



Anglican Network in Canada

Prayers for ANiC's Five Ministry Priorities

*"My prayer is that these priorities might be established as the marks or the DNA of our life together and would always sustain us. Please pray that God will make our five priorities **a transformational reality** in the life of every ANiC congregation."*

Excerpted from Bishop Charlie Master's Charge to Synod 2014

O Father, we are so grateful that you are continuing to guide us in your purposes for ANiC. You have not left us to our own devices. We are excited about the future that you have planned for us. But we are only too well aware that we cannot achieve these five priorities in our own strength and with our own resolve. The task is quite beyond us! So, we call out to you for your wisdom, discernment, and the power of your Mighty Spirit. Remind each of us to pray daily for these priorities that they would more and more become a reality in our parish lives, and deeply rooted in ANiC's corporate DNA. We desperately need you, blessed Lord. Hear our prayer we ask. Amen.

BOLD WITNESSES

"It is my keen desire and conviction that we need to set our minds and our hearts towards training and equipping one another to know and be ready to share the good news of the gospel in a way which our family members and friends, our colleagues and our neighbours can understand."

Bp Charlie's Charge to Synod 2014

Almighty God, you have lavished such love on us that we can scarcely find words to express our thanks. We ask you to give to each of us a deepened zeal to spread the Good News to those around us who do not yet experience your love for them. We have been praying over the past few months that you would "Rise Up" and bring a powerful awakening in our day. Now we sense, Lord, that you are asking us, too, to rise up, to overcome our timidity with the boldness of the Spirit. We deeply desire to respond to your call! Give to the leadership team around this priority effective training resources and the wisdom to know how best to apply them. Give to every ANiC church member the grace to see those around them with your eyes of compassion and sacrificial love. And may we see a glorious harvest in the days ahead. In Jesus' mighty name we pray. Amen.

BIBLICALLY GROUNDED

"It is my hope and intention that every congregation will work very hard at helping every member of the congregation be more involved in the Bible so that our Biblical literacy grows and we are fully able 'to rightly handle the word of truth.'"

Bp Charlie's Charge to Synod 2014

Heavenly Father, we ask you to give us a renewed love and passion for your word, the Bible. We are guilty of taking it for granted, and for leaving real knowledge of its teaching to the "experts"; the theologians and clergy. And yet, it is a gift to each of your children; the means by which we grow in our love for you and the means by which you protect us from sin and error. Forgive us for our neglect and lethargy. Give us spiritual eyes with which to read and understand your word. Establish discipline in each of us such that we may take care to feed our souls as well as we feed our bodies. Grant to the leadership team around this priority the wisdom to supply our preachers with the best possible training and tools for their weekly sermon preparation, and to provide resources to help each parish member to become better grounded in your word. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen

LOVING CHILDREN INTO THE KINGDOM

“Jesus is calling all of us to be childlike and humble in our awareness of our desperate need for a Saviour and to put our simple trust in him. But he is also making it clear that children have the inside track in terms of these qualities and are not to be held away at the very time when they are the most receptive and ready to receive.”

Bp Charlie's Charge to Synod 2014

Heavenly Father, we see in the actions of Jesus your passionate love of children and your deep desire for them to come into the Kingdom, even at an early age. We pray for a mighty, sovereign work of your Spirit among the children that you have given into our sphere of influence – our own sons and daughters, grandchildren, neighbourhood kids. Prosper the children's ministries already flourishing in our ANiC churches, and raise up many more, so that the children of our cities and towns may have the opportunity to know your love and saving grace. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

ON MISSION

“The fact is the only reason the Lord leaves us here in this world is because he has called us and appointed us to go and bear fruit. We are to be a people who are strategic and missional and always planning, praying, and working towards reaching the very people who are outside the circle of the church and, in many cases, are showing no interest at all in what we have to offer.”

Bp Charlie's Charge to Synod 2014

O Lord Jesus, we repent of so frequently seeing survival as the ultimate goal and being satisfied with false finish lines. Forgive us, we pray, for the tendency to slip back into “doing church as usual” and for not sharing your burden for a lost world, a world for which you paid the ultimate price to redeem. Give us grace to look outside our own parish families to the desperately needy just beyond our borders. Free us from being “the Church institutionalized” and set us on fire with passion to share the Gospel as “the Church mobilized”. Give to the leadership team around this priority all that they need to keep our vision and activity outward looking. Come, Holy Spirit, come! Amen.

PLANTING AND GROWING CHURCHES

“It is clear from Scripture that God's intention to reach this world for Christ is by the establishment of the church and churches as the platforms through which the gospel goes forward. We have made a good start, but we have a very long ways to go as we seek to plant churches in every major community in Canada. Every congregation no matter how large or how small needs to be thinking about church planting.”

Bp Charlie's Charge to Synod 2014

Heavenly Father, we are so grateful for the gift of your salvation and for the privilege of being members of Christ's Body, the Church. We thank you that you plan to use churches, however humble, to reach the lost of our cities and towns. We are full of gratitude for the ANiC parishes and church plants that you have already established, and now, Lord, we ask you for more. We ask for courage for those that you are calling to leave the comfort of their existing church family and to launch a new work. Give to the leadership team around this priority wisdom and resources to assist each new plant as it emerges. May we see our vision of a biblically-faithful, gospel-sharing Anglican church planted in every city and town across our nations come to fruition, and may the power of your Holy Spirit rest upon our existing parishes, granting them a bountiful harvest with “fruit that remains”. In the mighty Name of Jesus, our Saviour and Coming King! Amen.