****August Prayer Diary**

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.”

Ephesians 6:10-11

**Monthly Prayer**

Lord, we thank you we do not face our challenges alone, and that you equip us for every battle we face. Help us to stand firm with the belt of truth around our waist, the breastplate of righteousness in place, our feet fitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace, wearing the helmet of salvation and holding the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit. Amen.

**Friday 1st – Saturday 3rd**

During the Summer holidays, we pray that those who visit Devon would feel welcomed and find it a place to encounter you. We give thanks for our churches, local Christian camps and festivals, Devon Pilgrim routes and summer holiday clubs, and pray that those who take part will encounter you.

1. For all those attending Creation Fest in Cornwall, particularly those who don’t yet know Jesus. We pray that they would draw near to you during the event, and they would hear your voice in the worship, teaching and times of fellowship. We give thanks for the team and for those who support this event.
2. For the churches of the Torquay Central Mission Community, their clergy Peter March, Sam Leach, Stephen Ball, Jules Johnston, LLMs Jude Fortune, Edwina Corderoy, Rose Butt, and for all who live and worship in Torquay St Luke, Torquay St John, Saint Mary Magdalene Torquay, and All Saints Torre. For pupils, teachers and staff at Torre Church of England Academy.
3. For the churches of the Torridge and Taw Mission Community, their clergy Chris Painter, James Moore, LLM Graham Prosser, Gerald Lush, and for all who live and worship in Westleigh, Instow, and Fremington.

**Sunday 4th – Saturday 9th**

As we reflect on the mysteries of the ocean depths during National Marine Week, we celebrate the wondrous design of the seas. Help us to lament how we have polluted our oceans and to respond to the groaning of creation. Teach us to sense Your presence in the tides and currents of the surging seas. Teach us to care for the oceans and all our waterways.

1. For the churches of the Torquay West Mission Community, their clergy Paul Ireton, Samantha Stayte, LLM Vicki Osborne, and for all who live and worship in Shiphay Collaton, and Cockington.
2. In our link with the Diocese of Bayeux-Lisieux, we’re praying for the Bishop’s Council, and for all members of the other diocesan councils. May you give them wisdom and discernment in all their decision making. We also pray for those in the Diocese encouraging and equipping lay people to explore vocations.
3. As we remember the Transfiguration, when Jesus revealed His divine nature to the disciples, we pray that all would have a powerful encounter with Jesus, the Son of God. May our lives reflect His light, help us listen to Him, as God commands. (Matthew 17:5).
4. For the churches of the Torridge Mission Community, their clergy Martin Warren, Catherine Duff, LLM Jon Berry, and for all who live and worship in Sheepwash, Shebbear, Petrockstowe, Petersmarland, Newton St Petrock, Merton, Langtree, Huish, and Buckland Filleigh.
5. For the churches of the Torridge (Coastal) Mission Community, their clergy Jules Harris, Hilary Kemp, Ildiko Varadi-Luongo, LLMs Nigel Price, Jonathan Ellis, and for all who live and worship in Westward Ho!, Northam, Appledore, and Abbotsham.
6. We give thanks for the brave and faithful work of the Mothers’ Union in Melanesia. Continue to inspire them by the vision of Mary Sumner to uphold family life rooted in love and prayer. Bless their ministry with strength, wisdom and enduring hope, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Sunday 10th – Saturday 16th**

Ahead of International Youth Day (12th August), we give thanks for young people across Devon and pray that they would encounter you and know your unconditional love and peace. We thank you for youth workers and volunteers working to reach young people with the Gospel. As we think of the young people in our lives, we lift their names to you.

1. In our link with the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, we pray for the Mission to Seafarers Port Chaplains who operate in the Diocese, carrying out vital work that allows seafarers to continue doing their jobs.
2. For the Torridge 6 Ecumenical Mission Community during their vacancy. For all who live and worship in Dolton, Dowland, Iddesleigh and Monkokehampton.
3. For the churches of the Torrington Mission Community, their priest Steve Turner, and for all who live and worship in Little Torrington, Great Torrington, and Frithelstock. For pupils, teachers and staff at Great Torrington Blue Church of England Primary School.
4. For the churches of the Totnes Mission Community, their clergy Jim Barlow, Chris Martin, Chris Harris, Jane Frost, LLMs Jonathan Drummond-Smith, Alan Hill, Richard Frost, Tony Gregg, David Stafford, Alison Fisher, Elizabeth Waterson, and for all who live and worship in Totnes with Bridgetown, Stoke Gabriel, Marldon, Harberton, Dartington, Cornworthy, Berry Pomeroy, and Ashprington. For pupils, teachers and staff at Marldon Church of England Primary School, Totnes St John’s Church of England Primary School, Dartington Church of England Academy, and Berry Pomeroy Church of England Primary School.
5. On A-Level Results Day, we pray for all those who are receiving their exam results. Lord, we remember that you know the plans you have for us, plans which will prosper and not harm us, plans that give us hope and a future (Jeremiah 29:11)
6. For the churches of the Trinity Mission Community, their clergy Jonny Elvin, Toby Humphries, and for all who live and worship in Holy Trinity Exeter. For pupils, teachers and staff at Trinity Church of England Primary and Nursery School.
7. For the churches of the Two Rivers Mission Community, their clergy Gary Owen, Tracey Doyle, Ally Hope, Julia Halpin, LLMs Jacque Ward, Carol Wyatt, Tim Overton, David Halpin, and for all who live and worship in Yarnscombe, Tawstock, St Giles in the Wood, Roborough, Newton Tracey with Alverdiscott, Huntshaw, Horwood, High Bickington, Beaford, and Atherington. For pupils, teachers and staff at Holywell Church of England Primary School and High Bickington Church of England Primary School.

**Sunday 17th – Saturday 23rd**

We pray for those who are feeling weary and facing challenges would be reminded of your words from Matthew 11:28, ‘Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.**’** Lord, we thank you that you bring us true restoration and peace, and you are with us in difficult seasons.

1. For the churches of the Upper Culm Mission Community, LLMs David Major, Piers Langdon, Liz Langdon, and for all who live and worship in Hemyock with Culm Davy, Culmstock, and Clayhidon. We pray for the parishes during the vacancy.
2. For the churches of the West Dartmoor Mission Community, their clergy Andrew Thomas, Miranda Donne, LLM Martin Jury, and for all who live and worship in Yelverton, Walkhampton, Sheepstor, Sampford Spiney, Meavy, and Horrabridge. For pupils, teachers and staff at Meavy Church of England Primary School and Lady Modiford’s Church of England Primary School.
3. For the churches of the Whiddon Mission Community, their clergy David Spence, Harriet Every, Lay Worker Wes Cutler, LLMs Lionel Holmes, Kay Pyne, Jeanette Wilmot, Jill Hobbs, and for all who live and worship in Spreyton, South Tawton, Sampford Courtenay, North Tawton, North Bovey, Moretonhampstead, Manaton, Lustleigh, Honeychurch, Hittisleigh, Gidleigh with Throwleigh, Drewsteignton, Chagford, and Bondleigh.
4. For the churches of the White Cross Mission Community, their clergy Lewis Eden, Maggie Stirling Troy, LLM Christine Grist, and for all who live and worship in Woodbury with Exton, Woodbury Salterton, Farringdon, Clyst St Mary, Clyst St George, and Aylesbeare. For pupils, teachers and staff at Lady Seaward’s Church of England Primary School, Woodbury Church of England Primary School and Withycombe Raleigh Church of England Primary School.
5. On GCSE Results Day, we pray for all those receiving their results, for those who are celebrating and for those who are disappointed. We pray that they would be filled with your peace and know that they are not defined by their results, but they are treasured by their Father in Heaven, regardless of their grades.
6. For the churches of the Winkleigh Mission Community, their priest Helen Blaine, and for all who live and worship in Winkleigh, Brushford, Broadwood Kelly, and Ashreigney.
7. For the churches of the Withycombe Raleigh Mission Community, their clergy Robert Sellers, Kara Maylor, and for all who live and worship in Withycombe Raleigh. We pray particularly for the Mission Community as their vacancy begins. For pupils, teachers and staff at Withycombe Raleigh Church of England Primary School.

**Sunday 24th – Sunday 31st**

As September is approaching, we pray for those who are thinking about their next steps. Whether it be starting university or college, a new school, or a new job, we pray that they would be reminded that you are with them in this season of change. Lord, we ask that you would fill them with your peace.

1. On the Feast Day of Bartholomew the Apostle, we remember the faith of your disciples, their willingness to follow, and their courageous witness of your truth. We pray that you would give us boldness in our own witness, and help us to trust in you, Jesus.
2. For the churches of the Yealm and Erme Mission Community, their priest Kim Lovell, LLM Tricia Stringer, and for all who live and worship in Yealmpton, Wembury, Revelstoke, Newton Ferrers, Holbeton, and Brixton. For pupils, teachers and staff at St Mary’s Church of England School and Newton Ferrers Church of England Primary School.
3. In our link with the Diocese of Thika, we give thanks for the food security and water conservation project in Thungururu. We also pray for the famers as they learn new practices and support one another and for those managing this project.
4. For the churches of the Alphington Mission Community, their priest Mike Partridge, LLMs Ruth Ramsbottom, Lesley Phillips-Cannon, and for all who live and worship in Shillingford St George, Ide, and Alphington.
5. For the churches of the Ashburton & Moorland Mission Community, their clergy John Bennett, Ross Hathway, Jenny Weigel, LLMs Chloe Axford, William West, Mackenzie Robinson, and for all who live and worship in Widecombe in the Moor, Leusdon, Ilsington, Holne, and Ashburton with Buckland in the Moor and Bickington.
6. As we remember the Death of John the Baptist, who continued to rebuke those in power despite the cost, we pray that we would learn from his boldness, his humility, and his willingness to lay down his life for Jesus, declaring: “He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.” (John 3:30)
7. For the churches of the Aune Valley Mission Community, LLMs Nell Stamp, Peter Gornall, and for all who live and worship in Woodleigh, Thurlestone, South Milton, Loddiswell, and Churchstow. For pupils, teachers and staff at Thurlestone All Saints Church of England Academy.
8. For the churches of the Axe Valley Mission Community, their clergy Leisa Potter, Nicky Davies, Cate Edmonds, LLMs Ann Gray, and for all who live and worship in Uplyme, Membury, Combpyne with Rousdon, Chardstock St Andrew, Axmouth, Axminster, All Saints. For pupils, teachers and staff at Mrs Ethelston’s Church of England Primary Academy, All Saints Church of England Primary School, St Andrew’s Church of England Primary School.

Amen.