

● PRAYER FOR THE START OF A NEW SESSION IN BB

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for this new session at Boys' Brigade, that we can gather together, enjoy each other's company and learn more about you.

Thank you for all the opportunities we have through BB to try new things and learn different skills.

Thank you for the new children/ young people that have joined us. Help them to settle in well and make new friends here. We pray that you will keep us safe in all our activities and help us to follow you in everything we do. We commit this session to you and ask that we would know your hand leading and guiding us through this year.

Amen.

● CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Dear LORD,

Your Word tells us to let the little children come to You. We pray not only that our children/ young people learn obedience, skills and discipline, but that they can come to You for themselves. For those that know You, we pray that they may continue to grow in knowledge and their praise of You. We thank You for the children/ young people in our companies, and we ask that You may use many of them for Your purposes.

We know that Jesus chose young men to be His apostles, and we pray that You may continue to use young men from the Boys' Brigade. For those who are moving on, we pray that they would be led by You onto whatever path You have for them. Some may wish to become officers, and so we pray for continuity within our companies.

LORD, we know that Your Word demonstrates the hostility of the world. We pray that You could use many of our children/ young people to be salt and light, pointing others towards Yourself. We know that the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Let many of us be those workers, we pray.

We ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.

● ENROLMENT

WILL THE ENTIRE COMPANY PLEASE STAND FOR PRAYER

Father, we give thanks today for the work of Boys' Brigade, for its call to advance Christ's Kingdom. We bring before you this Boys' Brigade company and we ask that you would give to it greater power to advance your Kingdom throughout the world. Lord give to the Captain and officers wisdom and discernment in an ever increasingly challenging world, to make decisions worthy of you Lord.

Grant in your mercy that every member, may prove sure and steadfast in their fight against evil, and true in their walk with our Saviour Jesus Christ. Help us in times of temptation: make us strong where we are weak; give us courage in difficulty, faithfulness in duty, loyalty in friendship; and finally by your mercy, bring us into your everlasting kingdom when we trust in Jesus as our Saviour and Lord who is the Captain of our faith.

We say together as members of this enrolled company along with the congregation the prayer Jesus taught his disciples to pray to: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever Amen.

● HARVEST

Lord God Almighty, we give thanks to you for all the good things we enjoy.

In this harvest season we thank you particularly for the food we have day by day, and for all the people whose work brings it to us. Thank you for farmers in this country and overseas. Thank you for delivery drivers and shopkeepers.

Thank you for the gifts of technology and transport, that enable food to travel swiftly from one country to another and to stay at a suitable temperature. Thank you for food that nourishes and for tasty treats.

Lord, we admit before you that we take so much for granted and rarely stop to thank you. Often we use and misuse your gifts without giving glory to you, the Giver. Thank you that your Son the Lord Jesus came to rescue people, and that our sins can be forgiven through what he did on the cross.

Give us grace to trust and follow him by your Spirit's power, so that you may be honoured in all things.

Amen

● REMEMBRANCE DAY

Dear God,

We come before you today to remember those who have fought for our freedom and those families who have lost loved ones through conflict.

Lord we pray for ongoing conflict around the world that you would speak into the hearts of those leaders to seek out peaceful solutions and we pray for your guidance and protection upon those caught up in fighting, whether it be close to home or far away.

God today especially, we remember all those who fought for our country in two world wars, we remember with thankfulness the sacrifice they made so that our country and the world could have freedom.

Help us to take a moment today to pause and reflect on the sacrifice they made for us, and for those who continue to make that sacrifice to protect us through their service in our armed forces, police, aid charities and blue light services.

Help us Lord to never forget the sacrifice that was and is made on our behalf, but Lord most importantly help us to remember every day the sacrifice you made by sending Jesus to the cross for our freedom.

Lord we ask all this in your name.

Amen

● EXAMS

Lord, thank You that You know us and You love us.

Each one of us is uniquely created with different gifts and abilities in so many areas.

Help us in these days/weeks, as exam time approaches, to fulfil the potential You have placed within us.

Help us to apply ourselves to the discipline of study and revision.

When we become distracted, help us to focus.

When we feel overwhelmed, keep us calm.

When we are tired, re-energise us.

When we are nervous, renew our confidence.

Grant us understanding as we revise.

Keep our memory sharp and help us to apply our knowledge to answer exam questions well.

Give us an awareness of Your presence as we sit each exam.

May we have peace of mind as we await the results, secure in the knowledge that whatever the outcome, our future is in Your hands.

In the Name of Jesus, our Saviour, we pray.

AMEN.

● ADVENT

Our loving Heavenly Father, we bless you for the opportunity and freedom to celebrate the birth of Jesus – who is the King of kings, and the Lord of lords.

In the midst of all that will happen throughout this advent season enable us to understand the significance of His birth. May we never lose the wonder of what you did at that first Christmas. Please do not let our familiarity with these events stop us from marvelling at God the Son being conceived in the virgin womb of Mary by the power of God the Holy Spirit, or from being amazed that the One who spoke the universe into existence could become a helpless baby lying in a manger - fully man, but also fully God.

We praise you for your love which caused you to choose Jesus to be our Saviour.

Thank you for His love for you, and for us, which made Him willing to fulfil your plan for our salvation.

We bless you that we experience true, and lasting joy, as well as peace that is beyond our understanding, when you enable us to repent of our sin and trust in Jesus.

God of grace, as we worship you throughout this Christmas period, may we be as obedient as the shepherds who hurried down to Bethlehem to gaze in wonder at the Son of God who lay before them. Also give us the humility which the wise men had to bow before King Jesus because we recognise that we need Him to be our Lord and Saviour.

We praise you that when Jesus has been born in us, by the miraculous work of the Holy Spirit, we can look forward with confidence to that day when He will return as the judge of everyone who has ever lived.

Merciful God, we humbly confess the sins that we have committed since we last bowed in your presence. Thank you for assuring us that you so loved the world you gave your **“only Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life”** (John 3:16).

Remove the desire to sin from our lives, instead give us the desire to rely on your power to live a life of witness to your saving, keeping, and transforming grace.

We pray all of these things in Jesus’ powerful name, Amen.

● CHRISTMAS

"Almighty God,

You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ:

Grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen"

(Source: Collect for Christmas Eve, 2004 Church of Ireland, Book of Common Prayer.)