

Believe in Bolton

A person acts as leader; the other members join in the words in bold

Father in Heaven,

Mould me into Christlikeness; and stir up in me the fire of your love.

Praise

I saw water flowing from the threshold of the temple.

Wherever the river flows everything will spring to life. Alleluia.

On the banks of the river grow trees bearing every kind of fruit.

Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail.

Their fruit will serve for food, their leaves for the healing of the nations.

For the river of the water of life flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

Bible Reading (see diary for suggestions)

Prayers (see diary)

Watchful at all times, we pray

Father, may we see your kingdom come.

Among the nations and in peace

Father, may we see your kingdom come.

In the reading of your Word, in our prayer, our celebrations and fellowship

Father, may we see your kingdom come.

As we tell and retell in art, in song and in drama the story of your coming among us

Father, may we see your kingdom come.

In our care for the sick, the poor, the lost, the homeless, the displaced and the marginalised

Father, may we see your kingdom come.

As with all the saints, we seek to carry your light into and within your world

Father, may we see your kingdom come.

Collect for the Week (see diary)

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

The Believe in Bolton Prayer

Father in Heaven, mould me into Christlikeness; and stir up in me the fire of your love.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, renew my friendship in you; and help me to serve you with a quiet mind and a burning spirit.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, please keep me in the joy, simplicity and compassion of your Gospel. Amen.

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February 2020: Suggestions for Prayer and Bible Reading

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| <p>2 Feb</p> | <p>The Presentation of Christ in the Temple “For my eyes have seen your salvation”</p> <p>Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.</p> | <p>Luke 2:22-40</p> <p>Malachi 3:1-5</p> <p>Hebrews 2:14-18</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Christians to have renewed confidence in the Good News. • For God to open our eyes to any sin which stands in the way of the Gospel and lead his Church to repentance and forgiveness. • For the visits to schools and the university and for the youth event planned for Friday 15th. |
| <p>9 Feb</p> | <p>3rd Sunday before Lent “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.”</p> <p>Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found: through Jesus Christ our Lord.</p> | <p>Isaiah 58:1-9a</p> <p>Matthew 5:13-20</p> <p>Ephesians 4:17-32</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For people suffering injustice and oppression here in Bolton. • For organisations and individuals working to bring justice and freedom. • For the Archbishop’s time on Saturday 16th walking around Bolton town centre. |
| <p>16 Feb</p> | <p>2nd Sunday before Lent “His love endures forever.”</p> <p>Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.</p> | <p>Matthew 6:25-34</p> <p>Romans 8:18-25</p> <p>Psalms 136:1-9, 23-26</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For financial provision for Believe in Bolton. • For everyone who loves Jesus to see others as he sees them and learn to love them as he does. • For young families and the Messy Church events on the afternoon of Saturday 16th. |
| <p>23 Feb</p> | <p>1st Sunday before Lent “This is my Son, whom I love.”</p> <p>Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.</p> | <p>Matthew 17:1-9</p> <p>Exodus 24:12-18</p> <p>2 Peter 1:16-21</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For a new vision of Jesus’ glory to inspire us with a passion to tell others. • For the event at the University of Bolton Stadium on Saturday night and for local events linked to this. • For many people to be equipped through the Faith Pictures course. |