

Twenty Four Seven Prayer on Holy Island

Some suggestions for pilgrims who wish to pray for twenty four hours or for groups who wish to pray by rota for seven whole days and nights on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, Cradle of Christianity to English-speaking people.

Churches and Chapels

Monday to Saturday Daily prayer services

7.30 am Morning Prayer	St. Mary's
8.00 am Holy Communion	St. Mary's
12. 00 Celtic Midday Prayer	Open Gate Chapel (not Saturday)
17.30 pm Evening Prayer	St. Mary's
21.00 pm Night Prayer	Open Gate Chapel (not Saturday)

Saturday also: 8.00 pm Service at St. Cuthbert's Centre (hosted by URC)



St. Cuthbert's Centre is often open daily for silent prayer, creative work, and has a prayer tree. Its boiler room chapel at the rear is open all day and night for single-person praying.



St. Aidan's RC Church is open for silent prayer most days. Mass times are posted on the door - sometimes Midday Tuesdays.



St. Mary's is open daily until dusk, and has a prayer board, an icon before which candles may be lit, prayer cards and the fishermen's side chapel.

Some outdoor places to pray (in addition to the dunes and shores)



St. Cuthbert's Isle

Accessible 150 minutes after the safe crossing tide table time. Night vigillers should take a flask, polythene cover and torch. It closes two hours before the safe crossing tide table time of closure,



The Pilgrim Posts

Start one hour after safe crossing tide time from the causeway bridge.

A leaflet with suggestions for 'Praying the Posts' is available at The Open Gate.



St. Mary's churchyard around Saint Aidan's statue.

Prayer ledges

For example, along a little path two thirds way up the heugh (hill) starting from the beach by St. Cuthbert's Isle. These overlook the beach and St Cuthbert's Isle.

Hermit's hut

On the north shore east of the quarry



The Gospels Garden

Next to the Post Office

Some Daily Themes

Mondays - Creation: Work -

Stand or sit in the Lime Kilns below the castle.

Creative arts – pray silently as you linger in the Lindisfarne centre

Get prayer ideas at Lindisfarne Scriptorium including Mary Fleeson's books on prayer.

Sit in the walled garden opposite the castle and in the bird hythe by the path from the castle to the white pyramid known as Emmanuel Head.

Tuesday - Incarnation -

As Jesus immersed himself in the stream of human life (baptism in river Jordan) immerse yourself in the sea, or simulate this in Jenny Bell's (dry) well on the shore by St. Cuthbert's Isle. –

Jesus was born in a stable – have a prayerful coffee or snack at The Stables Cafe

Try a peace jog.

Wednesday – Holy Spirit - healing - outreach

Stand on a high place such as the Heugh or castle hill and intercede for north, south, east and west.

Pray for healing in the spirit of Saint Cuthbert as you sit before the Saint Cuthbert Cross in the Gospels garden.

Pray for healing of the land at Sandham Bay, where Vikings landed – and by the plaque in St. Mary’s sanctuary from Norwegians seeking restored fellowship. Sit on the seat that overlooks the old harbour on the way to the castle, given in memory of Norwegian students who escaped Nazi occupation on a boat that landed here.

Thursday - community



Circle the village – the shops, pubs, centres and homes – and then visit some of them. Taste Lindisfarne mead and pray for employment.

Friday – the Cross

Pray in the Priory and the Museum (get a ticket to both)

Sit by the Memorial Cross in the village square.

Sit or lie by the cross on St. Cuthbert’s Isle.

Make a Celtic Cross of stones on a beach beyond the castle.

The former rubbish dump the beach by St. Cuthbert’s Isle – and make a cross out of former rubbish.

Some Resources

A Holy Island Prayer Book (Canterbury Press) has morning, midday and nights prayers for thirty five days. Each midday prayer focuses on a different venue.

On sale at The National Trust shop and The Open Gate.

Give Yourself a Holy Island Retreat has other prayer suggestions. On sale at The Open Gate.

Great Celtic Christians (Volume 4 of *The Celtic Prayer Book* series published by Kevin Mayhew Ltd) has prayer liturgies that focus on Saints Aidan, Cuthbert, Oswald (who lived where Bamburgh Castle can be seen) and Hilda (who most likely visited Lindisfarne).

Celtic Prayer (HarperCollins) from the Northumbria Community has a section on Aidan. *Prayer Walking* leaflet available at The Open Gate.

Lindisfarne Scriptorium and the Open Gate shop have further resources.

St. Mary’s has prayer cards.

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Please send suggestions or good experiences to brenda.grace@aidanandhilda.com and we will keep improving this 24/7 Download.