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Prayer for Ireland

The Main Point

We long for the days when GOD raises up in Ireland a company of people who are walking in intimate fellowship and communion with HIM, are utterly authentic, and walk in the authority of the HOLY SPIRIT. Such a people who are built together into a *Holy Habitation* of GOD in the SPIRIT, living and looking in anticipation for HIS return.

A Prayer Guide for Friends of Ireland

Ireland is in a monumental transition. In both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, in the evangelical and faith-based communities there is a growing sense that God is stirring something new while reconnecting His people with ancient spiritual roots. At the same time, the vast majority of the people in society have grown cold, and show little interest in the LORD or HIS Ways.

Throughout the island, the small minority of people who are believers are witnessing fresh signs of spiritual hunger, renewed prayer, church planting initiatives, youth movements, and a desire for authentic expressions of Christian community. There is a growing conviction that Ireland is rediscovering something that has always been part of its spiritual inheritance: a faith that is deeply rooted in community, mission, hospitality, creativity, and a profound awareness of God's presence in everyday life.

Returning to Ancient Paths

The prophet Jeremiah writes: ***"Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it."*** (Jeremiah 6:16)

There was a substantial endowment written in our history of deep faith and devotion to Jesus, prayer, and the words of scripture. We believe God is inviting the church to rediscover these ancient paths. This means recovering timeless values that marked the Celtic Christian movement:

- Deep devotion to Christ,
- Prayer woven into daily life and careful study of the scriptures,
- God's presence known and felt throughout creation,
- Mission and evangelism,
- Hospitality and community,
- Courageous discipleship.

The spiritual wells dug by those who carried the gospel across Ireland and into Europe continue to inspire a new generation.

Ireland – in part shaped by history

The 21st Century Irish are more affected by technology, prosperity, and a liberal world-view than previously. We are now a very prosperous, liberal, multi-cultural society in rapid change. Deception is widespread.

Our history has been shaped by: St Patrick (c. 500AD) leading to the monastic era, the Vikings, the British rule in Ireland (c. 800 yrs), the Famine (1845-50), Partition and the Free State (1921), the Irish Constitution (1937), Boom and Bust (1998-2013) and the current prosperity.

Early signs of God moving began to show in the late 1960's in Dublin and new churches were being established around the country from the early 1980's onwards. A substantial influx of Christians as immigrants has grown the evangelical churches to about 3% of the population.

Photos: Pixabay



New Signs of Life

While many traditional churches face challenges, there are encouraging signs of growth. New church plants are emerging in cities, towns, and rural communities. Young leaders are stepping into ministry. Prayer networks are growing. Worship gatherings are drawing people from different backgrounds together. Many believers describe a growing "prayer canopy" over Ireland. There is a sense that God is drawing His people together around shared worship, prayer, and mission. Ireland has always been known for storytelling, music, hospitality, generosity, and creativity. These cultural gifts offer unique opportunities for gospel witness. There is a growing vision for Christianity that is visible in homes, communities, workplaces, arts, culture, and public life. The hope is for a faith that is understandable, accessible, and transformative for ordinary people.

1. Pray for a Fresh Move of the Holy Spirit

May God awaken hearts across the island and draw people into a living relationship with HIMSELF. We desperately need to LORD to come amongst us and make HIMSELF known, with deepening intimacy and communion with GOD. *May YOUR KINGDOM come ... YOUR Will be done on earth* Matthew 6/9-10. Remove deception, blindness and the work of the enemy.

2. Pray for Healing and Unity Across Ireland

Pray for growing partnership between churches, ministries, and believers throughout both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Also, for healing of past wounds and divisions and matters that have caused reproach and wounding – which is widespread.

3. Pray for effective discipleship of all believers, especially the next generation

May God strengthen families, the bedrock of faith communities, and emerging leaders, worshippers, evangelists, church planters and Bible teachers, who are responding to His call. Pray that new Christian communities would flourish and become centres of hope, discipleship, and gospel witness. May we become a nation of organically contagious Christians, and may the Gospel message become viral in our daily connections.

4. Pray for a Recovery of Spiritual Heritage

Ask God to help His people draw strength from the rich inheritance of Celtic Christianity while remaining focused on His mission for today. Pray that Ireland's natural gifts of hospitality, creativity, storytelling, and generosity would be used powerfully for HIS Kingdom.

A Vision for Ireland

As you pray for Ireland, join us in thanking God for what He is already doing. Our belief is that HE wants to make HIMSELF widely known and understood – amongst the people. If this occurs, the Irish will bring the Gospel throughout the world (we've done it before!). The possibility of contagious Christianity spreading out into every community is possible. We just need to work prayerfully together – to see HIS KINGDOM come ...



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