

# What happens after Pentecost?

## The “Try Praying” Booklets

On the Day of Pentecost, all kinds of people outside the Church witnessed the prayers of the disciples, asked what was happening - and soon the Church was inviting them to try praying too

At St. Mary's this year we are planning to do something similar!

More will be explained at our Sunday services, especially on May 6th & 13th, or you can look online at [trypraying.co.uk](http://trypraying.co.uk) Large “Try Praying” banners will be on our buildings, and we will all be given a simple booklet (for adults, young people or children)

We will be invited to read and pray through the booklet ourselves, and then after Pentecost to give it to someone we know outside the Church, so they can have the chance to “try praying” too

**So : From May 10th to 20th  
Let's join the global wave of Prayer!**

More about the whole “Thy Kingdom Come” invitation from our Archbishops is on their website at [thykingdomcome.global](http://thykingdomcome.global)

It opens with the words of Archbishop Justin Welby :

**“I cannot remember in my life anything that I've been involved in, where I have sensed so clearly the work of the Spirit”**

May St. Mary's sense that too, in our 10 days of Prayer and beyond ... and Father, **May Thy Kingdom Come**



THY KINGDOM COME

# 10 Days of Prayer

**Thursday 10th to Sunday 20th May**

**Calling every member of St. Mary's Church Family!**

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are calling us to join a global prayer movement, inviting us to pray between Ascension Day and Pentecost, for renewal by the Holy Spirit and for more people to come to know Jesus Christ

Our response at St. Mary's is to set up a “24-7” Prayer Vigil, running from 9.00pm on Thursday 10th May (launched at our Ascension Day service) through until 9.00am on Sunday 20th - leading into our main Pentecost celebrations

As a member of our St. Mary's congregation, whatever your age (great or little!) or experience in prayer (great or little!) **I hope you will join in** this exciting challenge and adventure - praying for God's Kingdom to come, as Jesus taught us



YEAR OF PRAYER 2018





## How our “Thy Kingdom Come” Prayer Vigil is Going to Work

- **We are creating a dedicated, quiet Prayer Room** for use throughout the duration of our “Thy Kingdom Come” Vigil, adjacent to the Leslie Room in St. Mary’s
- **All Church members are invited to sign up** for an hourly slot (or slots) in the Prayer Room, at a time to suit you during the 10 days. This can be booked either on our website at [www.stmaryshorsham.org.uk](http://www.stmaryshorsham.org.uk) - or on the list in church; you can choose to pray individually, in twos, or even as families if that works best for you
- **How you pray during your hour is entirely up to you!** Some of us will prefer to sit quietly, perhaps with a Bible or prayer book to help us focus. Others may prefer to write our prayers, or draw them, or listen to our favourite worship music. You can sit, stand, lie prostrate - or even dance if you prefer! There will be a wide range of prayer ideas and resources available in the Prayer Room, for us to either use or not use, just as we find most helpful ...
- At the end of your prayer hour, the next person will arrive and you are free to go! For security reasons and our peace of mind, the room can be bolted from the inside - so you need not fear being disturbed. Also, during the night hours the Vicar will be acting as “night-watchman / security guard”, by sleeping in the Leslie Room next door; and we will ensure that the rest of the Church building is locked, and that the path outside is well lit

## Prayer Vigil “Frequently Asked Questions”

### Why use a Prayer Room instead of praying at home?

Yes of course we can all pray anywhere, anytime, anyway but ... it will be encouraging to feel part of a shared challenge, to see the evidence of those who have been praying in the room before us, and sense all our prayers joining as one holy offering to our Father

### Why are we praying 24/7 around the clock?

Different folk are available (and “awake spiritually”) at very different times of day - for example it will be interesting to discover how many of us actually *enjoy* the challenge of praying the night hours! It doesn’t ultimately matter if not all slots are filled - but it will be powerful to know we are praying “Thy Kingdom Come” in concert with our Christian brothers and sisters all around the world



### Why is it going on for 10 days?

The Vigil starts on Ascension Day, remembering that Jesus told his disciples to wait for the Spirit to come, before being sent out in Mission at Pentecost. We considered holding the Vigil for a shorter period (especially since it is new to St. Mary’s) but decided the full period would give as many of us as possible the chance to take part

### But what if I really can’t come?

We hope the great majority of church members will rise to our “Thy Kingdom Come” Vigil challenge ... however for those who are prevented from joining in, we very much need you to pray too - supporting and blessing those in the Prayer Room on our behalf