

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

AUGUST 2010

(Sun. 1st) Father God, as we begin a new month together, please help us to be aware that you are with us at all times. May we reflect your presence in such a way that all whom we meet will know that you live.

(Mon. 2nd) Lord Jesus, please be with every member of Governments throughout the world. May the decisions that they make be in line with your will.

(Tues. 3rd) Lord, please be with all who are in positions of responsibility – that they will use their powers as you would wish them to do.

(Wed. 4th) Today we celebrate the life and work of St. Dominic (1170-1221), who was a priest and friar. He was born in Spain and was the founder of the Dominican Order of Friars Preachers, being dedicated to preaching and teaching anywhere and everywhere. Please help us, Lord, like St. Dominic, to use all the resources of learning in the service of Christ.

(Thurs. 5th) On this day we remember St. Oswald, King of Northumbria and martyr (c.605-642) who became a Christian in Iona. Later, before going into battle to save his people from the King of Gwynedd, he had a cross made of wood, and he knelt before it and prayed. He and his people won that battle. But sadly, Oswald was killed in a battle eight years later. Lord Jesus, please help us to have the faith in you that King Oswald had.

(Fri 6th) Father, please be with every member of the judiciary and the police in every country. May all their decisions be fair and in line with your judgements.

(Sat. 7th) Lord, please help us all to respect the environment, so that the beautiful world that you have made will not be spoilt because of our lack of care.

(Sun. 8th) Father God, please help everyone to respect the guidelines that you have laid down for marriage - so that sexual diseases will no longer be transmitted and innocent children will no longer be harmed.

(Mon. 9th) Lord Jesus, please help the members of the Mothers' Union to uphold your values for marriage and to promote a proper understanding of what your rules are.

(Tues. 10th) Today we remember Laurence, one of the seven deacons of the Church in Rome under Pope Sixtus II. Laurence was martyred in 258 – because, it is said, when he was told to hand over the Church's treasures he assembled the poor and the sick. Father, please help us to have Laurence's courage.

(Wed. 11th) Clare of Assisi (c.1194-1253) is remembered on this day. Clare's parents had decided that she should marry a wealthy young man. Clare escaped and eventually set up a religious order for women, helped by St. Francis. Please help us to remember, Lord, that it is your plan for our lives that is important.

(Thurs. 12th) Please be with all those parents, Father, who have children whose behaviour is difficult to control or understand. And please help such children to understand their parents.

(Fri. 13th) Today we think about Jeremy Taylor (1613-67), pastor and teacher, who was Bishop of Down and Connor and who worked hard in Ireland to reconcile the Presbyterian and Roman Catholic Churches. Father God, please help us to understand that it is you whom we must honour and not the denomination.

(Sat. 14th) Dear Lord, please be with all those who are being persecuted because of their faith in you. Please give them your protection and help them to feel your presence and to bear all that they have to endure.

(Sun. 15th) Dear Lord, please help us to understand the plight of all who are disabled and to understand how they feel.

(Mon. 16th) Father God, please help us all to read more of your Word in order to understand more about you.

(Tues. 17th) Lord Jesus, please be with all the organisations that are publishing and / or distributing Bibles. Please provide the manpower and the money that they need to promote your Word.

(Wed. 18th) Father, please influence the media, so that they will stop promoting false teaching and start promoting your word.

(Thurs. 19th) Dear Lord God, please enable all Christian parents to pass on their faith to their children; and all Christian children to pass on their faith to their siblings and also to their parents.

(Fri. 20th) Bernard (1090-1153) who was born in France and who was Abbot of Clairvaux, reformed the Cistercian order and wrote many spiritual and theological works. He also spent a great deal of time trying to reconcile the divisions of the Church of his day. Please help us to heal divisions, too, Lord Jesus.

(Sat. 21st) Lord, we ask you to be with the Intercontinental Church Society. Please enable it to continue its work for you.

(Sun. 22nd) Father God, please be with everybody who is working for you in the Diocese of Europe in whatever way.

(Mon. 23rd) Lord Jesus, please bless and help Michael in all that he is doing for you in this part of your harvest field.

(Tues. 24th) Father, please be with the members of the Chaplaincy Council. Please guide them in all the decisions that they have to make for you.

(Wed. 25th) Lord Holy Spirit, please speak through everybody who preaches or leads services in this Chaplaincy and in every Chaplaincy in the Diocese of Europe.

(Thurs. 26th) Lord Jesus, please speak to all the people who lives in Poitou-Charentes and, indeed, in the whole area covered by the Diocese of Europe – so that they become aware of your presence in a very powerful way.

(Fri. 27th) Father, please be with all those who are nearing the end of their lives. Please help them to understand that they must give their lives to you now, in the name of Jesus, if they have not already done so - in order to be with you in eternity.

(Sat. 28th) Augustine (354-430) was born in North Africa and became Bishop of Hippo. He was a brilliant young man, but he led a very unsettled life – until he became a Christian, largely as a result of his mother's prayers. Augustine became a great preacher and writer and was a Teacher of the Faith. Lord Jesus, please help us also to teach about you.

(Sun. 29th) *'How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good tidings, who publishes salvation' (Isaiah 52: 7).*

(Mon. 30th) John Bunyan (1628-88), whom we remember tomorrow, was the son of poor parents. He probably acquired his knowledge of written English by reading the Bible. John spent most of the first twelve years after the Restoration in Bedford gaol, as a punishment for his preaching to an Independent congregation. Whilst in gaol he wrote: *'Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners'* and *'Pilgrim's Progress'*. Lord God, may we follow John Bunyan's example and make the best of all difficult circumstances.

(Tues.31st) Aidan (who died in 651) was an Irish monk from Iona and was the founder and first Bishop of the monastery on the island of Lindisfarne. He is credited with restoring Christianity to Northumberland. Father, we ask you, please, to help us to serve you with the same strength and energy as Aidan did.

Amen

Audrey Seacombe.