



**Prayer
Resources for
the Deanery
Strategic
Pathway**

Introduction: How to Use This Booklet

This booklet has been created to support prayer across Stroud Deanery as we walk together in our shared vision and strategic pathway.

It is designed to be flexible and can be used in a variety of settings:

- In Sunday worship, using the intercessions or seasonal prayers.
- In PCC meetings and leadership gatherings to root decisions in prayer.
- In small groups or home groups as a framework for shared prayer.
- Individually, as a guide for personal devotion throughout the week.
- In churches, using the prayer station ideas for creative and interactive prayer.

You can use the material as it stands or adapt it for your local context. The aim is not to add extra burden, but to place prayer at the centre of all we do, helping us to notice where God is at work and to join in with his mission.

“Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain.” (Psalm 127:1)

A Deanery Prayer (for regular use)

God of abundance,
you are already at work among us.
Open our eyes to see your Kingdom,
our hearts to receive your Spirit,
and our hands to join in your mission.

Root us deeply in prayer,
make us bold in love and witness,
and unite us as one body in Christ.

Bless the churches of this deanery:
that we may flourish,
serve with joy,
and faithfully pass on the story of Jesus
to the generations to come.

Through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Intercessions Based on the Five Strategic Areas

These can be used as a full set or individually.

Communications

Lord, you are the Word made flesh.
We pray for clear and life-giving communication across
our deanery.

Help us to share stories of hope,
to invite others into worship and community,
and to speak with wisdom and grace.

Guide those developing new ways to connect,
that many may hear the good news of Jesus.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Congregations

Living God,
we thank you for every congregation in this deanery.
Renew us as disciples of Jesus:
deep in faith, joyful in worship, and open to change.

Bless new expressions of church life,
strengthen what is fruitful,
and gently lead us in letting go where needed.
May we grow as communities that are alive in you.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Ministry & Leadership

Faithful God, you call each of us by name to serve you.

We pray for clergy and lay leaders:
give them wisdom, courage, and joy in their calling.
Raise up new leaders,
and guide the shaping of new ministries across the
deanery.

Help us to work together generously,
recognising the gifts you have given to all.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Buildings, Assets & Finances

Creator God,
we thank you for the gift of our church buildings.

Give us wisdom to care for them well,
imagination to use them for mission,
and courage to make difficult decisions where needed.

May these spaces be places of prayer, welcome, and
transformation
for our communities.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Children, Youth & Families

Loving Father,
we thank you for every child and young person in our
deanery.

Bless families, schools, and all who work with the
young.
Help us to be a church where children are welcomed,
young people are valued,
and families encounter your love.

Inspire new ways of reaching the next generation,
that they may know and follow Jesus.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Short Prayer for PCC / Meetings

Lord Jesus,
as we meet, guide our conversations.

Give us wisdom in decision-making,
unity in purpose,
and courage to follow where you lead.

May all we do be rooted in prayer,
shaped by your love,
and directed towards your mission.

Amen.

Prayer for an “Abundance Mindset”

Generous God,
forgive us when we focus on what we lack.

Teach us instead to recognise your provision,
to celebrate the gifts of our people,
and to trust in your faithfulness.

Fill us with hope,
that we may live and serve
from a place of abundance, not fear.

Through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

A Litany of Commitment (for services or gatherings)

Leader: God is at work among us.

All: We will notice and join in.

Leader: Christ calls us to be a flourishing community.

All: We will root ourselves in prayer.

Leader: The Spirit leads us into boldness and new life.

All: We will step out in faith.

Leader: We are called to serve together.

All: We will seek unity and partnership.

Leader: The Kingdom is for every generation.

All: We will invest in children and young people.

Leader: God is faithful.

All: We will trust God for the future. Amen

Prayer Stations / Creative Prayer Ideas

Simple prayer stations based on the pathway:

- **Map of the Deanery**
Invite people to pray for neighbouring parishes and communities.
- **Empty Chair**
Pray for those not yet part of church life.
- **Building Photos**
Pray for wisdom in caring for church buildings.

- **Candles for Young People**

Light a candle for each school or youth group.

- **Post-it Wall of Gratitude**

Write and display signs of God's abundance already seen.

Weekly Prayer Cycle :

- Monday – Communications & outreach
 - Tuesday – Congregations & discipleship
 - Wednesday – Ministry & leadership
 - Thursday – Buildings & resources
 - Friday – Children, youth & families
 - Saturday – Local community
 - Sunday – Worship & thanksgiving
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