

The church needs to become a house of prayer and each individual Christian must be a person of prayer

Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

In Jesus Christ we enter into a relationship with God. This relationship is nurtured and sustained by prayer. The church needs to become a house of prayer and each individual Christian must be a person of prayer. Therefore, just praying and helping others to pray is going to be one of my main priorities. But by using the phrase just prayer I also want to emphasise that prayer is never simply a private thing between me and God, but, as the Lord's Prayer puts it, is about seeking God's will and God's agenda for God's world: Your will be done, Your kingdom come.

"Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one."

For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. Amen. (Matthew 6:9-13 NRSV)



If you would like to explore more about prayer and begin to discover how natural prayer is, Archbishop Stephen has written a book, *How to Pray: Alone, with Others, at Any Time, in Any Place*.

This is available at [Church House Publishing](https://www.churchhousepublishing.co.uk/) and other retailers

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