Mission Area

We pray for those who are to be made deacon in 2023

Emma Dale (Priest, Stipendiary)

Ana Davies (Priest, Stipendiary)

Gwen Dixon (Priest, Non-Stipendiary Local)

Kathryn Hall (Priest, Stipendiary)

Pam Hallam-Wedley (Deacon, Non-Stipendiary)

Cass Meurig Thomas (Priest, Stipendiary)

We pray for those who are currently in training for ministry, for their families and for St Padarn's Institute:

Joanne Bowles (Pastoral Chaplain)

Stuart Dean (Priest, Stipendiary)

Barbara Jones (Deacon, Non-Stipendiary)

Maria Morante (Licensed Pastoral Chaplain)

Rebecca Ratcliffe (Deacon, Non-Stipendiary)

Deborah Sawyer (Licensed Pastoral Chaplain)

Joshua Schoch (Licensed Pastoral Chaplain)

Glyn Wise (Priest, Stipendiary)

"There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit..."

1 Corinthians 12:4