



Prayers & Thanksgiving for July & August

We join together in one voice:

As we have opportunities to share in the wonders of the Wye Valley, we give thanks for the gifts of Creation. The beauty surrounds us through the variety of flora and fauna, which allows us to live in harmony with nature. We give thanks for those who work in agriculture and conservation to preserve and nurture crops and wildlife to enhance our lives. Lord Jesus, we pray for people to be more responsible for the world and, we pray, help us to become better stewards of the environment not only for today, but also for future generations.



As we travel through the summer months, we look forward to greeting visitors to our localities. Some will return as old friends, whilst others will visit for the first time. It is important that all receive a welcome from the border area. We pray for our local businesses, who plan and prepare for the holiday season, so that visitors can find refreshment, enjoyment and fun during their well-earned breaks. Our river, we pray, will be filled with sounds of laughter and joy as our whole area celebrates summer. Lord Jesus, thank you for new and old acquaintances who arrive here as visitors and leave as friends. We give thanks that many wish to find your presence in our ancient buildings. Bless all who spend time in our area.



Summer holidays offer opportunities for families to reconnect and share time to enjoy being together away from the stress and commitments of busy working lives. Where there are hardships and unease in family relationships, we pray that the summer months will ease some financial burdens caused by soaring energy bills. We pray that this time will reignite the unity of family life. Lord Jesus, we pray that everyone in our communities, whether they be friend or stranger, will know your love and can share that knowledge within their families and through your grace be able to create treasured memories.



This season always marks transition in schools and places of higher education. As pupils prepare to leave Primary and Secondary schools for the next step in their lives, we pray that all will find confidence and a sense of purpose. As the long holidays open before them, we pray that they will find a time for reflection on the relationships which have been developed with friends, school staff and the wider school community. Where some are moving from higher education to start their working lives, and others are looking towards retirement, we pray that anxieties will be calmed and new opportunities will be celebrated. Lord Jesus, we pray for all those moving classes, schools, jobs or into new stages in life, that they will continue to know your presence in their lives as they are guided towards new horizons and new wisdom.



As we look around the world and are aware of conflict and violence, we give thanks for peace and for all the lands that still live in that peace. We think of the number of travellers who, during this holiday season, seek to visit countries overseas for holidays, to experience new cultures and ways of life. We can give thanks for those chances to travel safely, as well as remembering people who are forced to move and then live far away from their homelands to find better lives. Lord Jesus, we pray for a generous understanding of the needs of people throughout the world, from those who have choices to travel for holidays with family or friends for enjoyment, to those who strive to build a new environment in which everyone can feel safe, loved and respected.



Father God, may we be people who seek first and foremost you and your kingdom in all we pray, do and are.