

from The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer (cont'd)

For a Church Alive to the Lord

O God, we get so caught up with the programs, with the buildings, with raising the finances, with restructuring and with endless sheets of paper. Forgive us when we make these things our priority and ignore your presence. May our priority be to live Christ-like lives and as we look to you in prayer may our words and deeds be a witness to your glory. Amen.

For a Church in God's World

Eternal God, You call us to live with faith in a world filled with so many challenges. Help us remember that Jesus talked of our being in the world, but not of the world. Teach us through your word, our brothers and sisters in Christ, and in our prayers to learn and understand what you would have us to be and to do, so that we may fulfil our calling as Christ's body here on earth. Amen

For more prayers, information on the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer visit www.anglicanprayer.org or contact our AFP Diocesan Representative, The Rev. Frances Drolet-Smith stalbans@bellaliant.com



 41st General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada
July 7 to 12, 2016 • Toronto

For General Synod 2016

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in General Synod 2016 for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honour and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Book of Alternative Services, p. 676)

For the Mission of the Church

God of all, draw your church together into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving Him in His mission to the world, and together witnessing to His love on every continent and island, particularly in our country of Canada. Amen.

(Book of Alternative Services, p. 676)

A Prayer for Guidance

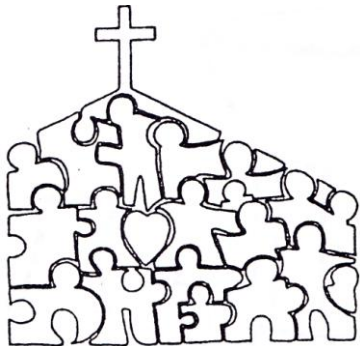
Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being. Guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Book of Alternative Services, p.130*)

For those who suffer for the sake of conscience

God of love and strength, your Son forgave his enemies even while he was suffering shame and death. Strengthen those who suffer for the sake of conscience. When they are accused, save them from speaking in hate; when they are rejected, save them from bitterness; when they are imprisoned, save them from despair. Give us grace to discern the truth, that our society may be cleansed and strengthened. This we ask for the sake of our merciful and righteous judge, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Book of Alternative Services, p. 681*)

A Prayer of Christian Life

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen. (*Book of Alternative Services, p. 682*)



The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer

www.anglicanprayer.org

The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer exists to encourage and enable the ministry of prayer in Canada. It is inclusive of all forms of expressions of Christian church life, whether they be lay or clerical, catholic or evangelical, monastic or secular, formal or informal. AFP (Canada) seeks to be a teaching resource to assist both individuals and congregations to grow in the life of prayer. It seeks to increase and strengthen the companionship of Christian prayer throughout the world.

Membership in AFP (Canada) is open to all praying people who are drawn to the organization, and who desire to be part of a growing body of people of prayer. All members will regularly receive news and access to a wide variety of resources, as well as other prayer related items.

from The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Prayers for Canadian Synod

For A Renewed Church

Almighty God, give us a new vision of you, of your love, of your grace and power; and then, give us a new vision of what you would have us do as your church in this nation at this time, and an awareness that in the strength of your Spirit we can do it to your glory. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

For Synod Delegates, Staff and Leaders

O Holy One, guide all our synod delegates, that those called to serve in these responsibilities may be men and women living a holy life, seeking to be in your will, able to overcome prejudices, examining issues with care, and that the decisions of Synod may be to the building up of your church and to your glory. May we be truly unified as one under Christ. Amen.

“A Mixed Blessing”

May God bless you with discontent at with easy answers, half truths, superficial relationships, so that you will live from deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, abuse, and exploitation of people, so that you will work for justice, equality, and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them and to change their pain to joy.

May God bless you with the foolishness to think you can make a difference in this world, so that you will do the things which others tell you cannot be done.

If you have the courage to accept these blessings, then God will also bless you with:

happiness — because you will know that you have made life better for others;

inner peace — because you will have worked to secure an outer peace for others;

laughter — because your heart will be light;

faithful friends — because they will recognize your worth as a person;

These blessings are yours — not for the asking, but for the giving— from the One who wants to be your companion, our God, who lives and reigns, forever and ever. Amen.

Sister Ruth Fox, OSB

Sacred Heart Monastery, Richardton, ND

*originally written for graduates of Dickinson State University,
Dickinson, North Dakota, 1989*

Almighty and everlasting God, who by thy Holy Spirit didst preside in the Council of the blessed Apostles, and hast promised, through thy Son Jesus Christ, to be with thy Church to the end of the world: We beseech thee to be present with the General Synod about to be assembled in thy Name. Save its members from all error, ignorance, pride, and prejudice; and of thy great mercy vouchsafe so to direct, govern, and sanctify them in their deliberations by thy Holy Spirit, that through thy blessing the Gospel of Christ may be faithfully preached and obeyed, the order and discipline of thy Church maintained, and the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour enlarged and extended. Grant this, we beseech thee, through the merits and mediation of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer, p.42)

Guide, we beseech thee, Almighty God, by the light of thy Holy Spirit, the counsels of the Bishop[s], Clergy, and Laity about to be assembled in General Synod; that thy Church may dwell in peace, and fulfil all the mind of him who loved it and gave himself for it, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer, p. 43)

Prayer for General Synod 2010: Eternal One, whose love draws the circle wide, prepare a place in our hearts for you as we prepare for General Synod. Open our hearts to the communion you have given us in your Son, that in beholding each other we may honour that gift of life together in You. Open our lives to share your love and mercy as we look on each other and see Jesus our joy, our way, our truth our life. Amen

For more prayers, information and videos about General Synod 2016 visit <http://www.anglican.ca/gs2016/>

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Note: Archbishop Justin Welby invited all 37 Primates to join him at Canterbury Cathedral January 11-16, 2016 to reflect and pray together concerning the future of the Anglican Communion. Before, during and since, many Anglicans have been keeping this historic gathering close in prayer. Here are some prayers which you may wish to adapt for your own, prayers or for your parish prayers as we hold the members and proceedings of this year's General Synod in our hearts.

Collect for Primates Meeting 2016

Gracious Father, who in your prophet Isaiah promised us a Spirit of wisdom and understanding, counsel and inward strength, knowledge and true godliness: breathe that same Spirit on the leaders of your church today, that they may meet you in one another, find perfect freedom in your service, and bring forth your Spirit's fruits of love, joy and peace; that your church may be renewed in the form of your Son, born, crucified and risen that we might be one with you and in you, ever one God, merciful and mighty. Amen.

Thanksgiving Collect for Primates Meeting 2016

Gracious God: Your people found wisdom in the wilderness and faced challenge in the promised land. We give thanks for the many signs of your presence with the leaders of your church as they sought to discern your spirit amid tension and conflict, humility and grace. Sustain them as they return to their people; renew them in mission and ministry; comfort and encourage any who find themselves hurt, disappointed or dismayed; and restore the unity of your Spirit in the bonds of our peace. Through Christ our Lord, Amen

A Daily Prayer for the Unity of Christians

Lord Jesus, who prayed that we might all be one, we pray to you for the unity of Christians, according to your will, according to your means. May your Spirit enable us to experience the suffering caused by division, to see our sin, and to hope beyond all hope. Amen.

Prayer for Counsels of the Church

5.

Eternal Father, who wouldst make the Church of thy dear Son a city great and fair, the joy of the whole earth: we beseech thee, by the sending of thy Holy Spirit, direct its counsels in all manner of wisdom, love, and might; remove perplexity, establish concord, kindle flame, and gather a people single and strong of faith; to the praise of him, who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. Amen

Lambeth Conference 1930

O God, fountain of love pour thy love into our souls, that we may love those whom thou loves with the love thou givest us, and think and speak of them tenderly, meekly, lovingly; and so loving our brothers and sisters for thy sake, may grow in thy love, and dwelling in love may dwell in thee; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

E.B. Pusey (1800-1882)

O God of love, we pray thee to give us love:

Love in our thinking, love in our speaking,

Love in our doing, and love in the hidden places of our souls;

Love of our neighbours near and far;

Love of our friends, old and new;

Love of those with whom we find it hard to bear,

And love of those who find it hard to bear with us;

Love of those with whom we work,

And love of those with whom we take our ease;

Love in joy, love in sorrow;

Love in life and love in death;

That so at length we may be worthy to dwell with thee,

Who art eternal love.

*William Temple, 1881-1944
(Archbishop of Canterbury 1942-44)*

*For more prayers and information about Primates 2016, visit
<http://www.primates2016.org/prayer/>*