

The Poppy

(This is a service of prayer with the Poppy as the focus. Each leaf has the title written on it and it is put into place by the children. The prayer ideas have all come from the children as each section was thought about. The numbers relate to individual children.)

Praise

1. Today we want to praise God for Life

The first leaf of the Poppy is put into position

2. We are grateful for those who gave up their lives so that we could live our lives today in freedom.

3. We praise God for the many things that give us life today.

4. We are grateful for clean water

5. for the air we can breath

6. for the trees which help reduce carbon dioxide

7. We praise God that we can enjoy the multitude of colours that make up our world, rather than everything being black or white and various shades of grey.

Offering

The second leaf of the Poppy is put into position

2. We want to remember those who offered up their lives so that we could live in freedom.

3. We thank you, Lord God, for the offering of your love to us.

8. We thank you that you help us each day.
9. You offer us so much, Lord, and we take it all for granted without any real thought or gratitude.
4. You offer us a variety of food to eat
5. and each meal can be different each day
6. and we can enjoy a variety of tastes.
1. Help us, Lord God, to offer our lives in the service and care of others.

Prayer

The third leaf of the Poppy is put into position

2. We pray for those who are injured or bereaved because of war and conflict.
8. Those in both World Wars
9. in the Falklands
11. in Northern Ireland
3. in Iraq
12. in Afghanistan
5. and other areas of the world.
6. We pray for those suffering in hospitals and hospices
7. We pray for those who are disabled from birth and those who become disabled through no fault of their own.
4. We pray for those who suffer from water borne diseases owing to not having any clean water.

Peace

The fourth leaf of the Poppy is put into position

1. We pray for peace in our world especially in

3. Iraq

12. Afghanistan

11. Pakistan

2. and that God will protect our armed forces serving in dangerous areas of the world.

7. We pray for a peaceful outcome in some countries where civil strife is caused by a battle between those who want to conserve the landscape and those causing deforestation to bring employment to the local people.

You

Insert the centre of the Poppy

12. Let us pray:

2. Dear God, help us to make a real difference in the world in which we live by doing what is right and taking the right direction for our lives.

Amen.

3. Though we are just small people in a very large world, Lord God, help us to make a difference, and when we work together then help us to challenge the society in which we live to do what is right, honest and truthful. **Amen.**

4. Help us, Lord, to enjoy the many lovely things you give to us. **Amen.**

5. Lord God, help us to look for the good in others and seek to be good ourselves. **Amen.**

6. Lord help us to say **no** to vandalism, to theft and to drugs. **Amen.**

7. Lord God, help us not to be a bully, or cause fighting, but to look at a positive way of supporting, loving, caring and forgiving one another. **Amen.**

9. Lord, we pray for our school that each pupil will learn to have control over their emotions, and when we feel angry or aggrieved, help us Lord not to take it out on another person. **Amen.**

1. Lord, help us to build a better world by doing what is right and not what is wrong or bad. **Amen.**

8. We are going to say the Prayer of St Francis as a group.

Merciful God, to you we commend ourselves and all those who need your help and correction.

**Where there is hatred, give love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is sadness, joy;
Where there is darkness, light.**

**Grant that we may not seek so much
to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love with all our hearts;
for in giving we receive,
in pardoning we are pardoned,
and in dying we are born to eternal life. Amen.**