



FACILITATORS' GUIDE



Thy Kingdom Come is an invitation for individuals, churches and families to pray.

This resource gives you some simple tools to help engage people that you work with in praying for their friends and families during *Thy Kingdom Come*. Further resources can be downloaded from www.thykingdomcome.global or purchased from www.cpo.org.uk/thykingdomcome as well as leather bracelets and other resources to encourage people to pray for five family members or friends.

Whenever you are encouraging people to pray please get them on to www.thykingdomcome.global and ask them to sign up to Pledge2Pray so that we can see how many people are getting involved and continue to support them with videos and updates. If you are planning an event for *Thy Kingdom Come*, make sure you register it on the events section of the website.

During *Thy Kingdom Come* we'll be releasing a video everyday showing how some people are using different activities to help them pray for five friends and family members so keep an eye out on our Vimeo and YouTube channels. Whatever your favourite flavour of social media we've got something to help you engage with people:

Facebook: [@ThyKingdomComeUK](https://www.facebook.com/ThyKingdomComeUK) | www.facebook.com/ThyKingdomComeUK

Twitter: [@thykingdom_come](https://twitter.com/thykingdom_come) | www.twitter.com/thykingdom_come

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCersPSbZL4WUieHf8eQLlxw/feed

Vimeo: www.vimeo.com/user61607490

Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/146830203@N05/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/pledge2pray/>

Through *Thy Kingdom Come* we'll be using a number of different hashtags but: #Pledge2Pray & #ThyKingdomCome will always be there.



“In corporate worship, we unite ourselves with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, to hear God’s Word, to offer prayer, and to celebrate the sacraments.” Catechism, Episcopal Book of Common Prayer, p. 857

#Pledge2Pray &		
25 May	#ToJesus	<i>God Among us, I follow you</i>
26 May	#Praise	<i>God of Glory, I praise you</i>
27 May	#Thanks	<i>God of Grace, I give thanks</i>
28 May	#Sorry	<i>God of Forgiveness, I am sorry</i>
29 May	#Offer	<i>God of Vision, I offer you</i>
30 May	#PrayFor	<i>God of Compassion, I pray for</i>
31 May	#Help	<i>God of Ages, I ask your help</i>
1 June	#Adore	<i>God of Love, I adore you</i>
2 June	#Celebrate	<i>God of Joy, I celebrate</i>
3 June	#Silence	<i>God of Mystery, I enter your silence</i>
4 June	#ThyKingdomCome	<i>God of Heaven and Earth, I do this in your Name</i>

Invite your congregation, Bible study, Sunday school class, Youth Group, Choir, or any other group to unite, to acknowledge the holiness of God and to offer words or images, sharing in the prayers and images collected on **thykingdomcome.global**. This is not your regular prayer exercise – we want to engage and invite prayer in many forms! Jesus modeled these prayers, so let’s model them ourselves and share our prayers with the world and bring more people to know Jesus.

Participants may respond as individuals or you may wish to prompt and gather prayers to be shared collectively from the group. Be sensitive to your group: depending on their familiarity with one another, or even depending on their level of communication skill, they may not be comfortable sharing their prayers with one another, or with the group. Encourage, but do not demand.

This guide is just exactly that – a set of suggestions, a template or an example. Prayer can take many forms and the exercise outlined below is just one of many ways to elicit prayerful participation from a group of people. This exercise works well for small groups as well as for large; the important element is to allow ample time for participation and reflection.

Because this guide supports an online prayer gathering, depending on the group you assemble, as well as when you choose to lead this exercise, you might check the prayers and images available at **thykingdomcome.global**. As the event moves through its days from 25 May – 4 June, 2017, your group might find ideas and inspiration from other prayers already shared.

*This guide developed for Thy Kingdom Come
by the Brothers of the Society of St. John the Evangelist – www.ssje.org
Men of Prayer, Helping People Pray Their Lives*

Before we begin...

Things to consider:

- The makeup of your group and how they will be participating in the eleven days of **Thy Kingdom Come**. Will they post the results of your group's time together as individuals? Are you, as the group leader, expected to organize and post during the eleven days? Will someone else from among the group take on that responsibility? Is your group made up of children, and do you need permission from parents/guardians to post their offerings and any photographs of your group?
- Be sensitive to participants' concerns regarding confidentiality and their comfort level with one another. Depending on the nature of the group and whether or not they know one another, some participants may be hesitant to be fully expressive in their prayers, or to allow them to be shared on social media. Be ready to discuss prayer in terms of both corporate and individual worship, and be prepared to respect the wishes of your group members.
- How much time are you allowing for this group to meet and work through the eleven prayers? Is this group going to meet more than once? Can they work through all eleven prayers in one sitting? Can the experience be enriched by scheduling a series of workshops for these prayers versus attempting all eleven prayers in one session?
- The eleven prayers of **Thy Kingdom Come.global** are taken from the seven principal prayers in the Catechism, and you will find some references to that in the handouts. While the emphasis for **Thy Kingdom Come** is to generate participation in the eleven days of prayer, some groups might wish to more deeply explore the prayers by utilizing the Catechism definitions, which are included on page 6 of this guide.

Things to gather:

- A large easel pad with at least 12 sheets of paper, or 12 large sheets of butcher or bulletin board paper.
- Tape
- Markers, crayons, pens, pencils – enough for all participants in your group plus extras by each of the 12 large sheets.

Ahead of time, prepare:

1. The 12 large sheets – by hanging them on the walls around a room, or on easels, allowing plenty of space for participants to gather around and among them, to write/draw/post their responses.
2. On the first sheet, write the definition of prayer according to the Catechism in the Book of Common Prayer:
Q. What is prayer?
A. Prayer is responding to God, by thought and by deeds, with or without words.
3. On each of the eleven remaining large sheets, one for each of the eleven days of prayer, write the **PRAYER** at the top of the page and then write the specific **prayer prompt** underneath, leaving plenty of space for written, drawn or other prayers. Depending on the size of your group, you may want to have extra blank pages available, both for the group and for individuals. For example:
See page 8 for complete list of prayers and prompts.
4. Printed pages of the handouts (pages 6-19) to help people write/create their prayers. You will want enough copies of pages 6-8 for everyone to have their own copy; depending on how many times you intend for your group to complete the exercise, you may need multiple copies of pages 9-19.



Depending on the age or common thread within your group, you might also consider the following items to further expand creativity in prayerful response:

- Magazines, Newspapers and Catalogues to cut up for collages
- Highlighters
- Post-its in different sizes and colours
- Glitter glue in tube pens
- Poster paints or finger paints
- Instant camera/printer capabilities
- Colourful yarn/wool, felt or fabrics and scissors
- Music

Introduction

First, ask people to provide specific examples of the ways in which they pray and note these as suggested on the sheet defining prayer. Examples may include written and spoken prayer, as well as sung and instrumental prayer. Other examples of visual and performing arts may be suggested as well as other action prayers, including various forms of movement and other active “doing” tasks.

Ask the group to consider:

Can almost any expression or action – if done with intention – constitute a type of prayer?

(the answer, of course, is YES!)

Second, introduce the prayers, indicating them as defined by the prompts on the various sheets in the room. Review with the members of the group the definitions of the different prayers as found on pages 5 and 6. (These definitions are as found in The Outline of the Faith, commonly known as the Catechism, as found in the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer – but don’t get too caught up in the formality of the Catechism. This global prayer event is meant to be an opportunity to explore prayer easily. Even people who have a rich and regular prayer life may be unaware of the prayers as defined, and we only mention their source as a point of reference).

Third, remind participants that prayers may take many forms – words, images, and actions. Suggest that participants attempt to expand their usual prayer form into an alternative expression (this is where that list of creative materials on page 3 really comes in handy!)

Invitation

Fourth, divide the group by the eleven days of prayer – which, for simplicity, we will call “prayer types.” Decide in advance how you will assign prayer types to participants. You might consider:

- Randomly assigning people to a prayer, designating each in turn as you go around the circle or down the line. With a large group, to facilitate easy movement, you may wish to assign prayer types to rows or to groups of people seated together.
- Allow people to self-select. This might be an invitation to choose whichever prayer type most appeals to each

participant; or you might invite people to choose that prayer type which most challenges them.

- Once people have been assigned a prayer read TWICE the description of the prayers from page 6 – the second time allowing for some reflection in between each prayer.
- Provide the handouts attached – make as many copies of pages 7-8 available as needed, and provide the corresponding page with their PRAYER and prayer prompt, as well.

Fifth, invite participants to move towards their specified prayer sheet (the large ones you hung on the wall or placed on an easel) and ask them to individually write or draw their prayer. They can write/draw/create directly on the large sheets, they can use the individual sheets, or they may create on another medium you provide/direct them to.

While participants are working their prayers, some questions to ask your group to consider:

- *Which type or types of prayer do you instinctively gravitate toward?*
- *Which type or types of prayer challenge you?*
- *What expressions of prayer do you practice that are not covered by the prayer types included in this exercise?*

When your participants finish, ask everyone to return to their seats.

Respond

Give the group a brief opportunity to read out loud, view and consider the generated prayers. Ask them to consider and share:

- *How do you feel about the prayer you wrote? Was it harder or easier than you expected?*
- *If you could choose your prayer, would you choose the same type again, or move to a different prayer?*
- *When others’ interpretation of a prayer is different from your own interpretation, does this discrepancy challenge or expand your ideas about prayer?*
- *Which of the shared prayers do you find particularly inspiring?*

Repeat

If time permits, you may wish to allow everyone to have a second opportunity to generate prayers. Assign or encourage participants to choose a different prayer from their previous expression. If you randomly assigned participants, you may wish to re-assign prayers using a different method or allow participants to craft prayers entirely of their own choosing. If you directed them to choose a challenging prayer, you may now wish to invite them to create a prayer that appeals to them. You can repeat this exercise as many times as you wish, or as long as time allows.



Share

Discuss with the group, beforehand, how the prayers from this exercise will be shared – individually or as a group. Encourage participants to:

- Go **thykingdomcome.global** and sign up to receive a daily noon day email that will invite them to reflect on one of the principal prayers each day and write one in return on social media.
- Share their prayers with **thykingdomcome.global**. Remind them to tag the prayer with the hashtag **#pledge2pray** as well as the specific hashtag coordinating to each day's prayer (for example, #ToJesus). Posts that are public on social media will be published automatically on the **thykingdomcome.global** webpages and across other websites connected to the #pledge2pray and ThyKingdomCome events.
- Incorporate the Thy Kingdom Come prayers into the Prayers of the People in corporate worship.
- Join their worship community's prayer writing group or form a group of their own.
- Invite others to explore these eleven days of prayer by leading a similar group exercise.



Praying The Eleven Prayers of *Thy Kingdom Come*

Suggestion: read through with group twice

From the Catechism in the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer:*

#Adore - What is **adoration**?

Adoration is the lifting up of the heart and mind to God, asking nothing but to enjoy God's presence.

#Praise - Why do we **praise** God?

We praise God, not to obtain anything, but because God's Being draws praise from us.

#Thanks - For what do we offer **thanksgiving**?

Thanksgiving is offered to God for all the blessings of this life, for our redemption, and for whatever draws us closer to God.

#Sorry - What is **penitence**?

In penitence, we confess our sins and make restitution where possible, with the intention to amend our lives.

#Offer - What is prayer of **oblation**?

Oblation is an offering of ourselves, our lives and labors, in union with Christ, for the purposes of God.

#PrayFor and **#Help** - What are **intercession** and **petition**?

Intercession brings before God the needs of others; in petition, we present our own needs, that God's will may be done.



These additional four prayers have been added for the Thy Kingdom Come campaign:

#ToJesus - How do we pray **to Jesus** Christ?

We pray to Jesus to walk among us and to show us how to walk as Christ in the world.

#Silence - What is **contemplation**?

We ponder, quietly, the mystery of the Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

#Celebrate - What is **joy**?

We celebrate this truth: that the whole of creation is sacramental – everything and everyone we meet is sacred and charged with God's Glory.

How do we pray for **#Thy Kingdom Come**?

We praise the God of Heaven and Earth for his holy creations, pledging ourselves in mind, body and spirit, to his service.



**the Catechism is a summary of the principles of Christian religion in the form of questions and answers.*



The Seven Principal Prayers & The prayers of *Thy Kingdom Come*

Q. What is prayer?

A. Prayer is responding to God, by thought and by deeds, with or without words.

Any conversation with God – spoken or unspoken – is prayer. We think of prayers in different categories as defined by the Catechism list in the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer.

The seven principal types of prayers, plus the four special prayer types added for the campaign are numbered below to correspond to the eleven days of Thy Kingdom Come are:

1	#ToJesus	God among us	<i>I follow you</i>
2	#Praise	God of Glory	<i>I praise you</i>
3	#Thanks	God of Grace	<i>I give thanks</i>
4	#Sorry	God of Forgiveness	<i>I am sorry</i>
5	#Offer	God of Vision	<i>I offer you</i>
6	#PrayFor	God of Compassion	<i>I pray for</i>
7	#Help	God of Ages	<i>I ask your help</i>
8	#Adore	God of Love	<i>I adore you</i>
9	#Celebrate	God of Joy	<i>I celebrate</i>
10	#Silence	God of Mystery	<i>I enter your silence</i>
11	#ThyKingdomCome	God of Heaven and Earth	<i>I do this in your Name</i>

Which each different type of prayer, we invoke and address God and Jesus with a specific focus and consideration. As you review each type of prayer, consider:

- Which of the prayer types intuitively appeal to you? Which types challenge you?
- Do you utilize any of the prayer types in your prayer life as an individual or as part of a group or community?
- What circumstances influence the prayers that you offer? Do you think there are other prayer types that might work in the same circumstances? Could some prayer types be better suited to some circumstances than others?
- How do your personal/private/individual prayers differ in their type from those you offer in group/community/corporate worship?
- How do the prayer prompts for the eleven days/types of prayer reflect your personal understanding of the nature of Jesus? What other words/phrases might help you express that personal understanding of Jesus and of God?
- In what other prayerful ways might you offer yourself to God and to Jesus? Even using different languages or actions/expressions of prayer, does that offering reflect any of the eleven prayer types? Which one(s)?
- In your opinion, which of the eleven prayer types better correspond to written words? To visual imagery? To musical imagery or sound?
- In your group/corporate/community worship, do you hear only your own prayer voice, or do you hear many voices? Whose voices might be unheard? How might you invite others to be better heard using the eleven days of prayer?
- In what ways might you incorporate the eleven days of prayer of Thy Kingdom Come into your group/corporate/community worship?



I TO JESUS

We invite you to [#pledge2pray](#) [#ToJesus](#)

*We go where Jesus goes; as we follow, we ask for all that we need to be his Body on earth
and to realize our union with Him in glory.*

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God Among Us I follow you



2 PRAISE

We invite you to [#pledge2pray](#) [#praise](#)

*We Praise God, not to obtain anything, but because
God's Being draws praise from us.**

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Glory I praise you



3 THANKS

We invite you to #pledge2pray #thanks

*Thanksgiving is offered to God for all the blessings of this life, for our redemption,
and for whatever draws us closer to God.**

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Grace I give you thanks



4 SORRY

We invite you to #pledge2pray #sorry

*In penitence we confess our sins and make restitution where possible,
with the intention to amend our lives.**

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Forgiveness I am sorry



5 OFFER

We invite you to #pledge2pray #offer

*Oblation is an offering of ourselves, our lives and labours,
in union with Christ, for the purposes of God.**

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Vision I offer to you



6 PRAY FOR

We invite you to #pledge2pray #PrayFor

*Intercession brings before God the needs of others.**

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Compassion I pray for

7 HELP

We invite you to #pledge2pray #Help

*In petition we present our own needs, that God's will may be done.**

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Ages I ask your help



8 ADORE

We invite you to #pledge2pray #Adore

*Adoration is the lifting up of the heart and mind to God,
asking nothing but to enjoy God's presence.**

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Love I adore you

9 CELEBRATE

We invite you to #pledge2pray #Celebrate

*We celebrate this truth: that the whole of creation is sacramental –
everything and everyone we meet is sacred and charged with God's Glory*

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Joy I celebrate



10 SILENCE

We invite you to #pledge2pray #Silence

*In contemplation we let go of all words, images, & experiences,
abiding in the One who prays silently within us*

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Mystery I enter your silence

II THY KINGDOM COME

We invite you to #pledge2pray #ThyKingdomCome

*From the wellspring of prayer, we are called to action: when
God's grace and our efforts unite, such action becomes prayer.*

Please write, draw or express your prayer

God of Heaven and earth I do this in your Name

Join the global wave of prayer
thykingdomcome.global

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