

Prayers for Anglicare Sunday

“Worship in the embrace of justice & righteousness may comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.”

“Spare me the sound of your songs; I shall not listen to the strumming of your lutes. Instead let justice flow on like a river and righteousness like a never-failing torrent.”

Amos 5: 23, 24

Anglicare Prayer for Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT:

God grant us the compassion to care deeply for others; the wisdom to discern how best to help; the energy to transform emotion into action, and the joy of wholehearted, loving service. For Christ’s sake. Amen.

Anglicare Australia Prayer:

God of Life Giving Creation,

You call us to act justly, to love mercy, to walk humbly with you.

We pray for the member organisations of Anglicare Australia working across this vast and ancient land.

Enable us as we strive to meet human need through loving service and to build communities of resilience, hope and justice.

Encourage us to work in mutual partnership to effect positive change.

Empower the people we serve to reach their full potential, especially those who experience disadvantage and injustice.

Guide us in our advocacy for social justice and strengthen our determination to respond with compassion.

Remind us to care for ourselves and each other

as we face the challenges of our work,

and as we seek reconciliation, healing and community transformation.

All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our servant leader and friend.

Amen.

Prayer for our Anglicare Network across Australia

Gracious Lord protect and sustain our national Anglicare leadership.

Lord we think of Jeremy Halcrow CEO of Anglicare in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn and the local senior leadership team in Canberra, Goulburn and Wagga.

Lord we also pray for the Chair of Anglicare Australia Bishop Chris Jones and Executive Director Kasy Chambers and other key interstate leaders Karen Crouch, Paul McDonald, Grant Millard, Peter Sandeman, Sandra Hills, Shane Maddocks, David Pugh, Carol Godwin, Mark Glasson and Ian Roberts.

Help them know their toil is honoring to you. Direct them to draw near to your throne of grace with confidence for every need. We pray for discernment and diligence to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. We pray you would safeguard them from controversies, and strife, equip them for every good work in you.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for all God has provided

We praise and thank you Lord for the many ways you have resourced and provided this past year.

We thank you for all those who have generously donated to enable the care of others.

We thank you for all our volunteers and the way they have demonstrated Christ's love in action.

We thank you for the grants and funds we steward to bring about care for those most vulnerable in our midst. You are the God who provides all we need. Thank you Amen.

Intercessory Prayer for those who are suffering and vulnerable

Lord Jesus with grateful hearts we thank you for hearing us when we pray, it is such a privilege to come to your throne of Mercy & Grace. We want to ask you to provide the daily bread needed by those who are suffering hunger today. Lord, restore those who experience malnutrition and its impact on their health because of unjust circumstances around them.

We want to ask you for those who have no roof over their head. We want you to come alongside those whose homes are filled with aggression and unrest. We ask your peace would prevail in the broken lives of people we know. Lord we ask you to awaken us afresh to fair and just stewardship of the resources we have for the sake of your love and care for this world. Amen

Final Blessing:

(A Franciscan Benediction as adapted at Anglicare Australia National Conference 2016)

May God bless you with discomfort:

At easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships
so that you may live a life of depth.

May God bless you with anger:

At injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people
so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears:

To shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and violence,
so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and
to turn their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness:

To believe that you can make a difference in the world,
so that you can do what others claim cannot be done
and bring justice and kindness to all.

May God bless us with delight:

At our diversity, in the richness of the cultures of our ancient land,
so that we may all dance the spirit of our dreaming
expecting to be surprised at the beauty of the other.
And may the blessing...