



## 10 days to Pentecost Day 1.

### 1. Love

Jesus said, 'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another (John 13.34).

In her 1975 Christmas broadcast, the late Queen reflected on the value and importance of our relationships and our love for one another. She said, 'Christ commanded us to love our neighbours as we love ourselves, but what exactly is meant by "loving ourselves"? I believe it means trying to make the most of the abilities we have been given; it means caring for our talents.'

The Bible can be read as a narrative of God's love and how we can imitate that love in the way we live. St Paul's letter to the Galatians speaks of nine qualities given to those who are guided by the Holy Spirit: the so-called 'Fruit of the Spirit'. Love is the first of these. All the others (which we will be exploring in the coming days) are expressions or outcomes of love.

Today we pray that King Charles will, throughout his reign, continue to know God's love and to abide in that love as he fulfils his responsibilities.

**Prayer.**

**O Lord God,**

**Love above all love,**

**dwelling wherever love abides,**

**may we cherish your love within us**

**and ground ourselves**

**in that love eternally;**

**that we might love one another**

**as you have loved us.**

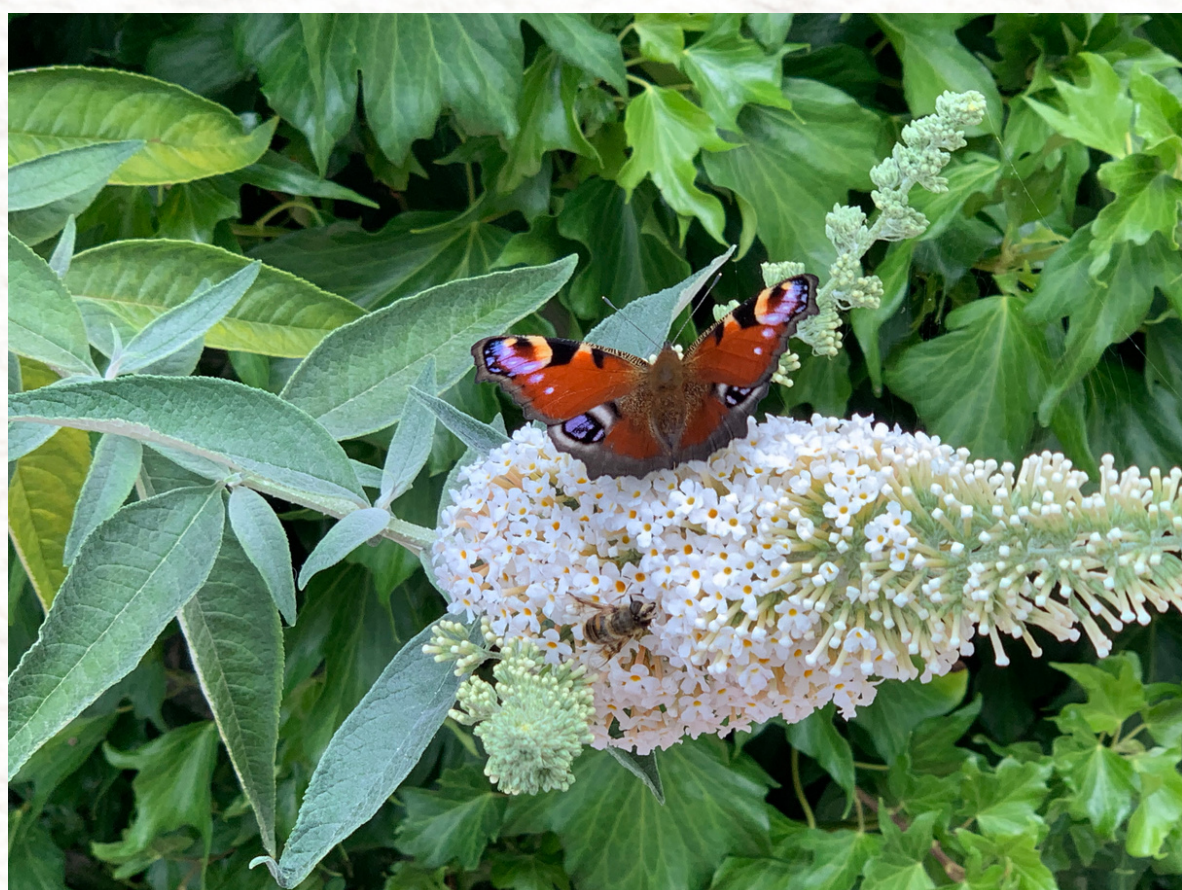
**Amen.**



10 days to Pentecost. Day 2.

Joy

Jesus said, 'If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.' (John 15: 10,11).



The life of a king will be marked, like all our lives, with a balance of pleasure and hardship, of delight and challenge. But joy goes much deeper than happiness or cheerfulness. It is about being rooted in the joyful love of God and of the love of those around us. Joy has the power to lift the soul even in life's pain and challenges.

Today we continue to pray with King Charles that he may continue to seek, find, and radiate joy in all things.

**Prayer.**

**Eternal God, author of joyfulness and the music of our dance, may your joy find its echo in the heart of our King and in all our hearts. May it shine through us, lifting us heavenward as we abide in your love.**

**Amen.**





## 10 days to Pentecost. Day 3.

### Peace

Jesus said to his disciples,  
'Peace I leave with you; my  
peace I give you' (John 14.27).

'Peace' is the word most often used to translate the Hebrew word shalom, which appears 250 times in the Old Testament. This word, used so often, conveys much more than what might be called 'an absence of war.'

The Hebrew shalom communicates at its heart a sense of total harmony. Even inanimate objects could be in shalom. For example, when King Solomon finished all the work on the Temple it was in shalom (1 Kings 7.51). Later, the prophet Zechariah declared, 'Your king will make shalom among the nations' (Zechariah 9.16).

Today we pray that the people of our nation will, under King Charles, actively work for peaceful and just communities, marked by shalom.

### Prayer.

**God our Saviour, look on this wounded world in  
pity and in power. As King Charles faces the  
challenges of each day, inspire him and us to live  
in the peace won for us by your Son, and to bring  
shalom to our communities and nation.**

**Amen.**





## 10 days to Pentecost. Day 4.

### Patience.

‘I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry’ (Psalm 40.1).

We have probably all been told, many times, to be patient. Living in patience and peace with one another is not always easy and is a discipline that, appropriately, takes practise.

Nevertheless, patience is also among the Fruit of the Spirit listed by St Paul, and something we can ask the Spirit to grow in us. It helps to aim to embrace it whenever we can, remembering that God is always patient with us. Christian people are also called to be patient and persistent in prayer.

We ask God for this gift today.

### Prayer.

**Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**



## 10 days to Pentecost. Day 5.

### Kindness.

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and walk humbly with your God?

(Micah 6.8)



One of the phrases attributed to St David of Wales is his encouragement to his community to ‘be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have seen and heard with me’. This reminds us that every instant of our lives gives the opportunity to be drawn closer to the God who loves us, and that small steps of kindness are indications of the Spirit at work in our lives.

The life of service to which King Charles is dedicated displays on the public stage the values of love and kindness that each of us can demonstrate through what the poet Wordsworth described as ‘little, nameless unremembered acts of kindness and love.’

### Prayer.

**Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of the Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**





## 10 days to Pentecost. Day 6.

### **Generosity**

'God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work' (2 Corinthians 9.7,8).

Generosity is a joyful activity. Often generosity is the response of gratitude, when we offer ourselves and our resources to something we care about or believe in. An act of giving in whatever form expresses love and brings hope. As beings made in the image of God, generosity is in our nature as well. We are called to be imitators of Christ whose life was itself a gift of self-giving love.

All of us have something to give. And there is beauty in simple actions which speak volumes beyond the act itself because it comes from the heart.

### **Prayer.**

**God of grace, mould us in your image  
and give us a spirit of generosity  
that seeks nothing but to give,  
nothing but to serve,  
and offers our hearts and our whole selves to you,  
the Giver of all things. Amen.**



## 10 days to Pentecost. Day 7.

### Faithfulness.

‘The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness’ (Lamentations 3:22,23).



‘The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness’ (Lamentations 3:22,23).

Our effort to walk before God in faithfulness and uprightness of living are rooted in our response to God who, in spite of our waywardness, is faithful towards us. ‘Great is thy faithless,’ the old hymn puts it, drawing on words from Lamentations.

In the Coronation Service, the King took an Oath in which he declared that he will ‘cause Law and Justice, in Mercy, to be executed in all his judgements’. This theme ran like a silver thread through the ceremony.

As we pray with King Charles that God will guide him in these great responsibilities, we also commit to God our own desire to remain faithful to God's will for us.

### Prayer.

**Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft into our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us in all goodness, and in your great mercy keep us in the same through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## 10 days to Pentecost. Day 8.

### Gentleness.

Jesus said, 'Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls'

(Matthew 11. 28,29).



There must be very few people who can appreciate the heavy burden that being a Sovereign brings. And of course, the burden can be carried only by one individual at a time. Before his accession, the King had been readying himself for the burden of kinship for many years.

Following his coronation, we pray that the King and the Queen may know the presence of God and be supported by God's Spirit. In our reading today Jesus refers to himself as 'gentle and humble in heart'. In him, the King and Queen - and indeed all of us who bear heavy burdens – may find rest for our souls.

### Prayer.

**Tender God, gentle protector in time of trouble,  
pierce the gloom of despair and give us, with all  
your people, the song of freedom and the shout of  
praise; in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**





10 days to Pentecost. Day 9.

## Self-control.

‘God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power of love and of self-control’ (2 Timothy 1. 7).

Jesus offers a wonderful example of self-control. Despite his own human fears - shown most clearly in the Garden Gethsemane - he offered himself so that we might have eternal life.

In all circumstances of life, we are called to self-control. As we remember the important tasks set before our King and the challenges he will face, we pray that the fruit of self-control will inform all his actions and decisions and that the Holy Spirit will give him patience and strength to act always in love and obedience to God and in service to others.

## Prayer.

**Eternal God, give to our King and to all his people insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**





10 days to Pentecost. Day 10.  
Praying for God's help.

‘O God make speed to save me; O Lord make haste to help me’ (Psalm 70.1).

This appeal in the Psalms for God’s assistance has been at the centre of Christian prayer for centuries. It is a good prayer to pray on waking up, on being assigned a difficult task, or when in particular need. We are always in need of God’s assistance whatever our endeavour.

As we pray with the King we remember that all we have, and all that we are, comes from the love of God.

We pray that we may always hear and strive to take up God's invitation to know his companionship in our lives and that we, together with the King, may receive grace to carry out what we are called to do.

**Prayer.**

**Remember, O Lord, what you have wrought in us and not what we deserve, and as you have called us to your service, so make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**



## Pentecost. Day 11.



### Praying for the Holy Spirit.

‘Jesus breathed on his disciples and said to them,  
“Receive the Holy Spirit”  
(John 20. 22).

The 1625 coronation of King Charles 1 used the translation of the Latin hymn to the Holy Spirit, Veni Creator Spiritus (Come Holy Spirit) by John Cosin. This beautiful text has been sung at every coronation since then.

After it was included in 1662 Book of Common Prayer, it came to be included in services of confirmation and ordination as we recall the royal priesthood in which we all participate. It prays that we may live always within the breath of Jesus Christ, receiving life from him, so that he may inspire in us authentic life, the life that death can never take away.

#### Prayer

**Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
and lighten with celestial fire.**

**Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
Who dost thy seven-fold gifts impart.  
Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
with the abundance of thy grace;  
keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
where thou art guide, no ill can come.**

**Amen**