

Transforming Lives; Transforming Communities

Year of the Child 2009

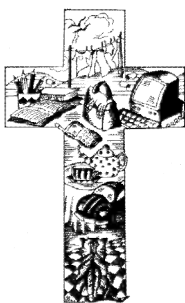
Celebrate

Review

Challenge



What you said about
"Prayer"



Children on "Prayer"

I would like to say to God:

THANK YOU

Please ...

Why do people suffer?

Why don't you do what I want?

What is the meaning of life?

What's luck?

Wishes for protection

Loads!

Where is a good place to pray?

When is a good time to pray?

Church

Garden

In danger

The Vicarage

Bedroom

Nicest Places

Anywhere

Dog walking

Wood

School

Quiet Place

Bed

Garden

"On the Titanic!"

"On a Fairground Ride"

What helps you to pray?

Writing

Knowing someone who is ill

Needing help with something

Going on a journey

Kneeling

Stories

Quiet

Candles

Chocolate

Music

A Cross

Holding a pebble

Who helps you to pray?

Family

Other Christians

Friends

God

How do you pray?

Singing

Ritual

Out loud

At the altar

Talking

Traditional Ways

Whisper

Peacefully

Listening

Hands together

In Church

Gardening

Thinking

In my head

Down a microphone

Reviewing "Prayer"

What is the best thing about prayer?

It gives you hope, your prayer might be answered
Just knowing there is someone you can talk to
Hoping for an answer
It makes you feel better
Makes you feel like you've got a friend

What is the most important thing about praying?

Being listened to
Knowing we worship God
Trust with God
Realise what you are praying for
Helps sleep
God
Knowing they'll understand

How would you describe prayer to someone else?

It's something you want to say to someone (ie God) expressing your feelings to someone safe.
One on one relationship like a best friend
Speaking to God
Making a connection with Jesus
Putting your hands together and talking to God and Jesus
Some people kneel down as well

How does prayer help?

It's a place where you can express your feelings so you don't get worked up.
Expressing your feelings to someone who won't go around telling everybody else

Challenging the Church

How does God answer prayers?

By helping us to be better people

Giving me what I want

Helping me to help others

Things happen, things change

He gives us opportunities

Sometimes it just seems to happen

Your life changes gradually without you really knowing why or how.

What if prayer is not answered?

You feel sad or cross

It can feel like everyone else is having their prayers answered but not you. You feel left out. You can think it might be for the best. You can move on. There are plenty of other things to pray for.

I'm sad

I don't feel any different

The responses to this topic reveal that children and young people have a great deal to say about prayer. Prayer is something very natural and something very tangible. There is a clear confidence in a God who listens, who can be trusted and who makes a difference. The relationship of trust and friendship is very important.

Prayer is not something to be kept just for the bad times, but it is part of everyday life. Perhaps children and young people pray much more and much more naturally than we think.

When we ask children and young people to lead prayers, do we treat them in the same way we treat adults?

Do we see the relationship of prayer as more important than the use of words?