

All Saints Church Clifton
Cycle of Prayer – July 2019

Date	Festival	Prayers
1	Henry, John and Henry Venn the Younger, Evangelical Divines, 1797, 1813, 1873	As the summer progresses thousands of people will gather for festivals and events to celebrate the arts, music and literature in all their diversity. Pray for those who bring a curiosity about faith and spirituality to festivals, both as festival go-ers and formally as they represent the church and its organisations on stalls and in marquees. Pray that all involved will find something of God in the creativity and joy they encounter and experience.
2	School Diversity Week	This week offers schools an opportunity to understand and celebrate diversity and inclusion within their communities particularly with regards to LGBT+ pupils. Pray for sensitivity, understanding, and empathy amongst staff and pupils in schools who choose to mark this week.
3	Thomas the Apostle	Although Thomas is known for his “doubt” he went on to share the faith widely, baptising people in Jesus’ name. Pray for those who wrestle with doubt and questions of faith. Pray that they will recognise doubt as <i>part</i> of faith and learn to live peaceably with their questions.
4	Independence Day USA	Pray for the United States of America; for its administration and for those most negatively impacted by its government’s policies and practices. Pray for the Episcopal Church in the United States.
5		Pray for Bristol Royal Infirmary: for medical staff and patients; administrators and managers as they meet the needs of their community. Pray especially for the Accident and Emergency department which sees over 60,00 patients each year.
6	Thomas Moore and John Fisher Reformation Martyrs 1535	Following yesterday’s prayers for the BRI, pray today for the staff and patients at Southmead Hospital and in smaller hospitals and medical care units in the Bristol area.
7	Trinity Three World Chocolate Day	Today is World Chocolate Day! Pray for those engaged in cocoa production, that their work and trade may be fair. Pray for those lobbying groups and organisations-like The Fairtrade Foundation which campaign to uphold Fair Trade policy and process.
8		Pray for the fast-paced, complex and influential world of news broadcast media; for integrity, bravery and compassion amongst those who gather and present world news and comment upon it.

9		Pray for those who today will lose their home, because of war, debt, helplessness or disaster, and for those who work to support them and maintain their physical and emotional security.
10		The Church of England has around 1500 (known) chaplains working in schools, hospitals, workplaces, prisons and hospitals. Pray for those offering this model of spiritual support and presence in places where needs are often acute and immediate.
11	Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, Father of Western Monasticism, 550	Benedict founded twelve communities of monks in Italy and later a “scattered” order of congregations. He is perhaps best known for writing The Rule of St. Benedict. Pray for those still following the Rule within the English Benedictine Congregations and across the lay movement.
12	“ The Twelfth” marking William of Orange’s Battle of the Boyne victory in 1690.	Pray for Northern Ireland on this day when the most significant of Orange Order marches are held. Pray for healing of memories, for forgiveness and peace in communities across the sectarian divide.
13		Pray for the thousands of workers in service industries, restaurants and pubs who work long hours for very low wages and often in difficult conditions. Pray also for those who work to protect workers rights and raise the quality of their working conditions.
14	John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet 1866 Trinity Four	Pray for Christian spiritual writers in the tradition of John Keble, that they may be inspired to write words that will carry the prayers of their readers and deepen spiritual understanding.
15	Swithun, Bishop of Winchester, 862	Pray for those who may wander into a church today or decide to “give it a try” as a result of life circumstances, conversations or inner prompts. Pray that faith in God will be made possible for them.
16		Pray for funeral directors and bereavement counsellors and those working with families who are living through grief and loss.
17	World Day for International Justice	On this World Day for International Justice, pray for all those working for the protection of human rights; for the International Justice Mission and Human Rights Watch who work to bring those accountable for war crimes and genocide to justice and to protect the weak and vulnerable in unstable situations.
18	Elizabeth Ferard, first CofE Deacon, 1883	Following yesterday’s prayers for international justice, pray today for the work of Amnesty International who work to end human rights abuses.

19	Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, and his sister Macrina, Deaconess, Teachers c.394 and c. 379	Gregory “ Nyssen” and his sister Macrina,,a nun in the early Christian church, are remembered today. Gregory was known for his rhetoric and writing. Pray for wisdom and discernment for all those who preach and teach in the church and especially for those who teach others to preach well.
20		Over the next few days most schools in Bristol will be reaching the end of their academic year. Pray for teachers, pupils and administrators as they reflect on their year and take time out to relax and recharge.
21	Trinity Five	Pray for those engaged in medical research and those involved in making ethical decisions about research directions and drug licensing: for diligence and wisdom.
22	Mary Magdalene	Today we remember Mary Magdalene, one of Jesus’ inner circle of followers and widely noted in the gospels. Pray for women in the church, especially those in positions of leadership and influence.
23		Pray for child carers of ill or disabled parents, that they will know practical and emotional support as they balance education, care and their own necessary social lives.
24	Samaritans 24/7 Awareness	Founded in 1953 by Chad Varah, The Samaritans receive a call every six seconds and have 201 branches across the UK. They are also involved in research into mental illness. Pray for callers, volunteer listeners and the governing body of the charity that awareness of the twenty-four hour support they offer will be heightened.
25	James the Apostle	James, son of Zebedee, one of the first disciples to be called by Jesus, along with his brother John, also witnessed the transfiguration. Pray that those who hear the call of Jesus in the midst of everyday life and work will respond wholeheartedly.
26	Anne and Joachim, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Pray for parents, including step-parents and adoptive parents, especially those who parent amidst the extra pressures of disability, poverty or illness. Pray that despite the inevitable challenges, parents will recognise the privilege of parenting and the joy that comes with it.
27		Pray for those who will this weekend be setting off on any kind of pilgrimage: for safety, companionship, insight and spiritual growth as they journey.

28	Trinity Six	Pray for those who today will consider themselves “ forgotten” by family, friends or society in general: that they will find comfort, company and significance.
29	Mary, Martha and Lazarus.	<p>Mary, Martha and Lazarus are remembered as friends of Jesus.</p> <p>Give thanks for the value of friendships and pray for them: for our own friendships and for friendship groups that gather people together to tackle loneliness, especially amongst the elderly.</p>
30	William Wilberforce, Social Reformer, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson, Anti-Slavery Campaigners, 1833, 1797, 1846.	<p>Pray for anti-slavery campaigners and charities working to end modern slavery, human trafficking and organised sexual abuse, especially anti-slavery.org and ‘Stop the Traffik’ who specifically work to end people trafficking.</p> <p>Pray for the work of the Clewer Initiative (the C of E Project to Combat Modern Slavery).</p>
31	Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556	Today we remember Ignatius of Loyola, Jesuit founder, gifted spiritual director, and writer of the Spiritual exercises. Pray for all those who accompany others on their spiritual journey offering companionship, prayer and direction.