

COLLECT OF THE WEEK:

Holy Spirit,
Jesus began his ministry in your power:
descend on us today,
that we who are Christ's body
will accept our calling as he did;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Father,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

READINGS FOR TODAY:

NEHEMIAH 8:1-3,5-6,8-10

PSALM 19

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31a

LUKE 4:14-21

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DEVOTION LUKE 4:14-21

14 Then Jesus returned to Galilee, and the power of the Holy Spirit was with him. The news about him spread throughout all that territory. 15 He taught in the synagogues and was praised by everyone. 16 Then Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath he went as usual to the synagogue. He stood up to read the Scriptures 17 and was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it is written, 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed 19 and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people." 20 Jesus rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. All the people in the synagogue had their eyes fixed on him, 21 as he said to them, "This passage of scripture has come true today, as you heard it being read."

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Jesus, may all that is you flow into me.
May your body and blood be my food and drink.
May your passion and death be my strength and life.
Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.
May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.
Let me not run from the love which you offer
but hold me safe from the forces of evil.
On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.
Keep calling to me until that day comes
when with your saints, I may praise you for ever. Amen

**N.B: Please notify the Office Secretary if you are leaving
St Chad's Church or your contact details have changed.**

ST CHAD'S AT PRAYER:

Monday 24 January 2022

Let us pray: Eternal God, thank you for giving us this day. Father, You desire Your children to live in fellowship with one another; keep us from everything which would make us difficult to live with. Help us to speak in ways that would not hurt another's feelings or wound a heart, but to speak encouragement and give hope. Keep us from irritability, fault finding and criticism. Keep us from the selfishness which only sees our own point of view, which wants nothing but our own way. Grant us patience. In every moment of this day make us ever to remember You and that in You we live and move and have our being. Amen.

Tuesday 25 January 2022

Let us pray: Father, we confess that we do not resort to Your Word the moment we feel down or hopeless. Make us attentive every time we feel discouraged - to turn first and foremost to Your Word, to seek hope from You, not from earthly things like food, shopping or the pity of others. Help us in times of despair, when we don't feel like it, to read Your Word instead of pitying ourselves or complaining. Help us to be absorbed with the things right in front of us. Help us Holy Spirit, to look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ; to see things from His perspective. Amen.

Wednesday 26 January 2022

Let us pray: Almighty God, we pray for Your Church; may our prayers bring blessings to the Church. Lord, we pray against the evil one, who hates the Church and seeks in every way to block her progress; by false doctrine, division, by inward corruption of life. Lord Jesus, may your Church persevere in prayer, for the purposes of God to prevail in every aspect of the well-being of the Church. Hear our voices Lord Jesus Christ; may our prayers root out heresy, allay misunderstanding, sweep away jealousies and animosities, obliterate immoralities, and bring in the full tide of God's reviving grace. Father, baptize us with renewed zeal for Your promises. Fill Your Church afresh with Your Spirit, empowered as Christ's witnessing servants in the world. Amen.

A Prayer as you light a candle

I do not know how to pray.

I do not know how to pray.

I do not have much time.

So, this candle I light is:

something of what I have,

something of my time, something of myself

that I leave before the Lord.

This light which shines stands for my prayer
that I continue to offer even as I leave this place.

Thursday 27 January 2022

Let us pray: God Almighty, we pray for our country and government. We lift up all issues concerning our nation. Father, we pray against violence, destruction, bloodshed, unrest. We pray for a decrease in poverty. We pray for solutions to be found and for a deeper trust between employers, workers and government. Lord, in Your mercy hear our prayer. We pray for an effective education system, that includes the proper training of teachers and lecturers. That schools, universities and colleges might have teachers who have integrity, high moral standards, and who want to carry the burden and responsibility of raising a generation of responsible young people. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. We pray for our police force; against police brutality and corruption. We pray that effective and adequate training will be provided by our government. We pray dear Lord, that all darkness in all spheres of government will be uncovered and that right and strong measures are taken to turn things around to the benefit of all our people. Amen.

Friday 28 January 2022

Let us pray: Heavenly Father, we pray for single parents. We pray for the thousands of men and women in South Africa who are raising a child or children on their own. We pray for every single parent to come to know the loving care of the Lord Jesus, to realize that a personal relationship with Him is possible. We pray for financial provision and for spiritual breakthroughs that they may raise their children in the fear of God. Father, we pray for those families where divorce is imminent, that they respond and be open and receptive to the Gospel message and for family units to be restored. We pray that parents will choose against divorce and spare themselves, but more especially their children, pain and hurt. Father protect marriages, we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Saturday 29 January 2022

Let us pray: O God, in the quietness and stillness of Your presence we pray. Bless all children without parents, a home and living on the streets and those for whom it is not possible to attend school. Bless all suffering illness and pain, for whom the days are very slow and very long. Bless those who are lonely, those who are sad and those who miss someone who has gone from them. Bless those who are away from home in hospitals and in infirmaries, in care homes and in old age homes, in journeying and in distant places. Bless those who are worried, and whose thoughts will not give them peace. Bless those in abusive relationships and show them the love of Christ and a sure way out. Bless those with disabilities and may they always know they are loved and precious because of Christ. Bless us Lord God, our families, our friends and all whom we may meet this day. Father, we pray for the Salvation of all who do not know You. Amen.