

A PRAYER FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH OF PEOPLE IN PRISON

God of seen and unseen struggles,
Christ in all things

We pray for all those in our prisons,
Whose mental health is a constant battle.

We lift up those who are visibly troubled,
and those who struggle in the dark.

In moments of grief,
May they know your compassion.

In times of depression,
May they know your nearness.

When faced with addiction,
Surrounded them with your grace.

Bless those who work to lighten those
burdens,
And may we be compelled to do likewise.

Amen.

A PRAYER FOR OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

God of justice,
Christ in the darkness

We repent for moments when we take justice
into our own hands,
And for times when we are driven by
revenge,
And forgo your restorative justice.

We know that those in our prisons have often
lived in chaotic circumstances.
God, bring restoration and peace to their
lives.

We ask that you would guide those
who determine the outcomes of trials and
appeals.
Help them make decisions that are fair and
pursue restoration.

We also pray that you would be present with
people in the criminal justice system
who are being sentenced or awaiting a case
review.

In situations that are unfair and unjust, bring
your reconciliation and strength.

Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THE FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES OF PEOPLE IN PRISON

God of love,
Christ in community.

We lift up to you the families and loved ones
of those in our prisons:

For mothers and fathers,
separated from their children.

Sons and daughters,
unable to see mum or dad.

Partners distanced from those that they love.
Friends deprived of companionship

With visits less able to take place,
we pray that God would strengthen:
marriages,
relationships,
partnerships,
families
and friendships.

Bless the people who facilitate these vital
connections
between those separated by prison walls.

May our eyes be opened to the needs of
those in our prisons.

Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THOSE IN PRISON PRAYING FOR RELEASE

God of liberation,
Christ with the oppressed.

We pray for all those in our prisons,
who are moving towards their release;
into a lower category prison,
into supported accommodation,
and into society.

For those whose release is imminent,
we pray for guidance,
as they navigate a new life and reconcile the
old.

For those whose release is seemingly
unattainable,
we pray for hope.
As monotonous days pass by,
May they see the possibility of change,
and be supported in their transformation.

Bless all those who support those released
from prison.
Who bring guidance, wisdom and care in
such uncertain times.

May we too, be part of creating a society,
That helps foster restoration for all those
released from our prisons.

Amen.

A PRAYER FOR OUR WIDER SOCIETY

God of all,
Christ in all.

We pray for our ever-changing world.

That your continued flow of light and love,
would bring healing and restoration.

As we continue to navigate the changes to
our society,
due to pandemics, politics, and personal
challenges.
We particularly pray for those whose lives
have been formed around prison life
And are reintegrating into the outside world

As they come to terms with new levels of
freedom,
we pray for wisdom and discernment,
to continue their journey of transformation.

As they come to terms with new
responsibilities,
we pray for the right support around them.

Bless those in our world dealing with seismic
changes,
May we better see the world of the other,
and show grace and compassion to the
stories around us.

Amen.

PRISONS WEEK PRAYER

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.
We pray for those who are in prison.

Break the bonds of fear and isolation that
exist.

Support with your love:
prisoners,
their families and friends,
prison staff
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, love mercy,
and walk humbly together with Christ
in His strength and in His Spirit,
now and every day.

Amen.