



Anglican Network
in Canada

FIRST FRIDAY PRAYER

MEDITATION & CALENDAR

May 2018

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.
Romans 12:12 ESV*

First Friday - May 4

We urge you to set aside the first Friday of each month as a day to pray and fast for our diocese (ANiC), the Anglican Church of North America, and the Anglican Communion worldwide. We live in an age of immense pressure against the Gospel. It is critical that we unite together in prayer.

Notable Prayer Quotes

“If the church wants a better pastor, it only needs to pray for the one it has.”

– Anonymous

Pray Also For Us

Whether the ANiC church where you belong has 35 attendees on a Sunday morning and you meet in rented facilities, or you have your own building and Sunday attendance averages over 200, you have a pastoral staff that deeply needs your prayers.

There may simply be one deacon or a priest-in-charge upon whom rests the entire pastoral responsibility for the people. Or perhaps, there is a team of clergy and laity that share the varied min-

istries that a larger parish requires. Whatever the case may be in your situation, these servants of the Lord desperately need the coverage of prayer.

Now perhaps you're thinking, “Well, they've been a Christian far longer than I have, and are far more spiritually mature than I am. I need their prayers, but I can't see their need of my puny prayer efforts!” In all my years of ministry, I have never known a person in ministry who was not profoundly grateful for the prayers of the people. Even someone as spiritually mature as the apostle

Paul seemed to realize the importance of such prayer. Here is what he wrote to several churches that he had founded:

*Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, **pray also for us**, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ—that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.*

Colossians 4:2-4 ESV

Pray also for me**, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel. For this I am an ambassador in chains. **Pray that I might be bold enough to speak about it as I should.

Ephesians 6:19-20 CSB

PRAY THAT I MIGHT BE BOLD ENOUGH TO SPEAK ABOUT IT AS I SHOULD.

For Clarity and Boldness

I am always amazed at the prayers recorded in Scripture, especially in Acts and the Epistles, that never have personal comfort or convenience been at the heart of the prayers. Paul is not asking that he would never

be shipwrecked again, or for no repeated floggings or stonings. No, where Paul wants prayer from the saints in Ephesus and Colossae is for great clarity and boldness in sharing the Gospel, whatever the cost. I believe that your clergy have similar priorities.

What To Pray

Having Googled “praying for your pastor”, I found many excellent blog posts on why we should pray for our clergy and suggestions on how to pray for them. I have pulled together from some of those articles the thoughts that I felt might be most

relevant to our ANiC clergy and lay leaders. Let me give you some ways to pray for your rector and pastoral staff.

THESE SERVANTS OF THE LORD DESPERATELY NEED THE COVERAGE OF PRAYER.

1) Pray that they will keep their eyes focussed solely on Jesus.

It is so easy to become distracted by the complex circumstances of parish life, the diversity of available ministry programs, or the epidemic busyness of our culture.

Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith.

Hebrews 12: 1-2

2) Pray that they will beware of relying on their own strength.

However personable, eloquent, academically proficient or learned they may be, the source of their strength and competency must be in the Lord.

Such is the confidence we have through Christ before God. It is not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God.

2 Cor. 3: 4-5

“I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me.”

John 15:5

OUR ADEQUACY IS FROM GOD.

3) Pray protection over their marriages and families.

In a sex-obsessed culture, temptations are constantly before our pastoral staff. Pray

for moral purity, both in thought and action. Pray for protection for spouses and families, especially teens, so often the targets of demonic harassment.

“. . . so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.” 2 Cor. 2:11

4) Pray that they will guard time to regularly spend with the Lord in prayer.

For committed pastors, the demands of ministry can so easily become all consuming. Pray that, like Jesus, they will cherish times with the Father, and withdraw, just delighting in His presence and unburdening their hearts.

But the news about him spread even more, and large crowds would come together to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. Yet he often withdrew to deserted places and prayed. Luke 5:15-16

5) Pray that they will share the Gospel with boldness.

Even within evangelical churches, there is a growing pressure to soften the Gospel message, to make it “more relevant” to our 21st century culture, and to rob it of any transformation power. Pray for them, as Paul requested of the Ephesian church, that they would have boldness to testify to the life-changing power of the life, death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, without compromise.

Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel.

Ephesians 6:19

PRAY THAT,
LIKE JESUS,
THEY WILL
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The Single Most Important Thing

There are many other ways that we can pray for our clergy, and I would encourage you to do a little online research to find others that suit your specific parish circumstance. But, may I conclude by urging you to make a fresh commitment to pray for the leaders in your parish, in our diocese, and in our province. The stakes are so high, the pressures so great. The single most important thing that we can do for them is to lift them up to the Lord in prayer. Let's not leave them to stand alone! Pray for them!

Canon Garth V. Hunt

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Prayer Calendar | May 2018

Praise items and prayer requests coming from within ANiC, ACNA and the Anglican Communion for each day of this month.

1. **Our diocese** – Pray for the Anglican Network in Canada and all our parishes across Canada and in New England. Pray for revival in our churches. We desperately need the Lord.
2. **Our province and primate** – Pray for **Archbishop Foley Beach (& Allison)**. May God glorify Himself through the ACNA and give us a passion for sharing the Gospel.
3. Pray for **Bishop Charlie Masters (& Judy)** as he leads ANiC. May God grant him the health, strength, discernment and the passion he needs for this heavy responsibility.
4. **ANiC's 5 Ministry Priorities** – Pray that God will use these five priorities to transform us and our parishes: Bold witnesses; Biblically grounded; Loving children; On mission; and Planting churches.
5. Pray for ANiC's suffragan bishops: **Bishops Stephen Leung (& Nona) and Trevor Walters (& Dede)**. Pray for health, wisdom and vision as they care for clergy and churches. Pray especially for Bishop Trevor as he undergoes cancer treatment.
6. **Bishop Don Harvey (& Trudy)** – Pray for Bishop Don in his roles as ANiC's episcopal vicar and as senior chaplain to the ACNA College of Bishops. Pray for his continued health and strength.
7. Pray for **Bishop Ron Ferris (& Jan)** as he embraces his important new role as Assisting Bishop for Missionary Planning. Bishop Ron will seek to integrate new ministry possibilities and partnerships for our future. Pray also for our retired bishop, **Bishop Malcolm Harding (& Marylou)**. Thank God for their fruitful ministries.
8. The third **Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON)** being held in Jerusalem **June 17 -22 2018**. This is an immensely important gathering of up to 2000 orthodox, Bible-believing Anglicans from all around the world. Pray that all that is in the heart of God for this conference will proceed unheeded by the enemy. Pray for protection upon the conference and the travels of all delegates. Pray for financial provision for those who otherwise might find the cost of attending prohibitive.
9. Pray for our **Missionary Bishop Andy Lines (& Mandy)**, who was consecrated at the ACNA Assembly on the 30th June, 2017. Given the spiritual drift from orthodoxy of the Church of England and the Scottish Episcopal Church, his ministry to orthodox evangelicals will be vital.
10. Pray for the annual **March for Life** in Ottawa today and in other cities across Canada. Pray for the ministry of Anglicans For Life Canada as they provide biblically based programs and support to assist Anglican churches to compassionately apply God's Word when addressing life issues.
11. **ANiC council, chancellor & registrar** – Pray for wisdom and servant hearts as they serve ANiC. May they know God's leading, seek His will, and experience His joy.
12. **ANiC staff & volunteers** – Pray for strength for the tasks, faithfulness in service, & joy in the Lord. May God's blessing rest on ANiC as we seek to know, love & serve Him.
13. **Asian & Multicultural Ministries in Canada (AMMiC)** – May God bless this ministry as it reaches ethnic communities & new immigrants with the Gospel, and plants new churches.
14. **ANiC archdeacons, canons & all clergy** – Pray for spiritual and physical protection and renewal as well as for God's blessing on them, their spouses & families.
15. **ANiC's New England congregations**
Holy Trinity (Marlborough, MA)
St Brigid of Kildare (Medway, MA)
Holy Trinity (Attleboro, MA)
All Saints' (Rutland, VT)
Emmanuel - Chinese (Boston, MA)
16. **ANiC congregations in Newfoundland & the Atlantic Provinces**
St Stephen the Martyr (St John's, NL)
Resurrection (Halifax, NS)
Good Samaritan (St John's, NL)
Christ the King (Quispamsis, NB)

17. **ANiC congregations in Quebec**
 Emmaus (Montreal)
 St Timothy's (Montreal)
 St James (Lennoxville)
18. **ANiC congregations in the Ottawa area**
 Faith (Embrun)
 St Luke's (Pembroke)
 Messiah (Ottawa)
 Blackburn Hamlet Community (Ottawa)
 St Peter & St Paul's (Ottawa)
 Grace (Mississippi Mills)
 Eternal Hope (Carleton Place)
19. **ANiC congregations in Ontario**
 St Aidan's (Windsor)
 St Aidan's at River's Bend (Belle River)
 Cornerstone Anglican Church (Sarnia)
 New Life (Sturgeon Falls)
 The Way (Wasaga Beach)
 The Gate (Sault Ste Marie)
20. **ANiC congregations in Ontario**
 St Hilda's (Oakville)
 St Peter by the Park (Hamilton)
 St George's (Burlington)
 Epiphany (Hamilton)
 Good Shepherd (St Catharines)
 St Jude (Guelph)
21. **ANiC congregations in Greater Toronto and eastern Ontario**
 St Chad's (Toronto)
 Celebration Church (Barrie)
 Christ The King (Toronto)
 New Song (Port Perry)
 Bethel South Asian (Brampton)
 Living Waters (Kingston)
 St James Fellowship (Trenton)
22. **ANiC congregations in Saskatchewan & Manitoba**
 Resurrection (Brandon, MB)
 St Bede's (Kinosota, MB)
 Redeemer (Dauphin, MB)
 Cornerstone (Regina, SK)
 Saint Saviour's, (Lloydminster SK)
23. **ANiC congregations in Alberta**
 Holy Trinity - Filipino (Edmonton)
 Grace Anglican (Calgary)
 Christ the King (Edmonton)
 Good Shepherd - Cantonese (Calgary)
 Living Water (Athabasca)
24. **ANiC congregations in the Fraser Valley & Interior of BC**
 Ascension (Langley)
 Resurrection (Kelowna)
 Saint Matthew's (Abbotsford)
- Christ Church (Kelowna)
 Church of the Holy Cross (Abbotsford)
 South Okanagan Project (Oliver)
 new projects in Houston and Smithers
25. **ANiC congregations in the Vancouver area**
 St John's (Vancouver)
 Sojourn Church (UBC, Vancouver)
 St John's (Richmond)
 Immanuel Church (Vancouver)
 St Peter's Fireside (Vancouver)
 St Andrews (Delta)
26. **ANiC congregations in the Vancouver area**
 St Matthias and St Luke (Vancouver)
 Good Shepherd Richmond – Chinese
 All Nations – Japanese
 St John's – Sudanese (Surrey)
 Good Shepherd Vancouver – Chinese
 St Timothy's (North Vancouver)
27. **ANiC congregations on Vancouver Island & Sunshine Coast**
 Open Gate Church (Victoria)
 Living Edge (Victoria)
 Church of Our Lord (Victoria)
 Christ's Church (Oceanside)
 The Table (Victoria, Saanich Peninsula)
 Christ the Redeemer (Pender Harbour)
28. **Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans**
 – Pray that repentance, revival and renewal will spread throughout the Communion. Pray especially for the dedicated Primates leading this global fellowship of orthodox Anglicans determined to remain faithful to God's Word.
29. For the **Anglican Relief and Development Fund Canada (ARDFC)** as it is partnering with the Anglican Diocese of Cameroon to provide **a full service healthcare clinic** in the city of Douala. It will offer inexpensive, quality care to people who do not have access to, or who cannot afford, health care and medications.
30. Pray for **the millions of refugees and internally displaced people worldwide**. Pray for persecuted Christians, especially in Muslim, communist and war-torn lands.
31. Pray for **a fresh outpouring of repentance and revival upon our nations and our world!** "Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence!" Isaiah 64:1-2 ESV