A daily prayer guide for all Christian peacemakers from the Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

13 — 23 May 2021

This year, between Ascension Day and Pentecost, communities and churches around the world are gathering together to pray that their friends, families and neighbours come to know Jesus Christ. Prayer events of all shapes and sizes will take place across the 10 days, though this year will look slightly different from previous years due to the pandemic. You can read more about this initiative at https://www.thykingdomcome.global.

Christian CND is hosting two Prayer Meetings online during this time as well as a 24 hour prayer gathering which will finish on the morning of Pentecost Sunday. During the period our prayers will focus on praying for the Kingdom of Christ, one of peace and justice, to come. We will be focussing on issues around nuclear weapons, including the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the proposed increase in the UK nuclear warhead stockpile. We do not believe nuclear weapons have any place in the Kingdom of God. The theme of Thy Kingdom Come for this year is “Take 5” so every day we will suggest five people or states to focus your prayers on.

Pentecost was when the Holy Spirit came upon the early Christian believers gathered in Jerusalem (Acts 2). Later, St Paul also became a Christian and was added to their number. Paul wrote to the churches in Galatia about the fruits of that Holy Spirit who had been so marvellously poured out upon the believers at Pentecost (Galatians 5).

May the Holy Spirit bless you and fill you with hope as we offer these prayers together. You can find more information about our regular Prayer Diary and online prayer meetings on our website - christiancnd.org.uk/prayer-diary/

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We hope you’ll find some inspiration for your prayers below. We’re suggesting that people pray at noon, so that we will know we are joining with others, but feel free to pray when you find time during the day.

Further information which may support your prayers:

- States which have signed and ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
- Non nuclear-armed NATO Member States
- Members of the Network of Christian Peace Organisations

13 May
“The fruit of the Spirit is love…” (Gal 5.22)
Pray for five states who have ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, thanking God for their vision and leadership, often in the face of opposition from the nuclear-armed states.

14 May
“The fruit of the Spirit is... goodness…” (Gal 5.22)
Pray for five Christian denomination leaders in the UK. Thank God for the support they have given to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
and the campaign against the proposed increase in Britain’s nuclear warhead stockpile. Thank God for their courage in speaking out.

15 May
“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.” (Matt 5:4)
Pray for five groups of people who have been affected by nuclear weapons. From those who died in Japan in 1945 and the survivors who have campaigned tirelessly for peace ever since, to those affected by Britain’s nuclear testing regime in the pacific and Australia. Pray those living with the consequences of nuclear weapons would be comforted.

16 May
“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives.” (1 Tim 2.1f)
Pray for five decision-makers around the UK nuclear warhead stockpile increase. The Prime Minister, Defence Secretary and Civil Servants will all have a role to play. Pray that they would have the courage and strength to change their mind and cancel the planned increase.

17 May – Christian CND Online Prayer Meeting at Noon
“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.” Matthew 5:7
Pray for five states that have signed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons but have not yet completed ratification. Pray that they would soon be able to complete ratification and increase the number of states formally joining the Treaty.

18 May
“The fruit of the Spirit is... faithfulness...” (Gal 5.22)
Pray for the five states that host American nuclear weapons: Italy, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands and Turkey. Pray that their leaders and politicians would seek to have them removed as a contribution towards nuclear disarmament.

19 May
“Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.” (Romans 14:19)
Pray for five church leaders in your local area. So much of the work of the peace movement comes from small, local actions which share the message with others. Pray that there would be unity amongst the churches in your area in the pursuit of peace and justice.

20 May – Christian CND Online Prayer Meeting at 8pm
“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.” Matthew 5:5
Pray for five states that have previously supported the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons but have not yet signed. Pray that their governments would move to join the Treaty soon.

21 May
“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.” Matthew 5:6
Pray for five of your friends who are not currently engaged with the peace movement or supportive of nuclear disarmament. Pray that they would be stirred to begin working and praying for peace.

22 May – Christian CND 24 Hour Prayer Room starts at 9am
“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:3
Pray for five of the non-nuclear-armed NATO member states, that they would engage with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and change their defence policy of relying on nuclear weapons.

23 May
“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” Matthew 5:9
Pray for five peace organisations in the UK, that they would be strengthened for their work in the coming months. Pray that there would be continued unity amongst Christian peace organisations and that there would be breakthrough on our issues.