



*“Since the very beginning of the Church, these nine days between Ascension and Pentecost – the Novena – have been a time of prayer.*

*And not just prayer as individuals, but as a community, like those first members of the Church.*

*And that is the purpose behind Thy Kingdom Come, as it unites us together in prayer – over one million Christians across 172 countries and more than 85 denominations and traditions.*

*This year’s theme is ‘God with Us’, and how the Holy Spirit has been at work in the world.”*

Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullally

## **A prayer for each day from Ascension Day May 14 to Pentecost May 24**

Ascension Day is the day when we, as followers of Jesus, remember Him ascending into heaven. As a day in the Christian year, it occurs 40 days after the day of Jesus' Resurrection (Easter). Pentecost is the day we remember how God poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit on his followers in a very unique and powerful way marking the birthday of the Church.

### **Thursday May 14 Ascension Day**

Leave me alone with God as much as may be. As the tide draws the waters close in upon the shore, Make me an island, set apart, alone with you, God, holy to you. Then with the turning of the tide prepare me to carry your presence to the busy world beyond, the world that rushes in on me till the waters come again and fold me back to you. *St. Aidan*

### **Friday May 15**

Lord, may we be emboldened to act, to joyfully move from dreaming to doing, and in our action, in our prayers be drawn closer to one another, closer to you. Loving God be with all our St. Cuthbert's Ministries. Fill the hearts and guide the hands of those who lead our parish. Strengthen us individually and as a family of Christ, as we study together, as we reflect and as we pray. May we act of one accord in reaching out beyond our walls, beyond our gardens and our green to all those who pass. May we be the hands and feet to those who falter and give voice to those who have no voice. In all our doings, teach us to be as Christ to friends and strangers. Light our inward being Lord that we may pray boldly and joyfully. Fill our hearts with prayer and praise from the rising of the sun until at last we lay down our heads in rest each night. Lord lead us, feed us; give us the bread of life to eat. In all that we do, all that we sing and all that we say, may we be drawn closer to one another in one great communion of saints, closer to you. Amen.

*Prayer for Spiritual Renewal at St. Cuthbert's, adapted, Jan Goodman*

### **Saturday May 16**

Oh Lord our God, give us by Your Holy Spirit a willing heart and a ready hand to use all Your gifts to your praise and glory through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. *Thomas Cranmer*

## **Sunday May 17**

Lord, grant that I may always allow myself to be guided by You, always follow Your plans, and perfectly accomplish Your Holy Will. Help me respond to the slightest prompting of Your Grace, so that I may be Your trustworthy instrument for Your honour. May Your Will be done in time and in eternity by me, in me, and through me. Amen. *St Teresa of Avila*

## **Monday May 18**

Creator God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we might be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and welfare of your people; through our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen. *A Disciple's Prayer Book, Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples*

## **Tuesday May 19**

Oh God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray and to concentrate my thoughts on you: I cannot do this alone, In me there is darkness, but with you there is light, I am lonely, but you do not leave me; I am feeble in heart, but in you there is help; I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience; I do not understand your ways, but you know the way for me . . . Restore me to liberty, and enable me to live now that I may answer before you and before me. Lord, whatever this day may bring, your name be praised.

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer, martyred German theologian*

## **Wednesday May 20**

O Lord, my God. Form me more fully in your likeness. Use the circumstance and interactions of this day to form your will in me. From the frustrations of this day form peace. From the joy of this day form strength. From the struggles of this day form courage. From the beauties of this day form love. In the name of Jesus Christ, who is all peace and strength and courage and love. Amen *Richard Foster, Quaker theologian and author*

## **Thursday May 21**

Everliving God, be our companion on the road and show us the path of life eternal. May all our journeys converge upon the journey home to you, and all our longings find their rest in your unchanging grace. Bring your peace and justice to our world and guide by your Spirit our community. Kindle in your Church the faith of Cuthbert, Aidan, Hilda and all the saints, that with simplicity, humility, and courage we may follow in their way, finding it none other than the way of Christ, in whose precious name we make this prayer. Amen. *Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell, St Cuthbert's Way Pilgrimage Prayer, adapted*

## **Friday May 22**

Christ, be with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ where I lie, Christ where I sit, Christ where I arise, Christ in the heart of everyone who think of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me, Salvation is of the Lord, Salvation is of the Christ, May our salvation, O Lord, be ever with us. *St. Patrick of Ireland*

## **Saturday May 23**

My God, you are always close to me. In obedience to you, I must now apply myself to outward things. Yet, as I do, I pray that you will give me the grace of your presence. And to this end I ask that you will assist my work, receive its fruits as an offering to you, and all the while direct all my affections to you. *Brother Lawrence, Carmelite monk*

## **Sunday May 24 Pentecost**

Come! Spirit of Love! Penetrate and transform us by the action of Your purifying life. May your constant, brooding love bring forth in us more love and all the grace and works of love. Give us grace to remain still under its action, and may that humble stillness be our prayer. Amen. *Evelyn Underhill*

**May 14 to 24: Prayer Labyrinth on the Green & Prayer Tree in Bayview Garden**  
**May 17 at 4::30 pm – Special Worship Service at St James Cathedral**

St. Cuthbert's *Thy Kingdom Come* 2026 planning group