

# European Day of Languages



## Scripture

### 1 Corinthians 14 : 10 – 12

There are many different languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning. But if I do not know the language being spoken, those who use it will be foreigners to me and I will be a foreigner to them. Since you are eager to have the gifts of the Spirit, you must try above everything else to make greater use of those which help to build up the church.

### Reflect:

St Paul's words in his letter to the community at Corinth are as relevant today as they were when they were written. There are so many languages spoken across the world – over 6000 – a variety of which we can hear spoken across the UK; St Paul tells us that if we do not know the language being spoken to us it leaves us and the speaker as strangers – foreigners.

Language is the key to knowledge and friendship, understanding and peace. Language can unlock so many different doors if only we are willing to take the first step. We are all God's children, all made in his image and likeness, all loved, all valued – whatever language we speak, whatever colour our skin or hair or eyes, whatever our body is able (or not) to do, whatever part of the world we come from, whatever skills we have. St Paul recognised that language can be such a barrier... if we let it. As intelligent and tolerant people who recognise that what is in a person's heart is far more important than what they look or sound like, we know that embracing other languages is just one way to bring people together in love and peace.

- What barriers can being unable to understand the language of another build.
- How can learning a language promote peace?

### Pray for:

- Those who teach languages to others, we are grateful for the sharing of their gift.
- People who are isolated in their homes. Communities due to the inability to communicate – that others will encourage and support them.
- People who work towards breaking down barriers between people, nations, cultures, faiths.
- Each of us, that we will be open minded and tolerant in situations that challenge us.
- All young people learning a new language, that they will persevere.

Focus on one each day

On this European Day of Languages we pray for speakers and teachers of every European language.

We are thankful for the diversity of culture across Europe that is available for us to experience, bringing us new insight and understanding, and helping us to learn that we are part of a global family

### Amen

Jesus our Lord, You taught us to love our neighbour, regardless of where they come from. This day reminds us that my neighbour is EVERY person, even if they speak a different language or come from somewhere I've never been to. Help me to recognise that knowledge of another language is a gift, help me to value it and to use it well.

### Amen

## Prayers

Lord sometimes we can be frightened or suspicious of difference – people and things that we don't fully understand can unsettle us. We pray today for the breaking down of barriers between people and nations so that we all speak the same language – that of love !

### Amen

### Prayer in action for EDL:

- Knowing a foreign language can open many doors – make the most of your opportunity to do so !
- Think carefully about the language you use today – make sure it's appropriate!
- Be tolerant, patient, accepting and open.
- Listen at least as much as you speak today
- Make sure that you are open to people, don't judge

The Lord's Prayer unites Christians throughout the world -  
whatever language they speak!

## OUR FATHER

### Padre No stro

Padre nostro che sei nei cieli,  
sia santificato il tuo Nome,  
venga il tuo Regno,  
sia fatta la tua Volontà  
come in cielo così in terra.  
Dacci oggi il nostro pane quotidiano,  
e rimetti a noi i nostri debiti  
come noi li rimettiamo ai nostri debitori,  
e non ci indurre in tentazione,  
ma liberaci dal Male. Amen.

### No tre Père

Notre Père qui est aux cieux  
Que ton nom soit sanctifié  
Que ton règne vienne  
Que ta volonté soit faite  
Sur la terre comme au ciel.  
Donne-nous aujourd'hui  
Notre pain de ce jour.  
Pardonne-nous nos offenses,  
Comme nous pardonnons aussi  
A ceux qui nous ont offensés.  
Et ne nous soumet pas à la tentation,  
Mais délivre nous du Mal. Amen.

### Vater un ser

Vater unser im Himmel,  
geheiligt werde dein Name.  
Dein Reich komme.  
Dein Wille geschehe,  
wie im Himmel so auf Erden.  
Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute.  
Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,  
wie auch wir vergeben unsern Schuldigern.  
Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung,  
sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen.  
Amen

### Padre nuestro

Padre nuestro que estás en el Cielo,  
santificado sea tu nombre,  
venga a nosotros tu Reino,  
hágase tu voluntad en la Tierra como en  
el Cielo,  
danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día,  
y perdona nuestras ofensas,  
como también nosotros perdonamos a los  
que nos ofenden,  
no nos dejes caer en la tentación,  
y líbranos del mal, Amen

### Oicze nasz

Oicze nasz, któryś jest w niebie  
świeć się imię Twoje;  
przyjdź królestwo Twoje;  
bądź wola Twoja jako w niebie tak i na  
ziemi;  
chleba naszego powszedniego daj nam  
dzisiaj;  
i odpuść nam nasze winy, jako i my  
odpuszczamy naszym winowajcom;  
i nie wódz nas na pokuszenie;  
ale nas zbaw od złego. Amen

### Mūs u Tāvs

Mūsū Tāvs debesīs!  
Svētīts lai top Tāvs vārds.  
Lai nāk Tāva valstība.  
Tāva prāts lai notiek kā debesīs,  
tā arī virs zemes.  
Mūsū dienišķo maizi dod mums šodien.  
Un piedod mums mūsu parādus.  
Kā arī mēs piedodam saviem parādniekiem.  
Un neievēd mūs kārdināšanā.  
Bet atpestī mūs no ļauna. Amen.