

Written prayers

Prayer of blessing for our emergency services

This prayer of blessing was written in May 2013, following on from a week where our issue in focus was our emergency services. Visuals of prayer points and this prayer are also available at www.thesanctuarycentre.org/whereworldandworshipmeet-prayer

The written prayer and visuals are part of a series of similar resources praying blessing on different areas of public life in the UK. (You will find parallel resources, for example for the NHS and prison service at the link above.)

Rescuing God, you left the safety and beauty of heaven to come and save us.

You gave your very life to deliver us from death forever, and to bring us into fullness of life.

We thank you for all who take risks and make sacrifices for others in their daily work, and especially for the men and women who work in our emergency services.

Help us to honour and appreciate our police, fire-service and paramedics and to bless them through our interactions with them, our support of those known to us personally, and our prayers for them.

Be with them all today, enabling them to rescue all they seek to help.

Restore a culture of respect and appreciation in our nation, and inspire those who work in our emergency services to excel and care in equal measure. May we be quick to thank and slow to criticise those who risk so much for our safety.

Safeguard and release resources to all areas of our emergency services and lead all those involved in reform – whether in Government or service management – in wisdom, humility and creativity.

We bless our police service to have insight, compassion and breakthrough in resolving crime so that our streets become safe, our young people are empowered and our communities become stronger.

We bless our fire service to experience your protection and to be filled with courage. We bless their equipment to function well and their expertise to combine with your favour, so that fires are brought under control quicker and more effectively than ever.

And we bless our paramedics with clear minds to make quick, accurate decisions, so that through their skills and gentle care, they may bring your healing and comfort to all.

Amen.