



Anglican Network  
in Canada

June 2018

# FIRST FRIDAY PRAYER

## MEDITATION & CALENDAR



*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.  
Romans 12:12 ESV*

### First Friday - June 1

We urge you to set aside the first Friday of each month as a day to pray and fast for our diocese (ANiC), the Anglican Church of North America, and the Anglican Communion worldwide. We live in an age of immense pressure against the Gospel. It is critical that we unite together in prayer.

### Notable Prayer Quotes

Prayer should not be regarded “as a duty which must be performed, but rather as a privilege to be enjoyed, a rare delight that is always revealing some new beauty.”

E. M. Bounds 1835-1913

## More than “I just want them to be happy”

**R**ecently, I was watching a film whose title I do not remember about troubled relationships between controlling parents and a young woman who was trying to convey her adult independence in not-so-subtle or successful ways. As the argument grew more and more heated, the climax was reached as the mother expressed this amazingly predictable line, “But I just want you to be happy!!” The ultimate goal for every parent, right?

As many of you are aware, our elder son and

ANiC’s communications director, Scott Hunt, was married on Saturday May 19th to Richelle Lyons, an incredibly special young woman. Together, they will serve the Lord in numerous ways, many of which are yet to be revealed. As Margaret and I shared our little “parents of the groom” speech at the dinner reception, we made a strong point of our commitment to pray for them for as long as we have breath in these bodies. We passionately believe that prayer is the most important activity that we can do for them.

Since then, as I have thought about the content of my prayers for them, I was aware of just how comfort and convenience-oriented my prayers were: “O Lord, may they have lovely weather on their honeymoon in Maine”; “May the traffic not be too congested as they cross Toronto on their way home”; “May they be kept free from this nasty cold that I’ve had for seven weeks!”; “May Scott’s job demands not be too onerous in the first week of his return”; “May it not be too hot in their little apartment after all this hot weather we’ve been having!” etc., etc. I think you get the idea.

Some may ask, “So, don’t you want them to be happy?” Of course, we do but, at the end of the day,

we want so much more for them, and my prayers need to consistently reflect that. More than simply circumstantial happiness, we want to see the truths of the Gospel being worked in and expressed in their lives, their marriage and their ministries.

I WAS AWARE OF JUST HOW COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE-ORIENTED MY

## And All Other Benefits

In the Communion Liturgy, there is this wonderful prayer by the celebrant; “Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his Blood, we and your whole Church may receive forgiveness of our sins and all other benefits of his passion.” That’s what we want for any and all whom we pray for – all the benefits of Christ’s death and resurrection”.

So, practically speaking, what does that look like? I recently read a Twitter post by Scotty Smith, a pastor whom I follow and whose passion for being Gospel-centred I deeply appreciate. Here is what he said:

“No longer under the demands of the Law, under the guilt of sin, under the illusion of self-sufficiency, under the weight of shame, under the pressure to perform, under the fear of exposure, under the stress of not being enough, under the incomparable burden of a gospel-less life.”

SO, PRACTICALLY SPEAKING, WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE?

## No Longer

Space does not allow me to fully unpack all that is contained in these wonderfully Scriptural statements, but read them over, phrase by phrase, and let the power of each of these “benefits” impact you:

- **No longer under the demands of the Law** – Paul makes it abundantly clear that those who are in Christ are no longer under Law we couldn’t keep, but under Grace. (Romans 6:14)
- **No longer under the guilt of sin** – the power and freedom of knowing that we stand totally forgiven, no longer fettered by a guilty conscience. (1 John 1: 19)
- **No longer under the illusion of self-sufficiency** – our old nature so desperately wants to be independent and need no one. Yet, Jesus says that without Him, we can do nothing! (John 15: 5)
- **No longer under the weight of shame** – there’s guilt over our sins that we commit frequently,

NO LONGER FETTERED BY A GUILTY CONSCIENCE.

and then there's shame, those dreadful sins that nobody knows about and that we so deeply regret. But, even those ponderous weights, Jesus has dealt with on the cross. We are no longer defined by our sin! (1 Peter 2:6)

- **No longer under the pressure to perform** – how many of us struggle with “doing it right”, keeping the rules, getting great grades, etc. Our identity is in the wrong place. Those in Christ are totally loved, approved of and adopted by our Loving Heavenly Father. Nothing for us to prove. (Ephesians 1: 5)
- **No longer under the fear of exposure** – Someone once said, “If God knew what I'm really like, He wouldn't want me!” But God does know, everything we've ever done, and loves us anyway. Nothing can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus! (Romans 8: 38-39)
- **No longer under the stress of not being enough** – God seems to hold the bar so high! How can I ever attain to his call upon us? Paul says that only in his recognition of his own weakness is God's strength released to us. His sufficiency, never ours. (2 Corinthians 2: 5)
- **No longer under the incomparable burden of a gospel-less life** – the Gospel offers us so much more than we often lay hold of. Trying to live life with a little bit of religion or atheistic independence is a crippling burden. Only in Jesus is the yoke easy and the burden light. (Matthew 11:30)

HOW MANY OF US STRUGGLE WITH “DOING IT RIGHT”, KEEPING THE RULES, GETTING GREAT GRADES, ETC. OUR IDENTITY IS IN THE WRONG PLACE.

## These Are the Things

These are the truths that I want my family to know, not just theologically, but experientially. For this season at least, all of these are the things that I'm praying for my sons, their wives and children – passionate gospel-centred lives.

May I encourage you, dear readers, to examine how you pray for your loved ones, and consider as I did the things that are far more important than their just being happy. Let's pray for them as never before!

**Canon Garth V. Hunt**

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# Prayer Calendar | June 2018

Praise items and prayer requests coming from within ANiC, ACNA and the Anglican Communion for each day of this month.

- 1. Our diocese** – Pray for the Anglican Network in Canada and all our parishes across Canada and in New England. Pray for revival in our churches. We desperately need the Lord.
- 2. Our province and primate** – Pray for **Archbishop Foley Beach (& Allison)**. May God glorify Himself through the ACNA and give us a passion for sharing the Gospel.
3. Pray for **Bishop Charlie Masters (& Judy)** as he leads ANiC. May God grant him the health, strength, discernment and the passion he needs for this heavy responsibility.
- 4. ANiC's 5 Ministry Priorities** – Pray that God will use these five priorities to transform us and our parishes: Bold witnesses; Biblically grounded; Loving children; On mission; and Planting churches.
5. Pray for ANiC's suffragan bishops: **Bishops Stephen Leung (& Nona) and Trevor Walters (& Dede)**. Pray for health, wisdom and vision as they care for clergy and churches. Pray especially for Bishop Trevor as he undergoes cancer treatment.
- 6. Bishop Don Harvey (& Trudy)** – Pray for Bishop Don in his roles as ANiC's episcopal vicar and as senior chaplain to the ACNA College of Bishops. Pray for his continued health and strength.
7. Pray for **Bishop Ron Ferris (& Jan)** as he embraces his important role as Assisting Bishop for Missionary Planning. Bishop Ron will seek to integrate new ministry possibilities and partnerships for our future. Pray also for our retired bishop, **Bishop Malcolm Harding (& Marylou)**. Thank God for their fruitful ministries.
8. Pray for our **Missionary Bishop Andy Lines (& Mandy)**, who was consecrated at the ACNA Assembly a year ago this month. Given the spiritual drift from orthodoxy of the Church of England and the Scottish Episcopal Church, his ministry to orthodox evangelicals is vital.
- 9. ANiC council, chancellor & registrar** – Pray for wisdom and servant hearts as they serve ANiC. May they know God's leading, seek His will, and experience His joy.  
**ANiC staff & volunteers** – Pray for strength for the tasks, faithfulness in service, & joy in the Lord. May God's blessing rest on ANiC as we seek to know, love & serve Him.
- 10. Asian & Multicultural Ministries in Canada (AMMiC)** – May God bless this ministry as it reaches ethnic communities & new immigrants with the Gospel, and plants new churches.
- 11. ANiC archdeacons, canons & all clergy** – Pray for spiritual and physical protection and renewal as well as for God's blessing on them, their spouses & families.
- 12. ANiC's New England congregations**  
Holy Trinity (Marlborough, MA)  
St Brigid of Kildare (Medway, MA)  
Holy Trinity (Attleboro, MA)  
All Saints' (Rutland, VT)  
Emmanuel - Chinese (Boston, MA)
- 13. ANiC congregations in Newfoundland & the Atlantic Provinces**  
St Stephen the Martyr (St John's, NL)  
Resurrection (Halifax, NS)  
Good Samaritan (St John's, NL)  
Christ the King (Quispamsis, NB)
- 14. ANiC congregations in Quebec**  
Emmaus (Montreal)  
St Timothy's (Montreal)  
St James (Lennoxville)
- 15. ANiC congregations in the Ottawa area**  
Faith (Embrun)  
St Luke's (Pembroke)  
Messiah (Ottawa)  
Blackburn Hamlet Community (Ottawa)  
St Peter & St Paul's (Ottawa)  
Grace (Mississippi Mills)  
Eternal Hope (Carleton Place)
- 16. ANiC congregations in Ontario**  
St Aidan's (Windsor)  
St Aidan's at River's Bend (Belle River)  
Cornerstone Anglican Church (Sarnia)  
New Life (Sturgeon Falls)  
The Way (Wasaga Beach)  
The Gate (Sault Ste Marie)

17. The third **Global Anglican Future Conference (Gafcon 2018)** being held in **Jerusalem June 17 -22**. This is an immensely important gathering of up to 2000 orthodox, Bible-believing Anglicans from all around the world, including around 40 from ANiC.
18. As Day Two begins, pray that all that is in the heart of God **for Gafcon 2018** will proceed unheeded by the enemy. Pray for protection upon the conference for all the leaders and delegates. May their witness to Jesus throughout Jerusalem bear much fruit.
19. On Day Three of **Gafcon 2018**, please pray that the conference theme **‘Proclaiming Christ Faithfully to the Nations’** would be clearly evident from the content of the plenary sessions and the many break-out groups. Pray that the Gospel would be proclaimed with power and clarity.
20. As **Gafcon 2018 concludes today**, please pray for the men and women in key positions, most of whom are volunteers. Especially please pray for those in charge of: Communications, Exhibitors, Conference Production, The Worship Team, The Final Statement Team. Stand with them against weariness and fatigue. Pray for travel safety as attendants return home. Pray for bold witness as they share with their home diocese and parishes.
- 21. ANiC congregations in Ontario**  
 St Hilda’s (Oakville)  
 St Peter by the Park (Hamilton)  
 St George’s (Burlington)  
 Epiphany (Hamilton)  
 Good Shepherd (St Catharines)  
 St Jude (Guelph)
- 22. ANiC congregations in Greater Toronto and eastern Ontario**  
 St Chad’s (Toronto)  
 Celebration Church (Barrie)  
 Christ The King (Toronto)  
 New Song (Port Perry)  
 Bethel South Asian (Brampton)  
 Living Waters (Kingston)  
 St James Fellowship (Trenton)
- 23. ANiC congregations in Saskatchewan & Manitoba**  
 Resurrection (Brandon, MB)  
 St Bede’s (Kinosota, MB)  
 Redeemer (Dauphin, MB)  
 Cornerstone (Regina, SK)  
 Saint Saviours, (Lloydminster SK)
- 24. ANiC congregations in Alberta**  
 Holy Trinity - Filipino (Edmonton)  
 Grace Anglican (Calgary)  
 Christ the King (Edmonton)  
 Good Shepherd - Cantonese (Calgary)  
 Living Water (Athabasca)
- 25. ANiC congregations in the Fraser Valley & Interior of BC**  
 Ascension (Langley)  
 Resurrection (Kelowna)  
 Saint Matthew’s (Abbotsford)  
 Christ Church (Kelowna)  
 Church of the Holy Cross (Abbotsford)  
 South Okanagan Project (Oliver)  
 new projects in Houston and Smithers
- 26. ANiC congregations in the Vancouver area**  
 St John’s (Vancouver)  
 Sojourn Church (UBC, Vancouver)  
 St John’s (Richmond)  
 Immanuel Church (Vancouver)  
 St Peter’s Fireside (Vancouver)  
 St Andrews (Delta)
- 27. ANiC congregations in the Vancouver area**  
 St Matthias and St Luke (Vancouver)  
 Good Shepherd Richmond – Chinese  
 All Nations – Japanese  
 St John’s – Sudanese (Surrey)  
 Good Shepherd Vancouver – Chinese  
 St Timothy’s (North Vancouver)
- 28. ANiC congregations on Vancouver Island & Sunshine Coast**  
 Open Gate Church (Victoria)  
 Living Edge (Victoria)  
 Church of Our Lord (Victoria)  
 Christ’s Church (Oceanside)  
 The Table (Victoria, Saanich Peninsula)  
 Christ the Redeemer (Pender Harbour)
29. For the **Anglican Relief and Development Fund Canada (ARDFC)** as it is partnering with the Anglican Diocese of Cameroon to provide **a full service healthcare clinic** in the city of Douala. It will offer inexpensive, quality care to people who do not have access to, or who cannot afford, health care and medications.
30. Pray for **a fresh outpouring of repentance and revival upon our nations and our world!** “Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence!” Isaiah 64:1-2 ESV