

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES

International
Anglican
Family
Network



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The prayers in this booklet were written or gathered by members of the International Anglican Family Network (IAFN) steering group. Many of them were used in the local services and online Time of Prayer we held for the International Day of Families (15 May) 2026; some were contributed by friends at other points. We are grateful to all contributors and hope that the booklet will be a blessing.

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CREATION PRAYER

Join our hands, O Lord

Dear Creator God,
we thank You for the beauty of Your world:
for the trees that give shade,
for the animals that share our earth,
for the rivers that bring life,
and for the wide and wonderful sky above us.

Thank You for the gift of family,
where we learn to love, to share, and to care.
Teach us, as families, communities and Nations to look after Your creation.
Help us to be mindful of how we use water,
to reduce waste,
and to keep our surroundings clean.

Give us willing hearts to plant, to nurture,
and to protect the earth You have entrusted to us.
May our homes and communities be places where respect for creation grows,
where small actions make a faithful difference,
and where gratitude for Your gifts remains alive.

Guide us to live gently on this earth, challenged by wars and conflict
so that future generations may also rejoice in its beauty.
We offer ourselves as stewards of Your creation,
with thankful and faithful hearts.

In Your holy name we pray.
Amen.

Abraham Aroon, Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East



FOR FAMILIES WORLDWIDE

Heavenly Father, Creator of every family, we thank You for the gift of belonging to our homes, our churches, our communities and the Body of Christ across nations, languages and traditions. Draw us nearer to You and to one another. Where there is division, bring reconciliation. Where there is fear, speak peace. Where there is loneliness, remind us that no one is forgotten in Your Kingdom. Make our homes places of prayer, forgiveness, and welcome, and make our churches shelters for the weary and signs of Your love.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, we pray for our region, the Middle East, and the parts of the world living through conflict, displacement, economic hardship, migration, and uncertainty. Comfort those separated by war, work, travel restrictions, grief or fear. Strengthen congregations worshipping under pressure, and sustain bishops, clergy, chaplains, church leaders and all who carry heavy pastoral burdens in regions affected by war and conflict. Protect children whose education has been interrupted by violence. Give courage to those who serve in hidden places, and let Your Church remain a light where suffering is deep.

Holy Spirit, Comforter and Giver of Life, bless communities living beside neighbours of different faiths and traditions. Teach us to witness to Christ with humility while honouring the dignity of every person made in God's image. We remember migrant workers far from home, seafarers, prisoners and all who feel unseen. Be their refuge and protector. Surround them with fairness, kindness, safe communities and churches that welcome them as brothers and sisters. Fill us with love that becomes visible in our words, our prayers and our lives.

Holy Trinity, one God in perfect love, let peace begin in our hearts, grow in our homes, strengthen our churches and reach the whole world. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

We ask this in Your holy name. Amen.

*Reverend Christine Mbona, IAFN Steering Group,
Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East*



FOR PEACE IN OUR WORLD

Heavenly Father, God of Peace,
We come before You as one human family,
Though we live in different homes, nations, and regions.

You created us to belong to one another,
to live in love, unity, and peace.
We pray for our world, where there is conflict and division.
Bring healing to nations, calm to troubled regions,
and understanding where there is hatred.

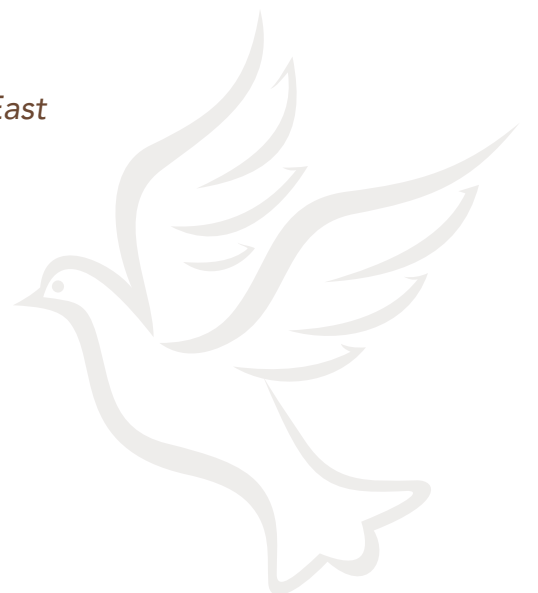
Lord, we remember especially the children:
those who grow up hearing the sounds of war instead of laughter,
those who carry fear instead of hope,
and those whose dreams are broken by violence and loss.
Protect them, comfort them, and restore their future.

Help us to see how the failure of peace today
steals tomorrow from our young ones.
Teach us to be peacemakers
in our homes, our communities, and our nations.
Make our families places of peace, not fighting.
Help us to say sorry quickly and forgive freely.
Teach us to share, to listen, and to care deeply for one another.

Use us to bring peace wherever we go,
so that even small acts of love can change the world.
Let Your peace begin in our hearts,
grow in our homes,
and reach out to our region and the whole world.

We ask this in Your holy name.
Amen.

Oscar Leo, Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East



FOR FAMILIES LIVING AMIDST CONFLICT AND UNCERTAINTY

Lord God,
you see the disorder of our world;
how power is contested,
how fear and anger take root,
and how heavy it is for families to live
in the midst of war and division.
You know the confusion we carry
as we seek what is right and life-giving.

Be present among us in the midst of chaos.
Touch the hearts of those who lead,
that they may choose peace over pride
and justice over selfish gain.

Keep our hearts steady
when we are surrounded by noise, opinions, and conflict.
Root us in your truth,
that we may not grow weary or lose hope.

Teach us, within our homes and communities,
to listen with compassion,
to speak with wisdom,
and to become instruments of your peace.

When the world feels uncertain and constantly changing,
remind us that our hope is held in you.
Draw our families close to your heart,
that we may not lose our way,
but continue to trust in your goodness.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Ruben Dalimbang, Episcopal Church in the Philippines

FOR FAMILIES DISPLACED BY CONFLICT OR DISASTER

God of compassion and love, you have woven our lives together
for the sake of flourishing and justice.

We lift before you families displaced by war, famine, floods, and disaster;
those who carry their homes in memory
and their grief in silence.

We pray especially for the peoples of all places
where uncertainty lingers and loss has become ordinary.

Be present among them,
not as distant mercy, but as sustaining breath,
stirring courage, tenderness,
and the will to care for one another.

Ignite in us a holy urgency
to serve you in our neighbor,
that compassion may take flesh in action
and love become a shelter.

God of justice, hold leaders accountable
for all that diminishes human dignity.
Disturb their complacency, unsettle their silence,
and strengthen those who speak against violence and oppression.

Turn the hearts of those in power toward the poor and defenseless,
that they may remember their calling:
not domination, but care;
not the preservation of power, but the protection of life.

Gather us, O God, into a community that refuses indifference,
that listens deeply, acts justly, and walks tenderly with one another.

Make us signs of your reign
where dignity is restored,
where wounds are tended,
and where hope takes root again.

We pray this in the name of our God
who dwells among the vulnerable
And calls us into life together. Amen.

Reverend Sunshine Dulnuan, Episcopal Church in the Philippines

FOR EMBRACING DIVERSITY AND HUMAN DIGNITY

God of Love,
you have created every person in Your image,
and gathered us into one human family
in all our diversity and difference.
Open our hearts
to the many identities and expressions of Your people.
Give us wisdom to see beyond labels,
and courage to honor the dignity of every person
with reverence and without judgment.
Form our families and communities
to be bearers of Christ's mercy,
where kindness is practiced,
welcome is made real,
and love takes flesh in our daily lives.
In a world marked by division and misunderstanding,
strengthen us to seek mercy and justice
for all Your creation.
May our lives give glory to Your Name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Denver de los Santos, Episcopal Church in the Philippines



FOR ONE HUMAN FAMILY

For those affected by war, sickness, and lack of care

Lord of mercy,
We remember our world as one family.
Hold close those in war who cannot find medicine:
the injured, the chronically ill,
the displaced, and the forgotten.

Be with those facing disease without vaccines or proper care.
Strengthen all who serve in hospitals, clinics, relief agencies,
and organisations working for health and healing across the world.

Bind us together in compassion,
that no one may suffer alone,
and no family may be forgotten in its hour of need.

Amen.

*St Paul's Anglican Church Young Voices,
Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East*

FOR ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE

Loving Lord,
We come together as one global family to pray for education and healthcare
in every part of the world that we live in.
May every child and every person have access to education that enlightens the
mind and healthcare that protects life.
May no one be left behind because of poverty, distance, or circumstance.
Grant, Lord, wisdom to leaders, strength to communities, and hope to families
so that knowledge and healing may reach all people everywhere.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Jessica Ingen, IAFN Steering Group, Province of Papua New Guinea

FOR WORKERS AND PEOPLE SEEKING WORK

Loving God,
we feel Your gentle call inviting us to serve
with open hearts and hands.
Inspire us to deepen our faith, to
to nurture our commitment to those who labour tirelessly
and to those who yearn for work and purpose.
Hear the cries of the unemployed, O Lord;
fill them with hope, restore their dignity, and provide for their needs.

As we journey forward, help us grow in grace and knowledge.
empower us to embrace our call to serve all who are in need.
May our hearts be open,
guiding us to support our fellow workers and those seeking opportunities,
making us true instruments of hope and justice in this world.
Through Christ our Lord, we pray.
Amen.

Right Reverend Brian Marajh, Anglican Church of Southern Africa

FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS

Heavenly Father, we lift up families facing financial hardship. Provide for their daily needs and open doors of opportunity and work. Grant them wisdom to steward what they have, and peace that You see and care. Remind them they are not forgotten and surround them with community support.

Lord, strengthen their faith during difficult times and fill their hearts with hope for a brighter tomorrow. Let Your love bring comfort in moments of worry and uncertainty. Bless them with unity, patience, and courage as they walk through every challenge together.

Shaina Naveel, Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East

FOR FAMILIES IN HARDSHIP AND MIGRANT WORKERS

For provision, dignity, and shared hope

Heavenly Father,
We lift before You all families facing financial hardship,
especially those who have lost jobs and livelihoods.
Provide for their daily needs, Lord.
Open new doors of opportunity, dignity, and meaningful work.

We remember migrant workers:
those far from home, separated from their loved ones,
often unseen and unheard.
Protect them, sustain them, and uphold their rights.
May they find compassion, justice, and welcome wherever they are.

Lord, in these difficult and uncertain times,
call Your Church to reflect deeply on its mission and purpose.
Renew in us a heart for service, justice, and mercy.
Help your church to stand with the vulnerable,
to be a voice for the voiceless,
and to become a living sign of Your love in the world.

Unite us, O God, as one human family,
not divided by borders, status, or circumstance,
but bound together in care, responsibility, and shared hope.
May our unity bear witness to Your truth,
so that the world may know Your love
through how we live, serve, and walk together.

Strengthen every family in faith during times of struggle.
Fill their hearts with hope for a brighter tomorrow.
Grant them peace in uncertainty, patience in hardship,
and courage to face each new day.
Let Your love surround them, sustain them, and restore them.
May we, as Your people, be instruments of that love today and always. Amen.

*St Paul's Anglican Church Young Voices,
Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East*



FOR FARMERS AND FAMILIES FACING LOW CROP PRICES

Heavenly Father, we humbly come before You, asking for Your intervention in this difficult time. Many local farmers are struggling as the prices of their produce continue to fall, leaving them with little income and heavy burdens.

Lord, You see their hard work and sacrifices. You know their worries as they try to recover the cost of their farm inputs and provide for their families. Many are struggling to meet basic needs—food on the table, education for their children, and daily necessities.

We ask for Your guidance upon the leaders of our country. Grant them wisdom, compassion, and courage to make just and effective decisions that will support and uplift our farmers.

Strengthen the hearts of the farmers, Lord. When they feel discouraged, renew their hope. Help them to persevere and to find lessons even in hardship, trusting that You are with them every step of the way. We place our trust in You, knowing that You are our provider and our help in times of need.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Episcopal Church Women, Episcopal Church in the Philippines

FOR FAMILIES LIVING WITH MENTAL HEALTH STRUGGLES

Loving God,

We pray for families living with the challenges of mental health struggles, anxiety, depression, trauma, addiction, and emotional pain. Be close to all who feel overwhelmed, exhausted, fearful, or alone. Surround them with Your compassion and remind them that they are deeply loved and never forgotten.

As Jesus showed compassion to those who were burdened, isolated, and suffering, help us to follow his example. We remember how he met people with gentleness and understanding, restoring dignity and offering hope to those who felt forgotten or excluded. Teach us to care for one another with the same patience, mercy, and love.

Grant strength and patience to parents, partners, children, carers, and friends who walk alongside those who are suffering. Give them wisdom when they feel uncertain, hope when they feel discouraged, and rest when they are weary. Help families to speak with kindness, listen with understanding, and support one another with grace.

We pray for healing and for access to the care, treatment, and support that people need. Bless counsellors, doctors, pastors, teachers, and all who accompany others through times of crisis, recovery, and the daily maintenance of long-term mental and emotional wellbeing. May churches and communities become places of welcome, safety, and acceptance, where no one is ashamed to seek help.

God of peace, bring light into darkness, calm into anxiety, and hope into despair. Help us to recognise Your presence even in difficult days, and to trust that Your love can sustain us through every struggle.

In the name of Christ, Amen.

Reverend Laura Symon, IAFN Steering Group, Scottish Episcopal Church



FOR FAMILIES EXPERIENCING SICKNESS OR MENTAL HEALTH STRUGGLES

Great Physician, I pray for families walking through sickness. Be near to those who are ill, bring strength to their bodies and calm to their hearts. Give wisdom and endurance to caregivers and doctors. Let Your presence be their comfort in every waiting room and sleepless night.

Compassionate God, hold families carrying mental health struggles and trauma. Bring light into dark places, clarity into confusion, and hope into despair. Surround them with understanding, care, and skilled help. Let them know they are loved, valued, and never alone in You.

Amen.

Abraham Aroon, Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East

FOR THE HEALING OF A LONG-TIME SICK PERSON

O Lord God, loving Creator of all, we gently lift up to You our family members who are suffering in body and in mind. With tender mercy, please lay Your healing hands upon them. Restore them, according to Your will, so they may find strength and continue their journey in Your care.

We ask You to bless the medicines they receive and every treatment they undergo. Guide and sustain the medical personnel who attend to them with wisdom, compassion, and skill. Grant patience, strength, and a caring heart to the family members who lovingly look after them each day.

Lord, we know that our loved one has been ill for a long time. We quietly place them in Your hands. If it is Your will, we humbly ask for healing. And in all things, we trust that You understand the purpose and the timing of every life. Gently prepare our hearts for whatever lies ahead. Help us to remain faithful, trusting in Your love and presence. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Episcopal Church Women, Episcopal Church in the Philippines

FOR CARERS

Lord Jesus, we thank You for the men, women, and children who, like Your mother at the cross, stand alongside loved ones in times of distress. Give them strength, we pray, to cope with the sorrow that comes with watching those you love suffer. Help them to offer care and comfort to body and soul - and to hand over to You the times when they feel powerless. As You entrusted your mother to the beloved disciple, we ask You to give them people around them to support them. And we pray that, by Your grace, the times of difficulty may also be times of blessing, in which bonds of human love are strengthened and Your faithful love is made known to all. Amen.

Maranda St John Nicolle, IAFN Steering Group, Church of England

FOR CHILDREN LEFT BY THE SUDDEN DEATH OF THEIR PARENTS

O God, source of love and mercy, we entrust to You this family, especially the children who have been suddenly left without their parents. Though we did not expect this loss, we trust in Your wisdom, knowing that tomorrow is in Your hands.

We ask You to pour out Your mercy upon them. Grant them comfort in this very difficult time. Protect and guide them as they continue life's journey at such a young age. Be their source of strength; take away their fears and worries, and replace them with peace and trust in You.

We entrust them fully into Your care. May they grow as faithful and loving children, rooted in hope and guided by Your light. We ask this through Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Episcopal Church Women, Episcopal Church in the Philippines

FOR FAMILIES AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Dear Heavenly Father,
we lift before You all families suffering because of domestic violence.
You see the hidden pain, the fear, and the silent cries.
Nothing is hidden from Your sight.

Lord, we remember the many wounds that trouble our homes:
anger that has not been healed,
hearts seeking control instead of love,
stress from lack of work and daily struggle,
addiction, past hurts, and brokenness are carried from one generation to
another.
Bring safety, peace, and healing into every home and every heart.

Protect those who are afraid.
Surround them with Your presence
and give them courage to seek help.
Calm angry hearts, O Lord, and transform them.
Where there is violence, plant seeds of repentance, self control, and
understanding.
Where there is silence, raise voices that speak truth and bring justice.

We pray for Your Church.
Make us a place of refuge, not judgment.
Make us a community that listens, protects, and walks alongside the wounded.
Give us wisdom to respond, courage to speak, and compassion to act.
Send caring people, counsellors, leaders, friends, and trusted helpers
to guide families towards restoration, accountability, and hope.

May Your light shine in every home,
breaking cycles of violence
and restoring dignity, peace, and love.

We ask this in Your mercy and grace.

*St Paul's Anglican Church Young Voices,
Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East*

A CHILD'S PRAYER FOR PEACE AT HOME

Dear Heavenly Father,
sometimes our homes do not feel safe.

When people shout, fight, or hurt each other,
it makes us feel scared, sad, and confused.

We do not always understand why this happens,
but it hurts our hearts and makes us afraid.
It can make it hard for us to sleep, learn, or feel happy.

Please protect all children who are afraid at home.
Give us courage when we feel weak,
and send kind people to help us feel safe again.

Help the grown ups to be calm and gentle.
Teach them to talk with love instead of anger,
and to care for one another with patience and respect.

Help our homes become places of peace,
where we can laugh, learn, and grow without fear.

May Your love surround every child
and bring light into every dark place.

Amen.

*St Paul's Anglican Church Young Voices,
Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East*



FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Heavenly Father, we place every married couple before You today, asking that their marriages can be built on trust, ubuntu, and not based on social media.

Bless their union with deep love, patience, and mutual respect.

Teach them to listen more than they speak, to forgive quickly and to stand together through every storm.

May their home be a place of peace, where children learn unity, faith and positive values by watching their parents.

Protect their marriage from division and pride, and keep Christ at the center of their table, their work, and their dreams. Amen.

Bridget Sayers, IAFN Steering Group, Province of Central Africa

FOR MARRIED PEOPLE WHO HAVE COMMITTED INFIDELITY

Most loving God, our Creator, You made us in Your image as man and woman and granted us the gift of free will, calling us into a sacred covenant of marriage. We entrust to You all married men and women who have been tempted and have fallen into infidelity, causing brokenness in their families and deep pain emotionally, mentally, and spiritually, even weakening their faith in You.

Lord, we humbly ask for Your mercy and intervention. Touch their hearts and guide them back to the vows they have made. Grant them the grace to recognize their faults, to take full responsibility for their actions, and to seek Your forgiveness with sincerity. Lead them back to You, O Lord, that they may experience true repentance, inner healing, and genuine transformation. May Your love restore what has been broken and help rebuild their marriages on faith, trust, and steadfast commitment. All this we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Episcopal Church Women, Episcopal Church in the Philippines

FOR RECONCILIATION AND REBUILDING TRUST

Loving Father in Heaven, we come before You in this difficult time as our marriage is being tested and challenged.

Misunderstandings, anxiety, and doubt have entered our hearts, yet we continue to hold firmly to our faith in You.

We believe that You are the source of true and lasting love. Teach us to love one another as You love us—with patience, kindness, and grace. Calm our minds and hearts, and help us to keep our focus on You in all things.

Guide us as we seek to rebuild trust and restore the love we once shared. Remind us always to be honest, gentle, and forgiving with one another. May Your love bind us together and strengthen the foundation of our marriage and family.

We ask all this through Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Episcopal Church Women, Episcopal Church in the Philippines

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Lord when human families struggle
leaving our young vulnerable,
hold them safe in Your love
as they navigate complex situations and emotions.
Arm them with wisdom and insight
that comes from Your love and word.
Instil in them their preciousness in Your sight:
that they are Your beloved
that You not only delight in them
but will walk alongside them
through all of life's storms
never leaving or forsaking them
May they know Your smile
And walk with hope
alongside Jesus their saviour and friend.

Reverend Sheenagh Burrell, IAFN Steering Group, Church of England

FOR CHURCHES HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

Gracious and Ever-Living God,
You are the hope of every generation and the strength of all who seek You.

We lift before You the young people of our communities—those filled with dreams, those carrying burdens, and those searching for purpose.

Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your Church, that we may be a place of welcome, safety, and transformation.

Give us hearts that listen, eyes that see potential, and hands ready to serve with compassion.

Bless our clergy, teachers, mentors, and youth leaders with wisdom and courage. Help us to create spaces where young people can grow in faith, discover their gifts, and rise into the fullness of who You have called them to be.

Strengthen our parishes to stand against violence, despair, and hopelessness.

Empower us to build communities of justice, joy, and belonging—where every young person knows they are valued, loved, and accepted.

Lord Jesus, walk with our youth in their studies, friendships and families. Guard them from harm, guide them in truth, and surround them with Your presence and Your peace.

And make Your Church a beacon of light, so that together we may proclaim Your kingdom of love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Valerie West, IAFN Steering Group and Provincial President of The Mothers Union for the Province of the West Indies

MY PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES

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INTERNATIONAL ANGLICAN FAMILY NETWORK

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