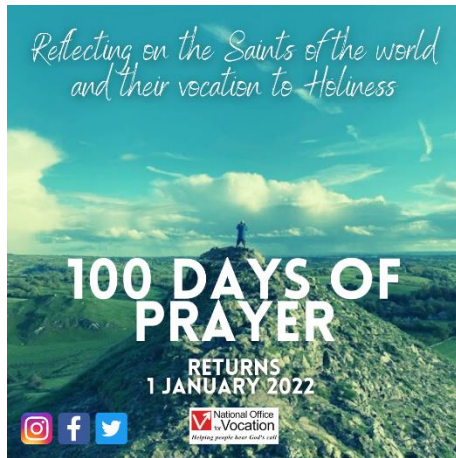


100 Days of Prayer



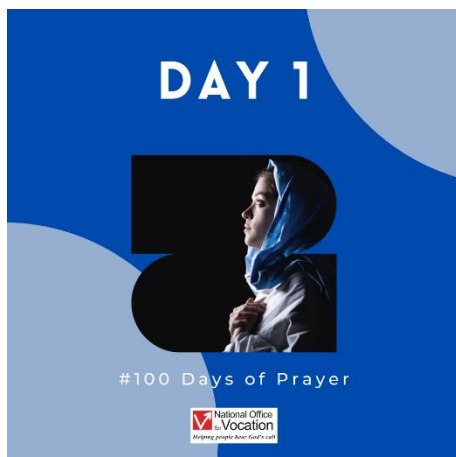
As we begin the new year, the National Office for Vocation has decided to dedicate the first 100 Days to Prayer, celebrating our Church. This will have special focus on the Saints of the world, recognising and celebrating how their mission here on earth led to the ultimate call to Holiness.

We will guide you in prayer over these days to help you contemplate on each Saint and a part of their mission here on earth. In these days we also continue to pray for the Church across England and Wales and the wider world, that each person

hears the call of God and answers that call with an open heart and mind.

Prayers

Day 1 - 1st January

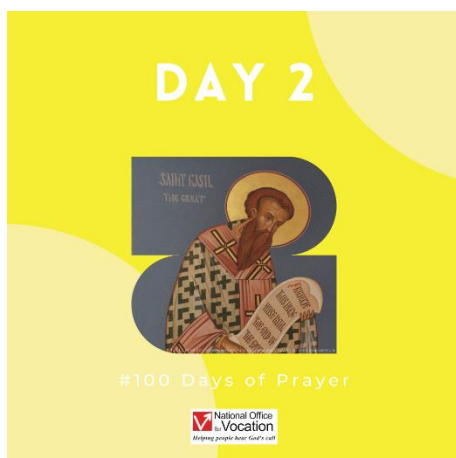


Almighty God, as we begin our 100 days of prayer together, Let us pray for the Church throughout the world, For its clergy, consecrated and laity, that as we enter this new year they may be renewed in faith and hope.

Let us ask the Saints to guide us as we contemplate their lives, So that they inspire us to strive for holiness. We ask this through Christ you Son our Lord.

Amen.

Day 2 – 2nd January St Basil the Great (330-379)



St Basil was born into a Christian family and was very generous towards the poor. He became a hermit but was later ordained as a Bishop of Caesarea. He was a scholar and was known for his works, including the monastic rule, which are still used today by numerous monks in the East. His focus was on liturgical life, community and manual work.

Prayer – St Basil

Dear Lord, as we reflect on Saint Basil the Great,
whose feast day it is today,
we give thanks for his influence on the Church today.
Let us open our hearts and minds to all that he shared
through his writings on the Faith.
We ask this through Christ, Your Son, Our Lord.

Amen



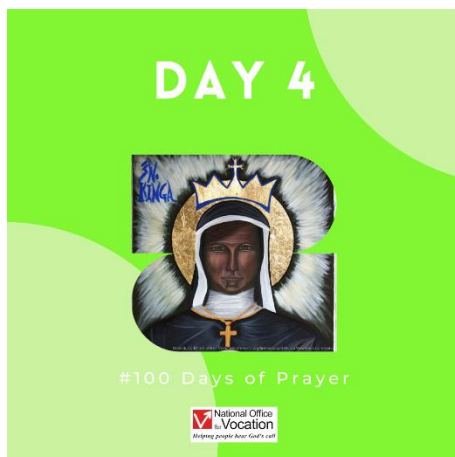
Day 3 – 3rd January

Dear Lord, as we begin our first full week,
let us be energised and ready to be Your servants.
As we go back to school, work and our lives,
after the Christmas Season, let us carry,
the Christmas message in our hearts and proclaim
to all.

Let the light that has come into our world,
shine out for all to see.

We ask this through Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

Amen



Day 4 – 4th January

St Kinga of Poland 1234 – 1292

Kinga was born on 5 March 1234 in Esztergom, Hungary, daughter of Bela IV of Hungary and Maria Laskarina. She was the wife of Bolesław V, King of Poland. Early on in her life, she had taken a vow of Chasity and persuaded her husband to do the same, thus earning him the title of Bolesław the Chaste. She brought great wealth to Poland and supported the building of many churches,

hospitals and monasteries. After her husband died, she sold all her possessions and assisted the poor, living the rest of her life as a Clares nun in a monastery in Stry Sącz that she had set up. She is credited with the discovery of a salt mine in Poland, Wieliczka and for defending the poor against the Tartar raids. She died on 24 July 1292. She was beatified by Pope Alexander VIII on 11 June 1690 and Canonised on 16 June 1999 by Pope John Paul II.

Prayer – St Kinga

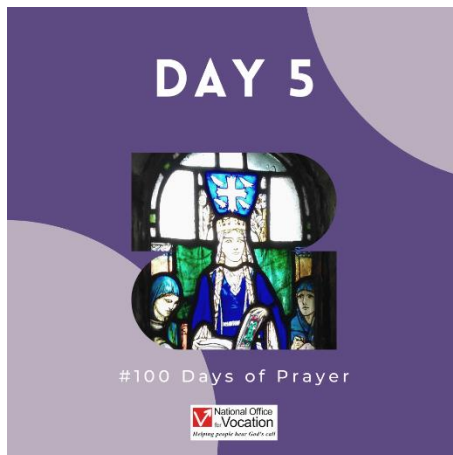
Saint Kinga, help us to see the poor and needy
and in them the presence of our Lord Jesus.

Help us to be like you

and share our material wealth with those who need it most.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord,

Amen



Day 5 – 5th January

St Margaret of Scotland (1046-1093)

St Margaret of Scotland was born to an Anglo Saxon father and a Hungarian mother, in Hungary where they were exiled during the rule of the Danish kings in England. They then returned to England, but when William of Normandy invaded England, Margaret took refuge with King Malcolm III of Scotland. It was with him she fell in love, married and they had 8 children. As a queen she was a great influence for the cause of religion and

piety. She had a great devotion to prayer and the poor. She died in Edinburgh in 1093.

Almighty God,

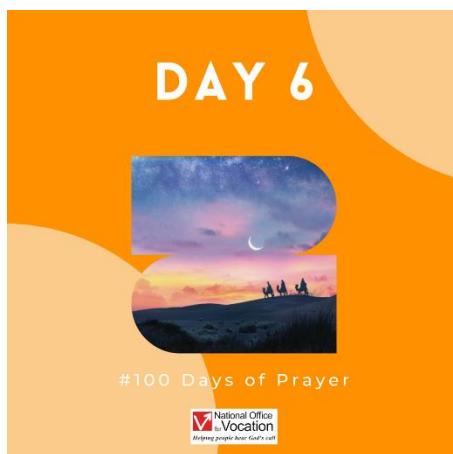
We give thanks for St Margaret of Scotland,
an advocate for marriage and family life.

Through her intercession we ask of you to
guide those discerning marriage and
for couples who are married,

that they can grow in love and service together.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



Day 6 – 6th January

Epiphany

Lord we thank you for the gift of your revelation
to all humanity.

May we like the Magi,
have the courage to respond to your call
in our lives and where you guide us.

We ask this through Christ, Your Son, Our Lord.

Amen