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**Image of the day - St Columb's Cathedral Derry**

## **Courage to lament in Belfast Cathedral**

**On Monday 21st June, Belfast Cathedral will host a ‘Courage to Lament’ event, including a midday service, in partnership with the Corrymeela Community and Father Martin Magill of St John's Parish, Falls Road.**

21st June is marked as an annual Day of Reflection acknowledging ongoing consequences of the Northern Ireland conflict.

Taking place on the Day of Reflection the event will provide an opportunity to acknowledge and lament the ongoing hurt and division caused by the conflict in Northern Ireland.

Following the astonishing response to Fr. Martin’s address at the funeral of Lyra McKee (also held in the Cathedral), a group of Catholic and Protestant clergy came together to build a unified Christian response to sectarian and paramilitary violence.

Courage to Lament will feature film, music, prayer, and liturgy.

Between 11am and 2pm, the Cathedral will host a number of interactive exhibition spaces. An ecumenical Service of Lament will take place from 12 noon. For this participants will be seated and socially distanced within the Cathedral nave.

The Very Reverend Stephen Forde, Dean of Belfast, said: “I am delighted that St Anne’s Cathedral, at the heart of the



## Rev Steve Stockman and Father Martin Magill

City of Belfast, will open its doors on 21st June for Courage to Lament. The Cathedral has been a place of gathering and lament during the darkest days of ‘The Troubles’, as it was for the funeral of Lyra McKee in 2019. But out of lament and grief comes the resolve for new beginnings and a better future. This day can provide such an opportunity for our community”.

Corrymeela Community leader Rev. Dr. Alex Wimberly added: “Courage to Lament provides a space for us all to consider the devastating consequences of sectarian and paramilitary violence. As people of faith, we believe that reconciliation requires lament: lament for past and present violence, and lament for ongoing griefs. We believe that the act of lament is in itself an act of courage, and we are delighted to host this event as a part of the ongoing #couragepentecost project”.

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#couragepentecost began on Easter Sunday 2021 and ran for 50 days, with an image and suggested act of courage sent out to participants every day.

Further information about #couragepentecost and the daily actions can be found at [www.couragepentecost.com](http://www.couragepentecost.com).

## **Climb Everest via Slemish challenge - fifty times in a week invite**

**A Ballymena clergyman has set his sights on a a third 'ascent of Everest' - and he's seeking climbers to join his team!**

Thankfully, those intrepid volunteers won't have to travel to the other side of the globe because Canon Stuart Lloyd's 'Everest Expedition' will actually take place at Slemish, Dessie Blackadder writes in the Ballymena Observer.

But it will still be a test for those taking part as it will entail climbing Slemish 50 times.

Canon Stuart Lloyd has accomplished this twice before.

This time, as he admits to getting older, he is going to take a week to reach his goal.

So, between 19th – 26th June he is going to climb Slemish seven times each day with an extra ascent on the last day.

That, he hopes, will bring him to 30,000 feet, just over the height of Everest.



## Canon Stuart Lloyd

The 'Everest via Slemish' project is being undertaken to raise awareness and support for various mission bodies in Nepal.

Canon Lloyd's niece and husband have been serving in Nepal for over 25 years and he and his wife have visited the country on numerous occasions.

The project is being sponsored by St Patrick's Church Ballymena where Canon Lloyd was rector for many years.

Presently he is a member of St Patrick's Church, Broughshane and that church is a sponsor as well.

Not to be out done they are joined by St Patrick's, Coleraine where Canon Lloyd also assists.

Thus the 3 St Patrick's are engaging with "his mountain"

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Canon Lloyd would welcome any climbers to join him.

Already some have volunteered. He would also welcome donations.

These can be made through the three churches or through Just Giving - St Patrick's Church Broughshane.

Also, donations can be sent directly to Canon Lloyd at 123, Knockan Road, Broughshane BT43 7JA

The Covid situation in India has been vividly portrayed through the media.

Nepal also has suffered a similar second wave and hospitals and other services have been overwhelmed.

The mission bodies being supported by this project are struggling to meet very difficult challenges. Help offered from this part of the world will be a great encouragement.

Courtesy the Ballymena Observer. 08.06.2021

## **Family of elders dedicate 116 years to Glasgow church**

**A family of five have served their local church in Glasgow for a total of 116 years and still going strong.**

Stewart Dunn, his wife Marion, their daughter Louise, son Andrew and his wife Hazel are elders at Tron St Mary's Church and key to the smooth running of the congregation.

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Its a family affair - front row L-R – Marion, Stewart and Louise. Back row – Hazel and Andrew

The family’s impressive record of commitment emerged after Lord Wallace, Moderator of the General Assembly, congratulated Stewart for dedicating 50 years of his life to the voluntary role.

Now 73, the retired bathroom and kitchen salesman, who was brought up in Tron St Mary’s Church, said he was “left speechless” when he received a long-service certificate signed by the Moderator.

He said he had thoroughly enjoyed his time as an elder and described it as a “rewarding and life changing” role.

## Dedication

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Stewart said: “For many years I was the fabric convener, known as the handyman and the person to come to with any questions about the congregation’s history.

“For me, as an elder, the main thing is listening to people and trying to help them solve problems.

“Sometimes people do not want to bother the minister because they think they have enough on their plate so I was often the link between the congregation and the minister – the go between.

“I enjoyed trying to come up with a solution to a problem that a family or an individual had and ensuring that they got the help they needed.”

Stewart said he is very proud that his wife, children and daughter-in-law play key roles as office bearers within the congregation.

Andrew, who is now fabric convener with aspirations to be a minister one day, has been an elder for 17 years and his wife Hazel has served for nine years.

Louise has served for nine years and is now congregation’s session clerk and her mother, Marion, has been an elder for 31 years.

Stewart’s two granddaughters – twins Emma and Marianne, 15, sing in the church praise band and will officially become members on their 16th birthday in December.



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Rev Rhona Graham, minister of Tron St Mary's Church, paid tribute to the Dunn family for their committed service in His name.

“Since Stewart was ordained an elder, then in the following years his family, the kirk session and the church has been strengthened by this family who are committed to Christ,” she said.

“All of them are different and bring their own skills to the church but the biggest gift they all share is their love for God and the community they live and work in.

“We are very blessed to have benefited from Stewart's long service - the time he takes with others when he sees someone needing help is something we could all aspire to.”

Lord Wallace is an elder at St Magnus Cathedral in Kirkwall, Orkney and only the second in modern times to hold the office of Moderator of the General Assembly.

“I warmly congratulate Stewart Dunn on his 50-years' service and extend thanks to him and his family members who, between them, have served Tron St Mary's in Glasgow for a grand total of 116 years.

“The Church very much values and is grateful for the commitment of the eldership in the work of the Church.

“Mr Dunn and his family well demonstrate that commitment.”

**There are 27,774 elders in the Church of Scotland of whom 44% are male and 56% female.**

## **Sudden death of Vicar General of Dromore**

**Tributes have been paid to a Co Armagh priest who has passed away suddenly.**

Fr Tony Corr, who was 57, suffered a heart attack and died on Sunday at his home in Banbridge.

Originally from Craigavon, Fr Corr was ordained in the mid-nineties and went on to work in a number of parishes including Warrenpoint, Hilltown, Banbridge and Newry.

In recent years, he became parish priest of Donaghmore and Aghaderg parishes, and vicar general of the diocese of Dromore.

Speaking to the Irish News, Kieran Corr said his brother's sudden death had left the family "devastated".

## **People and places**

### **New Methodist President Blazing a Trail**

The Methodist Church in Ireland will make history this week when the Rev. Dr. Sahr Yambasu becomes the first national leader of colour in one of Ireland's four main churches as he is installed as MCI President at their annual conference.

"If by the end of my Presidential year, people begin to think a little bit more about these themes in the light of their calling to follow Christ, I will consider it a success."

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Read more → <https://buff.ly/3iwabwl>

## **Joint visits to Marsh's Library and St Patrick's Cathedral**

A new joint ticket for Archbishop Marsh's Library and St Patrick's Cathedral has gone on sale this week. Marsh's opened originally in 1707 and visiting it is like stepping back in time to the 18th century. For €11, you can visit both the Cathedral and the Library, on the same day or at your own pace. Book online or purchase your ticket on arrival at either location. Book now:

<https://stpatrickscathedral.digitickets.co.uk/event-tickets/6314?catID=34730&>

## **Lay Readers commissioned for Cork**



Pictured are Alan Clohessy and Kieran Hogan, newly licensed Readers (front row) with the Archdeacon of Cork Cloyne and Ross, the Venerable Adrian Wilkinson, the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton, Canon Andrew Orr, the Very Reverend Susan Green, Dean of Cloyne, and the Very Reverend Nigel Dunne, Dean of Cork, at the United Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, Licensing of Readers, at the Cathedral Church of Saint Fin Barre, Cork. Picture: Jim Coughlan.

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On Tuesday, 8th June, the eve of the feast of Saint Columba, the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton, licensed two new readers – Alan Clohessy and Dr Kieran Hogan – to the Office of Reader during Evening Prayer in St Fin Barre’s Cathedral..

Last year Alan and Kieran both completed the Certificate in Christian Studies in the Diocese (validated by the Pontifical University at Maynooth) and subsequently undertook an additional practical module in the Diocese. They will now embark on an additional year of supervised practical training in their parishes. Alan will be in Cloyne Union and Youghal Union with the Very Reverend Susan Green and Canon Andrew Orr. Kieran will be in Douglas Union with Frankfield, with Archdeacon Adrian Wilkinson.

### **St. Columba’s, Knock, celebrates patronal feast**

On Sunday morning 6 June, St. Columba’s, Knock, was filled to capacity with some 90 parishioners (the maximum permitted under Covid guidelines) gathering to celebrate the life and ministry of our patron, St Columba.

The special guest and preacher at the service of Holy Communion was the Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Revd John McDowell who is “a longstanding friend of the parish and known personally to many of those present”.

The congregation was treated to a stunning choral programme and, for the first time since the pandemic began, the delightful singing of four cantors – Ruth McCartney, Lynn Ryan, Christine McKee and Lynda Barrett. They were expertly directed by the parish Organist and Choirmaster, Dr



Joe McKee. The beautiful music filled the church to the very rafters, or roof slates, many of which are now missing thanks to the major restorative work recently begun.

The Archbishop's sermon focused on the life and achievements of Columba alongside the challenges and difficulties of life today under the pandemic. We were reminded of the importance of never giving up hope no matter the scale of the adversity.

Following Holy Communion, the congregation left church to be greeted by the most magnificent exhibition of some 35 paintings by the Art Club on the theme and life of Columba, set up in the grounds outside the west end entrance. "It was a pleasure to be able to wander around the paintings and admire them in the sunshine at leisure, with the opportunity also for parishioners to chat with the Archbishop".

## **Sport and SAMS in walking challenge for Shankill's Denis Johnston**

Denis Johnston, former SAMS Ireland General Secretary and life-long member of Shankill Parish, Lurgan, is marking

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his 70th birthday with a sponsored walk for two organisations close to his heart.

Denis' wife Hilary died from cancer 23 years ago at the age of forty and more recently he lost his younger brother Alan (an Irish cricket international) and his close friend Archdeacon Philip Patterson to the disease. He is walking for Macmillan Cancer Support in memory of all three.

Denis' involvement with SAMS and mission in South America goes back over forty years and some of the £10,000 he hopes to raise will help to build a toilet block and kitchen facilities for the indigenous community in Paraguay. Sport

Denis has also been involved in sport most of his life and captained both Lisnagarvey Hockey Club and Lurgan Cricket Club. His 14-mile sponsored walk on Saturday 19 June will begin at Lisnagarvey's ground in Hillsborough and end at Lurgan's ground at Pollock Park. Denis will be joined by several family members and friends along the way.

Lurgan RF&CC ambassador and Ireland rugby international Jacob Stockdale says, "I am delighted to see Denis retaining his sporting links and congratulate him on marking his 70th birthday in this unique manner. I wish him well in this endeavour and trust you will support his chosen charities."

To sponsor Denis and raise funds for both Macmillan and SAMS please visit:

[uk.virginmoneygiving.com/DenisJohnston](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/DenisJohnston)

[churchnewsireland@gmail.org](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.org)

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To find out more about 7+7@70 please visit:  
[www.samsireland.com](http://www.samsireland.com)

## **Canon Adrienne Galligan's walk for Al Ahli Hospital**

Dublin & Glendalough Council for Mission's fundraising campaign for Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza city draws to a close this Friday, June 11. Canon Adrienne Galligan is one of the people who has committed to walking 100 kilometres – the distance from Gaza city to Jerusalem – over the three weeks of the campaign.

Her journey has taken her to some of the hospitals in her rural deanery as she considers and prays for both the staff and patients in hospital in Al Ahli.

You can donate to the fundraising efforts securely via the Christ Church Cathedral website at: [christchurchcathedral.ie/al-ahli/](http://christchurchcathedral.ie/al-ahli/). Once you have chosen the amount you wish to donate you will be given the option to sponsor one of the walkers if you wish to do so.

The latest conflict in the Holy Land has put huge pressure on hospitals and the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, the Most Revd Hosam Naoum has appealed for support for Al Ahli.

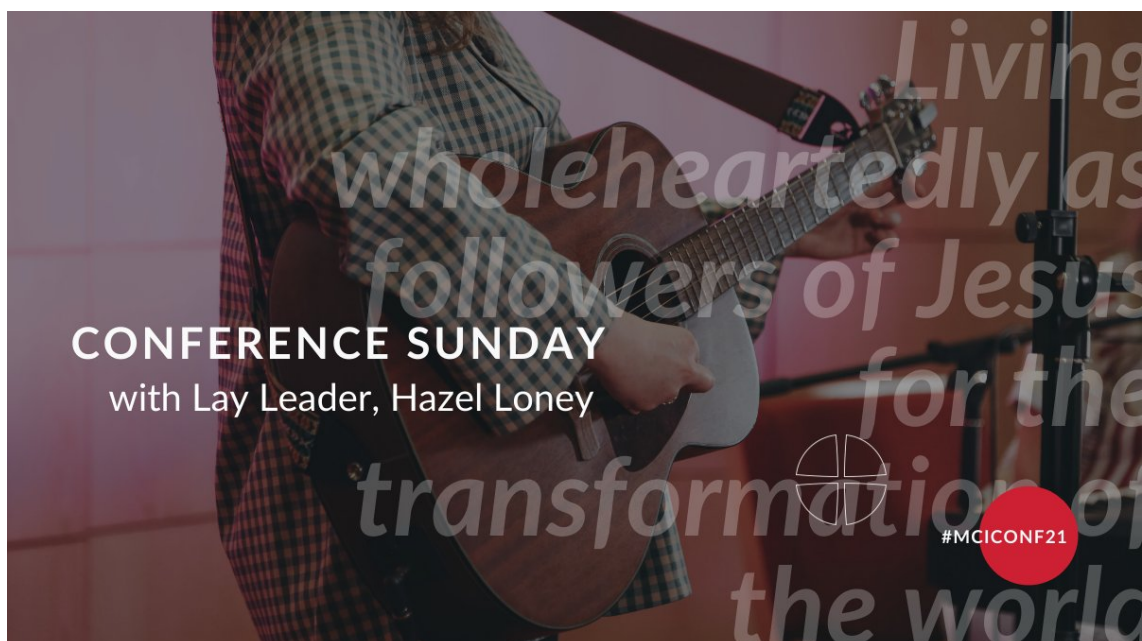
The hospital is run by the Diocese of Jerusalem and serves all people of Gaza city, no matter what their religion, gender, social or political background. Dublin and Glendalough has had a link with the Diocese of Jerusalem for six years and has raised funds for the hospital previously.

[churchnewsireland@gmail.org](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.org)

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Over the three weeks of this fundraiser a number of people have committed to walking 100 kilometres – the distance from Gaza city to Jerusalem. They are: Diocesan Lay Reader David Reynolds, along with other parishioners of Bray; the Revd Abigail Sines, Dean's Vicar, Christ Church Cathedral; Lydia Monds, Bishops' Appeal; Canon Peter Champion, Chaplain, King's Hospital School; the Revd Martin O'Connor, Clondalkin and Rathcoole Parishes; the Revd Stephen Farrell, Rector, Zion Parish; the Revd Nigel Pierpoint, Curate, Taney Parish; the Revd Sean Hanily, Rector, Rathmichael Parish; and Canon Adrienne Galligan, Rector, Rathfarnham Parish.

## **Books, Broadcasts, Resources and Webinars**



## **The Methodist Church in Ireland Conference Service**



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Sunday 13th June, 11AM Lay Leader, Hazel Loney, preaches on 'Living wholeheartedly as followers of Jesus, for the transformation of the world'. To access the Live Stream: <https://buff.ly/3uPVLcU> | <https://buff.ly/3un4GSG>

## **RTE service this Sunday at 11.10**

The Church of Ireland Association of Mission Societies and Council for Mission jointly participated in a recording entitled 'Church without walls'. The service focuses on the Anglican five marks of mission with contributors from Ireland and beyond.

## **Opinion - Out-of-touch bishops are pushing the C of E to the brink of ruin - Emma Thompson**

**Look at their actions over recent months and you could be forgiven for thinking that Anglican bishops are on a mission to alienate their flocks, run down their parishes and ultimately give up their special place in British public and spiritual life.**

How else to explain the actions of the Bishop of St Davids, Joanna Penberthy, who has been forced to delete her Twitter account and apologise after tweeting, "Never, never, never trust a Tory"? - Emma Thompson writes in the Daily Telegraph.

I am not theologically trained, but I cannot remember Jesus telling us to love our neighbours unless they are Tories. Our country is becoming unhelpfully polarised along age, North/

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South and rural/urban lines. It is the Church's job to remind us, in crisis times, of our common humanity.

There is nothing new about Left-wing bishops being out of touch with their congregations. The trouble is that the political divide between bishops and laity is not the only issue driving a wedge between them.

This is most keenly felt in the decline of parish churches. Last month, the Bishop of Winchester, Tim Dakin, was forced to "step back for six weeks" after an extraordinary revolt by both clergy and laity. Bishop Dakin appears to have prioritised resourcing urban Evangelical "megachurches" while rural churches have been harassed with demands for growth, in money and attendance. Winchester diocese is cutting clergy numbers, proposing to merge village churches into ever-larger, geographically awkward benefices. Similar plans are being pursued around the country by bishops who have come up through a bureaucratic system and seem distanced from lay members.

Crockford's Clerical Directory reflects that many Bishops, early identified as "high-fliers", spend their careers mostly in non-parochial jobs or large suburban churches, leaving them lacking in hands-on experience. This hierarchy now appears to view Covid as enabling a welcome technological and cultural change: more middle managers, fewer local clergy. This is despite the fact that the Church thrives on social connection. What of the poor and elderly, more likely to be excluded by the move away from physical services? A friend's vicar recently got up at 3am to bless a dying baby; she had known the family for 20 years and lived nearby. She

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retires in 2022; the diocese has said that she is unlikely to be replaced. What then?

Rural dwellers love their parish church buildings. This attachment to local people, place and parish is, sadly, almost portrayed as part of the Church's problems. Properly understood, it should be part of the solution. A recent report from the University of York found that, post-pandemic, even 75 per cent of non-churchgoers wanted access to churches, as places of quiet reflection and comfort.

Large organisations need diversity of thought; the Church's breadth used to be its strength. Bishops insulting potential donors, and withdrawing parish clergy without listening to the people, reminds me of the old joke about the tinker's donkey: "He had just taught it to go without food when it died."

Courtesy of the Daily Telegraph 05.06.2021

## **Media review**

### **The Irish protocol**

The rhetoric from the European Commission vice-president Maros Sefcovic was negative after the conclusion of three hours of talks, as he said EU patience with the UK was wearing "very, very thin" over its refusal to implement checks on goods entering Northern Ireland.

With the EU appearing to threaten a trade war over the issue, Lord Frost, the UK's Brexit Minister, didn't mince his

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words either, accusing the EU of adopting an “extremely purist” approach to the implementation of the protocol.

Unionist leaders continue to call for the protocol’s abolition, with DUP leader Edwin Poots saying it has been a “disaster both economically and politically”.

## **NI Protocol is a manifestation of attacks on loyalists’ British identity, PUP leader Billy Hutchinson tells MPS**

Loyalists in Northern Ireland view Brexit’s Irish Sea trade border as a manifestation of attacks on their British identity, MPs have been told.

## **105 new positive cases of Covid-19 in last 24 hours in NI**

Another 105 people have tested positive for Covid-19 in NI in the last 24 hours, the latest Department of Health dashboard has revealed.

## **Kilkeel Primary School class to self-isolate after Covid-19 case - no confirmation on Delta Variant question**

Kilkeel Primary School has told parents it has had a suspected case of Covid-19.

## **Sinn Fein could block Paul Givan First Minister appointment over Irish language demands**

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Sinn Fein has hinted it will block the nomination of DUP MLA, Paul Givan, to be the new First Minister of Northern Ireland next week.

## **MP threatens to terminate meeting as Gregory Campbell tells journalist she was born in 'Londonderry' not 'Derry'**

The chair of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee (NIAC) threatened to terminate Wednesday's meeting after DUP MP, Gregory Campbell, clashed with Northern Ireland journalist and author, Susan McKay.

## **Severe drop in Catholic Church income in Dublin during pandemic**

Archbishop says it is time 'to build new models of ministry' in time of 'crisis'

## **Pointers for prayer**

Lord, you have taught us  
that all our doings without love are nothing worth:  
Send your Holy Spirit  
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love,  
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,  
without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.  
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake.

Your hand is upon your people, O God,  
to guide and protect them through the ages.  
Keep in your service  
those you have called and anointed,

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that the powers of this world may not overwhelm us,  
but that, secure in your love,  
we may carry out your will  
in the face of all adversity. Amen.



O God our ruler and shepherd,  
you anointed Jesus  
as the king and servant of your people.  
Make us attentive to your word,  
that we may accept your reign over us  
and serve you alone. Amen.

Friends in Christ,  
God invites us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers  
as dear to us as our own needs.  
Loving our neighbours as ourselves,  
we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions  
on behalf of the church and the world.

...

*Intercessions*

....

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Hear our prayers, God of power,  
and through the ministry of your Son  
free us from the grip of the tomb,  
that we may desire you as the fullness of life  
and proclaim your saving deeds to all the world. Amen.  
As you heard the prayer of Isaac and Rebekah, O God,  
and guided them in the way of your love,  
so listen now to those who call upon you.

...

*Intercessions*

....

Move us to praise your gracious will,  
for in Christ Jesus you have saved us from the deeds of  
death  
and opened for us the hidden ways of your love.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.  
Lord God, friend of those in need,  
your Son Jesus has untied our burdens  
and healed our spirits.  
We lift up the prayers of our hearts for those still burdened,  
those seeking healing,  
those in need within the church and the world.

*...Intercessions....*

Hear our prayers  
that we may love you with our whole being  
and willingly share the concerns of our neighbours. Amen.

Creator God,  
you call us to love and serve you  
with body, mind, and spirit  
through loving your creation

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and our sisters and brothers.  
Open our hearts in compassion  
and receive these petitions  
on behalf of the needs of the church and the world.

## Speaking to the Soul

**Peter and John looked at him intently, and Peter said, “Look at us!” The lame man looked at them eagerly, expecting some money. But Peter said, “I don’t have any silver or gold for you. But I’ll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!”**

Acts 3:4-6 NLT

At 3 o’clock in the afternoon, Peter and John went up to the Temple for the service at which one of the daily sacrifices was made. As they walked through one of the city gates they met a beggar who was strategically placed to receive people’s money as they came to worship. Beggars knew that worshippers often gave them gifts and so the man looked at the apostles expectantly. Peter told him that he didn’t have any money but in the name of Jesus he healed the man. With these few words Peter made it plain that what he was doing was continuing the ministry of Jesus who, only a few weeks before, had walked through these same streets.

Nearly 2,000 years have passed but it is still our privilege to continue the ministry of Jesus on earth. In the name of Jesus, we can pray for people and seek their salvation and healing. Amidst all the materialistic wealth and apparent



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sophistication of our society we continue to be surrounded by people who are in need. In every street of our land there are lonely, sick, confused and unhappy people who need the loving, healing touch of Jesus. We need to find a new boldness to speak out in the name of Jesus and to offer them the life that he came to bring. So often the church has hidden away with its message of Good News which is the exact opposite of what Jesus asked us to do! Jesus is still telling us to go, with his risen authority, and share his life with others.

## QUESTION

In what way does Peter's boldness challenge you?

## PRAYER

Lord God, I thank you for Peter's example. Help me to find many opportunities to bring your healing and salvation to others. Amen

