

Grace

The Prisoners Week Prayer
Lord, you offer freedom to all
people.

We pray for those who are
held in prison.

Break the bonds of fear and
isolation that exist.

Support with your love:
prisoners, their families and
friends, prison staff,
chaplains and all who care.

Heal those who have been
wounded by the activities of
others,

especially the victims of crime.

Help us to forgive one another.

To act justly. To love mercy.

And walk humbly together with

Christ.

In His strength and in His Spirit.

Now and every day, Amen.





Day 1

Ps 40:2 I waited patiently for the Lord and he heard my cry. He brought me out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay; and set my feet upon a rock

Loving God, we want to thank you for your gracious love no matter who we are. Thank you that you hear us when we cry to you. We pray for all those who feel stuck in a place they don't want to be – in a place of imprisonment, or of unforgiveness, or of despair or of isolation, or of injustice (you might also want to name the place of your own 'stuckness'). Come, Lord Jesus, and by your grace, grab our outstretched hands and set each of us on solid ground, through your love and by your grace we pray.

If you feel 'stuck' today, why not speak to someone – a chaplain, minister, priest, pastoral carer, friend....God
www.prisonersweek.org.uk

Day 2

Psalm 13:2 How long am I to feel anxious in my soul, with grief in my heart all day? How long will my enemy be exalted over me?

Gracious God, today we pray for all who have been harmed. For victims of violence and crime, of abuse and neglect, of prejudice and marginalisation. We pray especially for those who feel that their voice is not heard or justice has not been done. May justice be restored through grace-filled conversation, forgiveness and understanding. Let those who have harmed see what pain they have caused – and may those harmed find the grace to forgive.

To find out more about Restorative Practices go to:
www.prisonersweek.org.uk/resources

Day 3

Matthew 25:40 As much as you did this to the least of these, you did it to me

Pray for all who support people on release and beyond – for organisations and faith communities who journey with people as they seek to resettle into the community. Also for the families of people in prison and all who support them. Pray that congregations would be communities of grace, where people feel welcomed, whoever they are.

Why not ask your church or organisation to sign up to the Charter to show your support for people coming out of prison. See:
www.prisonersweek.org.uk/charter

Day 4

John 1:14 And the word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory, glory of the Father, full of grace and truth

Loving God, you sent your Son Jesus to live among us and to show us your infinite grace. We thank you for all those who make themselves present in your name in our 15 prisons. For the chaplains who provide pastoral, spiritual and religious care, for the volunteers who regularly go in to support chaplains as they journey with those on remand, on short-term and on long-term sentences and all those who visit or write letters.

For support go to:
www.prisonersweek.org.uk/support

Day 5

2 Corinthians 9:8 God is able to make all grace abound to you, that having sufficiency in everything, you may abound in good works

Faithful God, we give thanks today for all who have experienced your transforming grace in and out of prison. Our hearts are filled with joy when we read the stories of lives transformed, of brokenness healed, of lives restored. We could not survive without your grace.

Check out individual stories on the website:
www.prisonersweek.org.uk/stories

Day 6

Micah 6:8 He has told us what is good and what God expects of us – to act justly, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God God of justice,

We pray for all those involved in our justice system – for the police who bring convictions, for those in the courts who decide the punishment, for all prison staff who care for those sent to prison, for the press who report on cases and for the attitude of the public towards some of the most vulnerable in our society.

Help us to see things through your eyes. Request a speaker to learn more about the reality of who gets sent to prison:
www.prisonersweek.org.uk/contact

Day 7

2 Cor 12:9 My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness

Thank God for His grace which each one of us can experience through the love of Christ on the cross – may the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Go back to the beginning and say the Prisoners Week Prayer to end the week.