

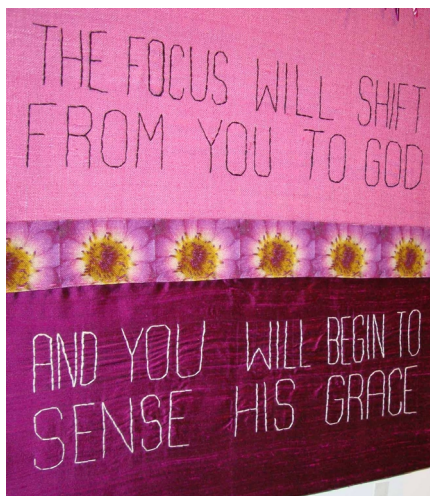
Prayer begins at home

Friends and family are so important, that it's almost unthinkable not to include immediate friends and family in our prayers!

**Bless my family; keep your eye on them always.
Lord God, may your blessing be on my family
permanently** 2 Samuel 7:27



**God bless you and
keep you ...
God smile on you
and gift you ...
God look you full in
the face and make
you prosper ...
Numbers 6:24**

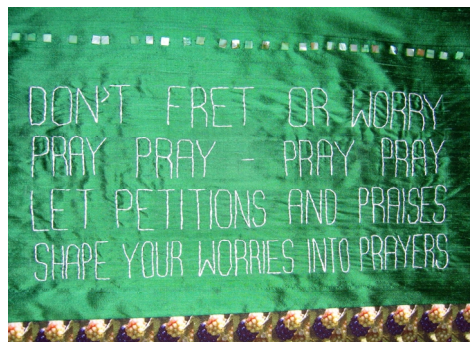


Small steps for big journeys

All the screens use repeated patterns as a visual interpretation for prayer. Prayer as a repeated pattern figures strongly in many people's lives: people often find responses in little ways that create a bigger picture over years and lifetimes.

A personal response

This display is one person's thoughts about prayer. Christians believe that each one of us can talk directly to God at any time, through prayer. It can be the most intimate conversation, talking with someone who knows you better than anyone else. It can be reassuring, comforting, empowering and challenging.



Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns ... It is wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the centre of your life. Philippians 4:7

Like to know more about Christianity?

Every year thousands of people want to know more about Christianity. Many don't know where to start.

The Christian Enquiry Agency is an excellent point of contact: you'll find information and resources on our website, and we'll send material you ask for. We answer questions by post and email. We can put you in touch with people and churches near you, if you'd like that. And we won't pester you.

The Christian Enquiry Agency is non-denominational: we work on behalf of all the major churches in Britain and Northern Ireland. That means the doors are open wide for you to explore how the message of Jesus touches people's lives in countless ways.

Write (you don't need a stamp) to Christian Enquiry Agency, Freepost WC2947, South Croydon CR2 8UZ

or email: enquiry@christianity.org.uk

or visit: www.christianity.org.uk

Textile art:

Prayer



Spread for me a banquet of praise, serve God a feast of kept promises. And call for help when you're in trouble - I'll help you and you'll honour me. Psalm 50:15

As you walk round a beautiful cathedral, you'll see the work of dedicated craftsmen and artists from many centuries right up to the present. Their work is to the glory of God - or, in Latin, "Deo Gloria".

Prayer is one of a series of textile art displays by Jacqui Frost, touring cathedrals in England. Each display is a personal response to aspects of faith, brought here by the Deo Gloria Trust. For more information, visit www.cathedralexhibition.org.uk.

Textile artist Jacqui Frost introduces the screens:

Prayer is all about establishing a personal relationship with God, putting into words feelings and thoughts we can reveal to a most reliable friend. It's a relationship which needs constant renewing and exploration.

When I started on this project, I decided to make it very personal. I selected key themes and words from the Bible, ones which meant most to me. They are part of my conversation with God, and the whole display includes parts of my life and thought.

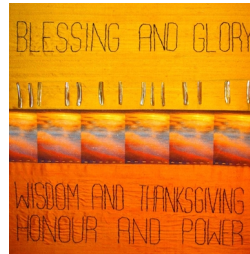
Each screen includes repeated images and objects. Some of them are easy to recognise, others are less obvious. They mean something particular to me: you can interpret them in ways which suit you. I would like to invite you to look at the whole display with a freedom to connect images and thoughts in your own mind, rather than trying to delve into my own thoughts and prayers!

One idea which my patterns and images are designed to highlight is the way that our prayers are also part of a much bigger picture. They're not just about ourselves, but also about the wider world. Prayer widens our horizons, brings us alongside people next door or across the world.

Sometimes we share parts of the same story in our lives. As you look at these screens, you may find images and words that mean a lot to you - and some that mean less. You'll also probably feel other images and ideas are missing - they are an important part of your story. What would you like to add?

Textile design:- Jacqui Frost www.jacqui-textile.com
Texts:- taken from The Message, the Bible in contemporary language

Some of these exhibitions are available as hand stitched banners for hire to all churches in the UK, for a small charge. For further information, contact the Deo Gloria Trust office on 020 8651 6428 or VUbbYfg@deo-gloria.co.uk



Praise and acknowledgement

If you're going to have an effective conversation with someone, you have to acknowledge them, and get onto their wavelength. At the start of my prayers, I like to bless, honour and acknowledge God. It's a good way to stimulate a proper conversation ...

Oh, yes! The blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving, honour and power and strength, To our God forever and ever and ever!
Oh, Yes! Revelation 7:12

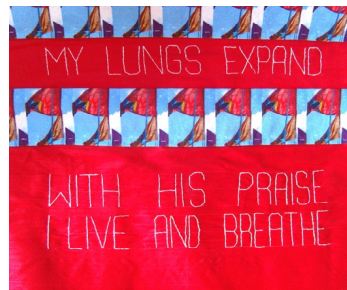


Places for prayer

You can pray anywhere, but often it's best to follow Jesus' advice: he said, "Find a quiet secluded place so that you won't be tempted to role play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can mange. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace." Matthew 6

Inspiration and strength

Prayer can be about sharing experiences with God and with other people. In the Bible, the Psalms are a great source of inspiration for prayerfulness. They cover an enormous range - faith in adversity and prosperity, times of deep sadness and danger, and occasions of joy and celebration.



I bless God every chance I get;
my lungs expand with his praise.
I live and breathe God.
Psalm 34:1



No easy answers

This screen is sombre, with thorns and storm clouds. This is because often the path in front of us is a hard one. Yes, our prayers are listened to and acted upon - but not necessarily as we expect.

Prayer can help us strive through difficult times. But it doesn't make things easy.

If you make yourself at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. John 15:7