

# Prepare the Way

A PEOPLE OF PRAYER

16th - 20th September 2024

A voice of one calling:

"In the wilderness prepare
the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.

And the glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.

For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Isaiah 40:3-5

# Week of Prayer



Welcome to our Week of Prayer at Causeway Coast Vineyard. This week, we're seeking a fresh outpouring of God's presence and power in our lives, our church, the North Coast, and beyond. As we pray, we are preparing the way for God to move, just as Isaiah 40 calls us to "make straight in the desert a highway for our God." Prayer is more than a practice; it's the heartbeat of a people committed to God's purposes, aligning with His will and inviting His transformative power into our world.

This booklet is here to guide and inspire you as we seek God together. We encourage you to carve out time each day to connect with Jesus, practise the rhythms and pray through each day's focus.

Let's approach this week with expectant hearts, trusting that as we prepare the way through prayer, God will move powerfully, bringing renewal, healing, and hope to our lives and our community. Together, let's grow as people of prayer, becoming more like Jesus each day.

# Schedule

TIME	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI		
ALL DAY		7AM-7:30PM PRAYER ROOM					
MORNING	7-7:30AM WORSHIP & PRAYER	6:30-7:15AM TOWN HALL PRAYER	7-7:30AM WORSHIP & PRAYER	6:30-7:15AM TOWN HALL PRAYER	7-7:30AM WORSHIP & PRAYER		
LUNCH	12:15-12:30PM PRAYER ZOOM						
			12:30-1:30PM PRAYER WALK		12:30-1:30PM HEALING ON THE STREETS		
AFTERNOON		1-3PM PROPHECY SLOTS		1-3PM PROPHECY SLOTS			
	2-5PM FAMILY PRAYER SPACE						
EVENING (7:30-9PM)	VISION FOR THE SEASON: PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH	PRAYER GATHERING: KIDS & YOUTH	PRAYER GATHERING: COMPASSION	PRAYER GATHERING: FOR OUR LAND	WORSHIP NIGHT		

### Prayer Room

Our Prayer Room is open everyday between 7am-7:30pm, offering a space with thoughtfully designed stations to help you engage in prayer. Come and set aside time to encounter Jesus, and allow Him to prepare your heart and life for God to move.

# Morning

**WORSHIP & PRAYER:** On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, we'll gather at 7am for 30 minutes of worship and prayer to commit our days to Jesus.

**TOWN HALL:** On Tuesday and Thursday we will take our prayers to the streets, asking God to move powerfully in our town. Meet at 6:30am by the Town Hall.

### Lunch

**PRAYER ZOOM:** Take a 15-minute pause at lunch to join us in prayer on Zoom at 12:15pm. One of our team will guide you through a practice to help you connect with Jesus in the middle of your day. Zoom link: <a href="https://www.causewaycoastvineyard.com/prayerzoom">www.causewaycoastvineyard.com/prayerzoom</a>

**PRAYER WALK:** Meet in the foyer at CCV at 12:30pm as we set out on a prayer walk towards Coleraine to pray for our neighbourhood.

**HEALING ON THE STREETS:** Healing on the Streets will be available outside the Town Hall in Coleraine on Friday, between 12:30–1:30pm. You are welcome to join us if you would like to receive or pray for healing.

### Afternoon

**FAMILY PRAYER SPACE:** We've created a space where families can pray, worship, and grow in faith side by side. With fun crafts and engaging activities, you'll discover creative ways to draw closer to each other and to Jesus. Come along and use the space after school, anytime between 2-5pm.

**PROPHECY SLOTS:** Sign up for a prophecy slot on Tuesday or Thursday if you'd love our team to pray for you and share what they sense Jesus might be saying. Sign up here: <a href="https://www.causewaycoastvineyard.com/weekofprayer">www.causewaycoastvineyard.com/weekofprayer</a>

### Evening

**PRAYER GATHERINGS:** Each evening at 7:30pm we'll gather to pray with a specific focus. On Monday, we'll start the week with a 'Vision for the Season' night. Our leaders will share more about the direction we are moving as a church, which will help us align our prayers throught the week. On Friday, we'll close the week with a worship celebration. It will be a beautiful time to thank God and celebrate all that He has done.

# Rhythms

Here are a couple of ancient Christian practises that can still help us connect with God today. You might find these helpful to use this week.

Find a quiet place, set aside 15 minutes, and let God guide your thoughts, shape your prayers, and reveal His presence in fresh ways.

### Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina is a practice that invites us to engage with Scripture in a prayerful way. By slowing down and meditating on God's Word, we listen for His voice and allow the Bible to shape our prayers. To practice, follow these four steps:

#### **READ**

Choose a passage in the Bible and slowly read it several times. If you don't know where to start, why not begin with Psalm 23? Notice any words or phrases that stand out. Don't rush; let the words sink in.

#### REFLECT

Meditate on the passage, and consider what God might be saying to you. Reflect on how these words connect with your life right now.

### RESPOND

Turn your reflection into prayer, and begin to talk to God about what you've read and what it means to you. You might ask for guidance, give thanks, or express any feelings or thoughts that arose during your reflection.

### REST

Sit quietly in God's presence. Let go of thoughts and simply be with God, resting in His love.

### The Examen

The Examen is a powerful tool for prayerful reflection, helping you recognise God's presence and work in your day. It's typically practiced at the end of the day and involves five steps:

#### BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Begin by sitting quietly and asking God to be with you as you reflect. Take a few deep breaths, inviting His presence into this time.

#### **GIVE THANKS**

Review your day and think of the blessings, big or small. Thank God for the gifts, people, and moments of grace you experienced.

#### REVIEW THE DAY

Walk through the events of your day in your mind, from morning until now. Pay attention to your emotions and thoughts during each moment. Where did you feel joy, peace, or love? Where did you feel challenged, stressed, or distant from God?

### FACE YOUR SHORTCOMINGS

Acknowledge any areas where you fell short - moments of impatience, lack of love, or missed opportunities to reflect Jesus. Bring these honestly before God, asking for His forgiveness and grace to grow in these areas.

#### LOOK TOWARDS TOMORROW

Ask for God's grace and guidance for the day ahead, considering how you can live more fully in His presence.

#### MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

# Church

We are eager to embrace all that God wants to do through us in this season at Causeway Coast Vineyard. Jesus is moving beautifully among us, and today we cry out for more! God, pour out Your presence in new ways among us as we prepare our hearts and lives for Your glory.

This summer we were delighted to baptise 21 people in the sea! We heard incredible stories of healing and lives transformed from people of all ages. We saw an exciting new level of engagement from our youth with Jesus over their summer events, and our worship times together have been marked by a deep sense of intimacy and joy.

In this interim season, we pray that the Lord will continue to establish His firm foundations within us. We want to be a people who are formed by His word and marked by His presence. As we seek God in prayer, let us be open to His leading, willing to go where He sends us, and eager to serve with humility and grace.

- The people of CCV would be increasingly hungry for God in this season.
- That as a church community, God would teach us to pray! That He would continue to ignite a passion for prayer in our hearts this week.
- For the process of appointing a new Senior Pastor. For God's wisdom, guidance, and blessing over the candidates and our church community.



Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21



# Kids & Youth

At Causeway Coast Vineyard we believe God moves powerfully in every generation, from the youngest to the oldest. We've witnessed incredible growth in our kids and youth, with a deepening hunger for God and a stronger sense of identity in Christ. Events like Move and Summer Madness have been pivotal for our youth, and we've celebrated milestones like our baptism service this summer, where 11 under 18's publicly declared their faith.

We have had the joy of watching our kids give their all in worship, and ask great questions, hungry to know more about God and His word. In Small Groups our Under 11s have lead communion for each other and prayed for healing.

This past season has shown us the lasting impact of investing in the next generation. It's our desire that this would continue, grow in depth and health and multiply beyond our spaces into schools and families.

- For a powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit on children and youth, that they may have deep encounters with God, filling them with courage, faith, and a passion for Jesus.
- That families to grow in their faith together, worshiping, praying, and creating rhythms of devotion and joy in their homes.
- For God's presence in schools as the new academic year starts, ensuring a safe, loving environment with strong friendships, effective learning, and support for teachers and staff.
- For protection over children and young people, that they experience peace, be free from anxiety and depression, and receive healing.

#### WEDNESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

# Compassion

Our Compassion ministry is built on the heart of Isaiah 61, where God promises to heal, restore, and bring freedom. We believe that no matter the circumstances, He is at work restoring dignity and offering hope to those in need. Every act of service is an opportunity to reflect God's justice, mercy, and love, bringing real change to lives.

Today, we pray that God's restoration and hope flow through each area of Compassion:

Foodbank Compassion Housing Refugee Welcome

Clothing Bank Debt Support Link Logs

RESET Social Supermarket Counselling Eat Well Spend Less

Open Door Employability Support English Lessons

- That each person who comes through our doors experiences God's heart for them and the peace of Jesus, regardless of their circumstances.
- That the work of Compassion would bring real and lasting change in Coleraine, breaking the cycle of poverty and leading people to the hope and peace found in Jesus.
- For God's abundant provision for Compassion financial resources, volunteers, and supplies - to meet the growing needs of the community.



The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.



# For Our Land

We love the North Coast and we love the island of Ireland. We believe that God has a plan for every area of society in our beautiful land - a plan full of redemption; a plan to bring hope.

As part of the Causeway Coast Vineyard community, we are committed to bringing life to wherever God has placed us – whether at work, the school gates, shopping, meeting our neighbours or working the land. As we come before Him in prayer, we seek not only His blessing but also to align our hearts with His vision for this land. We desire our hearts to break where His heart breaks and for Him to give us all we need to serve Him in whatever sphere of influence He has put us in.

We want to see the Kingdom of God break out in every industry and area, and we long to be the hands and feet of Jesus, that God uses.

- For wisdom and favour for business owners and leaders, that our town centers may thrive and create community opportunities.
- For strength, protection, and guidance for healthcare professionals as they serve with dedication and compassion.
- For local government leaders to act with discernment, integrity, and compassion for the well-being of all residents.
- For God's blessing on farmers and their crops, with favourable weather and a fruitful harvest.
- For our schools and educational facilities to have the resources they need and be safe and nurturing environments.
- For creativity to flourish and for artists to find opportunities to share God's great story through their work.
- For families to be strengthened, marriages restored, and children to grow up in safe and healthy homes.

#### FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

# Revival

We love the stories from the 1859 Ulster Revival in Coleraine! What began with small prayer gatherings quickly grew as more and more people encountered God's presence – young and old, rich and poor, denomination to denomination.

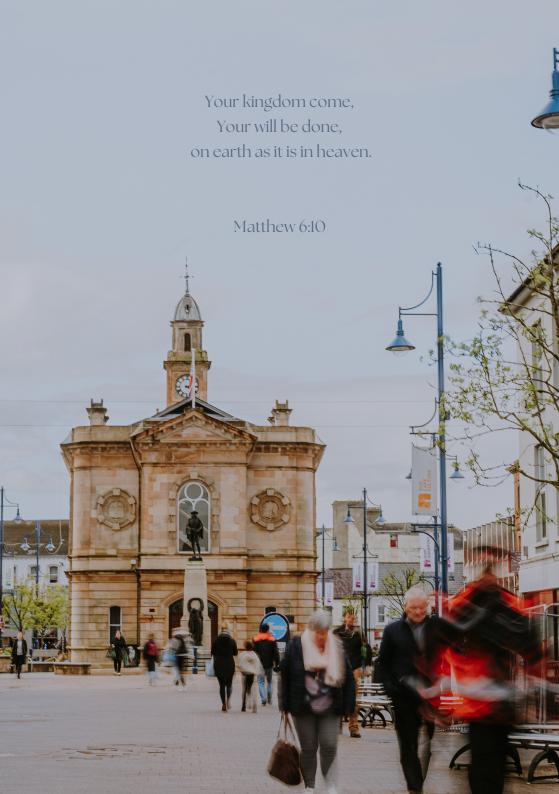
People on the streets, suddenly struck by a deep conviction, were often brought to the town hall, where ministers and others would pray with them. Hundreds gathered to worship, pray, and seek God's forgiveness. Businesses would close early and schools were sometimes

dismissed as God's spirit began to move. The revival led to a significant transformation in our community, with many lives changed and a lasting impact on the town's spiritual life.

Just as God stirred hearts and ignited a passion for His presence over 160 years ago, we believe He can do it again. We don't want to only tell stories from the past but have stories of our own, here today.

God, pour out your Spirit across our land - let Your kingdom come!

- That God will fill our hearts with His presence and ignite a deep hunger for Him.
- For people to say 'yes' to Jesus. Ask God to soften hearts, open eyes, and bring revival across the North Coast.
- For unity among churches and Christians across the North Coast to advance His Kingdom together.
- For a revival that reshapes our spiritual landscape for generations, leaving a lasting legacy of God's grace.
- Think of 3 friends or family that you would love to see come to know Jesus and pray for them throughout today.



# 100 Days of Prayer

We are dedicated to being a prayerful community, and this commitment goes beyond just one week! We want prayer to be deeply embedded in our church's DNA. As we wrap up this Week of Prayer, we're excited to invite you into the next step of the journey with '100 Days of Prayer'.

We felt God speaking to us about praying for one hundred days, and were amazed to discover that this period – from the end of our Week of Prayer (Sunday, 22nd September) – leads us straight to 31st December! We invite you to join us as we spend the rest of the year growing as people of prayer, seeking God's heart for our lives, church, and community.

During these 100 days, we'd love you to embrace these rhythms of prayer:

### Everyday

Commit to daily prayer, making time to seek God and listen to Him. We'll provide resources to guide your time.

### Every week

We long to see prayer gatherings happening in multiple locations across our community. You can join or start a Prayer Group at home, work, or in your neighbourhood, even if it's just 15 minutes at lunchtime!

# Every month

Once a month, we'll gather as a church for a central prayer meeting, uniting our hearts and voices to seek God's Kingdom together.

# Notes

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### causeway coast **vineyard**

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