

Prayer Focus 19th January 2020

**And I ask not only for these disciples,
but also for all those who will one day believe in me through their message.
I pray for them all to be joined together as one even as you and I, Father, are joined together as one.
I pray for them to become one with us so that the world will recognize that you sent me. John 17:20-21**

Father, Your precious word illumines our steps
and without You we remain lost and disorientated.
Holy Spirit, teach us through Your word
and each other to travel our Father's path together, walking gently on Creation.
we thank You for the gift of Your compassionate love
which soothes and strengthens us.
We pray that our churches may be always open to receive Your gifts from one another.
Grant us a spirit of generosity to all as we journey together in the path of Christian unity.
May each gathering of Your people in churches everywhere crave
Your guiding, consoling and transforming presence.
Give us the honesty we need to recognise when we lose or obscure Your light for others.
Give us grace to hold onto You, ready and able to share Your light.
We ask this in the name of Your Son Jesus,
who calls us His followers, to be light to the world. Amen.

EBC & Local Focus:- Pray for the week of Christian unity & all the prayer meetings taking place.
Pray for the Wave & all the work it is doing among the young people of the town.
Pray for the church meeting on Tuesday that God will be honoured & glorified by all that's said & any decisions made.

Street of the Week :- Holmes Rd

Community Prayer Diary:- Swanage Churches Together Nick Viney (chair)

National & World Prayer Points:- Prayer for Australian Bushfires -

Creator of life, this beautiful land cries out.
For the disfigured splendour of charred forests, blackened soil, ashen skies, we grieve.
For the hundreds of millions of creatures that perished in smoke and flame, for the millions more who emerge after the inferno to starvation or predation, for the twisted, frayed and torn strands of ecosystems that may never recover,
we mourn.
For smoke-filled lungs, dread-filled hours, anxiety-filled evacuations,
for ruined livelihoods, incinerated sacred sites, smouldering homes,
for bereaved families, inflicted trauma, gutted dreams, we weep.
Lord have mercy.
Jesus our brother, all generosity echoes your own.
For the dangerous labour of firefighters, for the kindness of strangers, for neighbourly bonds reforged in calamity, we offer thanks.
For sandwiches made, shelter provided, funds donated, we are grateful.
For accurate reporting, insightful forecasts, skilful logistics, we acknowledge our debt.

Christ have mercy.

A prayer for North Korea - the most dangerous country in the world to be a Christian.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your faithfulness to believers in North Korea, that, despite the persecution, they are not abandoned. May You strengthen, equip and bless them to live as Your witnesses and be lights in the darkness. Help them to walk in Your victory, and so draw others to Jesus. Amen

Your prayers mean so much to our brothers and sisters around the world. One underground church leader in North Korea says, "I cannot express our thankful hearts with any words in this world. With your loving support and care for our spiritual and physical lives, we can overcome any struggles and keep our faith until the end."