



THY KINGDOM COME

Across the World
2019 Impact Report

30th May – 9th June 2019

Trafalgar Square Beacon Event, London



Headlines

Thy Kingdom Come is a global, ecumenical prayer movement which takes place each year from Ascension to Pentecost. Christians are encouraged to pray for more people to come to faith during these 11 days of prayer.

From Bangladesh to Brazil, Australia to Austria and South Africa to the Solomon Islands, more than 2 million Christians, across 65 different denominations and traditions, in 90% of countries worldwide have participated.

In 2019 Thy Kingdom Come was endorsed by a range of high-profile leaders, including His Holiness Pope Francis. Her Majesty The Queen also commended Thy Kingdom Come in a speech!

This year our app was downloaded thousands of times in almost 100 countries worldwide – more than twice as many as in 2018.

In our annual feedback survey, we found that:

- 92% of those taking part were praying for friends and family members to come to know Jesus – with nearly two thirds (62%) of this group planning to follow up or talk to the people they were praying for;
- 70% of those who took part felt more encouraged to share their faith;
- 40% of respondents took part for the first time this year – which shows this is still very much a growing movement;
- 99% want to be involved again next year, the same figure as last year – demonstrating growth and value.

“And to you my brothers and sisters, with my brother Justin Welby, we want to tell you that we walk alongside you in this prayer – Thy Kingdom Come.”

-His Holiness, Pope Francis

(*172 out of 195 countries.)

Across the Nations

Beyond England, other nations in the British Isles participated.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND

In a beautiful show of unity, the two Archbishops of Armagh (Anglican/Protestant) and (Roman Catholic) signed a joint statement in support of this year's Thy Kingdom Come.

Events took place in both nations including Belfast (St Anne's Cathedral) and Londonderry, Northern Ireland and in Dublin and Cork in the Republic of Ireland.

City on a Hill (Foyle Vineyard Church), Londonderry also took part:

"We are a Vineyard church (Foyle Vineyard) and we had seen what Trent Vineyard has done in Nottingham and thought we could do that here.

"We ran two events. One Beacon prayer event on Friday night where we met on one side of the river to pray for our city, walked onto the peace bridge to pray for the health of the people, both mental and physical, (we have one of the highest rates in Europe of suicide in our river) and then on to the other side of the river where we met in our town square to pray for unity in our churches. We did a light vigil there and ended up getting to pray for some people on the streets. We had about 30 people at this event, from seven different faith communities and people from as far as America who had come to pray for our city that weekend and joined with our event.

"Then on Sunday night we held a city worship event where we teamed up with another church and led worship and then prayed for the Holy Spirit to come afresh. There were about 100 people at that which is a real first for us in our city.

"It was such an incredible weekend and we just feel like it was a significant one for our city. The first of many!"

Mr Gregory Campbell, Democratic Unionist Party MP for East Londonderry submitted a written question to Parliament on Thy Kingdom Come. Caroline Spelman responded.





SCOTLAND

The Church of Scotland and The Scottish Episcopal Church are both officially involved with Thy Kingdom Come.

Thy Kingdom Come resources were translated into Gaelic and were distributed widely. The Queen praised Thy Kingdom Come in a recent speech as an example of the close working together of the Church of England and Church of Scotland.

"The participation of the Church of Scotland in Thy Kingdom Come 2019 has enabled local congregations to share in a global Kingdom-focussed initiative. We are already anticipating the possibilities that 2020 will bring as we pray together for the renewal of the Church."

John McPake, Ecumenical Officer, Church of Scotland

Events happened across the country from Edinburgh to Inverness and beyond.

WALES

The Church in Wales are also officially committed. Resources were translated into Welsh and distributed widely. A number of churches took part, from Cardiff to Bangor.

In the diocese of St David's, there was particularly strong engagement – Bishop Joanna Penberthy recorded a series of short talks for the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come.

Similarly, a Bow Down prayer event also took place in Cardiff city centre – in a similar vein to others across England and Wales, inspired by Trent Vineyard church.

Welsh versions of the Methodist Novena were distributed throughout Wales.

"It's been great to have everyone praying together in our services, through prayer stations and in groups. The variety of people engaging with the different resources has been wonderful to see."



Across the World

More than 2 million Christians, across 65 different denominations and traditions, in 90% of countries worldwide* have taken part in Thy Kingdom Come. Services were held in countries from Bangladesh to Brazil, Australia to Austria, South Africa to the Solomon Islands. Resources have been translated into many languages including Maori, Arabic, Malagasy, Japanese, French, Finnish, Spanish and Swahili.

“Wonderful to take part in global prayer to see God's kingdom come on earth.”

AFRICA

Egypt

The Bishop of Egypt voiced, in Arabic, a specially-created video supporting Thy Kingdom Come. (This is the first time this has happened.) It was distributed across several North African and Middle Eastern nations. Next year a Beacon event in the Cathedral in Cairo is planned.

Madagascar

Building on from last year, the Diocese of Toliara took part in the 11 days of prayer with Christians across several villages holding outdoor prayer meetings which has now evolved into a long-term prayer & discipleship group. The Bishop translated a Thy Kingdom Come resource into local language Malagasy which was distributed locally.



Burundi

The Anglican Bishop of Rutana diocese hosted a special Thy Kingdom Come service in which he invited the congregation to spend time together as a church praying to God that *“His Kingdom would come and shed light wherever there is darkness.”*

Southern Africa

Anglican churches / dioceses were involved – including a church in Pretoria that combined days of prayer with external outreach to the homeless, including two prayer walks where they offered food and prayers. Another diocese saw about 1,000 people involved in praying at their cathedral during the 11 days. There was also strong Methodist engagement – including the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, Cape of Good Hope District who witnessed more people join in prayer, families pray together and that they were also more motivated to talk to people about Jesus as a result. The Methodist church of Southern Africa, Limpopo Synod – including parts of Botswana – also participated.

*(172 out of 195 countries)



ASIA

Bangladesh

St John's Church and other churches in the diocese of Barisal, took part in Thy Kingdom Come pledging to "light up Bangladesh in prayer."

"In many places, they were so encouraged that they are continuing their prayer twice in a week or once in a week. Some of our priests said that the church has got a new life and now more are attending services. Children, youth and women were encouraged to pray, and they received blessings."

-Rt. Rev.Shourabh Pholia, Bishop of Barisal Diocese, Church of Bangladesh



Sri Lanka

The Anglican Diocese of Colombo took part in Thy Kingdom Come. Shamel Rajapakse, Coordinator for the Sports Movement and Prayer ministry, said:

"30,000 people prayed for five people each, since we printed prayer cards for Pray for 5 and gave to our members in the 124 churches of the Diocese. For our Beacon Event we had 120 people from the Anglican church and a few other denominations. It was a wonderful time of worship, Pray for Five and sharing of testimonies. The Bishop of Colombo also sent a letter to 1,000 independent Churches to tell them about Thy Kingdom Come. We have requested people

to continue to pray for five and in two months' time we will send reminders. By September we hope to start work on Thy Kingdom Come 2020, but this time we will get the Youth Movement, Sports Movement, Mothers' Union and Sunday Schools' networks to take Thy Kingdom Come forward. We will also have meetings with the Regional Pastors Fellowships where all Pentecostal Churches pastors gather and introduce Thy Kingdom Come. We will also work with the Roman Catholic Church and the Free Churches' governing body for 2020. We translated the material into our local languages Sinhalese and Tamil from your website and distributed them."

-Shamel Rajapakse, Coordinator – Sports Movement and Prayer Ministry

EUROPE

Netherlands

"We started a small missional community in the southeast of Amsterdam. We shared about Thy Kingdom Come on social media and with other church leaders and used the resources intensively in Bible readings in the morning via WhatsApp, evening prayers in our community room and made a special landing page on the website. We held a special Thy Kingdom Come Sunday service and also did a prayer walk. For our little community of 10 core-members it was intense. We ended the eleven days with our children and teenagers on Pentecost, praying on the rooftop followed by a BBQ. So now we are collecting impressions of what God is saying and doing. We prayed as individuals for other people and together for the neighbourhood and for vision in what we can do here with our community for this area. We were very impressed by the simple and quiet moments and the impact for us, in bonding us together with new people around us. We believe in the importance of this theme: the Kingdom of God."

-Hemelsbreed Amsterdam

Tenerife (Canary Islands)

"At the church I attend, we had special events for our Spanish children, and they have been sharing with their families who don't usually come to church."

"We also opened up our church for two hours a day during this time and between 80-90 came into pray – we also had people on hand to offer prayer and talk. All our congregations took a red ribbon as a reminder to pray for five throughout the time – 120 ribbons were made, and all went. I adapted the material for the Spanish children who have just started coming to church."

"I hope it spread to the other denominations in town, we talked and prayed out Thy Kingdom Come – we loved it."

-Church of **Sweden**, Rural Dean in Vadsbo Deanery, Skara Diocese.

"This was a first for both churches. We kept it simple, encouraging people to light a candle every day and pray at home."

-Christ Church, Lausanne, **Switzerland** Diocese in Europe. Old Catholic Parish of Lausanne, Switzerland.

"At our Chaplaincy, approximately 50 people in total attended prayer services. Others took Novena booklets home."

-Riga, **Latvia**. Church of England Diocese in Europe.

"I am deeply grateful in participating in this worldwide movement. This strengthened my feeling of being connected to many people through faith."

-Sarepta Schwesternschaft Bielefeld-Bethel, **Germany**.



AUSTRALASIA

Australia

St Paul's Cathedral and City on a Hill Church partnered to host a special multi-lingual Pentecost celebration. This included Bible readings and sung worship including Amazing Grace sung in the language of the Yorta Yorta people of Northern Victoria and a song sung by the Anglican Indonesian Congregation. 400 people attended. They also had a 24/7 prayer roster and met every morning for prayer in Federation Square. They are hoping to do quarterly prayer and praise nights in the cathedral to pray for Melbourne.

Another church in Melbourne, St James & St Peter Anglican Church, Kilsyth, Victoria, Australia, also took part. A representative from the church said:

"There are several who have chosen to continue praying for their 5 throughout the year ahead and one who has had one of her five from last year come to faith who is now praying for five. We are a small church in a suburban setting which has been undergoing a missional transformation over the past couple of years. We have come to realise that we haven't looked out to the community for some time and we've turned that around and are still working on it. Each year we have done Thy Kingdom Come we have had some more interest grow within the congregations and it's sparking movement in how we pray and when we pray and in recognition of the power of prayer for the everyday Christian. It's a small start, but a vital one which is building momentum."

New Zealand

"We are a small rural parish – eight of us joined in a 12-hour prayer vigil. 60 people received information and resources at church. We will hold another prayer vigil later this year. We will keep focussing on the list of people being prayed for by parishioners."

-Waikato (Anglican) Diocese

Another church said:

"Thy Kingdom Come was incredibly timely for us this year. During the ten days of prayer, a 15-year-old girl who is part of the church and youth group was diagnosed with a rare and deadly form of cancer. We had organised daily prayer gatherings each evening as part of Thy Kingdom Come. As well as being a great opportunity to pray for our five people, we were able to uphold the girl and her family in prayer each night."

At Kenilworth and Claremont Methodists, the congregation committed to pray for five people they knew to come to know Jesus and raised all the names in prayer on the Sunday before Pentecost. They also joined in an ecumenical Ascension Day service and prayed for their neighbourhood from the roof of a shopping centre.



NORTH AMERICA

Canada

An Anglican Church in the Diocese of Toronto, Ontario –

“More people prayed, and families prayed together more during this time. As a church, we walked around the neighbourhood praying for our community. The prayer group is now a weekly gathering.”

A church in Montreal –

“The children made prayer bead bracelets to remind them to continue to pray for their five friends. We are now starting a Sunday morning prayer time as a result of Thy Kingdom Come.”

United States of America

An Episcopal church in Chicago –

“This is the third year we’ve taken part and this year participants from three other Episcopal churches joined the movement. Friends in the US, India and Malaysia prayed. A small group (20) from one church did a prayer walk in the church neighbourhood. A Lutheran pastor joined the prayer walk (the two churches share a building). This seems small in comparison to what’s happening elsewhere, but it is miraculous to see this participation. God is working!”

Saint Gilbert Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Chicago –

“We’re starting Alpha in a few weeks. Thy Kingdom Come has helped prepare us spirituality to launch Alpha.”

Mothers’ Union, Church of the Resurrection, Tampa, FL –

“We prayed together across the nation, joined by conference call, every day. A local branch member offered her business conference room for us to gather, using video and communication access to join members from other MU branches across the nation. Individually, we listened to the podcasts.”

An Episcopal church in West Texas –

“We had a BBQ on the Saturday before, with special teaching on evangelism and prayer. This was the first time our church did something like this. It was very faith-lifting, and helpful to use the liturgical season to promote prayer and evangelism. Some people have shared stories in the service about answers to prayer. It was also lovely and powerful to pray and commission people in the Sunday service, laying hands on them.”

The Episcopal Church, The Diocese of Virginia, St Peter’s Episcopal Church, Port Royal, VA –

“Each year that I’ve participated in Thy Kingdom Come I’ve found that my own life of prayer deepens, I long for more prayer, and that I use the resources of Thy Kingdom Come in my preaching. I’ve included information from this year’s videos in two recent sermons. I believe that the congregation is willing to meet to pray together, having seen them gather to pray at our hour of prayer event”.

The Very Rev. Catherine D. Hicks

Bermuda

Bermuda Cathedral held Pentecost celebrations – their diocesan choir sang ‘Your Kingdom Come’ by Pete James for the special service.





CARIBBEAN

Guyana

Several Anglican Churches in Guyana took part including St Mark's Parish, on the East Coast of Demerara, located just outside the capital Georgetown.

Trinidad

"The Family Podcasts proved to be a great way to get my children excited about worship time. I started nightly worship this Lent with my kids. They tended to be quite unmoved about worship until I used the Family Podcast. The use of the technology that they're used to, is a great inclusion to worship time."

- A participant from Trinidad

SOUTH AMERICA

Brazil

"We are excited to take part in this global call to prayer for more people to come to faith in Jesus."

We encouraged congregation members to consider praying for five people the Holy Spirit lays on their hearts to come to faith in Christ. We didn't make this a big corporate thing but an individual decision for people to make.

On the Saturday before Pentecost we had an evening of prayer and praise. We started with individual prayers – focusing on the five people. Then, we broadened the scope and prayed for God's Kingdom to come here in Brazil and then also prayed for the nations as we have a big expat community here with people from all over the world including including representatives from Jamaica, South Africa, Malaysia, New Zealand and the UK.

The very next day, on Pentecost Sunday, one of the young people was baptised – a beautiful end to the 11 days of prayer."

Church worker, Christ Church, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

"We are in continuous prayer for Lambeth 2020 and for our partnership with the Anglican Diocese of Amazonia (Bishop Marinez dos Santos Bassotto). This was the first year of Thy Kingdom Come when the Diocese was involved corporately. We feel the importance to have a common focus of prayer. I hope that next year we will be much more involved."

Right Revd. Humberto Maiztegui Gonçalves, Diocese Meridional - Porto Alegre (Southern Diocese)
Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Resources and Reach

Thy Kingdom Come consists of working with more than 65 denominations and traditions across the world. In the UK, we work with a range of partners to produce resources for their audiences. Here's a little snippet of what happened this year.

Church of England:

Church House Publishing and the Church of England's Digital team produced a selection of resources for this year's Thy Kingdom Come. This included the printing and distribution of a full colour book of Common Worship Daily Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come; a brand-new app with beautifully produced audio recordings of morning, daytime, evening and night prayer services; and a campaign video featuring Archbishop Justin Welby. The materials were seen nearly one million times, there were 28,000 sessions on the app and 92% of people surveyed found the content helpful, very helpful or extremely helping in bringing them closer to God.

'Heavenly.' 'Like having a cathedral in your pocket.'

Family Prayer Adventure Map – **380,000 of copies were distributed to children aged 7-11** in Church of England and Methodist schools and through the Thy Kingdom Come networks

"We used the map to pray as a family at bedtime. Our daughter loved being able to journey along and pray through the stickers. Every night, since praying through the map, my daughter wants to pause before thanking God. It was utterly brilliant – just a shame it finished on Pentecost!"

Methodist Church of Great Britain:

For the last 3 years, the Methodist Church of Great Britain has partnered with Thy Kingdom Come to encourage churches, individuals and families to participate. This year hundreds gathered together for special prayer events across the UK including Aberystwyth (Wales), Paisley (Scotland) and throughout England ranging from Cornwall to Newcastle. More than 160,000 copies of the Methodist Novena were distributed, offering daily reflections, prayers and readings. Welsh language versions of the Novenas were also produced and disseminated in Wales. One of this year's flagship videos featured the Youth President of the Methodist Church, Jasmine Yeboah, who shared about the power of praise. Three other short films featured Methodist Ministers and offered thought-provoking reflections on prayer. Stories from churches and individuals across the Methodist Church tell of how Thy Kingdom Come has enabled them to come together in prayer and be empowered to share their faith with others.

"People were motivated to pray and worship, and on several occasions, visitors came into church and asked for prayer for their situations."

The Catholic Church of England and Wales:

"For the last three years, I've had the pleasure of being the Catholic promoter to this wave of prayer and it is great to see it go from strength to strength. This year, there were two particular highlights:

The Trafalgar Square Beacon event enabled us to draw on a number of dioceses, agencies and shrines so as to contribute to the prayerful presence in the heart of London on Pentecost Sunday including the Shrine of our Lady Walsingham. The radical nature of this step of faith, moving beyond sacred spaces in to the 'public square', was highlighted by a priest who came to visit - curious to see what it would be like to have Adoration in Trafalgar Square.

It was also encouraging to witness during the prayer service, Archbishop Justin Welby and Cardinal Vincent Nichols pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit, alongside other Church leaders from different denominations.

For many Catholics across the UK and beyond, it was a delight to see the video message of His Holiness, Pope Francis urging us (the global Catholic church) to join in this wave of prayer.

Moving forward, a number of our dioceses have now embedded the time from Ascension to Pentecost as a dedicated time of prayer for Evangelisation. We will continue in our efforts to support the Catholic Church to make the joy of the Gospel a reality throughout England and Wales; In early 2020 I will be visiting Catholic Dioceses to help them establish Thy Kingdom Come locally."

This year, His Holiness Pope Francis's video endorsement reached almost **1 million** people on Facebook alone.

Teresa Carvalho, Home Mission Development Officer, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales

Did you know...

- Thy Kingdom Come videos have been viewed millions of times!
- Thy Kingdom Come Podcasts – World-renowned theologian, Tom Wright recorded this year's daily podcasts and were listened to more than **60,000 times** during the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come.

"The Thy Kingdom Come App has been brilliant. I have used it daily and have really valued all the video content and the Tom Wright podcasts. Thank you to all who worked on it. It has really helped bring Thy Kingdom Come prayer to life for me."

"This video from Tom Wright is the best 3 minute teaching on Jesus I've ever heard. Definitely worth watching!"

- This year, the app was downloaded **thousands of times in almost 100 countries** worldwide!

"I really liked the fact that the prayer journal had the same ideas of how to pray as the app - so people across the generations could use the same structure to pray for their friends, and we could use it in services too."

- This year Thy Kingdom Come received regional, national and international media coverage including the Times, BBC Radio 4 who produced a special Sunday worship service for Pentecost Sunday broadcast to millions of listeners and the Trafalgar Square event which will be featured in a BBC Songs of Praise programme.
- **90% of countries** worldwide have taken part in Thy Kingdom Come!



Afghanistan	Costa Rica	Guatemala	Mali	Romania	Tunisia
Albania	Croatia	Guinea	Malta	Russia	Turkey
Algeria	Cyprus	Guyana	Mauritius	Rwanda	Turkmenistan
Andorra	Czech Republic	Haiti	Mexico	Samoa	Uganda
Angola	Democratic Republic of Congo	Hong Kong*	Moldova	Saudi Arabia	Ukraine
Antigua and Barbuda	Denmark	Honduras	Monaco	Senegal	United Arab Emirates
Argentina	<i>(including Greenland and Faroe Islands)</i>	Hungary	Mongolia	Serbia	United Kingdom
Armenia	Djibouti	Iceland	Montenegro	Seychelles	<i>including Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.</i>
Australia	Dominica	India	Morocco	Sierra Leone	<i>This includes the Channel Islands (i.e. Jersey & Guernsey).</i>
Austria	Dominican Republic	Indonesia	Mozambique	Singapore	<i>Also includes British Overseas Territories i.e. Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, Cayman Islands, Bermuda and Turks & Caicos islands. Also includes the Falklands and Gibraltar.</i>
Azerbaijan	Ecuador	Iran	Myanmar (Burma)	Slovakia	
Bahamas	Egypt	Iraq	Namibia	Slovenia	
Bahrain	El Salvador	Ireland	Nepal	Solomon Islands	
Bangladesh	Estonia	Israel	The Kingdom of the Netherlands	Somalia	
Barbados	Ethiopia	Italy	<i>(including the Caribbean islands of St Maarten & Curaçao)</i>	South Africa	
Belarus	Fiji	Ivory Coast	New Zealand	South Korea	
Belgium	Finland	Jamaica	<i>(including Cook Islands)</i>	Spain (including the Canary Islands)	
Belize	France <i>(including Guadeloupe, Martinique islands, St Barthelemy, Reunion and French Guiana all new for 2019)</i>	Japan	Nicaragua	Sri Lanka	
Benin	Gabon	Jordan	Niger	St Lucia	
Bolivia	Gambia	Kazakhstan	Nigeria	St Kitts and Nevis	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Georgia	Kenya	North Macedonia	St Vincent and the Grenadines	
Botswana	Germany	Korea	Oman	South Sudan	
Brazil	Ghana	Kosovo*	Pakistan	Sudan	
Brunei	Greece	Kuwait	Palestine	Swaziland	
Bulgaria	Grenada	Lao people's democratic republic (Laos)	Panama	Sweden	
Burkina Faso	Guam* - this is part of Micronesia	Latvia	Papa New Guinea	Switzerland	
Burundi		Lebanon	Paraguay	Tanzania	
Cambodia		Lesotho	Peru	Thailand	
Cameroon		Liberia	Philippines	Timor-Leste <i>(known as East Timor)</i>	
Canada		Libya	Poland	Togo	
Chile		Lithuania	Portugal	Tonga	
China <i>(including Macao and Taiwan)</i>		Luxembourg	Qatar	Trinidad and Tobago	
Colombia		Madagascar			
Comoros		Malawi			
		Malaysia			



Here's the list of the 172 countries that have engaged with Thy Kingdom Come to date.

**engagement in Thy Kingdom Come means participation in events and prayers, app downloads, podcast listens, social media shares as well as website and video views.