

Tuesday, 8
September

Loving God, on this International Literacy Day, bless all who learn, teach and share knowledge across our diocese and Zambia. May literacy empower people, nurture our planet, and create prosperity, strengthening communities and bringing greater health, opportunity and hope to all.

Wednesday, 9
September

Jesus, teacher, we pray today for schools across our nation. For children and young people, for staff and governors, for chaplains and churches, and all who play a part in our school communities.

Thursday, 10
September

Loving God, you hear the cries of people in their distress. Today we remember all those affected by suicide and pray for mental health services and churches locally as they seek to support those who are hurting. Give us a heart to notice those in distress and wisdom in responding.

Friday, 11
September

Father God, we pray for all Readers in their different ministries. Help them to share the love of Jesus with everyone they meet, in taking services, home communions and in their communities, so more people will know you, Lord.

Saturday, 12
September

Sending God who calls us all to serve, we thank you for all those whose service is seen by you but often unnoticed by others, and who sometimes feel taken for granted. May they know your blessing and be encouraged and noticed by us.

Sunday, 13
September

God of wisdom, on this Education Sunday, bless all who learn and all who teach. Nurture curiosity and compassion in our schools, colleges, and universities. May every child, young person and adult learner know their worth, discover their gifts, and have the opportunity to flourish.

Monday, 14
September

Holy Cross Day

Lord Jesus, on Holy Cross Day we give thanks for your redeeming love. Bless the friendship between Bath and Wells and Zambia, especially the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Lusaka. Unite us in faith, hope, and service.

Tuesday, 15
September

Holy and everlasting God, we pray for your wisdom and light to shine before us as we seek to live and tell the story of Jesus in our parishes. Help us to listen to you, each other and our communities so that your kingdom comes.

Wednesday,
16 September

God of all, we give thanks for all those souls who have heard your call to ministry in its many forms. We ask for your blessing on them and your resourcing wisdom to equip them for ministry.

Thursday, 17
September

Eternal God, as we remember Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, help us to faithfully listen to the promptings of your Holy Spirit so that we may speak of a future to which you call us.

Friday, 18
September

Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for the churches in the Shepton Mallet Deanery and for the people who look after all aspects of mission and ministry in our parishes. We see and are thankful for your sustained and faithful work among us.

Saturday, 19
September

As our Area and Lay Deans gather with Bishop's Staff today, we give thanks, Lord, for their ministry. May the day be a time of joy, encouragement and inspiration.

Sunday, 20
September

Jesus, peacemaker, we pray for our war-torn world. Speak peace into the hearts of leaders of nations so that swords become ploughshares and harmony is restored. Help us to be people of peace.

Monday, 21
September

Matthew, Apostle
and Evangelist

Compassionate God, on World Alzheimer's Day we pray for all those living with dementia, and for their families and caregivers. Grant them comfort, patience, and hope. Bless those seeking better treatments and understanding, and help us build a world of dignity, kindness, and inclusion.

Tuesday, 22
September

God of peace, as young people and young adults begin higher education, university, or enter the world of work, may they know your presence with them in this time of change. Grant them courage, wisdom, and confidence and inspire those they encounter to have welcoming hearts.

Wednesday,
23 September

Heavenly Father, we give thanks for incumbents across our diocese as they faithfully serve you and their communities. We ask you to give them joy in their ministry and to inspire your Church to find ways to lighten burdens that weigh them down.

Thursday, 24
September

Teacher God, as those new to leading Religious Education in their schools gather in Flourish House today, we ask that you will equip them for their roles and inspire them to lead their subject with joy.

Friday, 25
September

Lord of Life, we lift to you children and young people growing up in clergy households, and pray today for the group of teenagers heading off to the Mendip Activity Centre for the Life to the Max weekend.

Saturday, 26
September

Faithful God, we give thanks for churchwardens who serve across our diocese. We thank you for their faithfulness, dedication and service. We ask you to bless and encourage them in their ministry.

Sunday, 27
September

Loving God, we lift our farming community to you, asking you to hold them in your loving arms as they grapple with the struggle of providing food in a changing climate. Help us to treasure and support them in their work.

Monday, 28
September

Generous God, we pray for all those churches and benefices celebrating Generosity Week in this season. Help us to know how we might respond to your immense love for us and help us to inspire others to know and respond to that generous love too.

Tuesday, 29
September

Michael and All
Angels

Heavenly one, today we remember the mystery and wonder of St Michael and your angels: their call to defend ourselves from all that harms us and others, their promise of protection, their witness to your glory. Help us to be inspired by their eternal witness.

Wednesday,
30 September

God who makes all things new, we pray for those gathering for the Launchpad Celebration this evening and for the new ministry amongst young people that is emerging and developing as a result of this training.

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*Our Magnificat parishes are those which are high on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

Prayer Calendar

September 2026

**Tuesday, 1
September**

Loving God, we give thanks for all those who minister in our Magnificat* communities, with grace, love and perseverance. Open our hearts and minds, Lord, as we seek to be beacons of light and hope in our own communities.

**Wednesday, 2
September**

Creator God, as we have experienced a summer of weather, be with our farmers and rural communities as they face severe challenges. Sustain and encourage them as they draw on winter feed supplies and contend with concerns over the spread of Bluetongue disease.

**Thursday, 3
September**

Thank you, God, for the gift of a new school year. Be with children, young people and staff as they return to their places of education. Help them feel welcomed and accepted by those around them. Fill them with hope and expectation for the academic year ahead.

**Friday, 4
September**

Creator God, we pray for all those participating in the Franciscan Peace Pilgrimage as they pass through Somerset this week. We give thanks for the example of Saint Francis and those who continue to faithfully follow his way of life 800 years after his death.

**Saturday, 5
September**

Heavenly Father, we give thanks for church administrators across Bath and Wells who are so often a vital point of contact for people in their communities. We ask you to bless them in their work and ministry.

**Sunday, 6
September**

Creator God, as we celebrate the Festival of Creation in Christ today, we give thanks for the beautiful world you have gifted to us. Help us to recognise our responsibility to cherish it; to stop damaging it, and to commit ourselves to doing all that we can to safeguard the integrity of your creation.

**Monday, 7
September**

As we join our brothers and sisters in a global week of prayer, we remember those who are persecuted for their faith but bravely share your good news, Lord. We pray for protection and peace in the communities they serve, and for courage in sharing our own faith. www.24-7prayer.com/weekofprayer/