

Prayer points are usually provided each month by Affinity's members to help us to pray for another. We also include prayer requests from churches within our wider network. Please send requests to office@affinity.org.uk at least seven days before the start of the month in which you would like it to appear.

We're going to do things a little differently this month. For September, we're going to use our Find a Church tool (available at www.affinity.org.uk/churches/) to help us pray through the many churches who are connected to the Affinity network. We suggest you put your own postcode into the search engine and then pray through a different local church each day of September. If there are fewer than 30 churches nearby, you can either pray through the list multiple times or choose a different postcode and start again!

- 1 As the new academic year starts, **pray for a nearby church** to be diligent in modelling the gospel to their community. Pray that they "let [their] light shine before others, so that they may see [their] good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)
- 2 **Pray for a nearby church** to cultivate and encourage habits of prayer and forgiveness: "And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses." (Mark 11:25)
- 3 **Pray for a nearby church** that the reality of the gospel would fill them with ever-increasing confidence and joy: "And they worshipped [Jesus] and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God." (Luke 24:52-53)
- 4 **Pray for any regulars at a nearby church who don't yet know Jesus.** Pray they come to faith and that those ministering to them do so patiently with hope: "All that the Father gives [Jesus] will come to [him], and whoever comes to [him he] will never cast out." (John 6:37)
- 5 **Pray for a nearby church** to be committed in praying for Christian brothers and sisters around the world who are suffering persecution: "So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church." (Acts 12:5)
- 6 **Pray for a nearby church** that, no matter what, the gospel fills them daily with joy rather than shame: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes ... For in it the righteousness of God is revealed" (Romans 1:16-17).
- 7 **Pray for a nearby church** to engage wisely with the world around them: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2)
- 8 **Pray for a nearby church** to communicate the gospel with faithfulness and clarity so that people see Jesus as clearly as possible: "that [their] faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." (1 Corinthians 2:5)
- 9 **Pray for a nearby church** to value each of its members as the God-given gift they are: "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12)
- 10 **Pray for a nearby church** to yearn for the salvation of those in their community and to be committed to praying for them and sharing the gospel with them: "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us." (2 Corinthians 5:20)
- 11 **Pray for a nearby church** to take sin seriously and to call one another gently back to holiness: "Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness." Galatians 6:1

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- 12** **Pray for a nearby church** to help each other rejoice in all the blessings they have in Jesus: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 1:3).
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- 13** **Pray for a nearby church** to be prepared for suffering, particularly for the sake of the gospel: "For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake" (Philippians 1:29).
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- 14** **Pray for a nearby church** to remember that this world is not our home: "our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body" (Philippians 3:20-21).
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- 15** **Pray for a nearby church** that, just "as [they] received Christ Jesus the Lord, so [they would] walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as [they] were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." (Colossians 2:6-7)
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- 16** **Pray for a nearby church** to minister wisely to the different needs in their midst: "And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with them all." (1 Thessalonians 5:14)
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- 17** **Pray for a nearby church** that "our God may make [them] worthy of his calling and may fulfil every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in [them], and [them] in him" (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12).
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- 18** **Pray for a nearby church** to pray for its leaders and encourage them in setting "an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." Pray that the leaders "devote [themselves] to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching." (1 Timothy 4:12-13)
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- 19** **Pray for a nearby church** to resist the temptation to adapt their teaching to what people would find easier to hear and instead to "preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching." (2 Timothy 4:2)
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- 20** **Pray for a nearby church** to rejoice in God's wonderful grace in their salvation: "when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy" (Titus 3:4-5).
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- 21** **Pray for a nearby church** to be encouraged by each other's growth in godliness and to be thankful for being church together: "I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have" (Philemon 1:4-5).
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- 22** **Pray for a nearby church** that the leaders would lead with love and wisdom and that the congregation would follow joyfully: "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account." (Hebrews 13:17)
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- 23** **Pray for a nearby church** to be conscientious in putting in practice what they hear and read about in Scripture: "the one who looks into the perfect law ... and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing." (James 1:25)
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- 24** **Pray for a nearby church** to resist being frightened of opposition but instead to "always [be] prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks [them] for a reason for the hope that is in [them]; yet [to] do it with gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15).
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- 25** **Pray for a nearby church** to keep on looking forward to the coming of Jesus, even when that day feels far away. Pray that, as they wait, they will "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 3:18)
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- 26** **Pray for a nearby church** to be diligent in repentance and confident in grace: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves ... If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:8-9)
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- 27** **Pray for a nearby church** to persevere in believing in and living out what is written in Scripture: "I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father." (2 John 1:4)
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- 28** **Pray for a nearby church** to (continue to) commit themselves to supporting people who share the gospel beyond their own community: "they have gone out for the sake of the name ... we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth." (2 John 1:7-8)
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- 29** **Pray for a nearby church** to know the blessings that are theirs in Christ Jesus today: "To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ: May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you." (Jude 1:1-2)
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- 30** **Pray for a nearby church** to see and help others to see the wonder of Jesus every day: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!" (Revelation 5:12)
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